



# Dàkwäni

What people are saying

YÚK'E (WINTER) 2015



*Ut'àkwädjich'e Dzäny  
Nàkwänjitth'ät N'yè Säkùukthj Jè*

*Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.*

***Dän nätthe dätth'i (CAFN Chief and Council)***

*Left to right, clockwise: Councillor Les Walker, Elder Councillor Carol Buzzell, Youth Councillor Nicole Nicholas-Workman, Councillor Kathleen VanBibber, Deputy Chief Rose Kushniruk, Chief Steve Smith and Councillor Shadelle Chambers*



CHAMPAGNE AND AISHIHIK FIRST NATIONS

# DÄN NÄTTHE ÄDA DÄKWÄL (MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF)



*Dànách'é.*

*Ut'akwädjch'e Dzenü yè Ayu Dzenü uk'akwädatth'at  
– Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.*

*Leading up to the holiday break, the CAFN Council and staff are busy with many activities.*

*This November we recognized staff for their years of service to CAFN and to show our thanks for their hard work throughout the year. Congratulations and shäw nithän to all our dedicated employees who received awards.*

*In early December, I travelled to Ottawa to participate in the Assembly of First Nations Special Assembly and to meet with the Land Claims Agreement Coalition. Both gatherings help CAFN work collectively with other First Nations on priorities and to lobby other governments on common issues.*

*The legal case to overturn Bill S-6 amendments to the Yukon Environmental and Socio-Economic Act (YESAA) remains in the Yukon Supreme Court. We have sent a letter to Canada's new Prime Minister, Justin Trudeau, to discuss his party's commitment to overturn the amendments to YESAA and look forward to his response and quick action.*

*I am pleased to report that the CAFN Language Strategy is nearing completion. Council will be reviewing the proposed strategy soon and we look forward to continuing consultation with Citizens on practical ways to continue to revitalize our lan-*

*guage and grow the number of Southern Tutchone speakers in our community.*

*Work on CAFN's draft Äghàafän Enrollment Act continues. Council is reviewing and fine-tuning some sections of the act before it is presented for third and final reading. This legislation is one of the most important laws that we will ever create and Chief and Council want to ensure we get it right.*

*Work to update and fine-tune several CAFN policies is complete. Our revised Finance, Human Resource and Community Health and Well Being Fund policies are approved by Council and in effect.*

*Economic Development remains a high priority. The Champagne Aishihik Community Corporation review and restructure is nearly complete and we will be selecting new board members in the New Year. Please contact me directly if you are interested in sitting on this board.*

*Council commends all our Citizens who are doing great things in our Traditional Territory, across the Yukon and beyond. In particular, we acknowledge Long Ago People's Place (Harold Johnson and Meta Williams) and Shakat Tun Adventures (James and Barb Allen) on receiving Cultural Tourism Awards of Excellence from the Yukon First Nation Culture and Tourism Association in November 2015.*

*As we enter the holiday season, Council and I wish you all a safe, healthy and happy time with family and friends. We look forward to seeing you at the Boxing Day Dinner on December 26 here in Dakwäkäda!*

*Sincerely,*

*Dän nätthe ada Kaaxnox  
Chief Steve Smith*

## DÄN NÄTTHE DÄTTH'I DEK'I (CHIEF AND COUNCIL UPDATE)

### Chief and Council Decisions

The following decisions were made during the July 10 through November 26, 2015 regular Chief and Council meetings.

### CAFN Äghàatän Enrollment Act

Chief and Council accepted the First Reading of the CAFN Äghàatän Act on July 1, 2015 and Second Reading of the draft Act on October 1, 2015.

### Standing Committee on Finance

Council approved Terms of Reference for the new CAFN Standing Committee on Finance.

### Purchase of Lot in Haines Junction

Council approved amendment of the CAFN 2015-16 budget to transfer \$121,833 to the Champagne Aishihik Community Corporation for the purchase of Lot 52, group 2 CLSR FB 6265, LTO 6265, located immediately to the north of Da Kù Cultural Centre. The funds were drawn from a payment to CAFN of \$607,084 from the Yukon Inn Trust.

### CACC Loan

CAFN Council approved a short-term loan of \$50,000 to the Champagne Aishihik Community Corporation (CACC) for operations and maintenance purposes to be repaid by September 30, 2015. *Note: the loan was repaid in full to CAFN within 2 weeks.*

### Finance Policies and Procedures

Chief and Council approved the amended Finance Policies and Procedures, effective September 18, 2015.

### CAFN Language, Culture and Heritage Advisory Committee

Council approved amendment of the Terms of Reference for the CAFN Language, Culture and Heritage Advisory Committee (LCHAC) to increase the term of appointments to three years, and to change 'language teacher' to 'language instructor'.

Chief and Council appointed Mary Jane Jim and Natane Primožic to the CAFN LCHAC for a term of three years through September 2018.

### Litigation on YESAA/Bill S-6

CAFN Chief and Council approved taking court action against the Government of Canada, in cooperation with co-litigants LSCFN and TTC, and with the financial and technical support of the majority of other Yukon First Nations, to challenge the validity of the amendments to the Yukon Environmental and Socio-Economic Assessment Act (YESAA) through Bill S-6; approved entering into a Litigation Conduct Agreement; and approved retaining the services of Ratcliff & Company LLP to represent CAFN as one of three Plaintiffs in this court action.

In addition, Council approved allocation of an estimated \$25,000 for its costs to support its share of the financial costs to retain Ratcliff & Company LLP and additional costs of up to \$15,000 to retain Dave Joe Law Corporation in an advisory capacity to CAFN, in the 2015-16 Fiscal Year.

### 2015 General Assembly Resolutions

CAFN Chief and Council accepted the 2015 General Assembly Resolutions as presented by the General Assembly.

### CAFN Final Agreement

Council approved an amendment to extend CAFN Final Agreement provisions on rights of first refusal and project agreements in Chapter 22, Schedule A, Part I, 2.2, and Schedule A, Part II, 1.0, 2.0, 3.0 and 4.0, which were set to expire on January 1, 2016. Council approved extending these provisions for five years to January 1, 2021 and identified Chief Steve Smith as CAFN's authorized representative to finalize the Agreement as necessary.

Chief and Council approved an agreement to extend indefinitely the provision on the right of first refusal in Chapter 10, Schedule A, 9.9 in the CAFN Final Agreement and Final Agreement Implementation Plan, which were set to expire on January 1, 2016.

## CA Trustee Screening Process

Chief and Council approved a new selection process for Council appointments to the Champagne Aishihik Trust to ensure Trustees are qualified to carry out the responsibilities of the Trust. The selection process includes: establishing a Screening Committee of three members of the CAFN Council to develop Trustee applicant screening criteria, identify qualified candidates for interviews, develop Trustee candidate interview questions, conduct interviews of qualified candidates, and recommend Trustee candidates to the CAFN Chief and Council for appointment.

## Community Health and Well Being (CHWB) Policy

CAFN Chief and Council approved the Community Health and Well Being (CHWB) Policy, as revised and presented on October 30, 2015.

## 2016 Deputy Chief Appointment

Chief and Council appointed Shadelle Chambers as Deputy Chief for a one year term to January 2017, effective January 4, 2016.

**For more information:** Full copies of the minutes of regular Chief and Council meetings are available with reception at the CAFN Haines Junction and Whitehorse offices, and upon request to Doreen Williams, Executive Assistant to Council, at [drwilliams@cafn.ca](mailto:drwilliams@cafn.ca) or (867) 634-4242.

## Chief and Council Meetings

The CAFN Chief and Council holds regular meetings twice a month in Haines Junction, every first and third Friday of the month (unless noted otherwise). All regular Chief and Council meetings are open to CAFN Citizens. Community concerns are scheduled at 3:30 p.m. Please contact Doreen Williams if you wish to request time on the Chief and Council agenda at [drwilliams@cafn.ca](mailto:drwilliams@cafn.ca) or (867) 634-4242.

### 2016 Regular Chief and Council Meetings:

January 8	March 4
January 22	March 18
February 5	April 1
February 18	



Chief and Council presented Brian MacDonald with a gift on November 27 in thanks for his work for CAFN for the past 20 years.

### Dear Gq Ayah - Brian (Mr. MacDonald):

*I am writing on behalf of the Champagne and Aishihik First Nations (CAFN) to acknowledge and thank you for your many contributions to the CAFN government and people over the past 20+ years. Council and I congratulate you on your appointment as the Assistant Deputy Minister for Strategic Initiatives with Yukon Energy, Mines and Resources. We are proud to have one of our own people filling this important new position – shāw nithän.*

*Since your return to the CAFN community in the early 1990s, you have been involved with many important projects and roles, including, but not limited to:*

- *Helping draft CAFN Self-Government legislation;*
- *Drafting the CAFN Constitution;*
- *Providing legal support and advice to Chief and Council;*
- *Assisting as a member of the Champagne Aishihik Trust; and*
- *Chairing the Dakwakada Development Corporation (now Dakwakada Capital Investments).*

*We appreciate all of your work on behalf of CAFN and all that is yet to come.*

*I asked a few people to share some thoughts on the work you have done and your contribution to CAFN. Lawrence Joe, CAFN's Director of Lands and Resources, acknowledges, "Brian has really been part of*

creating who CAFN is today.” As your first supervisor at CAFN and an early mentor, Lawrence noted, “Brian was part of creating the root or foundation of CAFN laws. When Brian first came back as a summer student at \$15 an hour, he helped draft our founding Self- Government legislation, and later our Constitution.” He added that you have come a long ways since you first approached him in 1995 looking for a job that paid more than the \$8 an hour you earned at Tip Top Tailors in Halifax!

You have also enriched the CAFN community by bringing your wife, Paula Banks, to the Yukon, and by contributing two bright, young CAFN Citizens - Graham and Marshall. It is important for us to acknowledge your family as they have sacrificed their time with you so that you may work for our people. We know there were many times that Paula and the kids missed you, but you had work to do for CAFN. We also want to thank Paula personally as she sacrificed being close with her family to support you in your dreams of coming home and working for your people. *Gunat̓chish, Paula.*

Paula shared that she has always felt very much welcomed into the community, since the day she met your family – John and Sadie Brown, Kitty Jackson and John Charlie. She said, “No one knew me, but they welcomed me anyway. They wanted to know about me: where I was from and what kind of big game they have on PEI!”

Since you were removed from your CAFN family as a small boy, you have returned as an important member of our community and have contributed much. As your mother, Kitty Jackson, said when she first saw you returning to the Yukon, you “grew up like string!”

We are glad you made the decision to come back to your homeland. As you begin this new stage of your career, we acknowledge all you have contributed, and look forward to your future accomplishments. But we also want to let you know that your work for your people never ends and that we know that you will always be committed to the vision of the Champagne and Aishihik people.

*Gunat̓chish*

*In Unity,  
Dän nātthe ada Kaaxnox  
Chief Steve Smith*



**CAFN congratulates two CAFN Citizen businesses on receiving awards from the Yukon First Nation Culture and Tourism Association in November 2015. *Shāw nithän!***

**Fire Keeper Award - Long Ago Peoples Place**

*Awarded to an individual or group that has “gone the extra mile” to create an extraordinary cultural experience for people of all ages and backgrounds to learn from and to enjoy.*

Meta Williams and Harold Johnson have worked tirelessly for decades to create the living heritage site called *Kwaday Dan Kenji* - Long Ago Peoples Place. The site allows visitors to immerse themselves in the essence of southern Yukon traditional lifeways, with all the intricate skills involved in crafting tools, shelters, and other requirements for surviving and thriving in this land. This living heritage site is a true labour of love, with untold hours of careful thought, extensive planning and hard work to create a unique experiential opportunity for people of all ages and backgrounds.

**Sha Tān - Sunny Trails Award- Shakat Tun Adventures**

*Awarded to an individual or group that has opened up cultural adventures for people of all ages from near and far.*

James Allen has had a dream for years – to create an outdoor cultural adventure business that would showcase the amazing beauty of his homelands and the lifeways of his ancestors. While working as Chief and other important community roles he never lost sight of his vision and with the help of his brother and family and friends he has launched Shakat Tun Adventures. . James brings traditional humour, fun and adventure to life for his visitors – sending his new company to the top of the hearts and minds of his guests – truly an example of *Sha Tān* - Sunny Trails!



# CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION PLAN



Homes and Community Buildings



Roads, Culverts and Bridges



Drinking Water Source and Systems



Wastewater Systems

## How is Climate Change impacting our community infrastructure?

This fall the Lands and Resources Department has been engaging CAFN citizens to develop a Climate Change Adaptation Plan – Community Infrastructure (CCAP-CI). The purpose of this project is to identify and make a plan to adapt our communities and lifestyles to the changing climate. In October and November, we visited Champagne, Haines Junction, Canyon, Takhni and Whitehorse and we spoke with residents about what they've observed in their communities and how their communities' infrastructure may be at risk to climate change impacts. We heard a lot about permafrost and its impacts on roads and foundations, high winds, wildfire and the spruce beetle stands, our drinking water and much more.

We took all the knowledge we heard in the communities to discuss further at the CCAP-CI Workshop, hosted at Da Kų on November 3. We brought together representatives from CAFN departments, citizens, Yukon Government, Kluane National Park, the Village of Haines Junction and the Yukon Research Centre. About 40 people attended the workshop.

Throughout the day we heard presentations from the Yukon Research Centre, hydrologist Patrick Hudson, and the CCAP-CI contract hydrologist and former Lands Manager, Gord Allison. There were two group sessions where participants prioritized community infrastructure climate change impacts and then worked together in groups to develop practical, feasible and fundable adaptation actions.



*Participants at the CCAP workshop at Da Kų Cultural Centre on November 3, 2015.*

We are now working on the CCAP-CI draft, which will be out for community consultation in the New Year. After that we will incorporate your input to produce the final plan for spring 2016. Thank you to all who participated in helping us adapt and prepare our communities for the changing climate.

If you would like more information or would like to be involved, please contact:

*Analie Lafrenière-Lemieux*  
(867) 634-4231  
[alafreniere-lemieux@cafn.ca](mailto:alafreniere-lemieux@cafn.ca)

or

*Graham Boyd*  
(867) 456-6886  
[gboyd@cafn.ca](mailto:gboyd@cafn.ca)

## LANGUAGE, CULTURE & HERITAGE UPDATE

After a busy summer season, staff at Da Kų are settling in for another winter. We are grateful for the summer help we had from Kathryn Baker, Kathy (Kathyleen) Darbyshire and Nantsana Murphy who worked as interpretative staff, proudly sharing our culture and stories with visitors from around the world. Bruce Green assisted with maintenance and groundwork around the centre, and we had Fred Stick Jr. taking on the role of Artist in Residence, talking with tourists as he worked on new pieces.

We are also pleased to have welcomed Shania Jackson as a full-time staff member of the Language, Culture and Heritage (LCH) Department. Shania will be working at the front of Da Kų over the winter, helping us to keep our doors open for our citizens. We have great resources for those

who want to learn more about their and CAFN's history and culture, and encourage any and all to come for a visit. A variety of fun activities for citizens will be offered at Da Kų over the winter.

The Language, Culture and Heritage Department is also pleased to announce the release of a catalogue on the Treasures Exhibit at Da Kų which opened this past June. Curated by Ukjese Van Kampen, Treasures highlights the artistic traditions of our people. The exhibit booklet is titled *Dänata Nädädetsät – Treasures, An Exhibit of Champagne and Aishihik, Dän (Tutchone) and Athapaskan Treasures from the Late 19th and Early 20th Centuries*. Drop by Da Kų to pick up your complementary copy of this well-illustrated booklet featuring pieces by many community members.

The LCH staff were saddened by the recent sudden passing of Kathyleen Darbyshire; Kathy worked for two summers as an interpreter at Da Kų. Her cheery ways of sharing stories about our history and culture with visitors will be missed. We extend our heartfelt condolences to Kathy's family. She will be missed by all of us.

*Dänata Nädädetsät*

Treasures



An exhibit of Champagne & Aishihik, Dän (Tutchone) and Athapaskan Treasures from the Late 19th and Early 20th Centuries

# Open Letter to Champagne and Aishihik Citizens

## Consultation on CAFN Citizen Services

Champagne and Aishihik Government is starting on a new path for our people. Citizens have been asking for a new approach to taking care of our people since the Government of Canada put us under the Indian Act and tried to force us to assimilate into their idea of being “Canadian”. They imposed programs we were told would make us more healthy, more educated and more Canadian. But those programs actually made us less healthy, less educated, and more dependent on government.

We continue to lose our people to addictions and unhealthy ways. We are at risk of losing our culture and language. Traditionally, we had a culture of sharing and helping those who needed it the most. Today that help is more of an expectation, rather than an actual need. We all know that at some point in our life we need help to get over things, but our dependence has grown to where we “expect” the government to help us for everything. This is not self-reliance and this is a cycle we have to break.

When our Council was elected in October 2014, we realized that we have many systems that were set up to continue this cycle of dependence. We have more people in need of social assistance and housing, more people struggling with addictions and more losing their culture. We cannot sit back and let this happen anymore.

Together as a Council we have decided to fundamentally change the way we are helping our people. The Chief and Council sought the support of the 2015 General Assembly and together we passed a resolution to develop and deliver programs that will better assist our people to get the help they need and to become self-reliant in a way that is *Dän k’è* (the Southern Tutchone way) - a way that is more holistic and designed by all of us.

With this direction, we are engaging with Citizens over the coming months to better understand the needs of our people. The outcome we are working toward is a new department for citizen services that will include what we currently call the Community Wellness, Education and Housing departments. We need to hear from all of you to understand the best ways to help our people end what sometimes feels like a never-ending struggle with addictions, lack of employment and unhealthy lifestyles. And we need to recognize and build on our successes – the programs CAFN offers where we are getting it right and making progress toward *Dän k’è* and “healthy, self-reliant Citizens.”

Chief and Council believe that we are all working for a better life for our children and grandchildren. By sharing your vision, you will be helping all of us attain this goal. We want to ensure that our Elders can be comforted that our people will not only survive, but thrive and bring back a better way of life.

On behalf of Council, *gunat’chish*.

*Dän Nätthe ädä Kaaxnox*  
Chief Steve Smith

# CITIZEN SERVICES: How can we improve?



## CHAMPAGNE AND AISHIHIK FIRST NATIONS

Citizens are invited to community sessions to work together and improve the way we deliver programs and services for our Citizens. Building on the discussion begun at our 2015 General Assembly, we need your input to answer:

- *What programs and services need to be improved or developed?*
- *What are the gaps in CAFN programs and services?*
- *How can programs and services better reflect CAFN values?*

### Please join in the discussions:

January 11	Champagne Hall
January 12	Takhini River Subdivision
January 14	Whitehorse
January 18	Haines Junction

*Dinner at 5:30 p.m. Meetings 6 to 9 p.m.*

For more information:

[CAFN.ca](http://CAFN.ca)

Amy McKinnon • (867) 634-4237  
• [almckinnon@cafn.ca](mailto:almckinnon@cafn.ca)

*DOOR PRIZE DRAWS at every meeting  
& FINAL GRAND PRIZE DRAW after  
consultation is complete  
for ROUND-TRIP  
AIRFARE donated by:*



*From the C*



*Ut'akwädjich'e Dzenų Yè Ay*

*Dàk'akwädinje dáyè Kàás*

Merry Christmas An

Our prayers be with you, to al

*AFN staff*

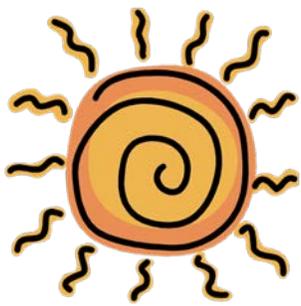


*shy dzeny kuk'akwadatth'at  
hech'aw ye dadunena shy.*

*and Happy New Year.*

*I love you and your children too.*

*Photo by Lauren McKinnon*



# Shawkwunlee Daycare

It was a busy and fun summer here at the daycare. We have learned a lot and grown a lot. Here are some of the highlights from our summer!



*A rainy day picnic inside! It was one of the first picnics of the year and the weather did not cooperate. We made the best of it though!*



*We had a lot of fun learning about gardening this summer. We spent a lot of time at the community gardens where the staff taught us a lot, and we got to try all sorts of vegetables.*



*We painted our own garden bins. And then grew a beautiful selection of herbs and flowers. It was a lot of fun seeing all our hard work pay off!*



*We have started doing yoga and we are pretty good at it. Everyone's balance and coordination has improved a lot, and it has helped us to be better listeners at circle time.*



*Drumming and dancing is always a lot of fun for our group. We look forward to doing a lot more of it this winter.*



*Our trip to Klukshu to see the salmon. A big thanks to Chuck Hume for the use of his cabin!*



*The superheroes!*

### **Dän k'e (Language)**



The center is making a continued effort to provide Southern Tutchone language and culture in our daily program. Staff are learning along with the children, and each day we get a little better at using more and more phrases and words with the children. One of the main reasons for this is so that the children in our community learn about their culture and take pride in it. Our circle time is beginning to take more and more of a focus on language learning, and the children are always becoming more familiar with the words and phrases that we are commonly using.

If you are hearing words at home that you don't understand then please ask us about it! If you can use words at home as well, then this will only help their learning and understanding of the language. As I am able to get things translated, I will provide you with a list of helpful words and phrases that you and your family can practice at home.



### **Training**

All of the dedicated staff here at the center are currently in training right now towards their Early Learning and Child Care Certificates and Diplomas. Thanks to everyone working here who is taking time out of their evenings to make this a better and more professional learning environment for your children. You may see us working on some of our projects for school at the daycare center with the children.

Here are a few more pictures. I also want to say a big thank you to all of our parents who volunteer their time and donate food, ect.. We really appreciate all that you do for us here at Daycare! We are partners in your children's learning and we love it when you get involved!



*Spending time together playing and learning*



# Dakwakada

CAPITAL INVESTMENTS

## Castle Rock Enterprises (CRE)

Castle Rock is going full out into the fall and winter months. A few of the projects we have on the go include:

- Secured another 40 hectares for our pit expansion;
- Currently clearing and grubbing in Whistle Bend, for phase 3 for the new Whistle Bend subdivision;
- Successfully completed second year contract with Clark Builders at the new FH Collins school project;
- Secured 15 new snow removal contracts in and around the Whitehorse area;
- Continuing work throughout the winter on the Whitehorse City Landfill Operations contract with the City of Whitehorse; and
- Completing the last of 2015 projects, winterizing the asphalt plant, shutting down pit operations and securing the property for the winter.

We will be working hard this winter on bidding contracts and securing projects for the 2016 season such as:

- New two-year contract with PCL Builders at the Whitehorse General Hospital Expansion Project continuing in 2016;
- Partnering with CH2M Hill for the Care and Maintenance contract for the Faro Mine site;
- CRE and CM2M Hill held an open house on November 9, 2015 in Faro for local residents and mine employees to see if there is interest in them working with CRE, if successful in our proposal.

COR certificate is in good standing, and last, but certainly not least, CRE has met our goal in achieving ZERO loss time for 2015!

Castle Rock staff and management team would like to wish you all the best this Holiday Season and Happy New Year!

## Icefield Tools (ITC)

During the down time on the winter months, ITC will be participating in Yukon's Annual Geoscience Forum and Tradeshow in Whitehorse as well as the Eastern Hemisphere's largest oil and gas show, the Abu Dhabi International Petroleum Exhibition. Icefield and its regional partner, Power Line Technical Services, will be demonstrating its newest magnetic and gyroscopic tools, followed by rigorous testing in the oilfields of Northern Iraq.

ITC discovered an accuracy issue with its new flagship Gyro Shot® system this past year, and has been working hard to correct the issue. Icefield employs some of the world's most knowledgeable specialized personnel for this type of complex technology, and the solution took many months to discover and implement. Combined with the impact of low oil prices on drilling operations, this error has greatly impacted business in 2015. The newest revised tools were shipped in late October and we anticipate results and fine tuning to complete in the next month.

Similar to global markets, mineral exploration spending in Yukon fell again this past year. Low precious metals prices continue to persist, and apply downward pressure on the mining sector. Regional operators such as Kaminak Gold, Wellgreen Platinum and Alexco have been surveying with

ITC's gyro tools, but smaller exploration companies are unable to raise funds for new drilling in this environment. The outlook for the mining sector for 2016 is still unclear, but there is no doubt that the few operators remaining in the sector will benefit greatly when the market turns.

## **RAB Energy (Northerm)**

### **Alaska**

We got off to a slow start this year, but our second quarter is coming through strong. Not only have our retail sales picked up, but so has our commercial business.

In our commercial division, our team just completed phase two of the Alaska State Capitol building in Juneau. Our commercial team has work throughout December, but there will be some timing delays due to high volumes.

The PVC business media program and USP (Unique Selling Proposition) is "Made in Alaska by Alaskans for Alaskans." This program emphasizes the importance of our window design, which is specifically designed to provide comfort and peace of mind in the harsh Alaska environment and is manufactured by Alaskans for Alaskans.

### **Yukon**

Northerm has had a very busy second quarter with all the residential housing and commercial projects starting up in Whitehorse.

We have secured a few contracts that will keep us busy during the third and fourth quarters in the commercial sector. We are very optimistic that we will be reaching our budgeted targets and possibly exceeding them for the 2015/16 fiscal year.

We are currently looking for dedicated candidates who are interested in careers toward becoming a Journeyman Glazier. This process usually takes 5 years, and it involves schooling down south for six weeks at a time per year. If you are interested in this position or would like more information please contact Rick Gingell, General Manager 667-7332.

Northerm would like to wish you and your family a happy Holiday Season and all the best in the New Year.

## **Kilrich Industries LTD**

Dakwakada Capital Investments sold their minority interest in Kilrich Industries Limited on October 16, 2015.

Chair of Dakwakada Capital Investments, Brian MacDonald, said "it was a solid investment with good partners, but at this time we feel it's a good time for us to reallocate our capital for future investments.

We still strongly believe in Kilrich Industries and its solid management team. We wish them continued success in future endeavours."

## **Dakwakada Capital Investments (DCI)**

The Champagne and Aishihik Trust who governs the DCI Board is looking to reinvigorate and refresh the board for future successes. The DCI Management Team of Paul Gruner, Michelle Dawson-Beaty and Joey Krahn are remaining.

We would like to thank our past directors for all their contributions and dedication to Dakwakada Capital Investments over the past 11 years and wish them success in future endeavours.

The Champagne Aishihik Trust is currently seeking Citizens to apply for upcoming vacancies on the Dakwakada Capital Investments Board of Directors. For more details please contact Marie McLaren, Trust Manager at (867) 393-2331 ext 103.

For more information:

*Paul Gruner, General Manager*  
*Dakwakada Capital Investments*  
*(867) 668-5831 - paul@dakwakada.com*  
**www.dakwakada.com**

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Post Secondary Student Support Program

Attention: Champagne and Aishihik First Nations Citizens:

#### Are you planning to attend University or College or Trades Programs?

You may be eligible for funding to support your studies!

#### The deadline for your application submission is:

- **January enrollment deadline:**  
**November 27, 2015**
- **May enrollment deadline:**  
**March 25, 2016**
- **September enrollment deadline:**  
**June 15, 2016**

Students must be accepted to enroll or be enrolled in a community college or university to complete trades, college certificate, Bachelors, Masters or Doctoral programs.

**All current and ongoing students must reapply each year for continued funding.**

**Transcripts must be included with your application.**

**Note: Funding is limited**

For an application package and further information contact:

Champagne and Aishihik First Nations  
WHITEHORSE OFFICE

Post-Secondary Education

304 Jarvis Street

Whitehorse, YT

Y1A 2H2

Phone: (867) 456-6884 or (867) 456-6888

Fax: (867) 667-6202

Email: [vowlchild@cafn.ca](mailto:vowlchild@cafn.ca)

### Message to Citizens on Paying Rent

*I would like to personally thank all of our Citizens in CAFN rental housing who keep their rent payments up to date. Your self-reliance and responsibility helps our Property Services Department and impacts the resources available for everyone in our community.*

*Unpaid rent and accounts in arrears take away from programs that benefit Citizens (adults and children) like education, treatment, and after care programs, short and long term employment, and repairs and renovations to CAFN homes, community halls and administration buildings.*

*In the event that you have been unable to keep up with rent or service charges for some reason, I ask that you contact Property Services to discuss your situation and how you can put together a repayment plan that works for you.*

*Respectfully,  
Dän Nätthe ädä Kaaxnox  
Chief Steve Smith*

### Rent and Service Charge Arrears

As of October 31, 2015;

- The CAFN Property Services Department holds an outstanding balance of \$498,802 for rent and municipal service charges.
- About 50% of tenants who receive services (around 60 households) are in arrears for a total of \$372,510.
- The remaining \$126,292 is owed by individuals who no longer reside in CAFN housing.

We encourage all tenants to keep up with rent and service charge payments.

If you have fallen into arrears, please contact the Property Service Department at to arrange a mutually agreed upon payment plan.

## Dakwanje.com

*My name is Khâsha, or Stephen Reid. My grandparents were Rachel and Stan Thompson from Champagne, Yukon. I am enrolled in a Masters program in Language Revitalization at UVIC. I recently completed a course that allowed me to work on a website for our language: [www.dakwanje.com](http://www.dakwanje.com).*

*I would also like to extend my hand to your citizens to share language resources for the website.*

*Khâsha / Stephen Reid  
khasha.stephen@gmail.com  
[www.dakwanje.com](http://www.dakwanje.com)*

## Your Voice is Important!

Since last winter, the department of Lands and Resources has been working on creating Community Land Use Plans for Dakwakada (Haines Junction) and Takhini.

Meetings for these projects were postponed this fall, while the CAFN Climate Change Adaptation Plan – Community Infrastructure project took place. Results of the Climate Change Adaptation Plan will be put into action through the land use plans.

A land planning working group has helped guide the planning process in Haines Junction and a working group is being established in Takhini. If you are interested in helping plan the future of your community, please let us know.

Land Planning Working Group and community meetings will begin again after the holidays.

If you would like more information, or would like to be involved please contact Analie Lafrenière-Lemieux at (867) 634-4231 or [alafreniere-lemieux@cafn.ca](mailto:alafreniere-lemieux@cafn.ca) or Graham Boyd at 867-456-6886 or [GBoyd@cafn.ca](mailto:GBoyd@cafn.ca).

Stay tuned for future project newsletters that will have more detailed project information!

## CAFN LONG SERVICE AWARDS

Congratulations to all the CAFN staff who received awards this November.

### 15 Years

Paula Banks, Director of Education  
Trish George, Director of Finance  
Millie Joe, Language Coordinator  
Angie Wabisca, Implementation Manager

### 10 Years

Marlon Allen, Equipment Mechanic  
Roger Brown, Manager, Environment and Natural Resources  
Lenette Graham, Rental Housing Coordinator  
Jocelyn Kinney, Community Wellness Activity Coordinator  
Charlie Long, Field Foreman for Takhini  
Monica Parent, Custodian – Haines Junction

### 5 Years

Rita Burns, Accounts Receivable Clerk  
Amy McKinnon, Communications Manager  
David Germain, Carpenter's Helper  
Victor Green, Carpenter's Helper  
Vera Owlchild, Post-Secondary Education Manager  
Marsha Sparvier, Accounts Payable Clerk 2  
Sharol Smith, Receptionist – Haines Junction

### 1 Year

Andrew Moore, IT System Administrator  
Andrew Pauls, IT Support Technician  
Denise Beattie, Governance Director  
Josephine Boyle, Data Entry Clerk  
Stewart Breithaupt, Director of Human Resources  
Jessica Dyck, Daycare Manager  
Maury Fraser, Wellness Support Worker  
Charlene Hume, Occupational Health & Safety Specialist  
Elly Jackson, Human Resources Assistant  
Robert Jackson, Municipal Maintenance Worker Operator 1  
Alec Joe, Carpenter's Helper  
Analie Lafreniere-Lemieux, Land Planning Officer  
Venesa Lutz, Natural Resource Officer  
Mike Maloney, Community Outreach & Support Worker  
Tom Millspaugh, Field Foreman - Haines Junction  
Sean Sheardown, Director of Language, Culture & Heritage  
George Van Sickle, Director of Property Services  
Teresa Ward, Property Services Assistant  
Vera Williams, Accounts Payable Clerk

### Staff Choice Awards

Outstanding Service Provider – Maury Fraser  
Outstanding Service Provider – Kevin Joe

Cultural Role Model – Luke Campbell  
Cultural Role Model – Richard Smith

The Leadership Award – Fran Asp  
The Leadership Award – Roger Brown

## SPECIAL GREETINGS

*Congratulations to Candace Grace Walker Southwick and Leigh Dupont on their beautiful baby girl, Madison Ruth Dupont born on November 6, 2015. Love always Kaylea, Wyatt, Angie and Ron.*

*Congratulations to my daughter Candace Walker and Leigh Dupont on the birth of their beautiful daughter "Madison Ruth Dupont" on November 6th, 2015. Love from Mom, Jimmy and all the rest of your family.*



### REMINDER:

**CAFN still has resources to assist with preparing Citizens' wills and enduring power of attorney.**

#### **Please contact:**

*Breagh Dabbs  
at Austring Fendrick & Fairman  
in Whitehorse at 668-4405  
or 1 (800) 661-0533.*

## **Kwidlj dzenù sòthän nch'j!** *Happy Birthday!*

*Happy Birthday and Merry Christmas to our Granddaughter Shelby Jackson on December 25th. Enjoy your special day! Love always, Grandma Vera and Grandpa John Hume.*

*Happiest Birthday wishes for our wonderful Amazing mother Lorraine Allen on December 7th. Lotsa love from your kids!!*

*Wishing my nephew Marcus Wesley a Happy Birthday for January 7th and my Niece Shyenne Dawn Happy Birthday for January 10th. WISHING MY sister-in-law Marsha Dawn a happy Birthday for January 28. Lots love from the Kinney crew*

*Happy Birthday to my loving mom, Angie Wabisca on November 14. Love always Kaylea, Ron, Wyatt, Bronx and Gem*

*Happy Birthday to:*

*Elaine Chambers - November 18*

*Bev Rissanen - November 20*

*Odessa Epp - November 22*

*Marion Telep - December 4*

*Grace Southwick - December 5*

*Candace Walker - December 5*

*Glenna Southwick - December 11*

*Nicki Telep - December 13*

*Roy Wabisca - December 21*

*Joe Knight - December 22*

*Mike Telep - Happy Birthday and Merry Xmas - December 25*

*Lena Smith-Tutin - December 30*

*Fran Oles - December 31*

*Fred Chambers – "60" January 5th*

*From the Wabisca, Telep, Southwick, Allen, Bratt, Knight, Beattie, Chambers and VanBibber families.*

*Happy Birthday to daughter and sister Melissa Imbeau January 4th and happy 1st birthday to our beautiful granddaughter and niece Piper Mae Imbeau January 9. Love Dad (Grampa Ron), Angie (Grannie Annie) and Kaylea (Auntie).*

*Happy Birthday to Sharol Smith on December 18!*

*Happy 21st birthday to Cherie O'Brien December 20 from Nikki.*

*And happy 5th birthday Hope Nicholas (December 7th). Love, Mom, Curtis, Grandma, Grandpa, Roxy and Tizzy.*

*Happy \_\_ th Birthday to Uncle Greg Smith on December 22. Love from your nephew Koltun Jim and sister Sharol.*

*Happy birthday to Millie Joe for December 20th. From KJ n Sharol*

*Happy 60th Birthday to Fred Chambers for January 5. Love Val, Shadelle, Cameron, Keinen and Adrianna.*



*Happy Birthday to one of the greats, Anna Fraser for December 30th. You are loved by all! Wishing you the best this year and for the years to come! Love your family and friends*

*A special Happy Birthday to my Grandma Gail for December 10th. Thanks for being the best Grandma I could have ever asked for! Love from your grandson, Ta-Koda*



*Happy Birthday to Lauren McKinnon December 24 and Craig McKinnon December 28! With lots of love from your whole family.*

### **In Memory**

#### **For Tora-Lee on November 1st.**

*Love, Grandma Vera, Grandpa John, aunts, uncles, brothers, sister and cousins of Haines Junction.*



**On November 26, 2015** it was one year since Alex (Grampa Daddy) went to visit Sue in the Happy Hunting Ground.

Not a day goes by without one of us telling a story of "this is how Grampa would have done it" or "this is what Grampa would have said."

Winter was his favorite time; skidooing up to his "mansion in the sky" to check his traps or just for a trip.

We miss him so much at Champagne but we know he's with Gramma and all the rest of our family who have passed.

Both Gramma and Grampa Daddy always said: "Don't dwell on the past", and Gramps believed in living life to the fullest, which he did all of his life. Memories of both of them will never be forgotten.

With love, Kathy and all of your grandchildren.



**CHAMPAGNE AND AISHIHIK FIRST NATIONS**

**Please send your greetings  
for the Dàkwānī newsletter to:**

Amy McKinnon, Communications  
almckinnon@cafn.ca • (867) 634-4237

**Return Address:**

Champagne and Aishihik First Nations  
PO Box 5310  
Haines Junction, YT  
Y0B 1L0

**Destination Address:**



# CAFN CALENDAR

**January 4 - Regular business hours resume at CAFN offices** after the holiday break.

**January 8 - Chief and Council** regular meeting, Haines Junction.

**January 11 - Citizen Services community session,** Champagne Hall.

**January 12 - Citizen Services community session,** Takhini River Subdivision.

**January 14 - Citizen Services community session,** Whitehorse.

**January 18 - Citizen Services community session,** Haines Junction.

**January 21 - Chief and Council** regular meeting, Haines Junction.

**February 4 - Chief and Council** regular meeting, Haines Junction.

**February 17 - Chief and Council** regular meeting, Haines Junction.

*For more dates and details, please visit [CAFN.ca/events](http://CAFN.ca/events) or like **Champagne and Aishihik First Nations** on Facebook.*

**Dăyè  
Sàkwuthj Jè**  
May the holiday bring  
you happiness.

Photo: *Kael Epp* shows the stocking he made during a workshop at Champagne. CAFN hosted stocking and traditional glove-making workshops in CAFN communities in December 2015.



# Dàkwäni

**Champagne and Aishihik First Nations**

[www.cafn.ca](http://www.cafn.ca)

PO Box 5310  
Haines Junction, YT Y0B 1L0  
(867) 634-4200

304 Jarvis Street  
Whitehorse, YT Y1A 2H2  
(867) 456-6888



**Dàkwäni**  
is available in full colour  
at [CAFN.ca/news](http://CAFN.ca/news)

**Stories, photos, greetings and artwork are welcome.**

Please send your submissions to: [almckinnon@cafn.ca](mailto:almckinnon@cafn.ca)

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