

Kwanlin Dän Ch'a

KWANLIN PEOPLE OF WHITEHORSE, HOW ARE YOU? **SUMMER | SHAKÁT 2022**



STANDING (left to right)
Lawrence Sam, Darrell Charlie,
Travis Smith, Krista Dawson,
Albert Smith, Kim Johnnie, Isaac
Malcolm, Brent Taylor, Rosie Smith

FRONT - Renee Roy, Cynthia James,
Joe Migwans, Jackie Callahan



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Who you gonna call?

For emergencies always call..... **911**

KDFN Community Safety Officers: **867-332-9551** (If there's no answer, please leave a message.)

KDFN Tips Line, for reporting community concerns anonymously: **867-456-TIPS(8477)**

Messages are checked daily.

RCMP in Whitehorse (non-emergency): **867-667-5555**

Mental Wellness Supports

KDFN's Natsékhi Kù Health Centre: **867-668-7289**

Yukon Mental Wellness Services: **867-456-3838**

The Canadian Mental Health Association, Yukon Division: **867-668-6429**

National Indian Residential School Crisis Line: **1-866-925-4419**

Hope for Wellness National Crisis Line: **1-855-242-3310**

Animal Control

City of Whitehorse Bylaw Officers: **867-667-2111**

Child and Family Supports

Child & Family Liaison: **867-332-2414**

Yukon Government Social Workers - 24/7: **867-667-3002**

COVID-19 Info and Services

Natsékhi Kù Health Centre COVID-19 Info Line (weekdays 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.): **867-335-5051**

Yukon's Health Information Line (anytime): **811**

Book a COVID-19 vaccination: **1-877-374-0425** or www.yukon.ca/this-is-our-shot

If you think you have COVID-19 (you have symptoms or you've had close contact with someone who has tested positive) call KDFN's COVID-19 Info Line and a nurse can help advise you on next steps: **867-335-5051**

Substance Use Support and Harm Reduction

KDFN's Natsékhi Kù Health Centre: **867-668-7289**

The Whitehorse Outreach Van (Naloxone kits and other supplies): **867-334-1647**

KDFN Community Safety Officers (Naloxone kits): **867-332-9551**

Yukon's Supervised Consumption Site at **6189 - 6th Avenue**. Open weekdays 12 noon to 9 p.m.

If someone you care about is in distress. Speak with a counsellor with Wellness Together Canada: **1-866-585-0445**

The National Overdose Response Service hotline is confidential, nonjudgmental support for you, whenever and wherever you use drugs: **1-888-688-NORS (6677)**

Hope for Wellness National Crisis Line: **1-855-242-3310**

A smudge stick.
Photo courtesy of *CYFN/Alistair Maitland*



CUT OUT THIS PAGE AND KEEP ON YOUR FRIDGE FOR QUICK REFERENCE.

A Message from the Chief...

Dännch'é!

Welcome to the KDFN spring newsletter. The sun is shining and the days are getting longer. I hope you are enjoying time on the land with friends and family.

After more than two years, we're all eager to return to a more normal way of life. We're remaining cautiously optimistic as in-person events slowly come back and keeping safety top of mind.

We're not out of the woods yet. It's hard to predict what will happen next when it comes to COVID-19, but KDFN is ready. We're learning to live with the virus, and how to safely respond as case counts ebb and flow. Shăw níthän, gùnátchish, mähsi'cho, and thank you to everyone doing their part to keep themselves and those around them safe.

Now more than ever it's essential to think about mental wellness. Check in on your neighbours and loved ones. A phone call or visit can go a long way. If you yourself are struggling please reach out to a friend or family member. You can also get support through KDFN's Natsékhi Kù Health Centre, Yukon Mental Wellness Services, and the Canadian Mental Health Association, Yukon Division.

As summer approaches, we look forward to coming together to celebrate our community. It's been too long since we have been able to smile, laugh and celebrate together. We hope upcoming events will lift everyone's spirits and bring some much-needed fun.

Stay safe and take good care.



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Chief Doris Bill



SHOUT OUTS!



Making bannock for people in need

With the support of her family and donations from people throughout the territory, Charlene Waugh spends every Thursday making bannock to drop off at Blood Ties Four Directions for the Whitehorse Outreach Van. Her “bannock bags” include pieces of bannock, cookies, and any other goodies she can add in and still stay within her budget.

When she started, she was paying for all of the bannock out of pocket, but since January 2022 all of her supplies are funded by generous people donating money and ingredients.

She says: “When I was a teen, I didn’t have a home. I know what it’s like to be hungry, where I was like, ‘can somebody please give me a piece of frickin’ bannock.’ That would have made me happy.”

Health Centre drumming and singing

In February, we invited Erin Kothetty Pauls and her family to drum and sing in tribute to KDFN’s health and wellness team, and for all the people working to keep us healthy.

We hold up our hands to all of Yukon’s healthcare workers. Know that your work is appreciated. Shāw nithān, Gūnāchīsh, Māhsīcho, Thank you!

(LEFT) Erin Kothetty Pauls and her family were invited to drum in honour of KDFN’s health care workers.



Do you know someone who deserves a shout out? We want to celebrate KDFN accomplishments large and small. Do you know a person or group that deserves a shout out? Give us a call at 867-334-2012 or email communications@kdfn.net

And please make sure the person you’re shouting out is on board as we need their permission to publish something about them.

Sacred Fire for youth

Earlier in the spring, Elders, community members, KDFN Chief Doris Bill and Ta’an Kwäch’än Council Chief Amanda Leas came together for a sacred fire for youth at the Kwanlin Dün Cultural Centre.

Doronn Fox of Tsalazra was an organizer. He said: This fire is for the Yukon community, the recent losses are affecting everyone. The fire is to honour the ones lost.... We are grateful for the opportunity to support the community at this time of need.”

(RIGHT) Doronn Fox and Mark Rutledge were fire keepers for the sacred fire.

8 Days of Sharing, Caring and Connecting to Community

In March, KDFN’s Justice team organized 8 days of activities to engage with the community. Activities included speaking First Nations languages, painting wooden salmon for McIntyre’s new gas station, and sharing recipes. Who took part were entered for a chance to win some great prizes!

The 8 days wrapped up with a virtual community bingo game. Shout out to everyone who participated and helped organize.

(RIGHT) 8 Days of Sharing, Caring and Connecting to Community wrapped up with a virtual game of bingo.





Keeping our community a little cleaner

Shout out to Roxanne Jackson, Nathan Joe, Alec Joe The Third and Frankie Joe for taking the initiative to pick up garbage, and helping to keep McIntyre a bit cleaner.

Many thanks for pitching in! Keep up the good work.

Building skills in KDFN's nursing staff

KDFN Nurse Danielle Koop has been accepted into the BC Centre on Substance Use Addiction Nursing Fellowship program for the 2022-23 year. The Addiction Nursing Fellowship program strives for excellence in clinical training, scholarship, research, and advocacy. The program includes specialty training in inpatient and outpatient addiction management, as well as related concurrent disorders training. The program prepares Nursing Fellows to work clinically in the field of addiction and take leadership roles in academic and/or research settings.

Danielle's knowledge and experience from this program will be an incredible asset to the Health & Wellness department and service the KDFN community along with other Yukon healthcare systems as she brings back expertise to apply to substance use programs and healthcare settings.

Enjoy the program Danielle! We look forward to learning from you.

National Administrative Professionals Day

April 27 was National Administrative Professionals Day! Shout out to KDFN's amazing admin staff that help to keep the government running smoothly.

Shāw nithān, gùnátchīsh, māhsí'cho, thank you for all the wonderful work you do!

(LEFT to RIGHT) Shirley Bien, Keanna Lutz, Donna Holcomb, Michele Taylor, Darlene Smith and Jeanine George

The next generation of climate leaders

Natilee Thompson is one of 10 young climate leaders selected to form the Yukon government second Youth Panel on Climate Change.

The youth panel will have the opportunity to gain skills and experience to empower them to continue to take action in their schools and communities on issues related to climate change, and to offer their insights and voice in the fight against climate change.

Way to go, Natilee!



KDFN's Council would like to congratulate

THE CLASS OF 2022

and all of our KDFN Citizens who graduated this year!

POST-SECONDARY:

Aurora Hardy
Melia Hudgin
Cassis Lindsay
Elaine Smarch

YUKON FIRST NATIONS GRAD:

Joseph Benjarmin-Sholtz
Nathan Boulanger
Nicky Charlie
Kluane Clark

Kadyn Davies
Adam Dawson
John Etzel-McLeod
Annie Farkas

Zeta Gallan
Ashley Johnnie
Brooke-Lyn Jones
Isaac O'Brien

Alexis Taylor-Mervyn
Darci Trociuk
Naveah Webb"

It's a long journey, but you've worked hard and achieved a major milestone in life.

We are all very excited to see how all of you will change the world. **Congratulations to all of you!**

KDFN COVID-19 Update

As we head into spring, COVID-19 numbers are decreasing in the Yukon. But that doesn't mean we're out of the woods yet. There is still widespread community transmission and risk of catching and transmitting the virus.

Here at KDFN

KDFN continues to monitor the COVID-19 risk in the Yukon. Safety protocols may change as the risk level changes. For the most up-to-date information visit kwanlindun.com/covid-19

Layer up!

Each COVID-19 safety measure you follow is a layer of protection for yourself, your family and your community. Using many layers of protection is especially important for Elders, youth, people with weakened immune systems and other vulnerable people in our community.

Layers of protection against COVID-19 include:

- Keeping your vaccinations current
- Wearing a mask
- Staying home if you have any symptoms
- Washing your hands often
- Rapid testing often, whether you have symptoms or not
- Keeping safe distancing from people outside your bubble
- Staying out of crowded, poorly ventilated spaces



Pick up rapid tests for free at the Natsékhi Kų Health Centre. Call 867-335-5051 to order in advance.

Can you get COVID-19 more than once?

Yes, it is possible to get COVID-19 more than once. Even with the same variant. It is more common with the new Omicron variants.

What is long COVID?

Some people who have COVID-19 may experience symptoms after they recover from the initial infection. Studies are underway to further understand what causes long COVID-19, and how to diagnose and treat it.

If you think you have this condition, talk to your healthcare provider about how to manage your symptoms.

When caring for a person with COVID-19 what danger signs should I watch for?

Some people who have COVID-19 may experience symptoms after they recover from the initial infection. Studies are underway to further understand what causes long COVID-19, and how to diagnose and treat it.

If you think you have this condition, talk to your healthcare provider about how to manage your symptoms.

Call 911 if anyone develops severe symptoms, such as:

- trouble breathing or severe shortness of breath
- persistent pressure or pain in the chest
- new onset of confusion
- difficulty waking up or staying awake
- pale, grey or blue-coloured skin, lips or nail beds

If you need rapid tests or have any health questions, call the KDFN COVID-19 info line at 867-335-5051.

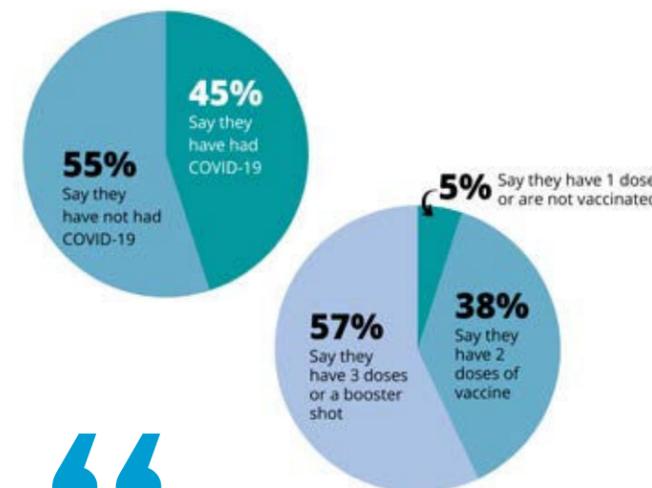
THE NUMBERS ARE IN!



Shāw nithān, gúná'chīsh, māhsí'cho, thank you to all the Citizens who took part in KDFN's Community COVID-19 Survey in April 2022.

Here is an overview of the results:

- 110 Citizens responded
- 54% live in McIntyre, Crow and Swan
- 57% say they've got 3 doses or a booster shot
- 63% say they are happy with COVID-19 safety measures staying in place at KDFN



I was pretty sick for about 10 days with some symptoms for a week after even though I was triple-vaxxed. I was kind of mad but it also made me wonder if it would have been a lot worse had I not had any vaccines,

SURVEY RESPONDENT

KDFN's Healthy Baby Healthy Generations Program

KDFN's Healthy Baby Healthy Generations Program can help parents-to-be stay as healthy as possible before, during and after pregnancies.

Our team is made up of nurses and support workers who are available for both clinic and home visits.

SERVICES INCLUDE:

- prenatal care,
- labour and delivery teaching,
- breastfeeding support,
- nutrition support,
- postpartum care,
- well baby clinics, and
- immunizations.

We can also help you get to medical appointments and connect with other support services.

Get in touch by phoning or texting 867-335-4477.





Känjli k'è nàkwäts'äye.

We have fun!

Youth Rec shredded at Sima, hit the pools at the CGC, made stop-motion videos and learned on-the-land skills.

Youth Recreation has been busy this winter! We ran a wide variety of virtual activities over Zoom like paint nights, chocolate strawberries, beading, and bingo. The kids had a blast with their families joining in as well.

Spring break saw Youth Recreation hosting three separate camps: two day-camps and a science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) camp in partnership with Yukon University.





In the STEM camp, youth aged six to nine made stop-motion videos, learned how to navigate robots through simple coding, and stayed active with science-based games.

Lots of fun was had by all at the day-camps including the Community Safety Officers, Land Steward Officers, RCMP, and folks from Rivers to Ridges who came to join us. Some activities included beading, sliding, visiting the wildlife preserve on kick sleds, cross-country skiing, a day at Mount Sima, fire building, and so much more! After spring break, Youth Recreation started several in-person programs including swimming, bouldering, and weekends at Mount Sima.



In the swimming/junior lifeguard skills program at the Canada Games Centre, youth learned self-safety and self-rescue skills like what to do if you fall through ice, treading water, and performing surface dives. This spring we're offering three different swimming sessions to swimmers of varying skill levels including beginners!

Youth have also been having a blast climbing around the bouldering wall and becoming more confident as they gain climbing and falling skills.

On the weekends, youth have been getting out to Mount Sima for some shredding on skis and snowboards with staff, making the most of the last few weeks of snow and sunshine.

The Youth Recreation team has been working hard at planning a summer full of fun. Stay tuned for more information on upcoming programs!

Give us a call at 867-332-3060.





Toddlers at Dusk'a doing a little hands-on learning with their teachers. Baking and creating poses so many learning experiences for little minds.

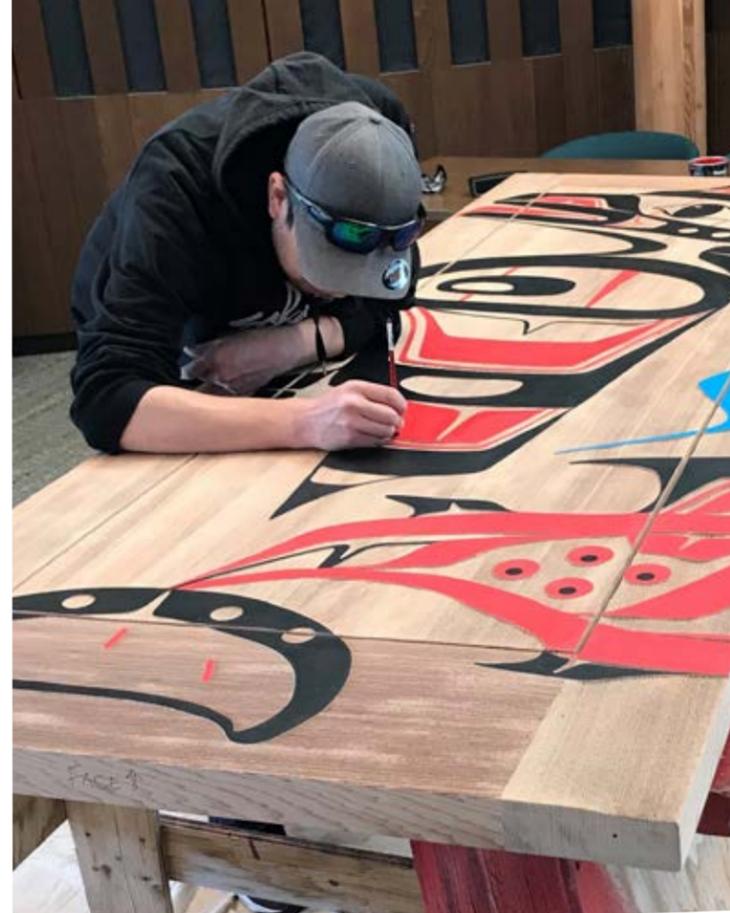


Enjoying our new toys! Dusk'a recently applied for funding for kick sleds. The children are picking up this new skill quickly, and are enjoying spending time outside while they learn and move their bodies. They have practiced at the center and recently took a trip to swan haven for a kick sled adventure.

Dusk'a Head Start



Spending time outside is one of the most worthwhile learning experiences we can create for the children at Dusk'a Head Start. It is always a fun time!



Wolf, Crow and salmon on new KDFN Council doors

Artist Terrence Cory Shorty designed and painted the Council doors in the new Kashgêk' Building. In 2020, KDFN put out a call for door designs. From all submissions received, this design was selected by the Artwork Committee.

Terrence Cory Shorty is a KDFN citizen of Northern Tutchone, Tlingit, Norwegian and French descent.

He is originally from Whitehorse, Yukon where he's connected with his First Nations roots through traditional practices, like living on the land and hunting.

Terrence comes from an artistic family background, full of painters. He began painting in the northwest coast style when he was living in Edmonton, Alberta in 2005. He moved to Vancouver where he really started to improve his painting skills. Now he lives in Whitehorse, Yukon.

In This River

Terrence calls the design In this River.

He says: "After two to six years out in the ocean, the salmon come back to the Yukon River to spawn. Once the fertilisation is done, their bodies die. This natural process brings food and nutrients to the land and water. Many other species, such as the wolf and crow depend on this process. Salmon have been a keystone species to various wildlife and First Nations people for thousands of years."

"The First Nations people of the Yukon River will dry salmon to survive the long winters. The salmon represent the connections with the river. The wolf and crow represent the two moiety clans of Kwanlin Dün."

KEEP YOUR ADDRESS UP TO DATE!

If you're a KDFN Citizen or Beneficiary and your address has changed, please take a moment to update it.

You can:

- Go to kwanlindun.com;
- Email citizenship@kdfn.net; or
- Call 867-633-7800, ext. 131, and leave a voicemail with your full name and your new address.

We send out important things from time to time and we don't want you to miss out.

Shäw níthän, Gùnáłchîsh,
Mähsí'cho and Thank you!



Steven Shorty shares how he beat type 2 diabetes

River Gatensby sat down with KDFN Citizen Steven Shorty, who shared his story about overcoming type 2 diabetes. Steven wanted to tell his story in the hopes that it will inspire others suffering with type 2 diabetes to make positive changes in their lives.

It's a tough road to make change, but change is good. Sometimes it's hard, but it's good for us. When I quit everything, I made that change to better myself because I thought I was going to die.

STEVEN SHORTY

In 2019, Steven became suspicious that he might have diabetes while on an ice fishing trip. He noticed that he was drinking more water than usual. He recognized this as a symptom because his family has a history of diabetes.

"I started thinking about it, and I started looking at the symptoms. My tongue was always dry, I was drinking a lot more water, and I was going to the washroom more than usual... So I went to the hospital and I got my blood taken. They called me a week later, and told me to come in right away because it was serious and could have gotten a lot worse."

The doctors at the hospital told him that his blood sugar level was high, and that meant that he had to start getting injections of insulin in the stomach. They prescribed him metformin pills.

"There were a lot of things that I got used to growing up, like fishing, but as I got older I fell into a lifestyle," said Steven.

Eventually, that lifestyle caught up with him.

He recalled a story about how diabetes affected his ability to play hand games. "We were getting ready to hop back on the mat, and I realised that I hadn't eaten anything. That was the first time I felt uncontrollable. I started feeling hypo. I didn't have enough sugar in my blood. I started shaking uncontrollably, which really scared me. So I had a pop and told my team I had to sit that one out."

Steven explained the meaning of hyperglycemia and hypoglycemia. Hyper means your blood sugar is too high, and hypo means that it's too low.

He spoke with a dietician, and received support from the Natsékhi Kų Health Centre, who provided him with passes to the Canada Games Centre.

"The biggest issue was the eating. I used to eat a lot then... but, I listened to my dietician who told me how to monitor, and plan my meals to be healthier..."

I stopped eating all of the fatty processed food. After a month, my doctor told me that my blood sugar levels were going down."

"At the time I was in a rough patch. I was into drugs and alcohol... I started talking to my partner, and I told her that I was going to quit. If I keep on going down this path, I'm going to have to keep fighting it... I was really scared, but she told me that she would stand by me, and that we would do it together."

Steven credits his partner's support as a major motivator to beating his diabetes. "I'm proud that she joined me on this journey... If she had kept on drinking, I probably would still be drinking with her."

Then he began working out.

"I used to just go to work, go home, have a drink and sit down. Now I work out, then I go home. I started walking more. I went to the gym and started gaining muscle and losing weight at the same time. That helped me quite a bit."

After three months, he had made enough progress that he no longer needed to take insulin. After five months, he no longer needed to take metformin.

"My doctor told me that my pancreas seemed to be working better, but I have to be vigilant of how to move forward," he said.

"It's a tough road to make change, but change is good. Sometimes it's hard, but it's good for us. When I quit everything, I made that change to better myself because I thought I was going to die."

To prevent it from coming back Steven does things like skidooing, going to the gym, ice fishing, boating, and things that will keep him active when he's bored.

It's been three years, and Steven has kept up with his healthy lifestyle.

DOC TALK:

Are you up to date with your cancer screening tests?

Dr. Anke Rhein from KDFN's Natsékhi Kų Health Centre advises on how you can take your health in your hands by keeping up to date with your cancer screening tests.

Cancer remains the leading cause of death in Canada. An estimated two in five Canadians will be diagnosed with cancer and about one in four will die. If detected early, there are effective treatments to cure it.

There are three main cancer screening tests.

PAP TESTS SCREEN FOR CERVICAL CANCER

Anyone with a cervix between the ages of 25 and 69 should be screened for cervical cancer every three years.

Pap tests look for abnormal cells before they become cancerous. If found and treated early, cervical cancer can be stopped.

An abnormal result doesn't mean you have cancer, but it's important to follow up with your healthcare provider.

Get a Pap test by contacting:

1. **Your family doctor** (if you have one)
2. **Yukon Sexual Health Clinic.** Phone 867-393-6635. (This clinic offers sexual and reproductive health services in the Yukon to all genders and orientations.)
3. **Yukon Women's MidLife Health Clinic.** Phone 867-633-3080. (This clinic offers health care and support to women approaching, experiencing or are beyond menopause.)

MAMMOGRAMS SCREEN FOR BREAST CANCER

Mammograms are x-rays of the breast that look for hidden signs of cancer. The test is done in private by a trained technician.

When to get a mammogram

If you're a woman:

- **Age 40 to 49** with no family history of breast cancer → talk to your healthcare provider about whether you need a mammogram.
- **Age 40 to 74** with a close relative (mother, daughter, sister) with breast cancer → get a mammogram every year.
- **Age 50 to 74** with no family history of breast cancer → get a mammogram every two years.
- **Age 75+** → talk to your healthcare provider about whether you need a mammogram.

But, If you have any symptoms, including a lump or nipple discharge, at any age contact your healthcare provider immediately to determine if other testing is required.

FIT TEST CHECKS FOR COLON CANCER

Everyone aged 50 to 74 should get screened for colon cancer every two years with the FIT test, even if you have no symptoms.

If you've had a colonoscopy that found adenomas (polyps) or if you have a family history of colon cancer, you need a colonoscopy and to see your healthcare provider.

FIT looks for blood in your stool which can be a sign of pre-cancer. The test can be done in the comfort of your own house using a take-home kit.

If you're NOT up to date with your cancer screening, see your healthcare provider or contact KDFN's Natsékhi Kų Health Centre to arrange testing.

Working to end period poverty

The Council of Yukon First Nations will help distribute free pads, tampons, and menstrual cups to First Nations in the Yukon.

The CYFN team poses with baskets of menstrual products. (Photo courtesy of CYFN)

It's estimated that women in Canada pay \$6,000 for menstrual products in their lifetime. New funding from Indigenous Services Canada and the Yukon government is aiming to cut that expense and reduce financial barriers to accessing the necessary products.

Free pads, tampons, and menstrual cups will be distributed to Yukon First Nations through the Council of Yukon First Nations.

Look for more information on how KDFN Citizens can access free period products through the Natsékhi Kų Health Centre.





Macaulay Road Home Lottery for KDFN Citizens and Beneficiaries

This summer, KDFN will hold a lottery for five new homes on Macaulay Road and Wylie Crescent in McIntyre. This lottery is open to adults (19+) who have never owned a home before. To be eligible you must meet certain criteria through Canada's First Nation Market Housing Program and the First Nations Bank of Canada.

Five new homes

- 753-square feet
- 2 bedrooms
- 1 bathroom
- Open-concept kitchen and living area

Price: \$263,000

To help make these homes more affordable, KDFN has created a \$6,575 grant. This grant can be applied to the downpayment or the purchase price.

KEY DATES

- Lottery opens: June 8, 2022
- Lottery application deadline: July 13, 2022
- Lottery draw, livestreamed on Facebook: July 27, 2022

Learn more: kwanlindun.com/macaulay

Questions? Contact KDFN's Heritage, Lands and Resources Department at 867-633-7800 ext. 128, or email Lands@kdfn.net



Macaulay Road Homes: A KDFN lottery for first-time homeowners

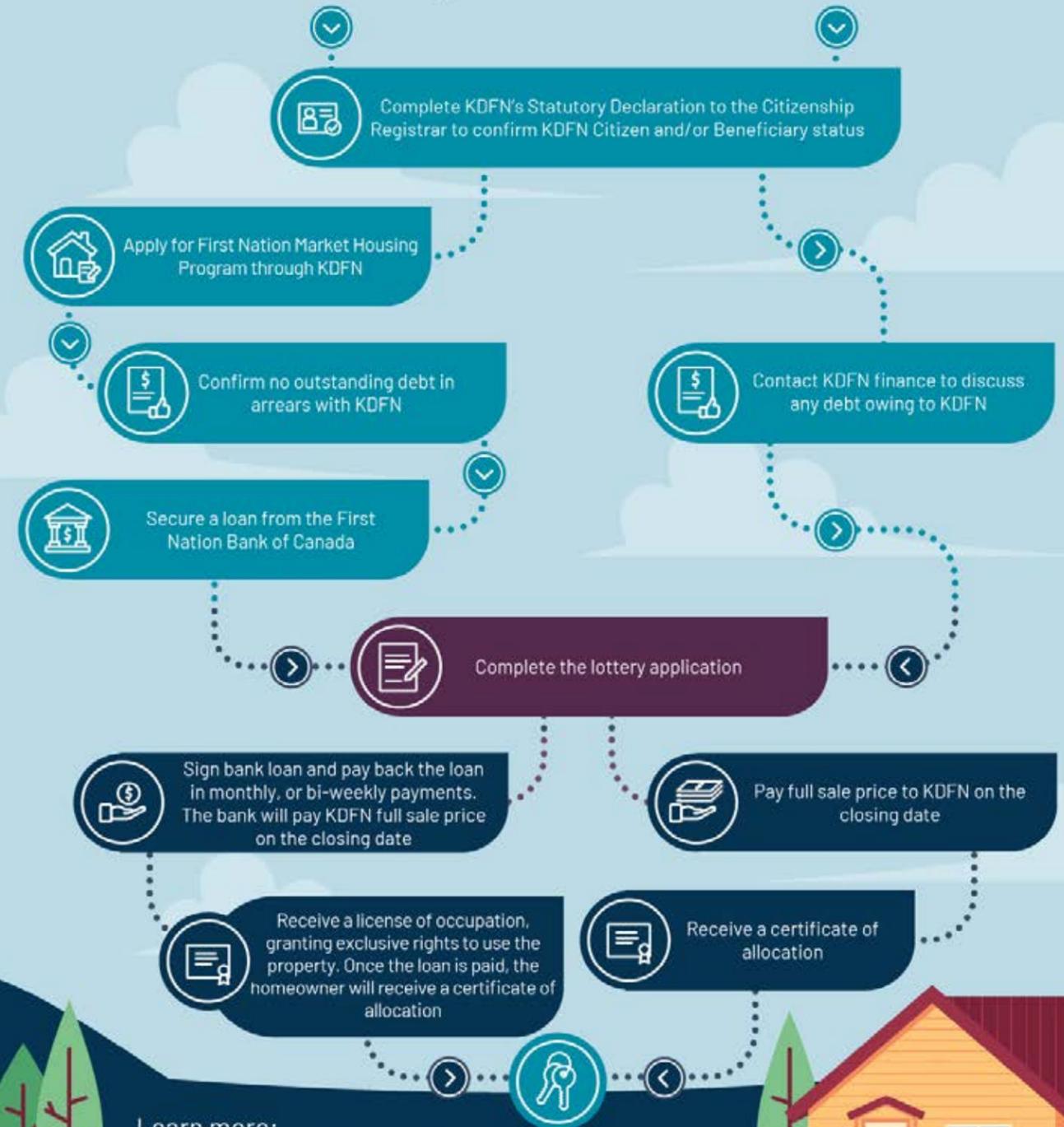
July 27, 2022



There are two ways to enter the lottery:

First Nation Market Housing Loan

Self Finance



Learn more: kwanlindun.com/macaulay



McIntyre, Crow and Swan Neighbourhood Plan Update

KDFN is planning for the future of the McIntyre subdivision, including Crow and Swan streets. This plan will guide how the neighbourhood grows, including housing, community needs and government services.

KDFN Council has created a Committee, which will help develop the neighbourhood plan and lead community engagement.

GET INVOLVED

COMPLETE THE SURVEY

Please take 20 minutes to complete the McIntyre/ Crow and Swan Neighbourhood Survey. Feedback collected from the survey will help develop a plan for our neighbourhoods.

Copies of the survey were mailed to all KDFN households. It's also available at: kwanlindun.com/engagement

Everyone who completes the survey has a chance to win a \$225 President's Choice gift card.

COME TO A WORKSHOP

Once it's safe to gather again, the committee will organise workshops and community engagement activities for KDFN Citizens and Beneficiaries. Look out for more details on the first workshop in June.

POSTER CONTEST

The committee is holding a poster contest for KDFN Citizens and Beneficiaries this spring. More details will be announced soon.

For more information:

Visit: kwanlindun.com/neighbourhoodplan

Contact Community Engagement Planner Karee Vallevand

Phone: 867-334-3569

Email: Karee.Vallevand@kdfn.net

Visit kwanlindun.com/neighbourhood-plan or contact KDFN's planning manager Roy Neilson at 867-332-1717 or Roy.Neilson@kdfn.net

KDFN holds successful first ever land lottery



It will definitely help my kids," says one winner.

In November 2021, 30 KDFN Citizens and Beneficiaries entered the Porter Creek Lottery for a chance to purchase one of five residential lot leases.

Names were drawn by Elder Dianne Smith. The winners were Kailen Gingell, Bruce Campbell, Shirley Dawson, Doronn Fox and Kaiden McIntyre.

Fox says the Porter Creek lot is a family investment.

"It's an opportunity for my family to expand financially and have a little bit more. It will definitely help my kids in the future – everything I do now is for them and the next generation. I'm looking at the land and how to make it the best fit for my family to help my girls prosper and support the community."

Each winner has signed a lease and building agreement with KDFN, committing to build a house on the lot within three years.

KDFN has registered the leases in the Yukon Land Titles Office. This gives leaseholders a Certificate of Leasehold Title and allows them to secure a mortgage and other financing from a bank.

Yukon University's First Nation Arts certificate program has successful year

Students learn all about traditional art.

Yukon University's First Nation Arts certificate program ran from October 4, 2021 to February 4, 2022. It was led by Ta'an Kwäch'än Council - working with Kwanlin Dün First Nation and Yukon University under the program's coordinator Elizabeth Bosely.

KDFN Citizen Darlene Scurvey instructed for the program alongside Vernon Asp. Scurvey taught the students beadwork, sewing, traditional footwear, fine craftwork, and small crafts. Asp taught drawing and carving.

KDFN citizens Kristine Smarch and Alicia Harry were both students in the program and successfully completed all the arts courses. The two also completed a business course and are currently finishing up the follow-up business course, both delivered online through Yukon University.

Thank you to Jessica Bryant, Barb Crawford, and Lori Graham from Ta'an Kwäch'än Council and thank you to Elizabeth Bosely, Darlene Scurvey, and Vernon Asp, for a very well organised program that delivered an extensive and deep study of Yukon First Nations arts and crafts.

A new cohort of First Nations youth aged 18 to 30, including two KDFN citizens, have recently begun studying under the program with Darlene.



Drum making at KDFN

Joe Migwans sharing his skills, and tying the drum together



Materials and tools, ready to be made into a drum. The skin needs to be scraped before it can be stretched over the drum hoop.

KDFN'S CHILD AND FAMILY TEAMS

CHILD AND FAMILY LIAISON TEAM

We're here to advocate for you and your family. We can:

- support healthy connections with family, community and culture
- help you understand your rights as a caregiver under Yukon's Child and Family Services Act
- support communication with Yukon's Family and Children's Services

Please contact: **Crystal McLean 867-334-4341**

YOUTH OUTREACH TEAM

We provide one-on-one support and help youth with:

- developing on-the-land and life skills
- accessing mental wellness support
- accessing housing
- planning for education
- employment training and writing a resume
- accessing cultural programs to support individual wellness

Please contact: **Chris Newman 867-334-4900**

FAMILY AND COMMUNITY SUPPORT TEAM

We support family connection through:

- Cultural programs
- Family mediation and reunification circles
- Connection to community events
- In-home family support
- Referrals for caregiver and family wellness
- Support accessing caregiver training and caregiver support groups

Please contact: **Gwyneth Williams 867-334-2968**

We're here for you and your family!



This spring some KDFN staff took an Ice Rescue Course on the Yukon River.

Left to Right, Standing:
Brandy Mayes, Bruce Wilson,
Jasmine Rosentreter,
Jimmy Kennedy

KDFN funded treatment programs for Citizens

KDFN can help Citizens attend private treatment programs for:

- grief and loss
- substance use
- trauma
- family treatment

Get more information on how to access this treatment:

- Call (867-668-7289) or stop by the Natsékhi Kų Health Centre and make an appointment with a clinical counsellor
- Ask your healthcare provider, nurse, support worker, doctor, social worker, or a family member to help connect you to a counsellor at the Health Centre.

Meet KDFN's Health and Wellness Outreach Team

We have the privilege to meet Kwanlin Dun Citizens where they're at to ensure your health care meets your needs and your goals. Our team aims to empower, support and advocate for Citizens and to break down the barriers in the healthcare system by increasing accessibility.



Carol Shorty, Outreach Support Worker

My name is Carol Shorty, from the Crow Clan. I am a Kwanlin Dün First Nation community member and residential school survivor. I have lived in this community for over 30 years, since my return from British Columbia.

My parents were John and Violet Shorty, both Northern Tutchone people. I have four grown-up children, one grandson and another grandbaby on the way.

My childhood dream was to be a registered nurse. Now, I have my Home Support Worker/Nursing Home Attendant Certificate.....close enough. I have been working at the Natsékhi Kų Health Centre for more than 20 years as on-call custodian, on-call receptionist, receptionist, Elder support worker (for 7 years), and now as the Outreach Support Worker for more than 5 years. For a few years, I have been a cultural support worker for Truth and Reconciliation through Health Canada.

We can help with:

- Safe injection equipment
- Safe crack kits
- Condoms
- Naloxone kits and training
- Community needle drop box behind 24 O'Brien
- Drug checking program
- Sexually Transmitted Infection Testing
- Adult Immunizations
- Friday Breakfast program
- Nursing Services
- Foot Care
- Referrals to other agencies

Get in touch with us through KDFN's Natsékhi Kų Health Centre at 867-668-7289.



Yves Paradis, Outreach Nurse

Hi everybody. My name is Yves Paradis. I was born and raised in Whitehorse. I have worked as part of the fantastic outreach team at KDFN's Natsékhi Kų Health Centre as an outreach LPN for approximately one and a half years.

I am a very new nurse who has spent time working at the Whitehorse General Hospital on the medical/surgical units, and I currently work with withdrawal management services at the Sarah Steele building.

I enjoy spending time with my family and friends and playing the drums as well as playing hockey. I love hiking in the summer. I also love taking my dogs for nice, crisp winter walks. I have volunteered with Habitat for Humanity Yukon and the Yukon Type One Diabetes Network.

I am excited to continue to meet everybody who works for KDFN. Please don't hesitate to say hello if you see me out and about within the community!



Dayna Lennie, Outreach Nurse

Hello my name is Dayna Lennie, my Inuvialuit name is Ayanuiq. I was born and raised in Inuvik and did my nursing degree at the University of Alberta in Edmonton.

I am a second-generation nurse. My mother Barb, who still lives and works in Inuvik, has been an inspiration to me. My father Dennie was a silent and strong man who worked in a leadership role at the IDC in Inuvik and instilled in me much strength before his passing.

My grandma cared for me much when I was young and taught me many traditional teachings and a big taste for my country food. I also learned how to listen very well...

This year will be my 14th year as an RN and I've had many experiences in a variety of areas. As a nurse, we are forever learning. I look forward to my next chapter returning to Kwanlin Dün. I am honoured to be back and thankful for those that helped me return to this wonderful place of employment with a resilient and beautiful community.

Quyanaq,
Dayna

Amy Genier, Manager of Outreach Services

My name is Amy Genier. I am a Ta'an Kwäch'än Council citizen, my dad is John Burdek, a Ta'an Kwäch'än Council Elder, and my grandmother is Betty Miller, a Kwanlin Dün First Nation Elder.

I have been a nurse for almost 18 years and joined the Health Centre team in July 2020. Over these years I have built my experience nursing. I have worked in front-line surgical/ medical, long-term care, maternity and outreach. I've also worked as an instructor a consultant and a clinical nurse leader. For the past 19 months I've been here at the KDFN health centre as the Manager of Outreach Services (loving every minute of it).

My husband Matt is Na-cho Nyak Dun and his grandma is Dorothy Profeit. Together we are raising our three kids: Spencer, who is 10, Bridgette, who is four, and Freyja, who is two. They keep us pretty busy, but that's not all. Our house also has three dogs, a cat, two chickens and a lizard...so, it's basically a zoo.

I enjoy spending time exploring the wilderness, teaching our children traditional life skills, gardening, gold mining (but I ain't rich yet, lol), crafting, photography, making soap, and traditional medicines for my family. I am always up for an adventure and love challenging my creative abilities.

I am excited at the opportunities my new adventure holds here, working with such a great team. I look forward to seeing you all around, as our Health Centre team works hard providing care to the KDFN community.



Danielle Koop, Outreach Nurse

Hello, my name is Danielle Koop. I have been working at the Natsékhi Kų Health Centre for a couple years now as a nurse in the Outreach Program. I was born in Winnipeg and am the very proud auntie of five beautiful kids.

I am passionate about making sure everyone has access to good and safe health care, and I am so lucky to work with an amazing team at the Health Centre. Sometimes I am disorganised and overwhelmed at work, but I hope to always find joy in the day to day. I love getting to know people in the community and to learn from the different ways we all live life.

If you don't catch me cruising around in the red car during the week, you will find me in the mountains on the weekend.

What's going on

A quick overview of things happening in the Yukon and beyond.

Whitehorse Aboriginal Women's Circle documenting history of YANSI

The Whitehorse Aboriginal Women's Circle is recording Elders and collecting photos for an oral history project telling the story of the Yukon Association of Non-Status Indians (YANSI).

YANSI was founded in 1972 to advocate for Indigenous people who were denied rights like hunting and fishing because they were non-status under the Indian Act.

The group existed until the mid 1980s when it combined with the Yukon Native Brotherhood, forming the Council for Yukon Indians - now known as the Council of Yukon First Nations.

Former YANSI Vice President Margaret Commodore says "our story has to be told about the work we did."

The project is expected to be done next year.

Choulta Working Group

Chair of the Choulta Working Group Adeline Webber says there's no date set for searching the grounds of the Choulta residential school site in Carcross but they "hope to begin as soon as the weather permits."

The working group was established last fall with the goal of mourning, grieving, and healing from the injustices that took place at the Choulta school.

Pope Francis coming to Canada from July 24 to 29

Pope Francis will visit Canada to formally deliver the Roman Catholic Church's apology for its role in operating residential schools.

He will make three main stops in Edmonton, Quebec City and Iqaluit. More details on his visit to come.

Amendments to the Yukon's Child and Family Services Act aim to address the over-representation of Indigenous kids in the child welfare system

In April, a bill changing the *Child and Family Services Act* passed the Yukon's Legislative Assembly. The changes make it so Yukon First Nations have more say when it comes to the care of Indigenous children in the child welfare system.

Changes include mandatory cultural plans so children can stay connected to their traditions and the need for consent from a child's First Nation before adoption.

According to the Yukon government, about 96% of kids in the Yukon's child welfare system are Indigenous.

Residential school day scholar compensation

The claim process to apply for residential school day scholar compensation is now open.

After a legal settlement, the Government of Canada is giving survivors who went to a residential school during the day but didn't sleep there overnight \$10,000.

The deadline to apply for compensation is October 4, 2023.

For more information go to www.justicefordayscholars.com



Chu Níikwän LP Update

Chu Níikwän Limited Partnership (CNLP) is Kwanlin Dün First Nation's for-profit development corporation. We operate at arms-length from KDFN, and we report directly to Council, as our shareholder.

CNLP was created to generate equity and resources for the future benefit of KDFN Citizens. So, we create specialized companies to take on certain projects.

For example:

- Canyon City Construction LP is our construction and gravel sales company;
- Whitehorse Properties LP is our property management and lease-hold company; and
- Eagle Hill Energy LP is our wind-energy generation company.

Here's a recap of some projects we've been working on...

MCINTYRE GAS BAR

The new gas station and shop is open. You may see some landscaping work being completed this summer.

COMMUNITY "SCHOOL"

Canyon City Construction and KDFN have been working on a community art project. We've die-cut hundreds of wooden fish, and are asking KDFN Citizens and Beneficiaries to paint the fish. Once we have enough fish painted, they will be displayed. Stay tuned for more opportunities to paint fish, and if you have one you haven't returned yet, please drop it in the front entrance to the new Kashgêk' Building in McIntyre.

THE NEW KASHGÊK' BUILDING

A Canyon City crew will be onsite this summer to complete the concrete and soft landscaping work around the new Kashgêk' Building in McIntyre.

GRAVEL & EQUIPMENT

Our gravel is being used in more building projects in the Yukon.

Canyon City Construction will have a busy summer. We're expecting to move large amounts of gravel to some large projects, such as the Erik Nielsen Whitehorse International Airport runway upgrades. We're also supplying gravel to developments for Yukon Energy Corp. on Robert Service Way and C-112 residential.

We've increased our dump truck and equipment fleet with tandem and pup units, and a CASE 1021G wheel loader. So, both our Carcross and McLean Lake gravel pits will be active.

Canyon City Construction is also currently planning a driver training program for KDFN Citizens. Anyone who has put their name forward already will be contacted when we have more information. If you are interested, please email office@canyoncitylp.com

We've been working hard to find KDFN drivers and operators to help move the gravel we've been able to source through CNLP quarry pits with internal resources instead of sub-contractors.

ROBERT SERVICE

You will see some activity this summer building a new access road immediately across from Ear Lake Road, to open this subdivision of commercial lots this summer. One lot is for the YEC battery project, with a few other lots still available to lease.

HAECKEL HILL WIND PROJECT

Eagle Hill Energy Limited Partnership is 100% owned by Chu Níikwan LP. This project includes 4 Mega-Watt wind turbines that will be constructed on Haeckel Hill.

We've been able to foster a new relationship with NGC Builders to deploy crew on their downtown project and use one of Canyon City's dump trucks on the wind project.

Keep an eye out for this logo around town this summer.

Find out more about the Haeckel Hill Wind Project on Pages 36 and 37.

We have many success stories, additional information on the above projects, and equipment lists on our website at cnlp.ca

CNLP is building cleaner energy alternatives for the Yukon

Construction has started on the Haeckel Hill-Thäy T'äw Wind Project. We expect it will start feeding reliable energy into the Yukon's power grid by early 2024, offsetting the need to burn fossil fuels on cold winter days when energy demand is highest in the territory.

With funding from Canada and Yukon, Chu Niikwän LP has broken ground on a new wind-energy project on Haeckel Hill-Thäy T'äw in Whitehorse.

Over the next few years, four new turbines will be constructed on the windy hill. They're expected to feed enough electricity into the Yukon's grid to power 650 homes over 20 years.

In fact, it's expected this project will produce the clean-energy equivalent of burning 40 million litres of diesel fuel, preventing 115,000 tonnes of greenhouse gases from being released into our air. That's like taking 2,500 gas-burning cars off the road for 10 years.

WHAT'S SO SPECIAL ABOUT THESE TURBINES?

They're taller. With a 46 metre "hub height" (to the centre of the blade), they're roughly three storeys taller than the former turbines on Haeckel Hill. That means they can access higher, stronger, more consistent wind.

They have longer blades. These blades are 7 metres longer which create 70% larger area for harnessing more of the wind's energy.

They have more powerful generators. Each turbine is designed to generate 1,000kW (1MW).

They're fitted with advanced de-icing technology. This means these turbines can return to service in a matter of hours

Since we live in a cold climate most of the year, it's important to keep the turbines' blades from icing up. The blades on these turbines are black so they'll absorb more of the sun's heat, and they're fitted with icing sensors and electrical heat when the sun is not enough.

So, overall they're designed to provide consistent reliable energy, and that's especially important on the winter days when Yukon is at peak demand. Instead of having to burn fossil fuels, these turbines will be able to fill that need with clean renewable energy.

CONSTRUCTION ON HAECKEL HILL

Over the summer construction seasons, we're asking everyone to avoid using the road up Haeckel Hill-Thäy T'äw. And, there will be times when we'll have to close the road as we work to build the project as safely and as quickly as possible. You can check the status of the road on our website at www.chuniikwan.ca/eagle-hill-energy



This project is an investment in the things we hold close to our hearts: the health of our lands; the wellbeing of our Elders, citizens and youth; and the responsible stewardship of our resources. This is the land of our ancestors. And now, we are the caretakers who hold it in trust and ensure that generations to come will live and thrive and benefit from this land."

CHIEF DORIS BILL

PROJECT TIMELINE

2021: Site clearing and preparation work

2022:

- Controlled road access to allow materials and equipment to move up to the site safely.
- Construction of turbine foundations.
- Construction of new electrical and facility infrastructure.

Summer 2023:

- Continued controlled road and site access during construction.
- Old turbines decommissioned and removed.
- Installation of new turbines.
- Connection and testing of new electrical infrastructure.

Fall 2023: It's expected construction will be complete.

Winter 2023: It's expected the turbines will be operating.

Find updates on this project at www.chuniikwan.ca/eagle-hill-energy

What's up down at KDCC?

UPCOMING EVENTS:

JUNE 21: National Indigenous Peoples Day - Come celebrate in person at the KDCC. There will be a full day of live music, great food and a variety of cultural activities and presentations.

JUNE 25 - 27: Arctic Arts Summit - Bringing together representatives of the Indigenous nations and Arctic countries in the circumpolar region, the overarching purpose of the Arctic Arts Summit is to explore and advance the perspectives, stories, and cultures of the North. The summit will be a forum to stimulate an ongoing, sustainable collaboration in the arts and creative industries throughout the region.

JUNE 29 - JULY 5: Adäka Cultural Festival - The Yukon First Nations Culture and Tourism Association (YFNCT), in partnership with the Kwanlin Dün Cultural Centre (KDCC), are pleased to host the 2022 Adäka Cultural Festival at the KDCC after two years of hiatus.

JULY 11 - SEPT 11: Shakaat Artist Residency - We welcome Indigenous artists from across the territory in a three week paid artist residency. Join a workshop or see what our artists are creating in the KDCC's Culture Cabins along the banks of the Chu Niikwän.

STAY TUNED FOR DATES!

- 47th annual First Nations Graduation
- YFNED Family Feasts in June, July, August
- Page to Plate program (Library Cooking Program)
- Community Safety Summit
- Canadian Council of Ministers of the Environment

PHOTOS

Top left page: (left to right) Dale Neumann, Fabian O'Connor-Brook, Julien Richard, Billy Richard, Janine Peters, Rick McLean, Joe Migwans

Left page inset: Former Tahltan Chief Rick McLean and his finished drum

Lower left page: Kathleen Johnson and Stewie Tizya

Below left: A completed bag!

Below right: Cheryl McLean showing her tanned fish skins



Kathleen Johnson and Stewie Tizya



PAST EVENTS

- YFNED Drive-By Feasts in January, March, May
- CYFN Covid Test Pick ups
- Available Light Film Festival
- Rendezvous

MARK YOUR CALENDARS:

June 21 – National Indigenous Peoples Day – Come celebrate at the KDCC!

June 8 – July 13 – KDFN Macaulay Road Home Lottery is open for applications

June 15 – Deadline to apply for post-secondary funding through KDFN. Contact mark.smith@kdfn.net

June 25 – 27 – Arctic Arts Summit will be held in Whitehorse. arcticartssummit.ca

June 29 – July 5 – Adäka Cultural Festival returns! Find out more adakafestival.ca

July 1 – Canada Day

July 11 – Sept 11 – KDCC is running its Shakaat Artist Residency. Join a workshop or see what the artists are creating in the Culture Cabins along the banks of the Chu Niikwän.

July 27 at 2 pm – KDFN Macaulay Road Home Lottery live on Facebook

August 15 – Discovery Day

September 30 – Orange Shirt Day / National Day for Truth and Reconciliation



Idalia gets her hands dirty while learning and exploring the world at KDFN's Dusk'a Head Start Family Learning Centre.

STAY UP TO DATE WITH WHAT'S HAPPENING AT KDFN!

Sign up to receive emails at kwanlindun.com/email

Or send an email to communications@kdfn.net

We're online at kwanlindun.com

 Find us on Facebook!



DESTINATION ADDRESS