



Kwanlin Dän Ch'a

A newsletter for and about the Kwanlin Dün people



ISSUE 4

MESSAGE FROM COUNCIL

Spring is a good time to be thinking of our future — and it happens this year to be a time when we, as a community, have the opportunity to renew direction and leadership.

On March 19, we, as Kwanlin Dün, are having our second election since becoming a self-governing First Nation. We are now three years into a renewed exercise of self-government, directing our own lives as our grandmothers and grandfathers had always done until others interfered in our way of life.



We came through that period with some wounds, some pain, but we survived. In the past three years, we have laid the groundwork to gather the benefits our community worked hard to achieve through negotiations.

We have faced challenges in the past three years but we have emerged strong. We have moved on many opportunities, and identified others, which the new council will be able to consider as it plans for the years to come.



Now the community has an opportunity to reaffirm its voice on how our First Nation moves forward. We are not suggesting which way people should vote; we are saying that we fought hard to control our own future and that the election on March 19 is the time to take advantage of all those years of hard work.

The new council will be looking at a number of possible initiatives and programs being developed by staff at council's instruction.

For example, the current council has put into place plans for staffing, including increasing the number of jobs in various situations. We face so many opportunities and exciting challenges that we need much more help. Happily, council has obtained funding for

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HELP FOR FAMILIES

A six-week Positive Parenting Skills Program began at the KDFN Health and Wellness Centre on January 21, 2008. The program was facilitated by Marion Fayant, the Kwanlin Dün community support worker.



Positive Parenting Skills Program graduates Naomi Gutierrez, Bobbi Bishop, Marion Fayant (facilitator) and Brian MacIntosh.

Program topics included the effects of residential school, confidence building, communications, anger management and family violence, creating harmony in the home, and sharing our culture with our children.

Prior to joining the Health and Wellness Center, Marion taught the Aboriginal Parenting Program for Native Counselling Services in Edmonton for six years.

We extend a big congratulations to our graduates, who received their certificates on March 6, 2008.

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2008 KWANLIN DÜN HEALTH FAIR

Kwanlin Dün celebrated its 11th annual health fair at the NakwaTaku Potlatch House on February 13 and 14. The theme for this year's fair was "Education and Careers in Health and Healing." The health fair is a time for various health services to promote awareness of the available resources in Whitehorse and surrounding areas.

The fair attracted 511 people from Elijah Smith School, Porter Creek Secondary School, the Individual Learning Centre and F.H. Collins Secondary School, as well as community members.

This year, we requested that exhibitors include an educational component to give youth a better understanding of what it takes to become a health professional. We had presentations by health care professionals, such as doctors, physical therapists and counsellors; there were strong First Nation role models.

The 25 booths from various organizations had many interactive, colourful displays.



Marie Martin, Kwanlin Dün Health Centre Community Nurse.

We would like to thank the Council of Yukon First Nations for their contribution and all our participants who each year contribute to the success of this event.

Thank you to our staff, volunteers and students. Massi Cho to our organizers, Nyla Klugie and Susan Burns.



In early March, Councillor Jessie Dawson accompanied KDFN elders Pat Joe, Ann Wrangler, Irene Smith, Louis Smith and Annie Smith to the Western Canada First Nations Education Administrators – First Nations Language Symposium in Winnipeg. There they met some of the Navajo Code Talkers (pictured at left) who told of the importance of their language as a code when passing on messages during World War II. It was a code the Japanese never broke. Our elders were impressed with how much our languages were the same and that we could communicate with them.

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much of the work that needs to be done. We can expect many more jobs for the KDFN community in the weeks and months to come.

The new council will set direction, but it will have the advantage of considering a number of economic development projects, job creation

programs, education plans and other possibilities that have been prepared for consideration. There are many options on the table. The new council will be able to look at these, add to them or turn programs and services in directions that they choose based on your input during this election. There are big issues

going forward, including education, child welfare, economic development, employment and training.

Thank you for your support in the last three years. Please take an interest in this election and make every effort to vote.

HERITAGE, LANDS AND RESOURCES



In 2005, Heritage, Lands and Resources was set up after the effective date of our final and self-government agreements.

The department was small at first: Tom Beaudoin was the Director, Gillian McKee was the Land Use Planner and Les Wilson was the GIS Technician.

The department has grown since then. Dave Sembsmoen is now Fish and Wildlife Manager and Rosanna White is the Lands Manager. After seven years working with lands, Gillian McKee left her position at the end of 2007. Interviews are underway for her position. We are also planning to hire a Lands and Resource Analyst.

We have been surveying settlement lands for a few years. This work involves cutting lines to mark the boundaries of the settlement land. You can see orange markers or flagging out on the land to show exactly where our land is. There is still more surveying to do this year. For information on what lands have already been surveyed or what surveying will be done this summer, contact Les Wilson at 633-7859.

The Lands section reviews all projects being proposed within our traditional territory. This includes every land, forestry, agricultural or other type of application that is proposed within KDFN's traditional territory. We provide comments whenever a project could affect KDFN values and interests.

In April 2007, council appointed a Lands Committee to assist the department with land-related issues. To date, the committee has developed a beneficiary land policy, drafted

interim guidelines for using settlement land, and provided input on some of the larger land and resource applications, such as Lewes Marsh timber harvesting and the Arkell subdivision. The Lands Committee includes Sean Smith (Chair), Charlie Burns, Dianne Smith, Tammy Joe and Joan Viksten.

Our Fish and Wildlife Manager participates in committees that have been set up as a result of the final agreement.

- The Southern Lakes Wildlife Coordinating Committee is coordinating the management of caribou, moose, sheep and other wildlife populations and their habitats in the Southern Lakes area to promote the recovery and conservation of these populations.
- Started in the fall of 2007, the Freshwater Fish Assessment and Planning Steering Committee is undertaking a joint review of the food freshwater fish needs of Kwanlin Dün people. The first step was to interview KDFN elders to collect their traditional knowledge relating to important fishing areas in the traditional territory. Sean Smith and Joan Viksten were hired to do the interviews and a report is now being drafted summarizing the results.

Director Tom Beaudoin participates on the Whitehorse waterfront development committee with federal, territorial and city representatives. KDFN's major project on the waterfront — the cultural centre — is at the funding application stage right now.

CONTACT US: For more information on these projects or other activities that the Heritage, Lands and Resources department is involved in, please contact Tom Beaudoin at 633-7822.

FACILITATING COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Two community meetings were held recently, one to discuss a safe community and the second to look at the role of elders in the KDFN government.

At both meetings, new facilitation techniques were used to encourage open discussion by all participants. Kwanlin Dün First Nation has supported several staff members, as well as some community members, as they have received training on how to facilitate community engagement.

Safe community

Gillian McKee, Sarah Sage, Millie Sam and Sharon Shorty facilitated the safe community meeting. The discussion began with people talking about the times they felt safe in their community. Notes from these stories were placed on the front wall, on a mural of a path through the mountains. This represented the starting point of the journey to a safe community.

Then participants described what they felt a safe Kwanlin Dün community would look like. More notes were taken and put up at the far end of the mural: the end of the path.

Next, participants described what “bold steps” they could take to move from where the KDFN community is now toward the future safe community they would like to see. These ideas were recorded on coloured paper cut in the shape of moccasins.

This exercise was just the beginning of the steps needed to make this a safe community. A lot of people mentioned using the Jackson Lake healing centre as a way to connect to the land and to feel safe.

Participants liked this format of bold steps so much that they want to run the workshop again, this time with KDFN youth. After that, all the ideas recorded in the meetings will be examined more carefully to develop an action plan.



Annie Burns, Wanda Webb (Shakoon), John Suite, Diane Smith, Lilly Kane, Annie Smith. Moccasins (below) made by Margaret Peterson.



Elders Council

The meeting with the Elders Council also used the new community engagement tools. Gillian McKee, the facilitator, was assisted by several other staff who recorded the discussion. The elders talked first in small groups about the times when they contributed to their communities. This information was reported back to the whole group and captured on paper to summarize the wealth of knowledge and experience that elders have to share.

Next, the five parts of the KDFN government – KDFN Council, Elders Council, Youth Council, Judicial Council and the General Assembly — were explained.

The elders then drew a circle to represent the Elders Council. Inside it, they drew a circle to represent another council or part of government. This provoked discussion about the relationship between the Elders Council and these other branches of

government: what they would bring to each other. They also talked about what they would need in order to keep working together as a council.

Everything was recorded on large arrows that symbolically connected the Elders Council to the other branches of government, as well as connecting the elders to each other.

Community engagement tools

A meeting using these new facilitation tools looks different from the usual discussion around a big table or flip chart. These new tools are meant to engage all participants through the use of graphics. The intention is to find ways to get community people to share their experience and knowledge on matters that affect everyone. This facilitator training has been useful in other projects in Whitehorse and, hopefully, will be offered again next year.

SOCIAL JUSTICE PROGRAM

Kwanlin Dün Council is pleased to announce the establishment of a new Social Justice Program.

The KDFN council has realized that citizens saw value in the way the previous Social Justice Program assisted families and individuals dealing with the courts, and helping people navigate through the justice system, such as getting into healing programs. The council was also concerned that not enough attention has been paid to the victims of crime.

KDFN Council believes it has an obligation to help people work out their conflicts with the law, or as a result of troubles arising from dealings with the legal system, but it has an equal need to help families hurt by the misconduct of others. The council hopes that the Social Justice Program, operated by the Justice Department, will be able to strike this balance.

KDFN Council is seeking advice from the community in planning the services and support this office will provide. As a first step, Sharon Shorty facilitated two community meetings on March 12, one for community members and one for youth. Citizens attending the meetings had many suggestions on how the program should operate and on ways to improve

safety in the community. Kwanlin Dün elder Kathleen Shorty said, “Social justice is when the whole community solves the problems that come up within the community.”

Many people mentioned community-based solutions. One elder suggested following the clan system, whereby one clan compensates the other for damages inflicted by its clan members. Other suggestions included establishing security patrols and circle courts, and having the RCMP office open from 4 p.m. to 8 a.m.

The Social Justice Program operates at the Justice Department, located at 7 O’Brien Road. Anyone needing advice or assistance is welcome to contact Bev Miller, the Justice Manager, and her staff at 633-7850.



Carmen Gibbons, Director of Kwanlin Dün Health and Wellness Centre, speaks to participants at the March 12 meetings called to discuss the Social Justice Program.

KDFN BENEFICIARIES TO HAVE INPUT VIA A REFERENDUM



Sean Smith will be coordinating the referendum vote.

Kwanlin Dün First Nation is working towards self-government. As such, it must take steps to optimize the management of investments and settlement lands, and to ensure that beneficiaries can readily participate in amendments to our final agreement.

Therefore, Kwanlin Dün beneficiaries will have a chance to vote in a referendum on three policies outlined in Chapter 3 of the KDFN constitution. These policies cover the investment and use of Chapter 19 funds paid under the final agreement, the use and disposition of settlement lands, and the need for consultation concerning approval of any amendment to the final agreement.

Approval of these important policies will enable Kwanlin Dün to move ahead and take advantage of opportunities that will benefit all beneficiaries.

The referendum will be held after the election, with the date to be determined by the new council. In the meantime, if you have any questions about the policies, please contact Sean Smith, referendum coordinator, at 633-7866.

SIGNING A LETTER OF UNDERSTANDING



Left to right (back row) Elders Kluane Martin, David Leberge, Francis Woosley and Doris McLean join First Nation Chiefs at the signing of a Letter of Understanding. (front row) Kluane First Nation Chief Wilfred Sheldon, Kwanlin Dün Chief Mike Smith, Ta'an Kwäch'än Council Chief Ruth Massie and Kha'Shade Heni Mark Wedge of Carcross-Tagish First Nation.

On January 25, 2008, Kwanlin Dün Chief Mike Smith joined Chiefs of the Ta'an Kwäch'än Council, Carcross-Tagish First Nation and Kluane First Nation to sign a historic Letter of Understanding. One reason for coming together is because these four First Nations are at a different phase in negotiations than the seven First Nations that settled land claims earlier. The Letter of Understanding recognizes that since these four First Nations face similar issues, there are benefits to working together to ensure that their specific issues are being addressed and that they have the attention of the federal and territorial governments.

"The fact that our four First Nations will pool their resources to address all the issues not covered with the seven at the table seems to be following the natural order," says Mike Smith.

In addition to the fact that they all recently ratified their agreements, these four First Nations have other issues in common, including being affected by living in or near Whitehorse. As a result, their traditional territories are faced with growing numbers of non-First Nations people and third-party interests, including mining, forestry, agriculture and outfitting.

ELIJAH SMITH STUDENTS SPEND TIME AT PADDY'S POND

Paddy's Pond, A Neighbourhood Resource. *Kwät ta Këts'adan – Lessons in the Bush* is the culmination of an experiential education project held in Darby Newnham's grade 3 class at Elijah Smith Elementary School. This booklet will be distributed to the students who participated in the project.

Darby was assisted by experiential education teacher Jill Potter. Kwanlin Dün citizen, Dianne Smith, was pleased to participate in the project by passing on some of her vast knowledge of traditional plant use.

The class was divided into small groups and assigned plants to research. These groups then spent several mornings walking through the bush with Dianne. In the afternoons, they helped compile the information and report on it to their classmates. Stephen Reid gathered the Southern Tutchone plant names.

Local photographer and publisher Peter Long, who walks daily in the Paddy's Pond area, took photos of the outings, and produced the booklet with the addition of photos from his Yukon plant collection.

This is the first of what Elijah Smith School hopes will be a series on local flora publications, produced by different classes, with strong traditional First Nations components provided by our elders.



GARY BAILIE NAMED YUKON COACH OF THE YEAR



Gary Bailie is the coach-administrator-mentor-role model for the Kwanlin Koyotes Ski Club. Gary's results are not in the number of races his athletes have competed in or won, rather, they are in his commitment to the positive recreation and healing that sport provides our youth.

Gary, a National Junior Ski Team member and student of Father Mouchet, brings his holistic beliefs and teachings to his work with the club. Gary was the founding member of the club. He cut the trails within the Kwanlin Dün community, built the club house, and regularly teaches over 20 youth how to ski and orienteer. His goals are to bring youth back to the land, increase their self-esteem, and promote healing through recreation. He is not striving to have his athletes reach national stardom, but rather to have them maintain a healthy lifestyle.

Gary organizes an annual ski loppet exchange with Old Crow. Skiers from that northern community come to Whitehorse to ski and take part in cultural festivities. This is followed by a visit to Old Crow for the Koyotes. Gary also takes national ski team members to Old Crow, both to train the youth of Old Crow and to serve as role models.

We are proud to have Gary in our community and we congratulate him on being named Coach of the Year. He takes an active role in developing the community's youth in a healthy lifestyle: mind, body, spirit.



Skiers at this year's annual ski loppet organized by Gary Bailie and the Kwanlin Koyotes.

SKI-A-THON

The Kwanlin Dün Health and Wellness Centre and the Kwanlin Koyotes recently collaborated to organize a ski-a-thon fundraiser for the Cycle to Walk campaign. Approximately 50 skiers participated on the Father Mouchet ski trails. Another 30 people showed up to show their support and enjoy the beautiful weather and great food offered at the Kwanlin Koyotes ski hut. The event raised \$2,652.36 for the Cycle to Walk campaign, which will see Whitehorse polio survivor Ramesh Ferris hand cycle across Canada. The trek begins at Mile Zero in Victoria on April 12. Ramesh expects his journey will take about six months to complete. The trek includes a visit to all provincial capitals.



HUMAN RESOURCES, EDUCATION AND SOCIAL ASSISTANCE

Over the past few months, there have been many constructive initiatives happening in the department of Human Resources, Education and Social Assistance. The three parts of this department are very closely linked. In order to understand what each part does, here is a look at the programs, committees and people working at the House of Learning.

The programs

Employment preparation training

The following programs will be offered to assist citizens in attaining meaningful employment. This is integral to our overall individual case management strategy.

- *Hiring and job competition:* Understand the hiring process
- *Job descriptions:* Find out what they are used for and how they help you get the interview you've missed in the past
- *Resumes:* Craft your current resume to relate to the job description of the desired position
- *References:* Understand how your potential employer uses your references
- *Post boards:* Find out what a post board is and how it can help you understand what you did wrong, and what you can do differently next time

Post-graduate, or bridging the education-to-work-experience gap

HR will be developing a new initiative to address the gap that we see for those KDFN citizens who have some basic education and training but lack work experience. We are looking at mentorships and under-fill placements to help them.



House of Learning students celebrating Christmas 2007.

Future employment and training opportunities

Human Resources is accepting resumes from interested citizens with certification or extensive experience in the trades industry to work and train as project and property managers with the Yukon government. This is an opportunity for citizens to gain valuable experience in the construction and property management fields, which will be put to use in future KDFN residential development projects. These opportunities are arising out of YACA negotiations, and the Northern Strategy Agreement.

In addition, we are seeking two experienced labourers to train in the operating and maintenance field. If you have a general aptitude and interest in plumbing, electrical, carpentry or furnace work, we encourage you to think of this great career opportunity.



The committees

The department is currently seeking expressions of interest from community members to sit on three committees, one each on education, personnel and social assistance. These committees will assist in the following ways.

Education Committee

- Review policy development and guidelines
- Review student training applications
- Participate in the appeals process
- Review applications received for bursaries and scholarships

Personnel Committee

- Hear appeals, complaints and disputes
- Act as a harassment review committee or sexual harassment committee
- Assist with personnel policy review and development
- Assist with recruiting and hiring

Social Assistance Committee

- Hear appeals on client claims
- Provide assistance with policy interpretation
- Assist with policy development, review and guidelines

Committee members will be trained in conflict resolution, facilitation, and board and committee procedures. In addition to learning valuable skills, members will be paid an honourarium. If you are interested, send a brief summary of your experience to the Director of Human Resources.



The people

Pauline Frost, *Director, Human Resources and Education*

Pauline brings a wealth of experience from her extensive background with the federal, territorial and First Nation governments. With a keen sense of “the big picture” and thinking outside the box, Pauline is restructuring the department to be as good as (or better than) any other government HR department in the territory. Always willing to take the time to explain things in a language everybody can understand, Pauline is very approachable and willing to sit down with people to assist wherever she can.

Cathy Carlick, *Assistant Director, Human Resources and Education*

With close to 20 years experience in Yukon communities, Cathy has extensive experience in social assistance administration, development and training. She is working with KDFN on its vital evaluation process (as part of our five-year plan for self-government implementation). Cathy can also be found checking in with other staff and providing an encouraging word.

Stewart Breithaupt, *Personnel Manager*

Stewart brings a broad range of skills and experience to KDFN personnel. With the director, he is responsible for staff development, recruitment and evaluations. Stewart is focusing on education, policy development and strategic planning in the department, drawing on his background in native

studies, outdoor recreation, philosophy, theology and his PhD research. Having lived in the Yukon for 20 years, Stewart has worked with a variety of First Nations. Easy to talk to and down to earth, Stewart welcomes you to drop by for a chat.

Charlene Charlie, *Aboriginal Labour Force Alliance and Post-Secondary Education*

Charlene brings years of expertise in administration, planning and training initiatives. Perhaps equally important is that Charlene is a vital link to the KDFN community. She is one of the people you want to see if you need training dollars or information about specific training initiatives, as well as short- and long-term training plans. Charlene is instrumental in helping people prepare for training, making the training happen, and following up with an evaluation process that enables the individual case management system to flow smoothly.

Jennifer Edzerza and Clara Shorty, *Social Assistance*

Jennifer and Clara both bring years of knowledge, skill and “know how” to this aspect of the department that plays a critical role in the KDFN community. Social assistance is both essential for the community and, at the same time, something that the community strives to wean itself from. Jennifer and Clara appreciate this sensitive dynamic. They fully understand that there are KDFN members who need not only social assistance, but to be treated with respect and dignity.

Joseph Nayally, Employment Counsellor

Joseph has a very strong background in employment counselling and training initiatives. He is vital to the department as he is one of the first contacts for those who are making training plans, either for the short term or long term. Joseph works very hard to be aware of not only KDFN employment opportunities, but of the many other job opportunities and training programs in the Yukon. If you want to know what is going on, you want to drop by to see Joseph.

Cathy Borsa and Peter Lepson, Yukon College

Cathy is a testament to dedication and perseverance, showing a genuine sense of care and compassion for her students. Peter joined the House of Learning this year to assist with the Apprenticeship Preparation Program Math and Science, partially taught via videoconferencing at the House of Learning. This new equipment will open many educational opportunities for students, staff and KDFN members. Within the House of Learning, Yukon College has played, and continues to play, a huge role. Plans are underway to offer courses to KDFN citizens and staff.

Use the diagram below to check where you are in your employment history. Individual case management ensures that Human Resources, Education and Social Assistance staff are always available to assist you.

First: Find the circle that describes your situation right now.

Second: Make a positive decision and firm commitment that can change your life.

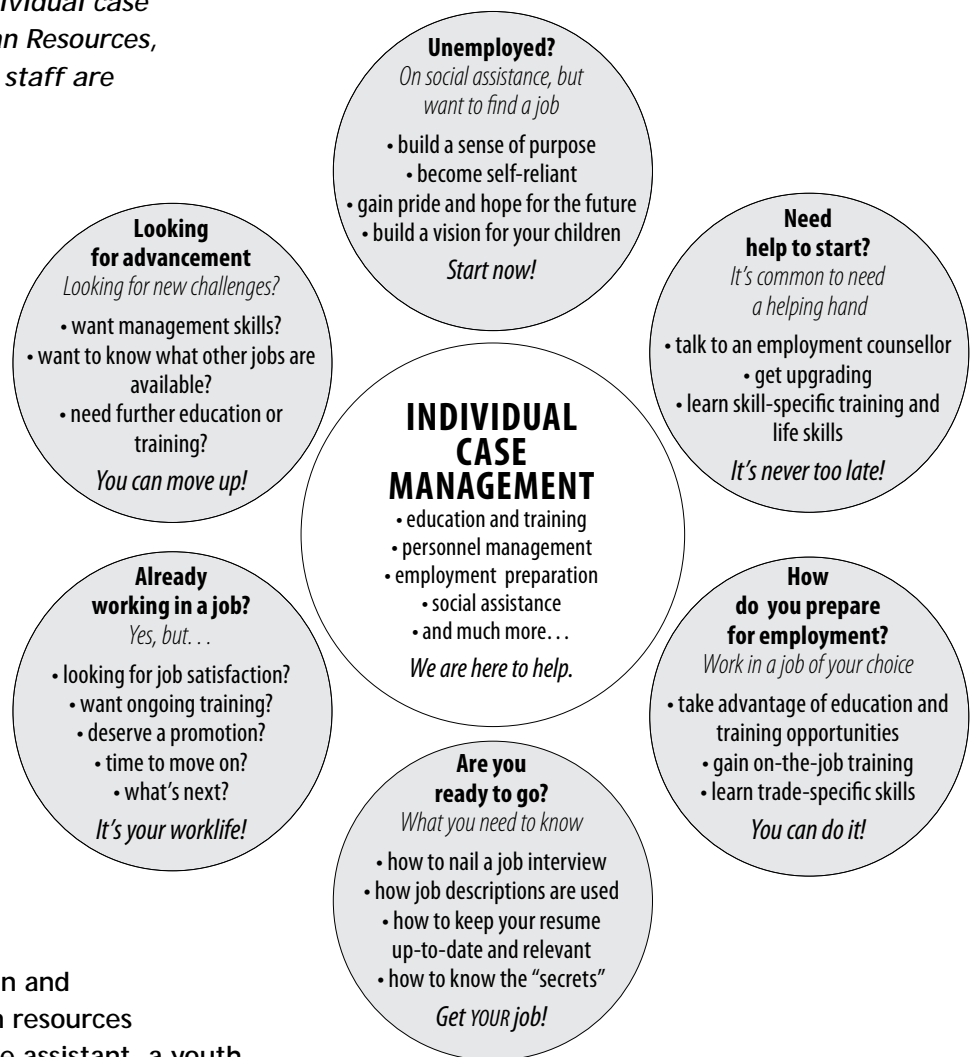
Third: Ask us for help.

You can make it happen!



RIGHT NOW!

Human Resources is looking for on-call custodians, renovation and construction labourers, a human resources assistant, a justice administrative assistant, a youth justice coordinator and a contract worker in social assistance policy development. Check the job boards at the House of Learning or the main administration building, or contact the Personnel Manager at 633-7807.



FIRST NATIONS EMPLOYMENT INITIATIVE/PILOT PROJECT

Over the past two years, the Whitehorse Chamber of Commerce, along with other Yukon non-government organizations involved in staffing and recruitment, has identified increasing challenges in recruitment and retention of workers. These shortages will impact the territory's ability to support a competitive business environment and compromise economic development.

The Yukon's Aboriginal population makes up approximately one-quarter of the territory's total population. With anticipated labour shortages in many areas, the Aboriginal population should be providing an important pool of workers.

In 2007, Kwanlin Dün First Nation, Ta'an Kwäch'än Council and Regional Economic Development (Government of Yukon) formed a partnership to address this issue.

A pilot project was initiated, with Regional Economic Development making a financial contribution agreement with Ta'an, on behalf of the two First Nations. It will include six members from each of the two First Nations.

Jacque Shorty was hired as a consultant to oversee the project. Tosh Southwick, Manager of Training and Employment with Ta'an; Joseph Nayally, Employment Counsellor with Kwanlin Dün; and representatives from the Regional Economic Development office will assist Jacque. Two certified life skills facilitators were hired: Erika Smarch and Amanda Calbery, both KDFN members. They will deliver a series of workshops and courses to prepare people entering the work force.

The first stage of the project — three months of life skills training — began on February 18. The second stage will match participants with employers in the Whitehorse area. This will begin in May and run for at least three months.



Joseph Nayally, Employment Counsellor, explains job opportunities to F.H. Collins students at this year's health fair.

“Based on career exploration activities in the first phase, participants will be matched with employers who seem to provide the type of employment each participant is best suited for,” says Nayally. “We are hoping to have participants continue at that particular place of work, or take additional training or education in their chosen field.”

The project is taking place at the Blue Feather Youth Centre to help attract the attention and curiosity of the youth. As well, instructors and participants will have access to a wide array of resources in Whitehorse and from the two First Nations.

We wish all the participants in this project great success in attaining their individual goals and continuing on their path to meaningful and successful participation in the labour force.



THANK YOU ANN SMITH

Outgoing Kwanlin Dün councillor Ann Smith extends her appreciation to Kwanlin Dün citizens for their support over the past three years. While she will no longer be serving on council, Ann will be busy working with local families and community members.

She feels it is important to remind people to keep themselves involved with their families and in touch with traditional ways by getting back to the land — going out to the bush, camping, hunting and fishing.

Ann sees the merit of Jackson Lake being used as a healing location, as the area connects Kwanlin Dün directly with the land. She remembers elders telling her in the past that if our people have a hard time in this modern world, they must go back to the land.

KWANLIN DÜN WELCOMES THREE NEW EMPLOYEES



Cheryle Patterson
Property

Cheryle was recently hired as Property Manager. She is a citizen of the Champagne and Aishihik First Nation. Her grandfather, Chief Hutchi Joe, was from Champagne and her grandmother, Sadie Joe (Stevens), from Aishihik.

Born and raised in Whitehorse, she is familiar with the KDFN community.

After completing a business administration financial services program, she became a licensed mortgage broker. During her schooling, Cheryle learned about First Nation housing issues across Canada. She attended the annual general meeting for the National Aboriginal Housing Association and was part of the Assembly of First Nations' working group for the \$10 million mortgage guarantee program.

She has worked in First Nations Housing for more than 10 years, including work with CAFN and Turtle Island Associates where she developed housing policies for self-governing First Nations.

Cheryle is passionate about First Nations housing issues. "We need to develop our housing programs along with our people, to meet our community needs. I enjoy the challenge of problem solving in different situations. I am very much a big picture thinker, with an open mind."

Cheryle can be reached at 633-7847.



Glenna Tetlich
Community Wellness

Glenna was recently hired as the Community Wellness Manager. She is a member of Vuntut Gwitchin and brings a wealth of experience to Kwanlin Dün's Wellness Centre.

Over the past 15 years, she has worked in the area of health and wellness as a facilitator and counsellor and as director of health and social programs for her First Nation. She is a certified life skills coach in the Yukon and Alberta. Prior to this she was a dental therapist in Yukon schools for 12 years. Glenna was influential in initiating a youth health and fitness project in Old Crow. It has now been incorporated into the school curriculum.

Glenna and her family have a long-standing friendship with the Kwanlin Koyotes. Whenever the team was in Old Crow, Glenna and her husband, Joe, enjoyed hosting and coordinating events for them. A memorable occasion for Glenna happened last spring when she coordinated a cultural day trip for the team to a camp at Old Crow Flats.

Taking a holistic approach to healing, and incorporating culture and a connection to the land in the process are very important to Glenna. She strongly supports teamwork and involving the community to provide programs necessary to fit our community needs.

Glenna can be reached at the Health Centre at 668-7289.



Bev Miller
Justice

Bev was recently hired as Justice Manager. Born and raised in Whitehorse, she belongs to the Wolf clan and is a member of Ta'an Kwäch'än Council. Her parents are the late Sophie Miller and Donald Miller of Whitehorse, and her grandparents were Aggie and Frank Slim.

Bev completed her elementary and high school education in Whitehorse. This was followed by an undergraduate degree in Criminology at the University of Manitoba and a master's degree in Criminal Justice Management and Administration from the University of Alaska Fairbanks.

She has been a volunteer with Crime Stoppers Yukon, the Kwanlin Dün Police Committee and the RCMP Community Consulting Group.

She has worked with the federal Department of Justice as a witness coordinator, and with young offenders and abused women.

Bev looks forward to working in the Justice Department and with Kwanlin Dün community members. She is at 633-7850 or 7 O'Brien Road.

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Kwanlin Dän Ch'a means
Kwanlin people of Whitehorse, how are you?