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Uniting Against Violence: NWT communities mark Family Violence Awareness Week. *See page 7.*



NWT officials learn from southern shale industry
A delegation of Northern leaders toured fracking projects in the Bakken play last week to take lessons on what not to do in the Sahtu. *See page 3.*



River guide author takes on Athabasca and Slave
Michelle Swallow, author of the *Mackenzie River Guide*, is exploring the Athabasca and Slave River systems for her next project. *See page 11.*



Behchoko hosts fun back to school hand games
Organizers say the Back to School Hand Games tournament keeps youth entertained and out of "mischief." *See page 22.*



PWK students head into bush for Sweetgrass trip
The great outdoors became the classroom for Grade 7 and 8 students in Fort Smith on their annual expedition to Sweetgrass Station. *See page 23.*

NORTHERN Journal

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Six year-old Joshua Barnes shows off his skills with a fire extinguisher during a controlled learning exercise at the Hay River fire hall at the department's open house event for Fire Prevention Week. This year's theme for the week is Prevent Kitchen Fires. *See more on pages 14-15.*

GNWT begins work on new Lands dep't *Premier releases departmental design for post-devolution*

By MEAGAN WOHLBERG
An organizational chart has been released and a deputy minister named for the brand new Lands department, responsible for taking over federal responsibility for land use planning and administration following final devolution on Apr. 1, 2014.
The new department will be established to "support, manage, protect and administer" public lands in the NWT and will see Mark Warren at the helm for the time being, as the premier waits to appoint a minister to the portfolio.
Warren, who has 20 years' management experience in

the territorial departments of Aboriginal Affairs, the NWT Housing Corp., Environment and Natural Resources (ENR) and the department of the Executive, will officially begin his job on Apr. 1 of next year.
According to Premier Bob McLeod, he was chosen for his experience leading the development of the territorial Land Use and Sustainability Framework over the last two years, along with past work on the NWT Water Stewardship Strategy, Waste Reduction Recovery Program, and Greenhouse Gas and Biomass Strategies.

His team was also responsible for negotiating five land-claim processes on behalf of the GNWT.
"Mr. Warren will be responsible for ensuring that decision-making about land management recognizes Aboriginal and treaty rights as well as third-party interests; takes ecological, spiritual, cultural, recreational and economic values into consideration; is a shared responsibility across the NWT; and is clear, transparent, consistent and communicated," McLeod said in a news release last week.

Lands to take on MACA, federal roles
While new lands-related responsibilities will be devolved from Canada, the department will also be in charge of duties having to do with Commissioner's Lands currently handled by the NWT department of Municipal and Community Affairs (MACA).
Those administrative roles will include land inventories, leases, dispositions, valuations, survey applications and mapping, along with sustainability guidelines and policies, major project assessments, regional land use planning

and enforcement measures, including inspections.
MACA will continue to be responsible for community governance, sports and recreation, youth and emergency management, including the office of the fire marshal.
Changes made to other departments
MACA will not be the only existing department to change following devolution. Details of the new ENR and Industry, Tourism and Investment (ITI) organizational structures were also made public last week.
See Job offers on page 2.

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NEWS BRIEFS

Fort Resolution man charged for possession of child pornography

A man from Fort Resolution will appear in territorial court this December on charges of child pornography possession and distribution. Joseph King, 49, was arrested Sept. 26 in relation to a RCMP investigation last year that led to the seizure of several digital media storage devices at a home in the community. The RCMP investigation, dubbed Operation Snapshot, was a four-month operation involving police agencies from Saskatchewan, Manitoba, Alberta, the NWT and Nunavut. King will appear in court on Dec. 5 to face his charges.

Fortune sells Camsell River Project to Denendeh mining company

Fortune Minerals Ltd. has announced the sale of its Camsell River silver property to the Denendeh Exploration & Mining Co. (DEMCo). The Fortune lease, covering 78 hectares of land between the Norex and Northrim mines near Great Bear Lake, where it is considered to have good potential for strike projections of high-grade silver veins from the adjacent mines, was sold for \$25,000 plus a 1 per cent net smelter royalty. DEMCo is a First Nations owned company based out of Yellowknife.

GNWT Human Resources launches new website with 'fresh look'

A newly launched website for the GNWT department of Human Resources has a "fresh look." Glen Abernethy, minister of Human Resources, announced the launch of the department's redesigned and improved website last week. Along with easier navigation and a focus on client needs, the website also appeals to users with social media savvy, featuring links for Facebook, Twitter and LinkedIn. According to the press release, the user-friendly website fulfills a commitment made in the 20/20: A Brilliant North – NWT Public Service Strategic Plan to have the right tools for effective communication with employees and clients.

Politics Devolution

Job offers sent to federal employees

Continued from page 1.

Though the high level organizational design, reported first to *The Journal* in January, indicated that ITI would likely be split up into two separate departments - one with a focus primarily on natural resource development and the other on building local business capacity and tourism - that is no longer the case.

"The changes will happen within the existing ITI," said Zoe Raemer, direction of planning and communications for devolution with the GNWT. "As planning continued on, it seemed to make sense to continue the synergies that were already established within ITI."

The new ITI will pick up programs and services related to mineral and petroleum exploration and development, like managing land tenure and resource rights, royalties and resource policy through the Mackenzie Valley Petroleum Planning Office, along with Aboriginal consultation requirements associated with resource development.

ENR will integrate new responsibilities for water regulation, forest management, protected areas, wildlife, traditional knowledge and climate change, among others, and take over responsibility



The GNWT is preparing to bring in over 130 federal employees.

and Northern Development (AANDC) to transfer to the territory.

"We recognize and value the knowledge and experience of the federal employees currently doing this work and look forward to welcoming them into the GNWT," Minister of Human Resources Glen Abernethy said in a press release. "We have built a structure that combines the strengths of both organizations, including our existing skilled and experienced staff."

Federal employees will have 60 days, or until Dec. 2, to decide whether or not to take the job, though the majority are expected to make the move.

The GNWT will also conduct a recruitment campaign to fill new positions created through devolution, and hopes to fill as many as possible from within the NWT, though the department of Human Resources noted some southern recruiting would likely occur for jobs requiring specialized technical knowledge.

Devolution officials could still not say exactly how many positions would be located in communities outside of Yellowknife.

for the Taiga Environmental Laboratory. It will also be responsible for the inspection and enforcement of leases, licenses and permits.

Federal employees asked to transfer

Some 113 federal employees were sent job offers from the territorial

government last Tuesday in preparation for the transfer of federal responsibilities next April.

More offers are yet to go out, as the government of the Northwest Territories expects around 130 jobs currently under the purview of the federal department of Aboriginal Affairs

Politics First Nations

Deline speeding towards finalized self government

By MEAGAN WOHLBERG

The Sahtu community of Deline is advancing quickly towards becoming the first in the territory to successfully reach self government following meetings with federal negotiators last week that confirmed the agreement is basically "good to go."

A group of delegates from Deline visited Ottawa at the end of September to have a final sit-down with the government of Canada on details of their negotiated self government agreement.

According to Danny Gaudet, Deline's chief negotiator, there's nothing left to do now but educate the First Nation's members on all the details of the agreement and head towards ratification within this fiscal year.

"We want to go to ratification, to take this package to vote. We've come up with a tentative schedule and it's a tight schedule, but I don't want to give the date yet because we're still running it through the systems," he said.

Gaudet said they are in the process of appointing their four ratification committee members, who will join two

We want everybody to understand the agreement and on their own make a decision as to whether or not it's a good agreement for them.

Danny Gaudet
Deline Land Corp.

representatives from the territorial government and two from Canada. Those details should be in place sometime this week.

"We're pretty much good to go, provided we get approvals on the (ratification) date," he said.

"Our self government agreement and all the other supporting agreements that go with it - which is basically the tax agreements, transition agreement, implementation plan - are pretty much all done. We went to make sure that there's no outstanding issues and so we're happy that we're getting ready to pack up the package."

Gaudet said the focus is now on coming up with a communication plan for members and the general public to educate them about

the details of the agreement.

"What our intent would be is that we're going to try to reach everybody, no matter where they are, with information. We'll also be hiring a team to answer questions, to visit people. We want everybody to understand the agreement and on their own make a decision as to whether or not it's a good agreement for them...so they don't have to rely on other people telling them what's good or bad for them."

After around 20 years of negotiations, which wrapped up last September, Gaudet said he's pleased with the movement, but not getting ahead of himself.

"I'm excited about the progress, but I don't get too excited about knowing the outcome yet," he said. "We got a lot of work yet."

SCARY TIMES are here!

And there are scary deals at Wally's Halloween Sale!

A large variety of costumes and makeup are on sale starting October 25!



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Guardian (867) 872-2134

NWT takes lessons from southern shale gas play

Northern delegation tours active fracking sites in Bakken formation

By MEAGAN WOHLBERG

Decision makers in the Northwest Territories toured one of North America's most active shale plays last week to build on models of success and learn from southern mistakes in preparation for developing their own fracking industry in the Sahtu region of the territory.

Minister of Industry, Tourism and Investment David Ramsay led a delegation of elected territorial and municipal officials, Aboriginal leaders and regulators throughout southern Saskatchewan and North Dakota from Sept. 29-Oct. 4, meeting with government, industry and First Nations to explore business opportunities and garner advice on how to prepare for an oncoming surge of industrial development.

The delegation included Fort Good Hope Chief Greg Laboucan, representatives from both the Norman Wells and Tulita Land Corp., Sahtu MLA Norman Yakeleya, two representatives from the National Energy Board (NEB), MLA Robert Hawkins, who sits as chair of the standing committee on economic development and infrastructure, Weledeh MLA Bob Bromley and Norman Wells Mayor Gregor McGregor.

"We're seeing some of the impacts development has had, both positive and negative...and a lot of what we've heard from state representatives here in North Dakota is if they could do it all over again, they'd plan it better," Ramsay told *The Journal* from the US on Thursday. "That's where we have an advantage, because we're still in the early days of the Canol play, so we can plan and get things done right."

Bakken plagued by infrastructure, social issues

Ramsay said government officials in the south talked about challenges with preparedness around infrastructure, like pipelines, roads, housing and schools, along with resources like policing to deal with increased social problems that come along with development.

"It's been such a massive influx of people into the area; they've had some issues with a number of things from the social side," Ramsay said.

In meeting with civic officials in Williston, Bromley said the delegates heard about a plethora of social issues challenging the city, which has been taken over by temporary workers who add stress to the system. Officials estimated each well-site employed only one permanent position.

Whereas five years ago the city employed 22 police officers, it now hosts 60, along with two additional judges.



Halliburton drills for shale gas using hydraulic fracturing at one of the thousands of active well-sites in the Bakken play of North Dakota.

Emergency medical services have been increased 10-fold, and first responders described the types of emergencies on the rise as "grotesque," "shocking" and like being in a "war zone."

Most of those accidents are highway related. Around 2,200 trucks pass daily on just one 11-mile section of road through Mandan, Hidatsa and Arikara (MHA) Three Nations territory. The total estimated trucks travelling throughout the road system is closer to 38,000.

"There are many deaths on the highways; the First Nations said they have lost a lot of people," Bromley said.

First Nations in the area also attested to heightened addictions, as substances like meth and heroin piggyback their way into the area.

Both Bromley and Yakeleya said the statistics have them concerned about the fate of the Sahtu region, which is more isolated, geographically challenging and much less prepared in terms of infrastructure and human resources.

"It's gotten to the point where I'm saying, oh my god, we don't even touch the scale of capacity needed," Bromley said. "It's pretty overwhelming to consider the Sahtu, which still has a pristine environment and where people are a lot closer to the land... This kind of infrastructure will take hundreds of millions in upfront funding, and that just doesn't appear."

Yakeleya said the GNWT needs to create a "master plan" for addressing the impacts the development is going to have on communities in the Sahtu.

"It's really overwhelming, and we need to know what we're getting into," he said. "We need to have far advanced planning for roads,

safety, housing, health care... and ensure proper training for our young people."

'Making money hand over fist'

Despite no shortage of challenges, all delegates said those problems have come with tremendous economic prosperity in both jurisdictions.

"You look around, there's new road construction, hotels being built, office buildings, entire residential communities. So the economy is absolutely red hot here, and it was in Saskatchewan too. The housing market is blistering in Regina; you look at Estevan - everyone seems to be driving a new truck or car. The economy's humming along," Ramsay said.

Bromley called the entire pace of development and the money being made in the Bakken area overwhelming.

"They are dealing with unimaginable sums of money here and an unimaginable pace of development," he said. "It's very hard to grasp it's so big. Generally, people are really excited about the money. There are a lot of people that are benefitting, especially financially."

With a tax on oil and gas of 11.5 per cent, the state of North Dakota is raking in \$3 billion per year in addition to the cash garnered from a gross product royalty rate of 12-19 per cent. The revenue has resulted in seven different funds, including a legacy fund (similar to the NWT Heritage Fund) that is already up to \$1.5 billion despite being created just three years ago and the local Three Nations are making \$25 million a month.

"They're making money hand over fist," Bromley said.

'Fracking is not an issue'

The message from government officials in the Bakken was predominantly an encouraging one on the topic of environment, Ramsay said.

"The bottom line that we've heard loud and clear from both Saskatchewan and

North Dakota is hydraulic fracturing is not an (environmental or safety) issue," he said.

Yakeleya said he was reassured about the safety of the technology after seeing it firsthand and hearing from the local First Nations, who report no problems with well-sites being on their land.

"I looked fracking in the face, but I wasn't so concerned after," he said. "All the things they say about fracking, I didn't see. There are concerns; however, there's regulations, compliance and enforcement. There wasn't too much evidence of the issues we thought we were going to see."

Though delegates heard few of the groundwater concerns that typically come along with fracking, Bromley said the amount of excess natural gas currently being burned off and sent into the atmosphere - estimated at \$1 billion per year - is troubling considering the recent international climate change report, which raised its estimate for the potency of methane as a greenhouse gas be 34 times that of carbon dioxide last week.

Conservation groups in the area also noted there are

problems with habitat fragmentation caused by the road networks and well pads scattered throughout the region. Currently there are over 9,000 wells and that number is expected to increase to 50,000 as more discoveries are made.

'Take control and keep control'

Bromley said he's still processing the experience, but the main sense he's taken away is that development in the Sahtu is going to have to be at a much slower pace than what he sees in the Bakken.

"We will have to go very slowly and modestly," he said. "All the regulator-type people and community people have said, 'Take control and keep control. The oil companies will control it if you let them. Don't do that.' If we can do that successfully and control the actual scale and pace of this development, that will be a huge help because we simply couldn't do it properly otherwise," he said.

Ramsay said he is confident the GNWT can develop the region successfully.

"We have to make sure that we get this right. We don't want this opportunity to pass us by, and I think we can do it and do it right," he concluded.

Constituency Meeting

Hon. J. Michael Miltenberger,
MLA Thebacha, will be hosting
a Constituency Meeting on

Wednesday, October 16, 2013
at 7:00 p.m.

at the Northern Life Museum.

Refreshments will be available.



Northwest
Territories
Legislative Assembly

All residents welcome.
Please feel free to attend and
raise any concerns or issues.
The Hon. Robert C. McLeod
will be in attendance.

For further information call the
Constituency Office at 872-5511.

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The Northern Journal welcomes letters to the editor. Letters must be signed and include a phone number so the author can be verified. Names will be withheld on request in special circumstances where the reasons are determined to be valid. The Journal reserves the right to edit letters for length, libel, clarity and taste. Opinions expressed in letters and columns are not necessarily those of the publisher or editor.



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Deline	Gameti	Tsiigehtchic
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Ekatie Diamond Mines	Inuvik	Tulita
Enterprise	Jean Marie River	Uluksaktok
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Fort Providence	Paulatuk	Yellowknife

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Enilda	Hythe	
Enoch	John D'or Prairie	

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Stop the killing. Now.

Can you name the 10 commandments? Give it a try, even a few.

They are important, enough that everyone should know them. They were not, after all, “the 10 suggestions.” They are fundamental tenets by which our society has operated for 3,000 years. Before that, such principles as “might is right” and “an eye for an eye” were what people lived by.

Today, if someone well connected to God were to confer with him about the future of humanity and a new set of commandments emerged, would they be different? If so, how would they change?

They are a pretty basic set of rules. “Thou shalt not kill” is the starting point; the primary consideration, the sanctity of human life. They also include prohibitions against idolatry, blasphemy, theft, dishonesty and adultery, as well as basic guidelines for religious life.

Most of the 10 commandments God dictated to Moses still hold true, although a few are showing their age. “Thou shalt not commit adultery” is not that well adhered to. Today’s loosened morality seems to have rendered that one a bit threadbare. Taking the Lord’s name in vain has pretty much gone by the boards for at least half the population. On the other hand, the importance of private property has

remained sacrosanct and “Thou shalt not steal” has empowered police forces all over the world to keep our jails full.

What about “not bearing false witness against our neighbours”? Nobody likes that one, but almost everybody does it. Forget about “Thou shalt not covet.” Coveting is the basis of materialism, what makes our modern capitalistic society tick.

Humanity seems to have slipped quite a bit in the intervening years, since 1200 BC. God may well be angry.

On the other hand, we are considerably more enlightened, and the world is in many ways a much better place. Today, if atop a mountain in the presence of God, new rules to live by were carved on stone tablets, there would be a few new ones that represent the way we now think. We are much less tolerant of racial inequality. Equality between men and women is another. Freedom of sexual preference is yet another that might be considered.

What rules would you want to add?

The inspiration for this rather esoteric line of thinking comes from the national awareness program last week decrying violence against Aboriginal women. What happened with those hundreds of poor unfortunate souls, so cruelly put to death? Aside from the terrible

experience each endured, what rules have been violated - not just in terms of criminal law, but critical fundamental tenets of our society?

Consider these breached:

The sanctity of human life;

The right of all persons to security, freedom from fear, freedom from any threat of physical violation;

Sexual equality;

Racial equality;

Are there more?

In 3,000 years, there have been more than a few examples of violations so heinous and evil that they threaten the fabric of our society. Slavery was one. Genocide another. This one - the purposeful and perverse abduction, torture and murder of Aboriginal women - would be at or near the top of the list.

We cannot allow this to happen any longer. Man’s penchant for depravity must be kept in check. Violence against women and violence within families must stop, and every possible resource we can muster should be committed to stopping the particular depravity that is violence against Aboriginal women. The future of our society depends on it every bit as much as it did when Moses communed with God that fateful day 3,000 years ago atop Mount Sinai.



Photo: Mike Vassal

Rebecca Cabell and Rev. David Lehmann prepare their fruits for processing at the Anglican Church Hall during an autumn pear canning session.

THE NORTHERN JOURNAL'S Unanswered Question of the Week



THE TOPIC

An Alberta court judge ruled the province improperly excluded environmental groups from an oilsands review.



THE JOURNAL'S QUESTION

(Posed to Robyn Cochrane, spokesperson for Alberta Environment and Sustainable Resource Development):

What has the government learned from this ruling and how might decision making change based on this court decision?



THE ANSWER

No response.

ARCHIVES

15 Years Ago...

Hay River to host major forestry conference

The NWT will be holding the first ever forestry conference in Hay River this week, attracting approximately 130 speakers and delegates from northwestern Canada.

Event organizers say the conference is an attempt to share knowledge and expertise on forest management and development with colleagues around Canada.

20 Years Ago...

NWT gets a 'C' for protecting wild spaces

The World Wildlife Fund issued the fourth annual Endangered Spaces Report in Yellowknife.

Hugh McKee, Endangered Spaces Coordinator for the NWT, said the NWT’s rating was downgraded from a “B-” last year because no major new lands were protected.

30 Years Ago...

Caccia coming to NWT

Federal Environment Minister Charles Caccia will arrive in Yellowknife to begin a tour of the Western Arctic.

While in Yellowknife, Caccia has meetings scheduled with the Dene Nation, GNWT and the Slave River Basin Coalition. He will be stopping in Tuktoyaktuk and Inuvik.

Issue: October 5, 1998

Issue: October 6, 1993

Issue: October 6, 1983

Early childhood education is the key

Re.: “A failing grade for education” Editorial, Northern Journal, Oct. 1, 2013

Editor,

I agree with the three points in the editorial, but to answer the question asked in point #2 “... so, what to do?” as a retired Early Childhood Educator, I suggest that the long-term answer lies in your point #1.

For too long, we (government, parents, educators) have continued to ignore a child’s early years. Educational resources continue to be weighted in favour of the later years. Quality, universal, affordable and accessible Early Childhood Education continues not to be available for most. Dr. Maria Montessori was the first to discover the “Absorbent Mind” of children under 6 years old. Children under 6 are able to learn several new languages - without effort! Young children of diplomats and others

who live in areas that speak different languages pick up these languages - without effort. They can also learn other things such as science, mathematics, music, etc. also without effort - if they are provided in their environment at an early age! This is now a well accepted fact. Despite that, we continue to cloister our young children in “care” environments with untrained people and in many cases in unsupervised home daycares. Then we wonder why our children do not do well when they get older.

There is no reason for Aboriginal languages to die out. If the very young Aboriginal children are in an environment where the language is spoken, they will learn it naturally. They can also learn English, French and other languages at the same time - without effort on their part. The “Absorbent Mind” of the young child will absorb

the languages if they are surrounded by them. The trick is to have Early Childhood Educators who know what they are doing.

Many home day cares and other daycares are doing their best, but I continue to hear of situations where children in registered and unregistered home daycares are moved to other unregistered, unsupervised locations during the day while the care operator does personal business. Parents: do you always know where your children are when you leave them at a home daycare? Some daycares are run by nurses, but while a nurse may be able to care for a child, she is not an educator. Why do nurses feel they can be early childhood educators but I as an early childhood educator do not feel that I am qualified to do nursing? Because, I am not! I have also worked at daycares run by former bartenders and other unqualified people. When we

relegate our children to care environments, we deny them the best educational opportunity they will ever have in their lifetime - the immense learning that can happen in the early years.

If we are willing to go up against the entrenched vested interests in traditional education and re-prioritise our educational resources to the 1 - 6 years, gradually we will bring up a generation of Aboriginal children speaking their own languages, as well as English and French. Traditional educational bodies will fight this like hell, but if we make Montessori and other kinds of scientific Early Childhood Educational programs available, parents will be relieved of the enormous cost of daycare and our children will have the educational foundation that they need to do better in their later years.

Raymond D. Grant
Yellowknife

COLUMN



By DAWN KOSTELNIK

By way of tradition and age and the startling fact that I have lived this long, I am an Elder. These are stories of my life and are as I remember them.

My parents have researched Fort Norman, which is located on the Mighty Mackenzie River, the longest river in Canada winding and weaving for about 1,118 miles, in the then North West Territories of Canada. According to one encyclopedia, anything north of the Alberta border is a treeless wasteland that remains frozen solid for 10 months of the year. Peeping out the small hole that we have kept ice free, we see miles and miles of green/black trees. Frozen

White Girl (Part 2) The Beginning: New Year’s Eve 1965

white lines and circles define rivers and lakes and add patterns in the dark of the trees.

This black and white vista continues on and over the horizon into infinity.

My mother is only 27 years old. Armed with this bit of misinformation, she flies into a vast unknown “wasteland” with my father, four small children and Sam the Siamese cat. Speaking plainly, my mother had guts.

Roaring engines initially deafen me, then slowly become a background hum.

Our first stop will be Yellowknife, NWT After refueling and loading cargo and passengers, we will continue on to the “Wells” (Norman Wells). This DC-6 flies further north to serve the community of Inuvik as part of a scheduled service.

Yellowknife, NWT: we have landed. It is dusk or dark, the sun is off visiting someone, somewhere else. In the

swarming snow, everything shifts as shadows.

People are dark shadows that move through softer grey shadows. We are hustled toward the terminal. Even in the few minutes it takes for this transfer, it’s real apparent that my beautiful coat is not even close to being warm enough.

My feet are blocks of ice, created while sitting on the four-hour flight from Edmonton to Yellowknife. Clunk-clunk...eight little feet in frozen boots trudge across the snow swept tarmac towards the dim light of the terminal. People ask where we are going; eyebrows are raised in surprise at the response. We are an anachronism even in this era. White kids of school age were seldom seen heading into the High Arctic, and never at this time of year.

I can hear the whispers; “They can’t be taking that little girl in there – really!” For crying out loud, even after the noise of the DC-6 engines I am not deaf! These people are scaring me and I have to pee. Is there a bathroom in this dark and noise? I am afraid to ask, I might have to go back outside and squat beside the plane. Someone on the plane said that the toilet was broken and we would have to pee in a jam can. I think I would prefer to squat by the plane. Such teasing, there is an inside bathroom at the airport and the one on the plane does work. These people are different; I don’t know if they are making fun or not. I sure wish I had known that the toilet on the plane worked about an hour ago.

Stay tuned for part 3 of this 5-part story in the Northern Journal.
www.thewhitegirl.ca

MUKLUK



FACEBOOK
FEEDBACK

Northern Journal 2013

What’s in a name?
It’s a matter close to the heart for Rubi Helen Shirley-Sakeskanip, originally of Fort Chipewyan, who was once known as Rubi Helen Gibot before she had it legally changed.



Fort Chip author discovers true name, family and self

Desiree Loutitt: In 1990, when Chuck’s Grandmother took me aside and asked me to look into her husband’s past as she was now 90, and decided she wanted to know, the biggest hurdle I had was the last name. It was like Chuck’s Mushum, 3 generations from Chief Big Bear, didn’t exist before he entered the Canadian Army. We lucked out when we moved to B’lodge, and looking for a number in the phone book one day, I noticed a Wabisca, and I had Chuck call. That was where we learned about the Pahpastayo reserve, and the name, and a whole lot more, and I was able to make the connection then. Unfortunately, Kookum passed before she ever learned thank goodness, as there were things she wouldn’t have liked LOL!

Join us online!

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Forecast

Inuvik Yellowknife

Wednesday	
1 High	1 Low
6 High	0 Low
Thursday	
0 High	-1 Low
6 High	4 Low
Friday	
-1 High	-5 Low
4 High	1 Low
Saturday	
0 High	-4 Low
1 High	-4 Low
Norms: -2°C and -8°C	
Norms: 3°C and -2°C	

Hay River Fort Smith

Wednesday	
9 High	0 Low
6 High	-1 Low
Thursday	
7 High	3 Low
6 High	4 Low
Friday	
6 High	0 Low
7 High	-2 Low
Saturday	
4 High	-3 Low
4 High	-3 Low
Norms: 6°C and -1°C	
Norms: 6°C and -2°C	

Community speaks out on violence in Yellowknife

By JOSH LONG

More than 200 concerned citizens came to voice their concerns to public officials at Northern United Place last Thursday evening following several sexual assaults in Yellowknife.

“I am here tonight because a month ago I was sexually molested along the Frame Lake Trail,” said Deanna Leonard, addressing a panel including NWT Justice Minister Glen Abernethy, RCMP Chief Superintendent Wade Blake and Yellowknife Mayor Mark Heyck.

“The police have been incredible in helping me with it,” she said. “What I really wanted, though, was to bring it to light and encourage others and do something about it as a community, because it’s not really up to the RCMP to solve the problem.”

Many who stepped to the microphone suggested solutions ranging from addictions treatment to addressing homelessness.

“We can enforce, enforce, enforce, but that’s not the answer. We have to get back to the root cause, and find out why this is happening and deal with it,” panelist Yellowknife detachment commander



Hundreds gather for a discussion on community safety in Yellowknife last Thursday following a string of sexual assaults in the community.

Inspector Frank Gallagher said in an interview with *Northern Journal*.

“This has been going on for years. It’s a cycle. We arrest in the evenings or the nights. We put people in the jail. We release them in the morning.”

Local artist Francois Thibault suggested moving the 49th St. liquor store outside the downtown core.

“It’s for more than just controlling the downtown; it’s to actually give people – the RCMP – a chance to better police our town,” Thibault said. “It’ll actually give a lot of people time to think when they get pissed off.”

Some felt others were quick to suspect Yellowknife’s homeless population.

“There’s a lot of assumptions being made that these

sexual assaults are primarily the fault of those people that are in the downtown core, the homeless people or the people with the addiction. We all know there are sexual predators out there that come from every walk of life,” said Jennifer Hunt-Poitras, co-director for the Truth and Reconciliation Commission.

“If you look in this crowd and you see that there aren’t

many Aboriginal people here, it’s because it feels like they’re being targeted and blamed for what’s going on and that’s not okay.”

Heyck floated the possibility of having the city contract more RCMP officers during opening statements.

“If the community deems a higher police presence in a certain part of the city a priority, and council carries that priority

forward, then that’s certainly an option for the city to consider.”

The mayor added that the city is already taking action by clearing brush to improve visibility along the Frame Lake Trail, and is in talks to have the area better lit.

Community patrols are also an option, and he encouraged residents to attend Yellowknife Policing Advisory Committee meetings.

Justice Homicide

NWT coroner calls tragic murder-suicide ‘preventable’

By MEAGAN WOHLBERG

A tragic murder-suicide that shook the community of Tuktoyaktuk in December 2011 could have been prevented with better systems in place to respond to family violence, according to NWT’s Chief Coroner Cathy Menard.

Menard released her official report on the deaths of Diamond Keith Klengenberg, 38, and his 33 year-old

common-law partner, Jenny Lee Pingo, who were found dead in their cabin on Dec. 19.

The autopsy determined Pingo had been shot dead through the back by Klengenberg before he took his own life with the same rifle.

A puppy belonging to Pingo had also been killed and was found in a garbage can. Another dog was left abandoned outside for at

least two days, which got the attention of neighbours that something was wrong.

Multiple statements from family and friends given through the investigation revealed Pingo had been the victim of abuse at the hand of Klengenberg on an ongoing basis for a number of years.

Though Pingo had left him the summer of 2011, she returned to Tuk in November

of that year when the violence resumed. Family and friends said she had been planning to leave again before she was killed.

Along with the report, Menard made several recommendations to the NWT department of Health and Social Services (HSS) and the RCMP to stop similar events, which she called “largely preventable,” from happening to others in the future.

“Domestic violence deaths almost never occur without warning,” she wrote. “In most cases, there have been repeated incidents of violence and indicators of risk as well as opportunities for agencies and individuals to intervene before death.”

Klengenberg had a number of convictions dating back to 1999, all within Tuktoyaktuk, ranging from assault, assault with a weapon and uttering threats. Several were related to assault on Pingo.

“When viewed as an escalation of predictable patterns of behaviour, death resulting from domestic and family violence can be seen as largely preventable,” Menard concluded, noting that Pingo was in

contact with the Community Health Centre.

She recommended HSS consider establishing a universal screening tool for family violence for patients entering all NWT health centres and emergency rooms, which would provide an opportunity for victims to link with support services.

She also recommended more support for coordinated community responses to family violence, noting that victims, perpetrators and their children require a continuum of care and that all levels of government and community have a role to play in keeping community members safe.

Menard further suggested government support for a long-term, sustained social marketing campaign directed at changing attitudes toward violence and, ultimately, behaviour.

HSS media spokesperson Damien Healy said the department received the recommendations last Tuesday and was still working on a response, which would be announced this week.

Her recommendations to the RCMP included conducting Ontario Domestic

Assault Risk Assessments (ODARA) as a tool to increase victim safety, either by referring victims to services, helping create a safety plan and/or facilitating emergency protection.

“The more a victim comes to the attention of police, the more likely their level of risk is increasing,” Menard added.

Cpl. Greg Towler, whose position is dedicated to addressing the issue of family violence, said the “G” Division RCMP has already adopted ODARA and is utilizing it to evaluate the level of risk to victims of family violence.

“The training is continuing as new members transfer into the Northwest Territories to ensure that all front-line members and supervisors are trained,” he added.

Towler, who moved into the position on Apr. 1 of this year, said his mandate is to ensure consistent, high-quality family violence investigations across the NWT.

“A significant part of my position involves reviewing family violence related files from across ‘G’ Division and ensure they are consistent with our policy and to identify victims at risk,” he said.



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Benjamin Moore
The Colour Experts



NWT groups mobilize against family violence

Newly released violence report card gives NWT a failing grade

By MARIA CHURCH

This year, with more participation than ever before, communities across the NWT mobilized for Family Violence Awareness Week, calling for action to change the alarming rate of violence in the territory.

With cultural activities, sharing circles and vigils, community groups sought to emphasize the unacceptability of family violence.

The week of activities was held in conjunction with the national Sisters in Spirit day of remembrance, marked across Canada on Oct. 4 to honour missing and murdered indigenous women.

“It’s time to put a stop to this. These are our families, our daughters. It’s time to do something,” said vigil organizer Lynette Blesse to a crowd gathered in Fort Smith for the Sisters in Spirit event.

Vigil participants released balloons and lit candles to commemorate missing and murdered women, taking solace through shared grief for missing sisters and daughters.

“Your loss is our loss; your grief is our grief; your loved one will forever be in our hearts,” Blesse said to the group.



Sisters in Spirit vigil participants in Fort Smith release balloons as a symbolic gesture to honour the spirits of missing and murdered Aboriginal women.

In Yellowknife, the Sisters in Spirit event included a lunch and vigil held by the Native Women’s Association of the NWT. Throughout the week, events included a Take Back the Night march, the turnout for which was so great that organizers said they couldn’t see the end of the procession from its start.

In Inuvik, Family Violence Awareness Week was

coordinated by Aurora College staff, including David Bob, student life and wellness coordinator at the college.

While Inuvik marks the week each year, this year the scale of events increased significantly in solidarity with efforts being made across the territory to focus on healthy family lifestyles, Bob told *The Journal*.

The theme around the awareness week in Inuvik was twofold: encouraging healthy family time and re-establishing culture, both of which he hopes will have an impact on Northerners.

“A lot of it’s oriented around family violence and encouraging healthier lifestyles,” Bob said. “Basically it’s about bringing culture back into the community.”

Violence report card released

Last month, a report card released by the Coalition Against Family Violence (CAFV) confirmed what some community leaders and politicians have been highlighting for years: Violence rates in the NWT are unacceptably high.

The data collected shows the rate of reported spousal assaults in the NWT is nine to 12 times the provincial average, second only to Nunavut. Another statistic notes of 750 respondents throughout the NWT, 88 per cent were worried about family violence in their community.

Lorraine Phaneuf, executive director of Status of Women NWT and chair of CAFV, said that the report card - the first of its kind released by the coalition - is designed not as an action plan but as a reference for future progress.

“It’s just a reality of violence in the North,” Phaneuf explained. “We’ll use it as a baseline and at a later date we’ll look at the same statistics and see if we’re doing worse or if we’re doing better, (and) if any programming was put in. It really was just a snapshot.”

The NWT presents a unique challenge for organizations

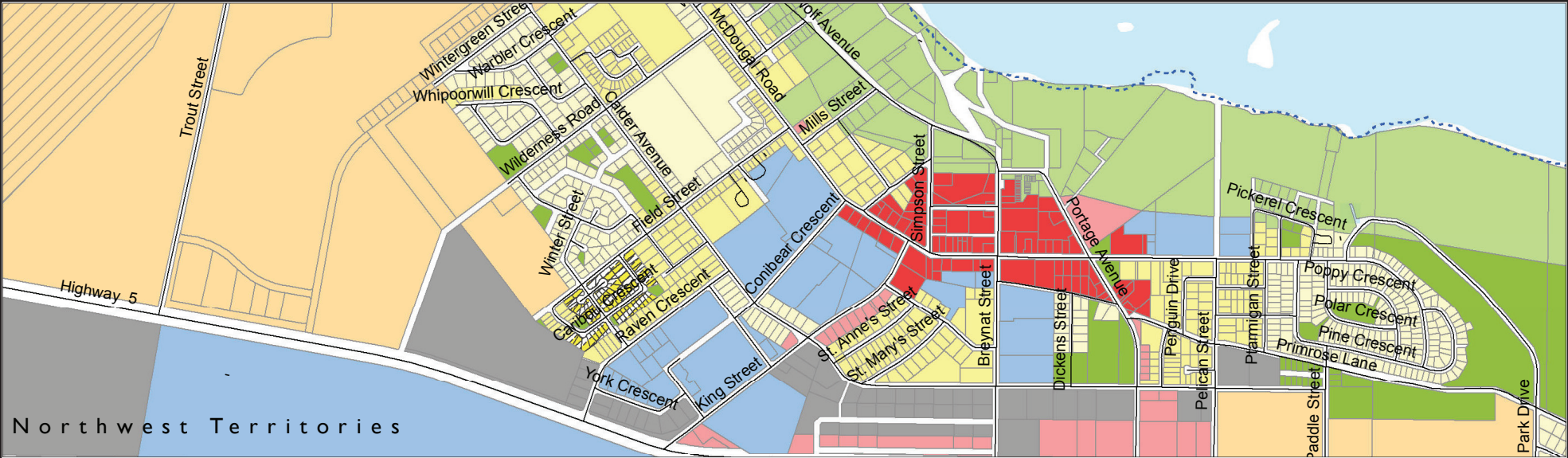
hoping to bring change to the violence statistics, with isolation being the most difficult factor, Phaneuf said.

“With the vastness of our territory and the remoteness of a lot of the communities, we have issues around resources in the smaller communities,” she said. “When you have communities that only have 60 people, they have the same services available, just not at the same speed. They have to be flown out, there’s no shelters in some communities, some don’t have RCMP.”

Beyond recommending more consistency throughout anti-violence messages and accessibility of services in communities across the territory, the report card suggested the need for a fatality review committee to account for the high number of sudden deaths related to family violence.

“Domestic violence fatality reviews are an innovative and promising means of understanding and preventing domestic violence deaths, homicides and suicides,” the report states.

To view the report card, go to www.statusofwomen.nt.ca/familyviolence.htm, and click on the NWT Family Violence Report Card link.



General Plan and Zoning Bylaw Review Public Open House

The Town of Fort Smith and Dillon Consulting are reviewing the Town’s General Plan and Zoning Bylaw. We are inviting you to join us for a public open house session to share your ideas about planning, development and the future of Fort Smith.



Please join us on
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 10
in the **FORT SMITH RECREATION CENTRE FOYER**

Drop in any time between
10:00 AM AND 1:00 PM
or **5:00 PM AND 9:00 PM**

For more information, contact Ann Peters
at apeters@dillon.ca or (867) 920-4555 (ex. 4108).

THANKS AND HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE!

**These bylaws are very important to the community, as well as all businesses.
We encourage you to attend.**

NOTICE OF ADVANCE POLLS AND REQUIREMENTS FOR VOTER IDENTIFICATION

Any person eligible to vote in the October 21 Election can choose to vote at an advance poll for any reason.

Local Authorities Election Act (Sections 12, 35, 46, 53, 74)

Local Jurisdiction: Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo,
Province of Alberta.
Northland School Division No. 61.

Notice is hereby given that an election will be held for the filling of the following offices:

Office	Number of Vacancies	Ward Number
Mayor	One (1)	At Large
Councillors	Six (6)	One (1)
Councillors	Two (2)	Two (2)
Councillor	One (1)	Three (3)
Councillor	One (1)	Four (4)

Office	Number of Vacancies	Subdivision
School Board of Trustees	Five (5)	No. 9 – Athabasca-Delta (Fort Chipewyan)
School Board of Trustees	Five (5)	No. 15 – Conklin
School Board of Trustees	Five (5)	No. 16 – Janvier
School Board of Trustees	Four (4)	No. 17 – Anzac-Gregoire Lake Reserve Ward 2

Advance Polling (Voting) Stations are open 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. each day

Ward 2:

Mamawi Community Hall, Fort Chipewyan
Fort McKay Public School, Fort MacKay

Wednesday, October 9
Friday, October 11
Saturday, October 12
Wednesday, October 16

Ward 4:

Anzac Community Hall, Anzac
Nakewin Community Hall, Conklin
Municipal Office, Janvier

Wednesday, October 9
Friday, October 11
Saturday, October 12
Wednesday, October 16

*Advanced Polling Stations in Ward 1 will be modified polling stations to accommodate residents from Wards 2, 3, and 4, who are absent from their place of residence on Election Day.

*Jubilee Centre, Council Chamber, 9909 Franklin Avenue

Monday, October 7 to Friday, October 11
Tuesday, October 15 to Friday, October 18

*Suncor Community Leisure Centre, MacDonald Island Park

Saturday, October 12
Saturday, October 19

*École McTavish Jr. High Public School, 352 Parsons Creek Drive

Wednesday, October 9
Friday, October 11
Saturday, October 12
Wednesday, October 16

In order to vote, you **must** produce identification for inspection, as required by Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo Election Bylaw No. 13/010. The identification must be one (1) piece of government issued identification containing the elector's photograph, current address and name. This includes an Operator's (Driver's) Licence or an Alberta Identification Card.

An elector who is unable to produce government issued photo identification, must produce two (2) pieces of identification from the following list prior to voting. Both pieces of identification must establish the elector's name and one piece must establish the elector's current address.

Identification with Elector's Name and Address

Attestation of Residence issued by the responsible authority of First Nations Band or Reserve	One of the following, issued by the responsible authority of a seniors' accommodation facility or long-term care facility: Attestation of residence letter, letter of stay, admission form or statement of benefits
Bank / credit card statement or personal cheque	Pension Plan statement of benefits, contributions or participation
Correspondence issued by a school, college or university	Prescription bottle insert
Government cheque or cheque stub	Residential lease or mortgage statement
Income / property tax assessment notice	Statement of government benefits: e.g. Employment insurance, old age security, social assistance, disability support or child tax benefit
Insurance policy or coverage card	Utility bill: e.g. Telephone, public utilities commission, television, hydro, gas or water
Letter from a public curator, public guardian or public trustee	Vehicle Ownership or Insurance certificate
One of the following, issued by the responsible authority of a student residence, shelter or soup kitchen: Attestation of residence letter, letter of stay, admission form or statement of benefits	Vehicle Registration

ELECTION
2013

your community.
your vote

Identification with Elector’s Name

Alberta Assured Income for the Severely Handicapped (AISH) card	Canadian National Institute for the Blind (CNIB) card
Alberta Forestry ID card	Confirmation Certificate
Alberta Health Care Insurance Plan (AHCIP) card	Credit / Debit card
Alberta Health Service ID Band (patient wrist identification band)	Employee / Staff card
Alberta Natural Resources (conservation) ID card	Firearm Possession and Acquisition Licence or Possession Only Licence
Alberta Service Dog Team ID card	Fishing, Trapping or Hunting Licence
Alberta Wildlife (WIN) ID card	Hospital / Medical card
Baptismal Certificate	Library card
Birth Certificate	Marriage Certificate
Canadian Air Transportation Security Agency (CATSA) ID card	Membership card: e.g. Service club, community organization, fitness/health club, political party or retail outlet
Canadian Blood Services card	Métis Nation of Alberta membership card
Canadian Border Services Agency Canadian Passenger Accelerated Service System (CANPASS) card	Old Age Security card
Canadian Border Services Agency Free and Secure Trade (FAST) card	Outdoors or Wildlife card / licence
Canadian Border Services Agency Nexus card	Pleasure Craft Operator (PCOC) card - Government of Canada
Canadian Forces Civilian ID card	Public Transportation card
Canadian Forces Health card	Secure Certificate of Indian Status (SCIS) card
Canadian Forces ID card	Social Insurance Number card
Canadian Passport	Student ID card
Citizenship card	Veteran’s Affairs Canada Health card

Note: For electors residing in seniors’ accommodation facilities and long-term care facilities, a photocopy of an item on the list is acceptable. This exception is made to address the fact that when residents are admitted, they routinely transfer their original identification to the administrator or to members of their family.

Are You Eligible to Vote?

47 (1) Eligibility to vote

A person is eligible to vote in a general municipal election if the person:

- a) is at least 18 years old
- b) is a Canadian citizen
- c) has resided in Alberta for the 6 consecutive months immediately preceding election day and,
- d) the person’s place of residence is located in the area on election day.

Residents of First Nations Reserves

First Nations Reserves do not form part of the Municipality, therefore individuals who reside on a Reserve cannot vote for Mayor and Council, but may vote for school trustees.

For more information:

www.woodbuffalo.ab.ca/elections

Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo
Returning Officer
Darlene Soucy
780.743.7001

Assistant Returning Officer
Joanne Wall
780.743.7001

Dated at the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo, in the Province of Alberta, this 8th day of October, 2013.



REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY
OF WOOD BUFFALO

Court calls Alberta ‘biased’ in excluding environmental groups from oilsands review

Judge rules province’s process of deciding participation ‘tainted’

By MEAGAN WOHLBERG

An Alberta Queen’s Bench judge did not mince words last Wednesday in ruling that the provincial government improperly excluded environmental groups from the regulatory review of an oilsands project in 2012.

In a harshly worded ruling, Justice Richard Marceau called the Alberta government’s decision to block the Pembina Institute and Fort McMurray Environmental Association (FMEA) from participating in the review process for a proposed in situ oilsands project “tainted,” and that both groups were “targeted” because they withdrew from the Cumulative Environmental Management Association (CEMA) and published negative media about the oilsands.

“It is difficult to envision a more direct apprehension of bias” than an historic case whereby the premier of Quebec revoked a liquor license from a restaurateur because he was a Jehovah’s Witness, Marceau wrote.

Simon Dyer, policy director for Pembina, said the victory was significant on many levels.

“Obviously with our statement of concern reinstated, we look forward to being able to present our evidence around this specific hearing...and we’ll be requesting that the government of Alberta reconsider other statements of concern mentioned in the report that the government has rejected in the past two years based on them also being ‘tainted’ by this briefing note,” Dyer told *The Journal*.

The review in question involved the second phase of Southern Pacific Resource Corp.’s proposed in situ oilsands project on the MacKay River near Fort McMurray.

Concerns raised by Pembina included the company’s projected use of as much as 1.7 million litres of fresh groundwater daily, along with disturbances to regional air quality and negative impacts on the threatened local caribou population.

Pembina was also rejected from being able to make statements of concern for several other projects, including Canadian Natural Resources Ltd.’s Kirby oilsands project, Syncrude’s tailings pond expansion and the more recent Teck Resources Frontier project hearing.



The project in question, Southern Pacific Resource Corp.’s MacKay in situ oilsands project, sits adjacent to the MacKay River.

Photo courtesy of Southern Pacific Resources Corp.

Briefing note ‘fatally flawed’

The judge’s decision hinged on a government briefing note obtained through the court challenge, which suggested that Pembina’s “publication of negative media on the oilsands” and the government’s impression that the energy policy think tank was “less inclined to work cooperatively” were reasons for rejecting the institute’s statement of concern - reasons Marceau dismissed as “fatally flawed.”

“The principles of natural justice clearly require the decision maker to not consider irrelevant and improper reasons,” he wrote.

Furthermore, because the briefing note was distributed in secret, Pembina did not have the ability to respond to those allegations, which Marceau said was a violation of the right to be heard.

Though pleased at the victory, Dyer called the entire ordeal - including both the wording in the document and the province’s subsequent actions - “deeply troubling.”

“It’s embarrassing for the government of Alberta,” he said. “You have them traveling around the world saying they’re a serious, responsible regulator of the oilsands. It’s completely inappropriate that the government of Alberta basically ran interference for the oilsands industry in terms of preventing participation in the regulatory process.”

Dyer said Pembina is “quite choosy” in terms of the projects in which it opts to intervene, based on limited resources, but even if the

policy group did participate in all hearings, those are few and far between.

In 2012, the regulator held only seven hearings on energy-related projects, only one of which included an in situ oilsands project, despite over 36,000 energy applications made in Alberta, 410 of which were for in situ oilsands.

“There’s this sort of mythology out there that stakeholders are clogging up the process and it’s too onerous for the proponent, but

as you can see, the opposite is true: The vast majority of these projects are routinely approved.”

Still, he said Pembina looks forward to being allowed to meaningfully participate in future reviews.

“Clearly our priority is still addressing improvement in environmental policy that apply to oil projects, so we don’t have to go to individual hearings to ensure the public interest is protected, but we’re looking forward to continuing to work in this way,” he said.

Alberta defends track record

While communications staff with Alberta Environment and Sustainable Resource Development ignored requests for comment, a statement released by Minister Diana McQueen on Thursday defended the province’s track record when it comes to its review process for resource development in response to criticism from both the federal and provincial NDP.

“We have established the Alberta Energy Regulator and announced new regulations

when it comes to expressing concerns about an application for development, which allows all Albertans who believe they are directly and adversely affected by an application the ability to provide a notice of concern to the regulator,” McQueen said.

“The new process ensures a thoughtful and common sense approach to hearing all issues from all affected parties...which in turns means that Albertans will have more involvement at the beginning of a project.”

Industry Construction

Diesel dumping charges dropped against Rowe’s Construction

By MEAGAN WOHLBERG

Charges were dropped last Tuesday against a Hay River construction firm accused of illegally dumping diesel into a gravel pit in Wood Buffalo National Park.

Parks Canada withdrew its charges against Rowe’s Construction on the second day of trial last week in Fort Smith.

Rowe’s was accused in June 2012 of unlawfully discharging diesel fuel in the park near Fort Smith, breaking section 32(1) of the Canada National Parks Act, which points specifically to pollution cleanup.

The charges claimed the company did not take reasonable measures to prevent environmental damage or harm to human health.



Photo: Rowe’s Construction

Charges against Rowe’s Construction for allegedly discharging diesel in Wood Buffalo National Park were dropped last week during day two of court proceedings in Fort Smith.

President Jack Rowe and foreman Wayne Thompson were co-accused in the matter.

“Rowe’s Construction is most pleased with the withdrawal of the charge that had been laid against it,” Rowe

said in an emailed statement to *The Journal*. “The company had prepared for over one year for this trial, and was looking forward to establishing its innocence. It is pleased that justice was finally done.”

In the statement, Rowe said the allegations should have been subjected to “far greater scrutiny.”

He indicated that Rowe’s Construction would be considering its legal options in relation to the accusations.



River guide author Michelle Swallow (right) paddles with her mom and brother on a journey between Jasper and Athabasca.

Northerners Guides



Paddling partner Stephanie Yuill takes a break along the Athabasca River near Fort McKay.



Swallow's partner Pierre Berube enjoys an evening sunset along the Slave River.

Photos courtesy of Michelle Swallow

River guide author explores Athabasca and Slave

By MEAGAN WOHLBERG

The author of the popular *Mackenzie River Guide* book is taking on a new and even more challenging river system for her next project, which could find its home online rather than on paper.

Michelle Swallow, author of the beautifully illustrated field guide book to paddling the mighty Mackenzie River, has spent the last two summers canoeing the Athabasca and Slave Rivers as research for her next endeavor.

But while she initially set out on a mission to create another guide book, the flow of the Athabasca River system - one much different from the Mackenzie - is now pushing her in a new direction.

"Originally I had intended that it would be exactly the same style, so I had the same person do the maps for me ahead of time, but now that I've essentially paddled most of it, I'm not entirely sure what I'm going to do now," Swallow told *The Journal*.

"The whole idea with the Mackenzie was I really wanted to encourage people to paddle the Mackenzie. I wanted them to feel like it was something that they could do and to feel inspired to do it. And the Mackenzie's pretty consistent: it's more or less a consistent size all the way down; it's a more or less consistent range of skill level needed; there's a lot of people on the river all the way down. But the Athabasca has got different flavours in different sections, so that makes it interesting, but it also means that it could take a bit more time to think it through."

Though she may still do a book project, Swallow is now thinking more and more about transforming her research

and recordings into an interactive, online film or app of some kind, focused more on profiling the river than offering travel advice.

"I'm not sure that people choose to paddle the Athabasca in the same way that they choose to paddle the Mackenzie River," she said. "I think more work needs to be done to classify rapids that are on the Athabasca."

Swallow, also a filmmaker, said she was inspired by the recent award-winning, interactive web documentary, *Welcome to Point Point*, and can envision something similar for the Athabasca and Slave Rivers.

With the maps already done, she pictures an interactive web format where viewers can "scroll themselves" down the river, clicking on different video clips profiling the various physical locations.

"Right now, I'm thinking about it more as a way for people to learn about the river, and then I may do more of a guide in the future," she said.

Athabasca 'fun and accessible'

Just because she's moving away from the guide idea does not mean Swallow won't recommend the rivers to avid paddlers.

"The fun thing about the Athabasca River is it's all connected by the road system, so it makes it really quite simple: it's cheap, for one - you don't have to fly anywhere; and it's incredibly accessible all the way along."

Swallow spent three weeks this summer canoeing with a sequence of partners on three different sections of the river - including her whitewater enthusiast brother, her friend and her boyfriend - from the

town of Athabasca to Fitzgerald, beginning in the rapids corridor.

"If you're a skilled white-water paddler, you would love the section between Athabasca and Fort McMurray. It's very beautiful - tons of wildlife - and it's pretty isolated...so if you love rapids, then that's a great place to go. If you don't love rapids, then I would avoid that section, because they're pretty big and they're hard to scout and the river is large, so it takes awhile to get to shore."

The summer previous, she spent three weeks with her brother and mother canoeing from the Athabasca's headwaters in Jasper through Fort Assiniboine, ending in Athabasca: an easier family trip, she said.

"There's a few rapids before Hinton and there's a lot of driftwood - a lot of deadfall everywhere," she said, adding that made it hard to find camping spots some nights. "But between Whitecourt and Athabasca, the river is really flatwater, calm, moves at a decent clip but is really safe, with lots of wildlife. We'd see several moose and elk and deer every day. It was really nice."

Swallow said she also really enjoyed the section between Fort McKay and Fort Chipewyan, made especially memorable because of the amount and friendliness of the people, who were scarce for most of the other parts of the trip.

"Really, until you get to Fort Chipewyan, there's not people on the river all the time. In fact, in some communities like Hinton, even those though communities are right on the river, it was a stretch to find any public access at all to the river," she said.

"The closer to Fort Chipewyan, the better - just

really friendly people out on the water. Really kind people. Everyone would slow right down when they saw us, which was really nice."

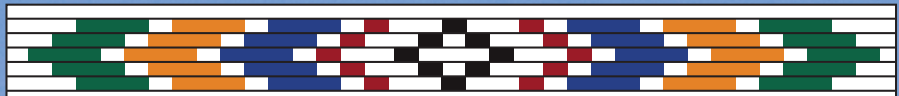
Now that she's relocated to Fort Smith, Swallow said

she will eventually turn her attention more to the Slave, which she hopes to complete paddling next summer all the way to Great Slave Lake.

But for now, she is going


to keep dreaming about the possibilities.

"I'm going to spend the winter thinking about it and collecting stories," she said. "There's a lot I could get done from Fort Chip to here."



The Town of Tuktoyaktuk

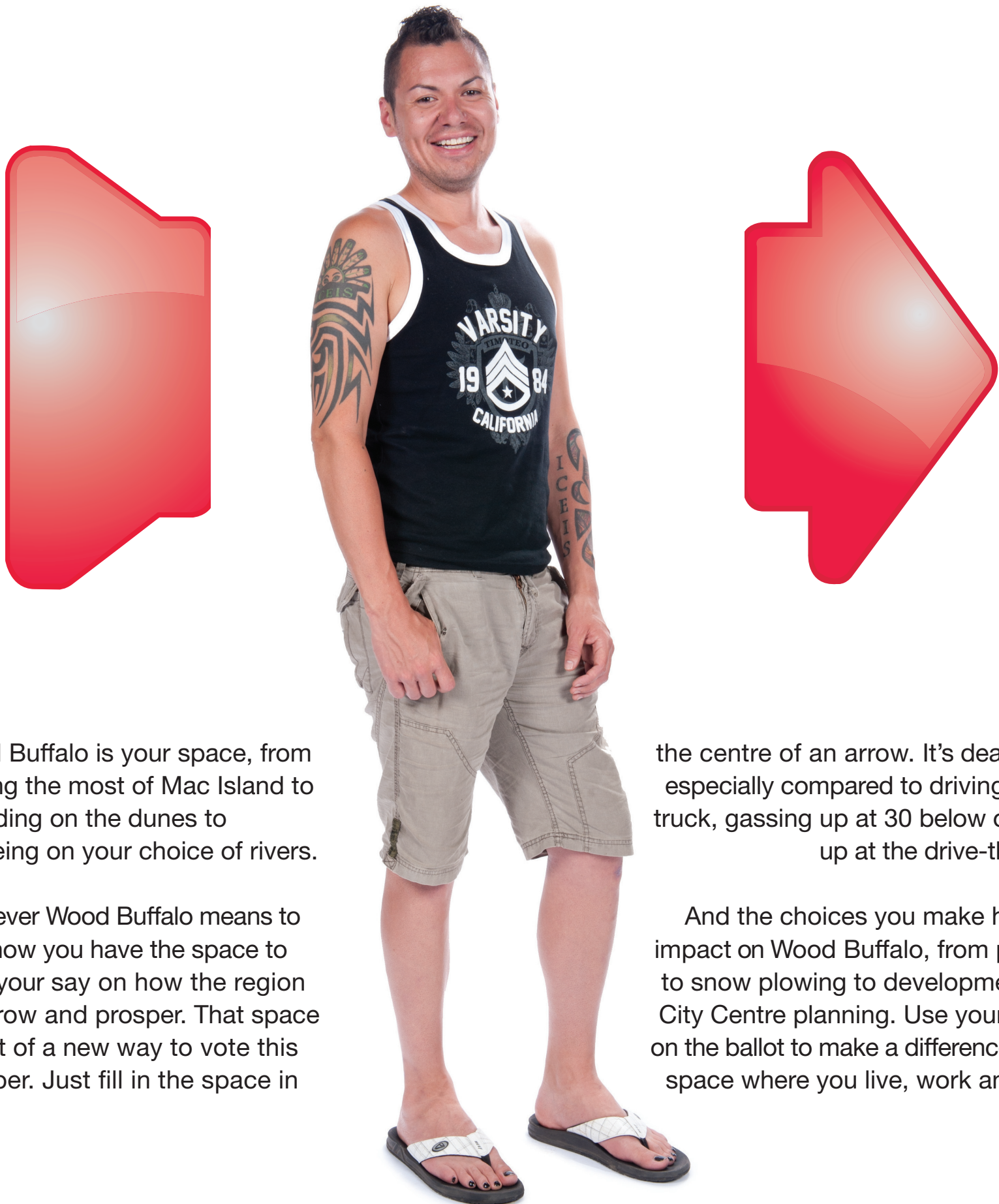
**would like to thank and congratulate
all members of the Volunteer Fire Department
for their hard work and dedication.**



Your efforts help keep
our community safe.
Thanks for everything you do.

THIS IS YOUR SPACE

This October, use your space to help point Wood Buffalo in the right direction.



Wood Buffalo is your space, from making the most of Mac Island to quadding on the dunes to canoeing on your choice of rivers.

Whatever Wood Buffalo means to you, now you have the space to have your say on how the region will grow and prosper. That space is part of a new way to vote this October. Just fill in the space in

the centre of an arrow. It's dead easy, especially compared to driving a haul truck, gassing up at 30 below or lining up at the drive-through.

And the choices you make have an impact on Wood Buffalo, from parking to snow plowing to development and City Centre planning. Use your space on the ballot to make a difference to the space where you live, work and play.

To learn more visit
yourspacermwb.ca



Municipal Election Day
Monday, October 21, 2013

Advance Voting October 7 to 19, 2013



Shy benefactor shares residential school compensation

By JACK DANYLCHUK
Charles Delorme is a man of few words.

Waiting for a table in a downtown restaurant, he seemed puzzled when a woman approached and with a friendly smile told him, “you’re a celebrity, Charlie; your picture is all over Facebook.”

When you’ve been a fixture on Yellowknife streets for 40 years, doing odd jobs and recycling empties, the concept seems foreign – even if you’ve been giving money away: \$2,000 to the Side-Door youth centre; \$5,000 to the Salvation Army and \$10,000 to the Stanton Hospital Foundation.

Charlie, as everyone knows him, shrugged and looked uncomfortable, as if his sudden fame felt like a hair shirt.

After giving that money away, did he have enough for himself?



Photo: Jack Danylchuk

Charles Delorme has made \$17,000 in charitable donations since receiving a residential school settlement last month.

“Yes,” he said. “I’m not alone. I have friends.”

Over lunch – he chose a hamburger steak because his favourite, a hot hamburger sandwich, was not on the

menu - he provided a few details about his life.

Born 64 and one-half years ago in Fort Smith to Archie and Helen Delorme, Charlie moved with his mother

to Yellowknife when he was 12. His only living relative is a niece in Fort Resolution.

He’s travelled a bit and worked on farms in the Peace River Block and Saskatoon

– there’s lots of Saskatoons there, he said, and grinned at the small joke.

“That’s a farmer’s town, Saskatoon. I did a lot of work there for farmers.” He’s also

worked at fishing lodges. In Yellowknife, he clears side-walks in winter and in summer, he recycles empties.

Charlie’s pleasures are simple. Rabbit, in a stew with onions, is good when eaten with bannock. He has a sweet tooth. Chocolate is good, but what he really likes are jelly beans. Any flavour will do.

His arthritis gives him grief, and he feels tired, to the point of being a little torpid.

“I hope the good Lord will help me through this year. I hope I make it through Christmas and New Years,” he said. “I’m not well.”

Has he been to a doctor? “The only doctor I want is the Lord. He’s my doctor.”

When the moment comes, he said his wishes are just as simple as his pleasures.

“Before I pass on, I just want a simple coffin.”

Health & Wellness Cancer

Mobile breast cancer screening comes to Fort McKay

By MEAGAN WOHLBERG
A mobile breast cancer screening clinic is rolling its way into Fort McKay next week just in time for Breast Cancer Awareness Month.

The mobile mammography service, run by Alberta Health Services, is making its way to the community on Oct. 16 and is currently booking patients for the 27 appointments available from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. during the one-day stop.

According to Screen Test manager Joan Hauber, the mobile service is intended to improve access to testing for people in smaller or more remote communities.

“The purpose of a mobile like ours is to provide access to a service that women may not otherwise be able to get easy access to. So we go out into communities where there’s not a mammography facility that’s really near, or sometimes there’s just issues of getting to the nearest mammography facility,” she said. “If there’s reasons that people can’t travel, then we can bring it to them.”

For women in Fort McKay, Fort McMurray is the closest available location for breast cancer screening.

Through Screen Test, mammography technologists travel year round to 106 communities in the province, with High Level being the northernmost community. The two mobile clinics - one for the southern and



Photo courtesy of Alberta Health Services

Alberta Health Services’ mobile screen test clinic will be doing mammograms for women in Fort McKay next Wednesday.

the other for the northern half of the province - consist of large trailers pulled by semi truck.

Fort McKay has been visited by Screen Test for several years once annually. It

a lot of criteria, particularly with our really big trailer,” she said.

Hauber said the mobile service is intended mainly for women between the ages of 50-74, though women as young as

breasts or anything that’s new or different, then we wouldn’t encourage them to wait until

the mobile comes. At that point, we would tell them to go someplace else,” Hauber said.

If there’s reasons that people can’t travel, then we can bring it to them.

Joan Hauber
Alberta Health Services Screen Test

is currently the sole community in the Wood Buffalo region to receive the service, but Hauber said that could change.

“We’re always keeping an eye out and if communities are interested in mobile services, they can contact us and we go through a process to make sure it’s a suitable community, because we have

40 or older than 74 are able to get checked out with a referral from their family physicians.

The target patient is one with no symptoms who requires a regular checkup, not for women with problems such as a new lump or nipple discharge, a history of breast cancer or breast implants.

“If they can’t wait or they have a concern with their



Photo: Scott Clouthier

Jess Gilbert celebrates passing the halfway point of the CIBC Run for the Cure in Hay River on Sunday. The run raises money and awareness for breast cancer research, and takes place in October during Breast Cancer Awareness Month.

Hay River fire department opens doors to public



J.R. Barnes and his son Joshua sport matching firefighters' gear at Sunday's open house.



Corbin Scheller, 1, takes a turn behind the wheel of the fire truck.



The Hay River Fire Department had their full arsenal of fire fighting equipment on display for the open house on Sunday.



Volunteer firefighter Joe Robertson explains the contents of a rescue truck to the Gunson family.

Photos: Scott Clouthier

BE SAFE THIS HALLOWEEN

If you use a real candle, use extreme caution.

Be sure to put lit candles well away from anything flammable, trick-or-treaters, doorsteps and walkways to yards. Dried flowers, cornstalks and crepe paper are highly flammable.

Fire Prevention Week Safety

Keep your kitchens safe

Fire Prevention Week Oct. 6-12, 2013

Fire Prevention Week takes place Oct. 6-12, 2013 and this year, you will be hearing a lot about kitchen fires.

That's because a quarter of all house fires in 2010 in Alberta started in the kitchen. We spend a lot of time with our families in the kitchen – cooking, talking about our day, doing homework.

For many of us, the kitchen is the heart of our home. But the kitchen is also a place with a number of dangers if we don't practise basic fire safety.

As cooking is the number-one cause of home fires and home fire injuries, the theme for Fire Prevention Week is "Prevent Kitchen Fires" and the first week of October will promote safe kitchen habits with stoves, microwaves and other appliances. Remaining attentive while cooking and managing how close children and pets are to anything hot will help keep families safe.

Here are a few safety tips to get you started on making your kitchen and home a safer place to cook in:

- When you fry, grill or broil food, remain in the kitchen until this cooking is complete and the heat source has been turned off. It is a good idea to never leave cooking food unattended.
- Maintain a children- and pet-free zone at least one metre from the stove and any other sources of cooking.
- Always turn pot handles away from the stove's edge.
- Keep a lid and oven mitt nearby when you are cooking to use in case of a grease fire.
- If you have a grease fire, slide a lid over the pan. Turn off the burner and leave the pan covered until it is completely cool.
- Unplug electrical appliances when not being used.

- Install a smoke detector near, but not in, the kitchen.
- Always roll up sleeves and tie back long hair.

You can do a lot to prevent kitchen fires, although you can't remove every possible source of a kitchen fire.

However, you can minimize fire risks by removing hazards and maintaining your kitchen. Fire Prevention Week reminds all Albertans about the tragedies and loss fires can cause.

More importantly, it reminds Albertans about the ways they can prevent fires and protect themselves and their families.

For more information on fire prevention or Fire Prevention Week, please visit:

- www.3minutedrill.alberta.ca
- www.fiprecan.ca
- www.nfpa.org

Michelle Hodder
Health promotion facilitator
Alberta Health Services

Tuk fire dep't faces challenges in High Arctic

By MARIA CHURCH

Putting your life on the line to battle a blaze is asking a lot from your average person, but doing all that in 40-below weather is another story. That's the story in Tuktoyaktuk where winter fires present unique challenges to the volunteer fire department.

Two fires were tackled in Tuk in the past year, both in the middle of winter, said Tuk Fire Chief Stanley Felix.

Felix explained that in order to fight a fire during freezing conditions, firefighters in Tuk know to stay moving during an operation and trust their gear will do the trick.

"Stay active and stay warm. We don't really worry about getting wet with that gear because it works so well. Our gear could get soaking wet and it would still give us protection," he said.

Recently, the Tuk fire department was approved to order 30 new sets of bunker gear - the standardized firefighting suit that includes the helmet, boots, gloves, jacket and pants. The jacket and pants both have an outer shell, a moisture barrier and a thermal barrier, making



From left, Noella Cockney, Richard Cockney, Kevin Nuttall and Stanley Felix get suited up in bunker gear for training.

the suit fire retardant and rated to -40C.

On top of the usual bunker gear, firefighters in Tuk wear a fire retardant balaclava to keep warm during the winter.

"The last two fires we had were in winter time, and as soon as our gear got wet it froze on the surface. It worked. It did what it was supposed to do: protect the firefighters," he said.

While the firetrucks, or

"pumpers," used in Tuk are the same as those used in most cities in Canada, during their winter operations, the Tuk fire department is forced to keep the hoses on a trickle to prevent them from freezing and clogging.

"We've got an old pumper from 1988 that we are still using, plus a new type of pumper that we just got in 2011 and they work fine in cold weather, but you have to know what you're doing,"

Felix said. "You have to make sure the truck is running all the time and make sure it's hot."

While house fires are not overly frequent in the Arctic coastal community, Felix explained that because most houses are around 25 to 30 years old, they are seeing an increase in the number of electrical fires.

When a house fire occurs and it's unattended, it can take as little as 3.5 to 5

minutes for the fire to spread out of control, he explained.

"People don't realize that they have about six minutes to get the fire under control and if they don't, they have to get out of the house. They don't realize how fast the heat builds up in the home," Felix said.

This is Felix's second term as fire chief in Tuk; his first time was for a period of five years when he was only 20. Last year, 28 years later,

Felix said he took the position again because there was a lack of qualified candidates in the running.

Felix said recruiting volunteer firefighters is not easy in such a remote community.

"We've had problems with volunteers in the past, so I hand picked 90 per cent of the volunteers we have right now," he said. "I chose the guys that I know don't mind volunteering their time and effort learning something new."

Those volunteers make the department what it is today, Felix said.

"I don't think that people realize how many times they put themselves at risk just to save somebody's life. Every fire department across this country is in the same situation. A fire department won't be what it is without the volunteers as a support structure," he said.

"This is my second time as chief and I'm really fortunate that we have a good mayor and good council supporting the fire department to get new gear, to get new training and to learn different techniques for fighting a fire."

Photo courtesy of Tuk Fire Dept.

IT'S FIRE SAFETY WEEK. DO YOU KNOW HOW TO KEEP YOUR KITCHEN FIRE SAFE?

METAL & MICROWAVES DON'T MIX

AVOID LOOSE CLOTHING THEY CATCH FIRE EASILY

INSTALL A SMOKE ALARM NEAR THE KITCHEN

PUT OUT SMALL GREASE FIRES WITH BAKING SODA

REMEMBER GREASE BUILDUP IS FLAMMABLE

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Fossils could trace ‘missing link’ to Hay River area

By SCOTT CLOUTHIER

Have you seen any 3-metre-long, four-legged fish walking around lately?

Chances are you haven’t, but an Alberta scientist believes such creatures may have roamed the banks of the Hay River about 370 million years ago.

Don Henderson, a paleontologist with the Royal Tyrrell Museum in Drumheller, Alta., is currently in Hay River studying a set of fossilized impressions which could prove that the missing link between aquatic and land animals existed here during the late Devonian period, which occurred between 420 and 360 million years ago.

According to Henderson, the suspected tracks could be amongst the oldest ever discovered in the world.

Henderson gave a presentation at the Hay River Centennial Library on Thursday evening where he discussed his findings so far.

He and assistant Chris Capobianco have been working at the site – about 100 metres upstream from Alexandra Falls – to gather moulds and samples which



Paleontologist Don Henderson (right) and assistant Chris Capobianco of the Royal Tyrrell Museum in Drumheller remove rock in the hopes of finding more pristine and uneroded tracks along the Hay River below Alexandra Falls.

will be taken back to the Royal Tyrrell Museum for further study.

The tracks, a series of depressions in the limestone along the riverbank, were originally discovered by Hay Riverite Bruce Green, who contacted Henderson in Drumheller.

The depressions appear to be half of a set of tracks made by a four-legged animal. The other half seems to have eroded away with the widening of the river over the past 300 million years.

Henderson said that makes

the process of studying them more difficult, as only half the information is present.

“It’s like listening to one hand clapping,” he said.

Though there is not yet enough concrete evidence to assert they were made by a long extinct animal, Henderson said the pattern in which they are made suggests to him it was no coincidence.

“I don’t think they’re random erosional things,” he said during his presentation. “They have suffered some damage, but I think there is a real biological signal there.”

During the presentation, Henderson showed the similarity of the Hay River tracks to a set of confirmed mid-Devonian era tracks found recently in Poland.

Henderson believes the tracks were made by a sarcopterygian, a type of fleshy-finned fish from which all land animals are believed to derive.

Though sarcopterygians were salt-water dwellers, the area which is now Alexandra Falls was actually a tropical coastline in the Devonian age, before the

continents split and drifted apart to form the world we recognize today.

Henderson said he is especially interested in fossilized tracks for the insight they give into the way an extinct animal may have moved.

“Fossil tracks are the closest we have to a motion picture of an extinct species,” he told *The Journal*.

During their visit, Henderson and Capobianco were also able to study another fossil discovery made by Doug Lamallice and his family.

Lamallice said he was out at Louise Falls with his daughters Ashley and Amber when they discovered what looked to be fossilized bones embedded in the rock below the falls.

Henderson believes them to be rib bones, possibly from a four-legged tetrapod named ichthyostega.

He also praised the Lamallice family for not attempting to remove the fossils from where they were found, as it is best for scientists to be able to study them in the rock.

“The rock layers are like pages of a book,” he said.

The Town of Inuvik celebrates FIRE PREVENTION WEEK



The Town of Inuvik would like to thank its volunteer firefighters for their caring, diligence and hard work.

And remember more house fires start in the kitchen than in any other room in the house. The biggest cause of kitchen fires is the improper use of cooking appliances. If any fire in your home does not extinguish immediately, leave the house and call the fire department from another location.



NWT driftwood study makes waves in geology world

By MEAGAN WOHLBERG

Driftwood along the shores of Great Slave Lake is not only morphing the geology of the area, but geologists’ understanding of how wood carried by ice and water is used to construct landforms.

Findings stemming from ongoing geological research on the bays of Great Slave Lake near Fort Resolution have helped coin a new term being used by geologists to describe the way in which driftwood builds up over time to form islands and build bigger shorelines.

“Driftcretion” - a combination of driftwood and accretion - is a new term developed by University of Colorado PhD student Natalie Kramer Anderson, whose National Geographic-funded research has brought her to the Northwest Territories for the last two years to study the movement and volume of driftwood entering the territory via its river systems.

The word, which will be presented for the first time at the Geological Society of America meeting this month, describes the way that driftwood, cobble and boulders become new land as they are pushed up onto the shore, or into island forms, over many years by ice and water, and comes from her research into where wood goes once it enters Great Slave Lake - research that won her the award for best student proposal in geomorphology in the US this year.

“Wood delivered from the Slave (River) stays in the lake and contributes to land growth,” Anderson said. “What we’re talking about here are driftcretions where big wood mats or wood berms get shoved up on the shorelines and then stay there permanently, and what happens is they allow new trees to grow and then eventually the land grows outwards.”

Looking at two islands near Fort Resolution - Paulette Island and Moose Deer Island - Anderson found that the soil on the island was strictly the product of decomposed wood.

“If you dig into any of the soils on those islands, there isn’t any soil. It’s straight organic matter down to cobble. Usually when we talk about soils, we talk about two things: mineral soils and organic materials. Mineral soils would be rocks when they weather...But the organic matter is just the decayed logs and leaf litter.”

Surveys of the lake shores done from airplane and sea kayak also clearly revealed the driftcretion process, highlighting the constant growth of the lake shore, she said.



Photo courtesy of Natalie Kramer Anderson

Geologist Natalie Kramer Anderson takes tree core samples from driftwood piled along the shores of Great Slave Lake.

“You can see these linear lines of trees that correspond to these decaying lines of wood. It is really neat,” Anderson said. “Before the forest matures, for the first 100 metres or so from the shoreline, you can see these lines of trees that probably correspond to these lines of old driftwood that have been thrown up on shore by the ice or lake tsunamis.”

She said driftcretion will likely cause the lake, which was carved out by glaciers and built on bedrock, to shrink over time - albeit, a very long time.

“The Slave’s been throwing a lot of sediment into the lake, and wood. That’s probably why the South Shore’s so shallow while the East Arm’s so deep. All of the rivers draining into the East Arm aren’t really carrying any sediment or wood because they drain out of the Canadian Shield, and there’s just not a lot of trees toppling,” she said.

Anderson said the lake serves as an important basin for cleaning debris and potential toxins out of the rivers.

“The Great Slave Lake is keeping the water and the sediment in the Mackenzie River corridor really clean.”

Cameras set up on river system

Anderson’s research on the lake coincides with, and is aided by, another branch of work she’s been carrying out using time lapse photography at various sites on rivers throughout the NWT, including the Mackenzie, Slave, Liard, Hay and Peel Rivers.

Photographs taken on the Mackenzie at Fort Providence using a camera planted there all winter confirmed Anderson’s hunch that most driftwood remains trapped in the lake, while the small amount

that’s exported down river is mostly due to ice break up.

Though it’s too early to identify solid trends on

the river systems, observations so far have allowed her to conclude that wood transport hits a maximum

threshold timed with the highest peak of water volume each year, at around 4,500 m³/s.

Based on her photos from this spring on the Slave and Liard Rivers, she said she’s able to identify a gap of approximately one day between the ice jam flood and a large pulse of wood coming down river, as well.

Preliminary results from the time lapse photography - a new methodology she developed to estimate volumes of wood being transported down river - will also be presented at the American Geophysical Union meeting in San Francisco in December.

Anderson said the research, as it unfolds over the next several years, could have important implications for those considering hydro development on the Slave or other rivers in the NWT.

“That story is going to be really interesting to anyone studying the deltas and anyone who’s interested in what could it do if you block all this wood,” she said. “What if you severed this artery of wood being delivered to the lake? What role does that wood play around the lake margins? I think it’s a really big one.”

2013 Fire Service Merit Awards!



Every year during Fire Prevention Week we recognize individual firefighters and fire departments for the important work they do in our communities.

The Honourable Robert C. McLeod, Minister of Municipal and Community Affairs, and the NWT Fire Marshal would like to congratulate the winners of the 2013 NWT Fire Service Merit Awards for exceptional efforts in promoting fire safety and fire protection in their communities.

Thank you for your dedication.


Robert C. McLeod,
Minister of Municipal and
Community Affairs

The 2013 award recipients are:

Scott Whitmore
Fort Simpson Fire Department
(Individual Award)

Yellowknife Fire Department

Hay River Fire Department



Northwest Territories Municipal and Community Affairs

Puppeteer brings anti-bullying message to Fort Smith

By MARIA CHURCH

Derric Starlight was bullied as a child for playing with puppets. Now a famous Canadian puppeteer, Starlight brought his knee-slapping puppet show to Fort Smith last week, with a message about bullying.

“Don’t let bullies tell you you cannot do it,” he shared with *The Journal* after his show in Fort Smith last week. “My mother always told me that if I finished school I would work in television, so I believed her and I kept up with it. Sure enough, when I got older and finished film school I became famous and started working in television.”

Starlight hails from the Tsuu T’ina Nation west of Calgary. For the past 17 years, he’s been traveling across Canada and the world with his unique, comedic puppet show and anti-bullying message.



Puppeteer and comedian Derric Starlight entertains youth at the Fort Smith Rec Centre.

“I was bullied when I was a kid for playing with these muppets, so I’m trying to prevent bullying on reservations across the country,” he said.

“I’ve traveled all across Canada and been to every reservation - every single one.”

Best known for his original puppets from First

Nations backgrounds, such as Jingle Dress Dancer, Chief the Warrior and Band Councillor Willie, Starlight is a master of voices and

can mimic 275 different characters.

His show in Fort Smith also featured many puppets from *The Muppets* and *Sesame Street*, characters that influenced his own childhood, he said.

Starlight performed for students at Paul W. Kaeser (PWK) High School as well as a younger audience at the Rec Centre gym. While the performance for students included the anti-bullying message, the show for children later that day was tailored to younger humour.

During the show, children bubbled with laughter as Bert and Ernie sang “The Wheels on the Bus,” and cheered when Elmo made an appearance to sing a pow-wow version of the *Sesame Street* theme song.

When Chief the Warrior was introduced to the crowd, children sang along to a version of the classic nursery song “Clap

Your Hands,” instead belting out “If you’re proud of who you are, clap your hands,” followed by, “If you’re proud of who you are, do a war cry!”

Starlight said the students at PWK were “ecstatic” to see his show.

“When you do schools, it’s like a rock concert. They get all riled up,” he said.

But more importantly, he was able to share his anti-bullying message with students.

“You should be safe at school. Tell your parents or your teachers if kids pick on you,” Starlight advised.

While his life goal was to make it on television, Starlight said it’s been interesting how his career has developed to take on the message of anti-bullying. “I didn’t know it was going to turn out this way, but it did,” he said.

To learn more about Starlight and his message, visit www.derricstarlight.com.

Politics **Municipal**

Yellowknife looking to build on its advantages

By JACK DANYLCHUK

A report offering strategies for growing the capital’s economy over the next five years is due in time for Christmas.

Calgary consultants Millier Dickinson Blais were in Yellowknife earlier this month to gather comments on proposals developed from one-on-one interviews and online submissions from more than 400 residents.

The consultants looked at past studies and comparable communities – regional centres, state capitals, and mining and resource cities from Whitehorse to Australia, Courtenay Ellingson told those who turned out for one last round of discussion.

“What’s really important is an action plan,” Ellingson said, before Yellowknifers turned to placards outlining

opportunities and challenges in building the city’s position as the legal and administrative centre, transportation hub and supply base for the Northwest Territories.

Barriers to development acknowledged in the initial report include the high cost of living, downtown decay and social issues, loss of retail sales to online shopping and competition for

territorial resources with other communities.

Part of the city’s economic development strategy has been on display in advertisements and videos fleshing out scenes of the city glimpsed on reality television shows, presenting Yellowknife as a cosmopolitan Northern city.

The ads are aimed at drawing former residents back to Yellowknife and putting the

city’s best face forward as it recruits new businesses and argues for a lion’s share of jobs from devolution and the mining industry.

Those who responded to the initial survey also saw opportunities to grow the tourism business, especially in drawing conventions to a destination made popular by reality television programs.

Yellowknife was also cast as a potential centre for Northern research, post-secondary education and Aboriginal economic development.

The city’s downtown could be designated a business improvement district, with strategies to fill vacant retail space and deal with the homeless population, according to a summary of proposals derived from interviews and surveys.

FIRE PREVENTION WEEK

OCTOBER 6 – 12, 2013 “PREVENT KITCHEN FIRES”

DID YOU KNOW?

More home fires start in the kitchen than any other room of the house.

Wednesday, October 9 Introduction to the Fire Department Thinking of joining the Fort Smith Volunteer Fire Department? Visit the hall for this short introduction on volunteer fire service at 7:00 p.m.	Thursday, October 10 Burnt Offering Barbecue The firefighters prepare you lunch! Noon at the Fire Hall	Saturday October 12 Fire Hall Open House Safety demonstrations and interactive events. 11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.
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The Town of Fort Smith

proudly recognises the dedication of our firefighters and their service to the community. Thankyou for keeping our Town safe.

Fort Chip elders' care centre to open by spring

By MARIA CHURCH

For Trish Merrithew-Mercredi, senior advisor to chief and council of Miki-sew Cree First Nation, having an elders' care centre in Fort Chipewyan will not only be a community triumph but also a personal one.

"I've lived in the community on and off for 20-some years. My mother-in-law and even my late husband, both of them probably could have used the facility for assisted living as well as end of life care," she said. "It's very close to my heart."

In May this year, Miki-sew Cree First Nation broke ground on construction of a brand-new, environmentally conscious elders' care facility in Fort Chip.

"It's a 12-suite residence for elders and other individuals in the community who require end of life care or assisted living and it's being built at the expense of the First Nation. It's not a government-funded project," Merrithew-Mercredi told *The Journal*.

Merrithew-Mercredi explained that previous chiefs



Illustration courtesy of Western Health Planning Associates Ltd.

Thanks to significant donations from industry, the Fort Chip elders' care centre should see clients by April of next year.

in the community and the current chief of Mikisew, Steve Courtoreille, have been adamant about bringing this service to Fort Chipewyan and area residents.

"There's never been a facility like this here in the community so anybody who has required assisted living, whether it's somebody who's elderly or individuals who've required end of life care, have always had to leave the community to go at least

to Fort McMurray and often much further, and very few of those people return to the community alive."

She added that the lack of any end of life facilities in smaller First Nation communities across northern Alberta and the NWT is not unusual. The same goes for government inaction.

"Neither federal nor the provincial governments were prepared to take responsibility for the situation, so the Mikisew

Cree First Nation decided that that was a project that they would undertake on behalf of the community," she said.

Funding for the project, which Merrithew-Mercredi estimated now has a budget of \$12 million, has been raised without assistance from the government, but a total of \$5 million was donated by industry players, including Shell Canada and Cenovus, oilsands companies operating near the community.

"We've raised considerable money through industry, but in the end it will be the First Nation that's building it and operating it on behalf of the community. It's not just Mikisew; it's all members of the community," Merrithew-Mercredi said.

The facility is being built out of what was formerly a nursing station. Site preparation and construction of the exterior of the new facility is already complete and work

is now focused on installing plumbing and electric systems.

"It's been very fast-tracked," Merrithew-Mercredi said.

Contractor reports put construction on track with the original schedule, meaning the facility will see occupancy no later than April next year.

Claris Voyageur runs the seniors home in Fort Chip and said the new facility could not open any faster.

"I'm sure as soon as the doors open that place is going to fill up," she said.

"I've seen many seniors come and go from the community and then come back in a wooden box. That's not nice. They've been sent to the hospital; they get lonely over there; they don't like the food. They're so used to eating traditional foods here," Voyageur said. "I go visit a lot of the seniors in Fort McMurray and they say, 'Take me home, take me home.'"

Voyageur said she thanks the Mikisew chief and council for taking on the elders' care centre and hopes things will be different once it's built.

"(Seniors) want to be home because they need family," she said. "It needs to be built."

Health & Wellness Careers

Conference connects college students to NWT employers

By MARIA CHURCH

Northern businesses hoping to attract local graduates of Aurora College's Health and Social Services (HSS) programs laid some groundwork at a career conference held at the Yellowknife campus last week.

The first of its kind in six years, the Practice North: Health and Social Services Career Conference saw booths from organizations

and agencies in the health and social services field give potential employers a venue to pitch practicum and job opportunities to students soon graduating from the Aurora programs.

"These are nursing students, personal support workers, social work students and nurse practitioners," Denise Bowen, chair of the school of Health & Human Services, told *The Journal*.

"What this does it is exposes them to other health authorities outside of Yellowknife and to say, 'Could I come to Fort Smith for six weeks?' or 'Could I go to the Ak-lavik health authority for a period of time?' So it's an opportunity for the two of them to meet."

Organizations from Fort Smith, Yellowknife, the Beaufort Delta, Dehcho and Tlicho regions were present

at the conference. Events included presentations from several employers as well as afternoon breakout sessions to teach students interview skills and resume building.

"It's really exciting. We've had really good turnout from the employers. We've had several of the authorities here, student financial assistance, some of our partners who are NGOs (non-governmental organizations), and then the

students came in and the room was packed. We had over 160 students attend," Bowen said.

Bowen admitted she "wouldn't know" if students leaving for work in the south is a problem in the NWT, but noted that while there are many career opportunities for them across the territory, for personal reasons some may choose to leave for jobs in other areas of the country.

After six years without a HSS career conference, Bowen said the college felt there was a growing need to connect students to potential employers in the NWT.

"The need was expressed from employers that they'd like to have an opportunity to come and meet with the students, and we found that this was the best way to do that. It gets everybody in the room," she said.

RIGHT ID
RIGHT TO
VOTE

There are NEW Voter ID requirements for the municipal elections.

Upcoming municipal elections on October 21 across Alberta offer a chance to vote for the future of your community. New Voter ID requirements mean you'll need to bring proper identification to be able to vote. Check with your municipality about local requirements.

Alberta Government

Visit alberta.ca or call toll-free 310-0000 then 780-427-2225 for more information.

NOTICE OF ELECTION AND REQUIREMENTS FOR VOTER IDENTIFICATION

Local Authorities Election Act (Sections 12, 35, 46, 53)
Local Jurisdiction: Northland School Division No. 61.
Notice is hereby given that an election will be held for the filling of the following offices:

Office	Number of Vacancies	Subdivision
School Board of Trustees	Five (5)	No. 9 – Athabasca-Delta (Fort Chipewyan)
School Board of Trustees	Five (5)	No. 15 – Conklin
School Board of Trustees	Five (5)	No. 16 – Janvier
School Board of Trustees	Four (4)	No. 17 – Anzac-Gregoire Lake Reserve Ward 2

Voting will take place on the 21st day of October, 2013 between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m.

Polling (Voting) Stations Ward 2:

Voting Subdivision		Polling Station		
Zone	Name	ID	Polling Station Location	Address
F	Fort Chipewyan	13	Mamawi Community Hall	Fort Chipewyan
E	Fort MacKay	18	Fort McKay Public School	Fort MacKay
G	Fort Fitzgerald	19	Fort Fitzgerald	Fort Fitzgerald

Ward 4:

Voting Subdivision		Polling Station		
Zone	Name	ID	Polling Station Location	Address
C	Anzac/Gregoire Lake Estates	14	Anzac Community Hall	Anzac
B	Janvier	15	Municipal Office	Janvier
A	Conklin	16	Nakewin Community Hall	Conklin

In order to vote, you **must** produce identification for inspection, as required by Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo Election Bylaw No. 13/010. The identification must be one (1) piece of government issued identification containing the elector’s photograph, current address and name. This includes an Operator’s (Driver’s) Licence or an Alberta Identification Card.

An elector who is unable to produce government issued photo identification, must produce two (2) pieces of identification from the following list prior to voting. Both pieces of identification must establish the elector’s name and one piece must establish the elector’s current address.

Identification with Elector’s Name and Address

Attestation of Residence issued by the responsible authority of First Nations Band or Reserve	One of the following, issued by the responsible authority of a seniors’ accommodation facility or long-term care facility: Attestation of residence letter, letter of stay, admission form or statement of benefits
Bank / credit card statement or personal cheque	Pension Plan statement of benefits, contributions or participation
Correspondence issued by a school, college or university	Prescription bottle insert
Government cheque or cheque stub	Residential lease or mortgage statement
Income / property tax assessment notice	Statement of government benefits: e.g. Employment insurance, old age security, social assistance, disability support or child tax benefit
Insurance policy or coverage card	Utility bill: e.g. Telephone, public utilities commission, television, hydro, gas or water
Letter from a public curator, public guardian or public trustee	Vehicle Ownership or Insurance certificate
One of the following, issued by the responsible authority of a student residence, shelter or soup kitchen: Attestation of residence letter, letter of stay, admission form or statement of benefits	Vehicle Registration



ELECTION
2013

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your vote

Identification with Elector’s Name

Alberta Assured Income for the Severely Handicapped (AISH) card	Canadian National Institute for the Blind (CNIB) card
Alberta Forestry ID card	Confirmation Certificate
Alberta Health Care Insurance Plan (AHCIP) card	Credit / Debit card
Alberta Health Service ID Band (patient wrist identification band)	Employee / Staff card
Alberta Natural Resources (conservation) ID card	Firearm Possession and Acquisition Licence or Possession Only Licence
Alberta Service Dog Team ID card	Fishing, Trapping or Hunting Licence
Alberta Wildlife (WIN) ID card	Hospital / Medical card
Baptismal Certificate	Library card
Birth Certificate	Marriage Certificate
Canadian Air Transportation Security Agency (CATSA) ID card	Membership card: e.g. Service club, community organization, fitness/health club, political party or retail outlet
Canadian Blood Services card	Métis Nation of Alberta membership card
Canadian Border Services Agency Canadian Passenger Accelerated Service System (CANPASS) card	Old Age Security card
Canadian Border Services Agency Free and Secure Trade (FAST) card	Outdoors or Wildlife card / licence
Canadian Border Services Agency Nexus card	Pleasure Craft Operator (PCOC) card - Government of Canada
Canadian Forces Civilian ID card	Public Transportation card
Canadian Forces Health card	Secure Certificate of Indian Status (SCIS) card
Canadian Forces ID card	Social Insurance Number card
Canadian Passport	Student ID card
Citizenship card	Veteran’s Affairs Canada Health card

Note: For electors residing in seniors’ accommodation facilities and long-term care facilities, a photocopy of an item on the list is acceptable. This exception is made to address the fact that when residents are admitted, they routinely transfer their original identification to the administrator or to members of their family.

Are You Eligible to Vote?

- 47 (1) Eligibility to vote**
- A person is eligible to vote in a general municipal election if the person:
- a) is at least 18 years old
 - b) is a Canadian citizen
 - c) has resided in Alberta for the 6 consecutive months immediately preceding election day and,
 - d) the person’s place of residence is located in the area on election day.

(2) Subject to subsection (3) and sections 75, 77.1, 79, 81 and 83, an elector is eligible to vote only at the voting station for the voting subdivision in which the elector’s place of residence is located on election day.

Modified Voting Station

First Nations Reserves do not form part of the Municipality, therefore individuals who reside on a Reserve cannot vote for Mayor and Council, but may vote for school trustees.

Residents of First Nations Reserves

First Nations Reserves do not form part of the Municipality, therefore individuals who reside on a Reserve cannot vote for Mayor and Council, but may vote for School Trustees.

Incapacitated voters

If you are unable to leave your home because of a physical disability, please contact the Returning Officer at **780.743.7001** to determine your eligibility and establish a time for an election official to come to your home so you are able to vote.

For more information:
www.woodbuffalo.ab.ca/elections

Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo
Returning Officer
Darlene Soucy
780.743.7001

Assistant Returning Officer
Joanne Wall
780.743.7001

Dated at the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo, in the Province of Alberta, this 8th day of October, 2013.



REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY
OF **WOOD BUFFALO**

SPORTS BRIEFS

New Get Active categories announced

The 2013/2014 Get Active program grants are now open to funding community and elder specific events. Open to all community organizations in the NWT, the Get Active grants are an initiative of the NWT Recreation and Parks Association in partnership with the GNWT's department of Municipal and Community Affairs and First Air, to encourage communities to get involved in healthy physical activities. Community events and elder specific events are eligible for \$750 and \$1,000, respectively.

Coaching symposium in late October

The 2013 NWT Coaching Symposium will take place over the weekend of Oct. 26-27. The symposium is held by SportNorth to support and develop amateur sport leaders in the NWT. Speakers will include sport biomechanist Carolyn Taylor, former competitive swimmer and cross-country ski coach Cayley Thomas, as well as Lindsay Wright, Megan McKinlay, Ainsley Brouillard and Ozzie Sawicki. Events will include workshops on sport technology, traditional games, Aboriginal long-term athlete development, the mental game of sport, recruiting and retaining volunteers, and officials training. Registration for access to all workshops and keynote presentations is \$150 before Oct. 24.

Olympians appeal for support online

Brendan Green, a Olympic biathlete born and raised in Hay River, along with girlfriend and fellow Olympic biathlete Rosanna Crawford, have set their sights on Sochi 2014 and are looking for financial support through an online fundraising campaign. In 2010, Green became the first Olympian to represent the NWT in 26 years, but a spinal injury in 2012 slowed down his progress. Now back on his feet, both Olympians are in full preparation mode and appealing to fans online for financial assistance. For their campaign website, visit pursu.it/campaign/rosanna-crawford-and-brendan-green



Photo: Tlicho Government

Youth as young as 6 years old vie for the top spots in the Behchoko back to school hand games tournament.

Sports & Recreation Hand Games

Behchoko hand games tournament keeps students busy and entertained

By MARIA CHURCH

Keeping youth out of mischief may have been the main goal of organizers at the back to school youth hand games tournament in Behchoko two weeks ago,

but having fun was the most obvious success.

"The kids were all happy," Sherri Zoe, tournament creator and main organizer, told *The Journal*. "We had fun watching them."

A total of 10 teams, each with eight players aged 18 and under, registered for the games, which were held at the cultural centre in Behchoko, Sept. 28-29. Eight teams were from Behchoko, with one from Wekweeti and one from Gameti.

"The whole event was a success," Zoe said about the weekend competition.

One team vying for first place was comprised of

Jerome Chocolate's team, all of Behchoko.

Hand games are a traditional form of social gambling for men in predominantly Dene cultures. Zoe said she and fellow organizer Nancy Rabesca saw a need to engage the youth in the tradition.

"We looked around and said, while the men are all doing this, there's nothing for the youth to do in the community," she explained. "We started off saying, we're going to do a youth hand games just to get the youth out of mischief."

This is now the sixth year Behchoko has hosted a youth

Asus laptop; third a 32-GB iPad mini; fourth a 32-GB iPod; fifth a Galaxy tablet; and sixth a \$100 Walmart gift card.

No girls allowed

Despite it being nearly seven years later, Zoe was quick to remember that the original idea of the youth hand games tournament was to include young girls. However, she along with the other organizers were forced to turn away two teams of girls because the community's elders were firmly opposed to the idea.

"The elders kind of got mad at us and told us hand games are not for women, so some of those young teenager girls were kind of upset. They were all excited, they wanted to play hand games, but we had to turn them away," she said.

Zoe said she would someday like to see young girls participate in hand games, particularly since the youth tournaments do not involve money, but it is "off the table" while elders in the community remain against the idea.

"We thought it wouldn't be a big deal, but I guess it is and we might as well respect the elders that are in the community," she concluded.

With hand games out of the question, Zoe said she hopes to have a discussion with young girls in the community in order to look at organizing a traditional activity they can participate in.

"We're still trying to figure out what to do with the girls in the community. It's hard to decide because there is nothing traditional we can do with them other than sewing. Maybe we'll get some of the young girls talking, see what they want to do and go from there," she said.

We looked around and said, while the men are all doing this, there's nothing for the youth to do in the community.

*Sherri Zoe
Tlicho Government*

players no older than 10, with some as young as six, Zoe said. Watching the enthusiasm from younger players as they battled against older and more experienced teams was enjoyable for everyone in the crowd.

"They came in third place and they were all happy. I think they wanted to go further, but they were pretty well happy with what they got," she said with a laugh.

First place in the tournament went to Clarence Mackenzie's team, second place to Jacob Rabesca's team and third to

tournament, but only the second year it has been organized for the fall in conjunction with students returning to school.

While money is traditionally won at hand games tournaments for adults, Zoe said she and the other organizers consulted with elders in the community and decided against handing out cash.

Instead, prizes were given out to each of the eight players from teams placing in the top six. This year, first place winners received a 64-GB iPad mini; second place an

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Fort Smith students take learning into the bush

By MARIA CHURCH

The great outdoors was the classroom for students at Paul William Kaeser (PWK) High School in Fort Smith during the fourth annual Sweetgrass trip last month.

Living for four days with the birds, bugs and even bears at Sweetgrass Station in Wood Buffalo National Park, Grades 7 and 8 students got the most literal, hands-on learning during a trip coordinated as a collaboration between the school, government and First Nations.

“It’s incredibly beneficial to the classroom as a whole,” Marnie Villeneuve, teacher at PWK and trip coordinator, told *The Journal*. “Everybody really pulls together to put this on. We couldn’t do it if one of our partners pulled out.”

Students, along with parent and teacher chaperones, community elders and Parks Canada staff, began the trip by boat heading to Sweetgrass Landing. From there they hiked 13.7 km to cabins located at Sweetgrass Station.

Over the four days, students experienced life



Students bond during their four days at Sweetgrass Station.

without daily luxuries: no iPods, computers or cell-phones. Instead they were immersed in nature, complete with picturesque scenery and wildlife.

One of the lessons stressed during the trip was environmental awareness, Villeneuve said. These lessons, while they can be taught by the book, are far more effective experienced.

“It really puts it in perspective when you can show these kids this great big beautiful plain where the bison are and talk about the

amount of garbage and the residual effect that we have if we don’t pay attention. It’s our job to take care of the land and make sure their kids and their kids can have these incredible life experiences,” she said.

With the trip planned so early in the school year, Villeneuve said it gives students and teachers a much-needed opportunity to get to know one another on a personal level.

“By taking them out in the bush and living with them for four days, it’s



Students help each other while canoing.

extremely rewarding. You get to know these kids and you bond in a way you don’t get to in a classroom,” she said.

Villeneuve said one of the best experiences for her was watching the students huddled close around the campfire under the blazing stars, singing in unison.

“Some of our children have the most amazing voices,” she said. “The boys were rapping and they did this five-minute song and they never missed a beat and the girls sang like angels.

It brought a lot of us out of our shells.”

While camped out, students this year had a surprise visit in the night from a curious bear. Though Villeneuve said it was somewhat nerve wracking for her, safety was their number one priority and the supervisors were more than capable of keeping students safe.

This year, the Sweetgrass trip was pushed back a week in an attempt to avoid seasonal bugs, which plagued trip-goers last year, but what

organizers weren’t expecting was the conflict with hunting season.

With many long-time trip supporters in the community unavailable, organizers struggled to find volunteers to drive boats of students to Sweetgrass Landing.

“We talked to over 30 people, but this is a hunting community and we respect that. We just struggled with finding transportation,” Villeneuve said.

But with Sweetgrass quickly becoming a cultural staple for students in the community, the idea of canceling was unimaginable. In the end, Parks Canada was able to bring a barge from Fort Chipewyan to shuttle students up and down the river, with the help of jet boats from Environment and Natural Resources.

For Villeneuve and the other organizers, making the Sweetgrass trip happen, no matter the obstacles, was worth it to see students learning on the land.

“We can talk about it and we can read about it and there is value in that too, but when you are actually out there doing it, it changes your brain,” she said.

Photos courtesy of PWK

Science and Aboriginal perspectives unite in documentary, research paper and curriculum

By MARIA CHURCH

After three years of cooperation between First Nations elders and Western scientists to research Alberta’s wetlands, lead scientists of *Water - The Sacred Relationship* are confident they’ve taken a step towards reconciling Aboriginal perspectives and modern science.

“The knowledge that Aboriginal people have comes from science. It comes from a longitudinal, experiential, subjective science that is built intergenerationally,” Dr. Patti LaBoucane-Benson, one of the project leads, told *The Journal*. “We wanted to say that this is a valid research method. Those findings are important and they are one piece of the puzzle in understanding what can happen with water.”

The research project was a massive undertaking by the Native Counselling Services of Alberta and Alberta Innovates – Energy and Environment Solutions (AI-EES).

Over the last three years, the team of 39 research



Violet Poitras, an elder from Paul First Nation, gazes over a wetland during research for *Water - The Sacred Relationship* documentary, research paper and curriculum.

participants covered more than 10,500 km travelling around Alberta to interview traditional knowledge holders, elders and scientists, compiled 150 hours of video and analyzed 300 pages of single-space transcriptions.

Direction for the research was based on three questions: What is the relationship between Alberta’s Aboriginal peoples and water?; what is the science behind the Aboriginal viewpoint on water?; and, most importantly, where is the common ground between

Western science and Aboriginal perspectives?

LaBoucane-Benson explained that the project saw world-renowned wetland scientists team up with Aboriginal knowledge keepers to venture into a wetland, talking about what they saw, what was important and how they know whether or not it’s fit to drink.

“We found common ground at every turn,” LaBoucane-Benson said. “It was unanimous from the elders to the indigenous scientists to the

Western scientists that we have to work together. We have complex problems regarding water and we need everybody’s perspectives. We need both sciences finding sometimes the same results and sometimes unique results to bring these findings together to mobilize them.”

LaBoucane-Benson admitted that the majority of Western-trained scientists would not openly acknowledge there is an indigenous science worth considering. This project, she said, takes

a huge step towards not only giving merit to Aboriginal viewpoints, but sharing that knowledge with the public.

From the project comes a documentary film, a peer-reviewed research paper and a curriculum designed for Grades 5 and 6 students.

The voluntary curriculum is available for download free of charge on the project’s website. Lesson plans are developed around 15 short videos that break down the research for students.

The goal, LaBoucane-Benson said, is to integrate an Aboriginal worldview into classrooms across Alberta, the country and even the world.

“The curriculum really is our legacy of the project,” she said. “The idea is we want to instill a sense of importance in children about wetlands and about our water - which I think our curriculum already does - but we want to also expose this Aboriginal way of knowing and say there are many ways to do science and to understand the world around us.”

To date, around 200 teachers from Alberta and beyond have contacted the project team to request the curriculum.

“Water is such a key thing for Alberta’s well being, not just economically but socially. Water is the key. I think learning at an early age to acknowledge that is really important,” Jon Sweetman, manager of water resources with AI-EES, explained.

Sweetman noted that a lasting result of the project was the relationships built between traditional knowledge keepers, elders and scientists.

“We’ve had interest in incorporating traditional knowledge or information that Aboriginal people can bring to water, but to bring that knowledge involves building a relationship with the people,” he said. “I would like to see further engagement and discussion around Aboriginal knowledge and recognition that that information is valuable.”

To learn more about *Water - The Sacred Relationship* and the curriculum, go online to sacredrelationship.ca.

Photo: Native Counselling Services of Alberta

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EMPLOYMENT, TENDERS AND LEGAL NOTICES



REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

Road Weather Information System (RWIS) Network SC794562

– Various Locations, NT –

Proponent will design, procure and install stations on the NWT Highway system.

Sealed proposals addressed to the Transportation Office in Yellowknife under the conditions contained within the proposal documents, will be received before:

3:00 PM, LOCAL TIME, OCTOBER 31, 2013.

Contractors may obtain proposal documents from the above addresses as of September 30, 2013.

General inquiries to: Charlene Lloyd
Phone: (867) 920-8001

Technical inquiries to: Rob Thom
Phone: (867) 920-8920

The GNWT Business Incentive Policy and Chapter 5 of the Agreement on Internal Trade will apply to this procurement.


For contract opportunities visit www.contractregistry.nt.ca



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Synergy Alberta Conference
October 28-30, 2013
SynergyAlbertaRegistration.ca





REQUEST FOR TENDERS

Scour Rock Replacement and Pier 3 South Detailed Inspection CT101350

– Deh Cho Bridge Fort Providence, NT –

The work includes shaping and placing additional scour rock around 8 piers and Pier 3 South detailed inspection and repair. Site visit offered October 17, 2013.

Sealed tenders addressed to the Transportation Office in Hay River or Yellowknife under the conditions contained within the tender documents, will be received before:

3:00 PM, LOCAL TIME, NOVEMBER 7, 2013.

Contractors may obtain tender documents from the above addresses as of September 30, 2013.

Pre-tender meeting: 3:30 pm, October 17, 2013, 1st Floor Boardroom, 4510 Franklin Avenue (Highways Building), Yellowknife.

General inquiries to: Charlene Lloyd
Phone: (867) 920-8001


Technical inquiries to: Ann Kukmatycki
Phone: (867) 920-8010

Consultant inquiries to: Leslie Mihalik
Phone: (604) 293-1411

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For contract opportunities visit www.contractregistry.nt.ca

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY



HUMAN RESOURCES OFFICER Hay River, NT

In a team-based environment, working closely with the other Human Resources Officers to provide HR services such as labour relations, recruitment, employee benefits, salary and benefit administration, human resources administration and collective bargaining support. In addition to assisting with the administration and processing of the payroll and benefit functions for the NWT Power Corporation.

Qualifications: CHRP certification (or currently working towards), a diploma in Human Resources and minimum five years of related experience. Excellent verbal and written communication skills, interpersonal skills, organizational skills and time management skills. Strong computer software skills. Must be able to work in a team environment and work independently.

Salary Range: \$45.22 to \$54.96 per hour, plus location, & accommodation allowances totalling approximately \$7,775 per annum. We offer a comprehensive benefits package which includes defined benefits pension plan. Send resumes to: Human Resources, Northwest Territories Power Corporation, #4 Capital Drive, Hay River NT XOE 1G2, Fax: (867) 874-5229 or email: careers@ntpc.com Competition #: 35-HR-13.

Closing date: Open until suitable candidate found.

Affirmative Action Employer - Candidates must clearly identify eligibility status in order to receive priority consideration. We thank all those who apply and advise that only those selected for further consideration will be contacted.

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EMPLOYMENT, TENDERS AND LEGAL NOTICES



Northwest Territories Legislative Assembly

Fourth Session of the 17th Legislative Assembly

The Fourth Session of the 17th Legislative Assembly will convene on Thursday, October 17, 2013 at 1:30 p.m. Northerners are invited to watch from the Public Gallery of the Legislative Assembly building, or via web streaming on the Assembly's website: www.assembly.gov.nt.ca. The public can also tune in to the Legislative Assembly's Television Network on the following channels:

Channel 4
Hay River and K'atłodeeche First Nation

Channel 5
Behchokò, Délı̨ne, Fort McPherson and Inuvik

Channel 6
Aklavik, Colville Lake, Fort Good Hope, Fort Liard, Fort Providence, Fort Resolution, Gamètì, Jean Marie River, Kakisa, Łutsel K'e, Nahanni Butte, Norman Wells, Paulatuk, Sachs Harbour, Trout Lake, Tsiigehtchic, Tulita, Tuktoyaktuk, Ulukhaktok, Whati, Wekweètì and Wrigley

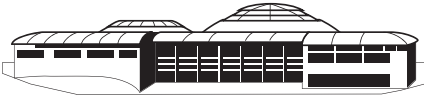
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Contact your MLA by calling (867) 669-2200 or toll free 1-800-661-0784.

For other inquiries, call the Public Affairs and Communications Advisor at (867) 669-2230 or send an email to danielle_mager@gov.nt.ca





Northwest Territories Transportation

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

Independent Engineer Services SC794567

- Inuvik to Tuktoyaktuk Highway, NT -

To provide Independent Engineer Services for the Inuvik to Tuktoyaktuk Highway Project.

Sealed proposals addressed to the Transportation Office in Yellowknife under the conditions contained within the proposal documents, will be received before:

3:00 PM, LOCAL TIME, NOVEMBER 5, 2013.

Contractors may obtain proposal documents from the above address as of October 7, 2013.

General inquiries to: Charlene Lloyd
Phone: (867) 920-8001

Technical inquiries to: Kevin McLeod
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- Assisting in establishing and maintaining working relationships with Government officials, Industry, Academics and other stakeholders regarding SLFN's land and resource interests and issues;
- Reviewing documents, preparing correspondence and activity reports;
- Assisting with preparation of work plans, budgets and proposals;
- Operating and caring for equipment such as boats, ATVs, skidoos and chain saws.

QUALIFICATIONS

Smith's Landing First Nation is looking for someone who possess a Grade 12 Diploma (or equivalent) along with a NT Class 5 Drivers Licence. He/she must have strong written and verbal communication skills and a working knowledge of computers and software programs (Microsoft Office). Good comprehension and organizational skills are an asset.

Preference will be given to applicants who have completed or have been enrolled in the Environment & Natural Resources Technology Program or a similar post secondary program. You must be willing to take additional training courses and attend workshops as and when required, which may involve overtime.

CLOSING DATE: October 18, 2013

SALARY: Negotiable based on education and experience.

Please fax, mail or e-mail your resumé and cover letter to: Lynda B. Martin, P.O. Box 306, FORT SMITH NT X0E0P0, Phone/Fax (780) 454-8943, wlmartin@northwestel.net.

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The Fort Smith District Education Authority

The Regular Meeting

is scheduled for Thursday, October 17, 2013
at 7:00 p.m. Room 113 JBT
(meetings will be every third Thursday of the month)

The Annual General Meeting

is scheduled for Thursday, November 21, 2013
at 7:00 p.m. Room 113 JBT
(changes or cancellations will be posted at JBT)

Delegates wishing to address the authority may do so by contacting our office in writing 72 hours prior to the meeting.
PO Box 131 or by fax 872.2448

The public is welcome to attend

Festival hands out first awards to Northern filmmakers

By JACK DANYLCHUK

Seven years after the Western Arctic Motion Pictures (WAMP) society launched the Yellowknife International Film Festival in the legion hall basement, it handed out its first awards this Sunday evening.

“It’s come a long way,” Camilla MacEachern, assistant film commissioner for the Northwest Territories, told the audience that came to cheer the WAMP jury’s choices Sunday evening in the newly-renovated Northern Arts and Cultural Centre (NACC).

“We’ve evolved to a beautiful venue, with wine and fancy cheese plates,” MacEachern said. “The films are deserving and should be played on a big screen.”

There were no flashing lights, throngs of paparazzi or red carpet gantlet for the winners who had the thrill of carrying off unique trophies – polished fragments of the Acasta River gneiss, the world’s oldest rock.

The jury chose *Uvanga*, a film shot in Igloolik by Marie Cousineau and Madeline Piujuq Ivalu, as the best feature-length movie, and Patrick Sederberg’s *Mila* as best short film.



Photo: Jack Danylchuk

Abraham Stewart, a Gwich'in from the Northwest Territories, makes his big screen debut in *Abe and Alfred*, a 30-minute production by Yellowknife filmmaker Kirsten Carthew, on Thursday night of the Yellowknife International Film Festival. The film was given a special jury award during the festival’s first awards night at the Northern Arts and Cultural Centre.

Best short documentary was *Gordie*, a film from the Yukon by Traolach Murchu, about a Tlingit First Nation man struggling with childhood trauma. Yellowknife’s Marc Winkler won in the

best NWT film category with *Tundra Cowboy*, a quick look at the life of a Sami reindeer herder from Scandinavia in the Northwest Territories. Best feature-length documentary went to *North Paws*,

Yellowknifer Natasha Duchene’s portrait of a small group of Northerners committed to making a better life for dogs. “I’m touched,” Duchene said when she accepted the award. “When you make a

film in the community, it’s nerve wracking.” A special jury award for a film that didn’t fit into other categories went to Yellowknife filmmaker Kirsten Carthew’s *Abe and Alfred*,

a half-hour movie that grew out of *The Sun at Midnight*, a feature length film set in the North.

“This is a real honour,” said Carthew, who was casting for *The Sun at Midnight* when she met Abraham Stewart, a Gwich'in hunter, trapper and single father who answered the call for the role of “Alfred” and proved to be worth a movie of his own.

“He’s such a funny, charming guy that I thought people had to meet Abe,” Carthew said of Stewart, who turned away from alcohol and cigarettes after he found religion three years ago.

The film uses the scripted experiences of “Alfred” to explore Abe’s real life.

Stewart was in the audience that packed NACC for the movie.

“It was a special experience for Abe,” Carthew said Sunday evening. “I’m happy that everyone liked it and that he was able to sit in the audience; he liked being on camera.”

Abe and Alfred was a grassroots production that involved just seven people, Carthew said.

“It’s a reminder that you need just a few people to make a movie.”



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- Albert Einstein

“Success is walking from failure to failure with no loss of enthusiasm.”
- Winston Churchill

“Your time is limited, so don’t waste it living someone else’s life. Don’t be trapped by dogma which is living with the results of other people’s thinking. Don’t let the noise of other’s opinions drown out your own inner voice. And most important, have the courage to follow your heart and intuition. They somehow already know what you truly want to become. Everything else is secondary.”
- Steve Jobs

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