

March is Aboriginal Language Month "wiyawaw ohkama petaw maskihkiy"

Be the first to guess the above phrase and win a language prize package!
Bring your answer into the Northern Journal or email editor@norj.ca.



Brought to you by
The NWT Cree Language Program



NWT Liberals pass fracking resolution

Liberal party members in the NWT want a country-wide strategic environmental assessment on hydraulic fracturing. See page 2.



Obed cleanup could take a decade, says scientist

An Alberta scientist reviewing Sherritt International's cleanup plan for the Obed coal spill expects it to take years to repair. See page 8.



Doc puts Mackenzie River in national spotlight

Cold Amazon, a film about the Mackenzie River watershed, will kick off Canada Water Week at a film festival in Toronto. See page 9.



Inuvik youth make waves through photography

The blossoming talent of youth photographers in Inuvik turned heads at the inaugural Arctic Image Festival last week. See page 12.

NORTHERN Journal

\$1.00

March 11, 2014 Vol. 37 No. 43



Photo: Rick James

Skip Jim Lockhart of Fort Smith tells his sweepers to "hurry, hard!" during the NWT Dominion curling championships in Fort Smith over the weekend. Ten teams from Yellowknife, Hay River and Fort Smith competed in the men's and women's divisions to determine who would head to nationals. See page 23.

NWT MLAs vote to extend their terms Members vote 11-7 in favour of requesting extension

By MEAGAN WOHLBERG

In a move never before seen in the Northwest Territories, MLAs voted in favour of extending their four-year terms by up to one year in order to quell concerns about an onslaught of elections in 2015 and make for a smoother devolution transition.

The motion, put forth by Hay River South MLA Jane Groenewegen and seconded by Minister Michael Miltenberger, was introduced last week and passed on Monday afternoon before a full public gallery, but not without heated debate.

Groenewegen said she put forward the motion due to concerns about administrative and communication

problems that could arise during the overlap of the federal, territorial and NWT

five years, but that extension is not supposed to apply to the current assembly.

To give ourselves this authority without going to the people and with no public input shows a cavalier disdain for the voters of the Northwest Territories.

Weledeh MLA Bob Bromley

municipal elections, all scheduled to occur in October 2015.

The advent of a five-year term for NWT MLAs is premeditated in Devolution Bill C-15, which extends the maximum term of future Legislative Assemblies from four to

The change requires the federal government to approve the requested amendment to the Northwest Territories Act in Parliament before it can take place. Currently, all other jurisdictions in Canada have the right to extend their terms without federal approval.

Miltenberger said Saskatchewan, Manitoba and Prince Edward Island are all looking at changing their election dates to avoid the federal election, as well.

Though the motion originally called for the Legislative Assembly's Board of Management to introduce a bill to defer the next election to October 2016, a precise date was taken out after constituents asked why it could not be three to nine months instead of a year.

An amendment proposed by Weledeh MLA Bob Bromley asked for the motion to request any date within October 2015 for the election, which he said would allow for flexibility while increasing

voter turnout without extending the term. That motion was shot down with only two in favour.

The vote was 11-7 in favour of the motion, with cabinet voting yes as a block and Mackenzie Delta MLA Frederick Blake Jr., Sahtu MLA Norman Yakeleya and Nahendeh MLA Kevin Menicoche following along in support.

Menicoche said he voted in favour only because it did not automatically extend the term.

Most regular members were not in favour of the motion, including Weledeh MLA Bob Bromley, who called the move "unethical and embarrassing" due to the lack of public debate.

See Election on page 3.

NEWS BRIEFS

NWT introduces new birth certificate

The GNWT has unveiled a new birth certificate that is being touted as one of the most highly secure and durable documents in Canada. The new documents will be made of high-security plastic and include more than 20 features designed to protect identities. Current birth certificates use privacy technology from the 1950s. The new NWT birth certificate, which has not been changed since 1983, will be introduced Apr. 1. Old birth certificates will still be valid, however all certificates issued after Apr. 1 will be produced in the new format and cost \$20. The new certificate will give the option to include more detailed information on the individual's parents.

Mackenzie Valley review board to disclose finances publicly

The Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board has announced it will publicly disclose more of its financial operations in an effort to have greater "transparency and accountability." The board, which is funded by the federal government, has started posting information about its finance, honoraria and travel policies on its website and plans to post the audit schedule of any board and staff member going back to 2007. The announcement follows former finance manager Wendy Ondrack's decision to sue the board in January for what she said was an unwarranted demotion after questioning board member expenses.

Hay River man sentenced to six years for shooting brother

A Hay River man has been sentenced to six years in prison after pleading guilty in the death of his brother. Wilfred Lawrence Buggins, 69, admitted to the Hay River courtroom in a statement on Mar. 3 that he shot and killed his younger brother, Raymond, at a cabin near Enterprise three years ago, but had no memory of the event. Both men were said to have been drinking heavily at the time and arguing about money. Buggins pleaded guilty to manslaughter with a firearm after being charged with second degree murder following the incident in February 2011.



Marchers protest against fracking in Yellowknife last October. The new call by Liberals for a national strategic environmental assessment hopes to address calls for certainty around the industrial practice, for the benefit of concerned citizens as well as industry, according to the resolution's authors.

Politics Energy

NWT Liberals pass national fracking resolution

Liberal Party to make national fracking policy part of election platform

By MEAGAN WOHLBERG
Liberal party members in the Northwest Territories took their concerns about

hydraulic fracturing to the national level late last month, passing a resolution to have the party seek out a country-wide strategic environmental assessment on the controversial oil and gas extraction process.

The Western Arctic Liberal Association (WALA) put forward the resolution at the national convention on Feb. 22, where it passed "overwhelmingly," according to its author Chuck Blyth, a Liberal party member from Fort Simpson.

A strategic national environmental assessment would look at mitigating negative environmental effects, taking into consideration cumulative impacts, implement a sustainable development strategy for the industry, illuminate potential liabilities and ultimately streamline project-level assessments by contributing to an established policy framework.

"We want to get certainty for how fracking is going to work in Canada, which is good for industry, and we want to get fact-based policy happening," Blyth said. "We want to have it dealt with overall so that individual, small communities aren't getting forced to reinvent the wheel every time in the environmental assessment business, or not having an environmental assessment."

Fracking has become a concern for many residents in the Northwest Territories following the approval of the first exploratory project in the Sahtu region undertaken by ConocoPhillips, which went forward without an environmental assessment.

A recent petition to the territorial government asking that all future fracking applications go through the assessment process, including public hearings, received close to 400 signatures.

While he said action could be taken locally, Blyth said policy development on fracking needs to be done at the

Kieron Testart, president of WALA, said the move to make the resolution a priority from the NWT riding emerged from local concerns, which he said have been largely ignored at the federal level.

"What people were telling us was that this issue of fracking was very important to them and their sense

Environmental assessment is not about stopping projects; it's about making things better. The Liberal party is in favour of development, but we want to make sure that we do it in a way that protects the environment.

*Chuck Blyth
Western Arctic Liberal Association*

national level, led by the Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency and with the input of stakeholders and experts.

"We want to have fracking dealt with consistently across the country and look at the bigger issues," he said, "because some provinces don't do it all, some provinces do it wide open."

Blyth said the new Liberal policy will not be for or against fracking.

"Environmental assessment is not about stopping projects; it's about making things better. The Liberal party is in favour of development, but we want to make sure that we do it in a way that protects the environment," he said.

of security in the North, and that cuts both ways. There were people very concerned about their futures and opportunities for work, and on the other side we had people very concerned about the environmental health of the land and the sustainability of fracking in the Northwest Territories," Testart said.

Having such a polarized debate requires a fact-based policy building approach, he said.

"What we're doing is creating certainty for both sides of the equation," he said.

The resolution will now become an embedded policy of the Liberal Party that will become part of its platform during the next federal election.

FIDDLE CLASSES

Every Monday Night
at 7:00 p.m.

Located at Aurora College in Fort Smith
1st Floor Culture Room - Room 116
(across from the carpentry shop)

Guitars and other similar instruments welcome as well.
Beginners welcome.
Minimum age: 8 years old-90 years young
There will be a \$5.00 drop-in fee
to cover expenses & strings.

For further information contact:
Bart Hartop 867-872-2154 / gail_barthartop@hotmail.com

Industry helped select Alberta for regulatory support

By MEAGAN WOHLBERG

The decision to employ the technical services of the Alberta Energy Regulator (AER) following devolution was made at the advice of industry consultants, officials with the GNWT told *The Journal* last week.

A spokesperson for the department of Industry, Tourism and Investment (ITI) said the decision to negotiate service agreements with both the National Energy Board (NEB) and AER to provide technical support to the NWT as it establishes its own regulator was made following meetings with industry "to get their view as (to) what would be the best course of action for the NWT," according to an email from Carina Sartor-Pielak.

"Once all the options were considered, the GNWT felt that the best choice for the NWT would be to establish its own regulator...As a result, the decision was made to negotiate service agreements with both the National Energy Board and the Alberta Energy Regulator," she said.

Though neither service agreement has been finalized,



Cabinet recently announced that Industry Minister David Ramsay, right, would be heading the new NWT regulator, to receive technical support from Alberta and the National Energy Board.

it was recently announced that the GNWT would be accessing support from both regulators for the next two years.

Sartor-Pielak said details of the contracts would be

available to the public once signed on Apr. 1, though some pieces would remain confidential. She did not say what details would be made public.

"In the case of the NEB, the service contract with the

NWT will be released at the earliest possibility, as is the case with all contracts entered into by the NEB," she said. "Some of the detail in the AER contract contains personal information that

must remain confidential; however, we anticipate that the remainder of that contract could be released publicly with the consent of both the GNWT and AER."

Worry over the move to employ AER in the provision of technical support has been expressed by sectors of the public and within the Legislative Assembly. Weledeh MLA Bob Bromley tabled a report in the house last week criticizing AER's compliance and enforcement record in its home province.

The report, compiled by watershed scientist and consultant Dr. Kevin Timoney, indicates over 4,000 environmental infractions between 1996 and 2012 with only 0.9 per cent resulting in enforcement, a number he concludes is 17 times lower than in the US.

"With that expert advice we will enforce our own rules on less than one of 100 violations," Bromley said, asking why the NWT didn't create its own version of the NEB rather than making cabinet responsible for energy regulation.

The GNWT recently appointed ITI Minister David

Ramsay as head of the new NWT Regulator. ITI will be responsible for regulating on-shore oil and gas reserves, as well as mining.

Ramsay said it is too early to criticize the model.

"Oil and gas projects here in the Northwest Territories will, again, continue to be subject to environmental regulation under the Mackenzie Valley Resource Management Act, which will continue to require public hearings in some circumstances. It's simply wrong to make an assertion that because of devolution, requirements for public hearings are going to change. That's not the case," he said.

"This is going to be our best effort put forward to regulate this industry in the Northwest Territories, build a capacity here at home and with an integrated approach to resource management in the NWT...we believe we can get this right."

Ministerial control over the regulatory process is a model emulated by other jurisdictions in Canada, including Saskatchewan, Manitoba and Yukon.

Photo: Bill Braden



MLAs voted in favour of extending their terms, 11-7, on Monday in Legislature.

Politics Elections

Election date, term length not specified in motion

Continued from page 1.

"I had heard when I came into politics that politicians tend to look after themselves, but this re-defines the yardstick," he charged.

"To give ourselves this authority without going to the people and with no public input shows a cavalier disdain for the voters of the Northwest Territories. One can only imagine that there has been some degree of secret communication between this government and the federal government, as this action will require changes to both federal and territorial

legislation, something that normally would take years to achieve."

Bromley told *The Journal* that academic studies show concurrent or consecutive elections increase the likelihood that media pay attention to at least one election and increase the amount of money spent on campaigns, thus raising the success of each election.

Range Lake MLA Daryl Dolynny agreed, stating that he thought it would actually increase voter turnout to have them all occur in one month.

Dolynny voted against the motion, saying it was a "hasty decision" that called into question the morals of MLAs.

Hay River North MLA Robert Bouchard, Yellowknife Centre MLA Robert Hawkins, Frame Lake MLA Wendy Bisaro, Deh Cho MLA Michael Nadli and Inuvik Boot Lake MLA Alfred Moses also refused to support the motion based on concerns expressed by their constituents.

"When voters went to the polls it was to elect MLAs for four years," Moses said.

Photo: Bill Braden

IMPORTANT MESSAGE FOR PROPERTY OWNERS

The Property Assessment Notices for the **2014** tax year were mailed **Friday February 28, 2014** to all Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo property owners.

If you have any concerns regarding any information on the Property Assessment Notice or you did not receive your Property Assessment Notice, please call **780.743.7900** or **1.800.973.9663** and arrange to speak with an Assessor. Assessors will be available during regular business hours – 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday to Friday.

If a discussion with an Assessor does not resolve your concern, an Assessment Review Board Complaint Form (accompanied by the appropriate filing fee) may be filed with the Clerk of the Assessment Review Board. For more information regarding the complaint process please call **780.743.7001** or **1.800.973.9663** or visit www.woodbuffalo.ab.ca/arb. The deadline to submit an Assessment Review Board Complaint Form is 4:30 p.m. on **May 2, 2014**.

Council will set the 2014 tax rates in May. Property Taxes are determined by applying the appropriate tax rate to the assessed value shown on your Property Assessment Notice. Property Tax Notices will be mailed in early June.



PLEASE TAKE THE TIME TO REVIEW YOUR ASSESSMENT NOTICE CAREFULLY.

For more information, check out our web site at www.woodbuffalo.ab.ca or call us at **780.743.7900** or **1.800.973.9663**.

www.woodbuffalo.ab.ca



The Northern Journal is an independent newspaper covering news and events in the western Arctic and northern Alberta.

Publisher & Managing Editor Don Jaque
867-872-3000 ext.21 • don@norj.ca

Editor Meagan Wohlberg
867-872-3000 ext.24 • news@norj.ca

Reporter Maria Church
867-872-3000 ext.25 • reporter@norj.ca

Comptroller Dixie Penner
867-872-3000 ext.23 • dix@norj.ca

Advertising Joshua Jorgensen
867-872-3000 ext.15 • sales@norj.ca

Administration Jeremy Turcotte
867-872-3000 ext.26 • admin@norj.ca

Production & Graphics Sandra Jaque
867-872-3000 ext.22 • sandra@norj.ca
Paul Bannister
867-872-3000 ext.27 • graphics@norj.ca
Anna Sierra
867-872-3000 ext.20 • design@norj.ca

Advertising Deadlines

Display ad deadline is Thursday at 4:00 p.m.
Classified ad deadline is Thursday at 5:00 p.m.
Email: ads@norj.ca

Subscription Rates

(867) 872-3000

Prices include GST. \$47.25 in Fort Smith;
\$52.50 elsewhere in Canada;
\$105 in the USA; overseas \$164.30.

Letters to the Editor Policy

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.



The Northern Journal is available in the following NWT communities:

Aklavik	Fort Resolution	Rae Edzo
Behchoko	Fort Simpson	Sachs Harbour
Colville Lake	Fort Smith	Trout Lake
Deline	Gameti	Tsiigehtchic
Eagle Plains	Hay River	Tuktoyaktuk
Ekatie Diamond Mines	Inuvik	Tulita
Enterprise	Jean Marie River	Ulukhaktok
Fort Good Hope	Lutsel K'e	Wekweti
Fort Liard	Nahanni Butte	Wha Ti
Fort McPherson	Norman Wells	Wrigley
Fort Providence	Paulatuk	Yellowknife

Available in Alberta at:

Anzac	Fort Chipewyan	Kehewin
Atikameg	Fort McKay	Kinuso
Brownvale	Fort McMurray	Lac La Biche
Cadotte Lake	Fort Vermillion	Mornville
Chard	Frog Lake	Peace River
Cheteh	Glenevis	Red Earth Creek
Cold Lake	Goodfish Lake	Saddle Lake
Conklin	Grande Prairie	Slave Lake
Driftpile	Grouard	St. Paul
Duffield	High Level	Valleyview
Edmonton	High Prairie	Wabasca
Enilda	Hythe	
Enoch	John D'or Prairie	

Published weekly by
Cascade Publishing Ltd.

Printed on recycled newsprint
with vegetable ink at Wainwright Star Chronicle.

The need for a mandate from the people

The act by the NWT Legislative Assembly to extend its life an extra year is undemocratic - because of the nature of the NWT's consensus government system. For the mandate of the current government to continue beyond the four years it was elected, in order to proceed with its current goals and objectives, approval of the people is needed.

In the NWT consensus system, the premier is not elected by the people and no platform is ever enunciated by the premier or the government - neither in order to be elected nor after they come to power. In a party system there are at least two opposing plans for the future offered to the electorate. They choose the one they feel is best. Not in the NWT. Not only are there no options to choose from, the government never presents to the public what it believes in or what it aspires to do. There is never an opportunity for the public to agree or disagree with what the government plans. Because of that, the government never has a true mandate from the people. That is a flaw in NWT's consensus system, restricting the democratic process. The only way the people of the NWT are enfranchised, where their elected leaders are truly accountable to them, is in the selection of an MLA for a set term at election time.

There is something else that is missing because of the way consensus government is currently structured that this arbitrary extension of MLAs' term leaves wanting. When, during an election, a politician faces citizens and presents ideas and plans for the future, they are at once criticized, supported and challenged. They rationalize their positions and explain the means of

implementation. The weeks of campaigning in the runup to an election are dynamic and evolutionary, a growth process that makes some candidates better and stronger. Candidates are judged and the good ones rise to the occasion. The winners are the ones seen by the electorate as the more capable, with the best ideas. Governments need a similar process. They, too, need to be challenged to evolve. We need only look at what is taking place in Quebec right now to see this in action.

The NWT government may have been doing good things for the last three and a half years, but if they were challenged, forced to rationalize and defend what they have been doing, a process of accountability involving criticism, support and challenges would surely lead to refinement and selective improvement. That is how it should work, but in the NWT that is missing. In fact, the only option now for those who disagree is civil disobedience.

For example, installing hydro dams on the Mackenzie River along with many other major hydro projects on rivers throughout the NWT is in the territorial government's "hydro strategy." That plan is an active part of government policy, yet approval for it has never been sought from the NWT population. Premier Bob McLeod has been in China seeking cooperation and investment. Was he asking for Chinese capital to build hydro dams, or even offering ownership of dams on NWT rivers in order to get them going? How are NWT residents to deal with such things if they get no opportunity to ask?

At the time of the last NWT election (October, 2011) devolution had been

discussed with the federal government for decades and had graduated to the agreement-in-principle stage. This assembly, to their credit, made great strides in bringing a devolution deal to completion. By this spring it will be a done deal. However, many people in the NWT feel the devolution package as negotiated gives up too many powers to the federal government. For one, the NWT will not have the power to approve or disprove any major resource development. Additionally, many NWT residents, in particular some First Nations governments that are threatening court action, also feel the elimination of the regional land and water boards is a betrayal of trust. In an election those important matters would be debated, the basis for selection of candidates. In doing so, the people would have a say and very likely a refinement of the existing deal would result. That process will now have to wait a year - and thus may never happen.

Note that we are not saying devolution is bad, nor are we being critical of the premier or any member of the NWT government. We are simply saying that for a government to invoke such very important changes to the fabric of life of all NWT residents, it should first lay out the plans and receive public approval. In the NWT that only happens in an election at the riding level. NWT MLAs were elected for four years and to now extend their terms delays the process that would have vetted, approved and hopefully enhanced the government's agenda and, importantly, renewed their mandate from the people. What suffers are democratic principles and good governance.



Hay River's "Poutine Machine" beams after scooping up their fifth consecutive victory as champions of their annual hometown Polar Pond Hockey tournament. More than 30 mixed, men's and women's teams competed in the mostly-for-fun tournament on the ice at the Fisherman's Wharf over the weekend.

ARCHIVES

15 Years Ago...

Supreme Court rejects House decision
After rejecting claims from the City of Yellowknife that they won't be adequately represented in a post-division Government of the Western Territories, MLAs now must return to the House to debate the issue again. Last week, Territorial Judge Mark de Weerd declared that part of the NWT Act - the laws concerning electoral boundaries - was unconstitutional and must be fixed before the territories split Apr. 1.

Issue: March 9, 1999

20 Years Ago...

Minister moves to revive Izok
An attempt is underway to rescue the troubled Izok Lake mining project, with Minister of Mines John Todd heading to Toronto this week for discussions with the Metall Mining Corporation. The proposed base metal mine 250 km south of Coppermine was recently put on hold after Metall said low zinc prices, as well as high infrastructure costs, made the project not viable.

Issue: March 9, 1994

30 Years Ago...

Munro looks at Liberal leadership
Northern Affairs Minister John Munro is considering entering the race for Prime Minister Trudeau's job to prevent a swing to the right in Liberal policy. At a meeting of Nova Scotia Liberals last weekend, Munro was critical of former Finance Minister John Turner, thought to be the leading contender in the leadership race.

Issue: March 8, 1984

No need for superboard

Editor,

I am rather puzzled by Aboriginal and Northern Affairs Minister Valcourt's letter in the Feb. 25 *Northern Journal*. He seems, in a rather confusing way, to be trying to justify the inclusion of the restructuring of the Mackenzie Valley Land and Water Board within Bill C-15, the so-called "Devolution Act."

He states that, "an improved regulatory framework is critically important..." If he had been listening to Northerners, including industry representatives, he would know that we do not agree that the existing system of regional boards needs much improvement. Certainly he makes no case that one superboard would be any more "modern, efficient and effective" than the existing regulatory regime.

Minister Valcourt makes the point that a single Mackenzie Valley board is consistent with

the existing comprehensive land claims agreements and that "this larger board was explicitly contemplated when the comprehensive land claim agreement (sic) was signed by all parties." This is true. The fuller picture, however, shows that continuance of regional land and water boards was also contemplated in each of the final comprehensive claims agreements "signed by all parties." To provide for this, each of the sections of the claims agreements that Mr. Valcourt cites is preceded by a set of principles that he doesn't mention. The first two principles at the beginning of each of the chapters on "Land and Water Regulation" are: a) an integrated system of land and water management should apply to the Mackenzie Valley; b) the regulation of land and water in the settlement area and in adjacent areas should be co-ordinated." (The

Tlicho agreement specifies "Wekeezhii" instead of "the settlement area" as in the Sahtu and Gwich'in agreements.)

Had Minister Valcourt's "years of ongoing consultations" been true consultations rather than an exercise in confirmation bias, he would know that the existing regional land and water boards have been evolving well and following the above principles. There have been occasional problems, but some of the most persistent of these have been caused by the federal government not fulfilling its responsibilities in a timely manner. There is no convincing evidence that a single board would be any more efficient or effective than the system of regional boards.

I am left to conclude that, knowing Northerners', and particularly Aboriginal governments', overwhelming opposition to a single board, the

federal government cynically stuffed the superboard legislation inside the irresistible wrapping (read money) of the devolution bill.

Finally, Minister Valcourt has the gall to congratulate Western Arctic MP Dennis Bevington for supporting Bill C-15. Mr. Bevington has been very vocal and has done all he can to persuade the government to drop the changes to the review boards from that legislation. Faced with a Hobson's choice, he decided to vote in favour of devolution. He deserves congratulations, not for supporting Bill C-15, but for putting up a good fight on behalf of his constituents to change the legislation and for making the very difficult decision to vote for devolution in spite of his strong opposition to a single superboard.

Bob Gamble
Yellowknife

COLUMNS

White Girl Spirit of spring: Part 3 of 3



By DAWN KOSTELNIK

My gumboot has a hole where a stick went through and stabbed my foot. Mucky water fills up this boot and when I walk through the muskeg it sucks my boot into the mud soup and pulls it off. I have destiny in mud. A tin can is washed out in the lake; pitch is cut off one of the conifers and the can containing the pitch gets set on the fire. This is gumboot repair 101, this method will seal birch bark canoes or patch most anything that needs it.

Once the pitch has melted, ash from the fire is stirred into the can with the melted pitch. No charcoal lumps can be used, only fine ash. It is almost too thick to stir and it is applied hot. A glob of it covers the hole

and as it cools it is smoothed to conform to the boot. These are my only gumboots, there are no more to be found and no stores to buy new ones.

Bushes explode apart with people. In the quiet it sounds like a cattle stampede. Two-dozen young eyes look back at this outburst in total surprise. Adults are rushing towards us; the RCMP leads the charging cavalry. What's wrong? Everyone is looking at everyone else, the adults have stopped their charge and we can tell that their batteries have just run out.

"What are you guys doing out here?" We have a little cooked rat left and are hoping that they don't notice the eagle brand milk cans or the empty Jell-O package. I am sure that our brilliant red tongues and teeth would never give us away. There is no real food to offer, but there is tea..." Would you like some tea?" one of the older kids asks.

"What are you kids doing?" the RCMP corporal demands in his most military type voice. "Having a picnic, we are sorry there is no food left for you," is the reply. "Did you kids start a fire?" "Of course, we had to cook the rats!" "How did you kill the

rats?" "With 22's for sure, only three shells pretty good ahey!" comes the proud response. The constable turns and looks at our parents, teachers and friends, he has his back to us but we can see him spread his hands out like "now what?" He turns back to us and in the harsh voice he commands that we "make sure the fire is out!" "Yes we will." "Very good," is his reply. "Carry on!"

Kids may not listen to what you tell them, but they will do EXACTLY what you do. And then what can you say? You had better teach them well. I don't know what the adults expected to find. We were doing everything that they taught us to do. They taught us well: to this day not one of us had ever shot the other and we still have all of our parts. My brother Joel was 7 years old when he shot that rat for our picnic, and Arnold Gaudet was about 10 years old.

P.S. Don't be silly, we weren't eating those long tailed vermin that live outside; we were eating muskrats. You should know that if you live here. Our rats are vegans and live in our crystal clear streams and lakes!

Olympics

From February 2 to 8 1997, Toronto and Collingwood hosted the "Special Winter Olympics." Seventy-two countries sent 2,000 athletes, ranging from 8 to 66 years, all with mental handicaps.

The Special Olympics, founded in 1968 are held every two years, less concerned about winning or losing, than about participation.

Few rich countries pay attention; an individual medal tally is not kept, and national anthems are not played.

Business cares little for that kind of sport: the 1997 budgets was only \$9.4 million, and not one of the athletes was for sale.

A Canadian stood on the podium to receive his second gold medal in downhill skiing. He turned to his U.S friend who had placed second:

"I've got one gold medal already, but no silver medal. You don't have a gold medal yet, can we trade?"

René Fumoleau
Lutsel K'e

FACEBOOK
FEEDBACK

Northern Journal 2014

Legal action threatened by the Tlicho Government will not stop the government of Canada from passing its devolution bill, federal spokespeople told *The Journal*.



Tlicho lawsuit won't stop devolution bill: Ottawa.



Sheila Karkagie: Our Sahtu should join this lawsuit too!!

Join us online!

Like *Northern Journal* on Facebook and get the weekly news delivered to your feed!

Forecast

Inuvik Yellowknife

Wednesday		Thursday		Friday		Saturday	
-6 High	-15 Low	-8 High	-18 Low	-3 High	-12 Low	-3 High	-10 Low
-3 High	-16 Low	-5 High	-9 Low	-6 High	-13 Low	-3 High	-14 Low

Norms: -18°C and -28°C Norms: -12°C and -24°C

Hay River Fort Smith

Wednesday		Thursday		Friday		Saturday	
3 High	-5 Low	-3 High	-9 Low	-3 High	-15 Low	3 High	-8 Low
4 High	-10 Low	-1 High	-4 Low	-3 High	-11 Low	2 High	-9 Low

Norms: -9°C and -22°C Norms: -6°C and -21°C

MUKLUK



NWT foster homes not screened, kids neglected: report

Auditor General finds gaping holes in NWT child and family services

By MEAGAN WOHLBERG

A scathing report by the Auditor General on the state of child and family services in the Northwest Territories has revealed longstanding gaps in services that have left at-risk youth in unsafe, unscrutinized situations of neglect and abuse.

The report, released last week, reviewed a sample of 46 of the approximate 1,000 case files for youth in care in the NWT, over 90 per cent of which are Aboriginal. Those files included youth receiving services in the home and in foster care.

Its findings showed inadequacy across the board in terms of care for at-risk youth and accountability within the department of Health and Social Services.

"We concluded that the Department of Health and Social Services and the Health and Social Services authorities are not adequately meeting their key responsibilities for the protection and well-being of children, youth and their families," the report stated, indicating that despite previous audits, nothing had changed.

"As far back as the year

Key requirement	Finding
There were a total of 225 investigations in the files we reviewed.	
All child protection concerns brought to the attention of child protection workers must be investigated.	In 28 percent of files (13 of 46), one or more reported child protection concerns were not investigated.
All investigations must be completed within 30 days after the initial report of concern.	18 percent of investigations (41 of 225) were not completed within 30 days after the initial report of concern.
In each investigation, interviews must be conducted with the parents, the children, and others who may have relevant information about the child and family.	In 27 percent of investigations (60 of 221*), the required interviews were not conducted.
In each investigation, a safety assessment must be conducted to determine whether there are any factors threatening the immediate safety of the child.	In 13 percent of investigations (29 of 222*), required safety factors were not assessed when determining the immediate safety of the child.
Each investigation must include a longer-term assessment of risk of future harm or the potential for re-occurrence of abuse or neglect.	We did not find longer-term risk assessments in any of the investigations (0 of 225).
* This requirement did not apply to a small number of investigations.	

An example of the findings reported by the Auditor General on the state of child and family services in the NWT.

2000, recommendations were made to the Department to address weaknesses in the areas of accountability, resource allocations to regional authorities, and guidance and tools to support service delivery. Our audit found that

these same issues persist and are critical shortcomings in the child and family services system that affect meeting key responsibilities for children, youth, and families."

Among major concerns, the auditors found that a

startling two thirds - 69 per cent - of foster homes in the NWT had not been screened for safety, and in 81 per cent of foster care home files, annual reviews were not done, regardless of whether or not initial screening had taken

We concluded that the Department of Health and Social Services and the Health and Social Services authorities are not adequately meeting their key responsibilities for the protection and well-being of children, youth and their families.

Auditor General

place, meaning children were put in danger.

"This resulted in the placement of some children in inappropriate or unsafe situations. In two cases we reviewed, children had been placed in homes where the required screening had not occurred and where there were subsequent allegations of neglect and physical abuse. Both foster care homes were closed after these allegations arose."

Of the 46 files reviewed, 17 were children in temporary or permanent foster care. In 59 per cent of those files, authorities did not maintain regular contact with children. Required case reviews were not done for any of the children in care.

"This means that there was limited assessment of the children's health and overall well-being of foster families' capacity to care for the children and the quality of care they were receiving," the audit stated.

Although regional authorities responded to a high majority of concerns regarding child protection within the required 24-hour period, key steps to the investigations weren't followed to determine if the children were safe and follow-up procedures were rarely taken.

Some 28 per cent of files included reports of concerns about children needing protection that had not been investigated at all. Sixty-six per cent of those cases where steps were not followed went on to show youth in need of protection.

Investigations also did not include assessments of long-term risks for youth because proper tools were not given to child protection workers. In most cases, workers closed files after concluding immediate safety was not compromised, despite 59 per cent of those cases leading to additional concerns warranting protection with some extreme cases requiring medical attention.

Over half of plan-of-care agreements signed between authorities and families were not monitored to see if their provisions were met and regular contact with families had not been maintained.

In 76 per cent of those cases, further child protection concerns arose after agreements had been signed.

Other concerns raised by

the audit were directed at internal monitoring mechanisms for measuring required monetary and human resources, the development of standards and guidelines for workers, and the need for annual reports to be completed.

Health and Social Services Minister Glen Abernethy admitted there is much work to be done in improving the situation in the NWT for families and children in need of support.

"This is a serious concern for all of us," Abernethy said in the Legislature Wednesday. "I care deeply about ensuring that we take aggressive action to improve our supports to children and families."

The department accepted all of the Auditor General's recommendations and indicated that work has begun on several fronts, based on previous recommendations and an internal study on services in the territory.

Abernethy also pointed to new government initiatives that he believes will help to alleviate the poverty and addictions at the root of most child protection issues, which include the updated Early Childhood Development Framework, the extension of the Healthy Families program across the territory and movements on addictions treatment, which includes increasing on-the-land healing options.

As well, the new Aboriginal Health and Community Wellness division of the department is working on community wellness strategies right now, he added.

"Taken together, all these initiatives will help us to reach our ultimate goal of ensuring that no child needs to take advantage of child protection services. But we know that day is a long way off," Abernethy said, adding that he plans to bring forward legislation to improve accountability.

"Since becoming minister four months ago, I have directed the department to take immediate action to designate chief executive officers of authorities as assistant directors of child and family services under the act," he said. "This appointment will make them directly responsible for ensuring that our system does not drop the ball on any child welfare case."

Graph: Auditor General

Les Rendez-vous de la Francophonie



March 7th–23rd is *Les Rendez-vous de la Francophonie*, a celebration organized every year across Canada to promote the French language and its numerous cultural expressions!

Activities will take place in schools and communities across the Northwest Territories. I encourage all residents to participate in the events planned in your community.

For more information, contact Services TNO at 1-866-561-1664 or go to www.ece.gov.nt.ca.

Du 7 au 23 mars 2014, joignez-vous aux célébrations des *Rendez-vous de la Francophonie*, organisées chaque année partout au Canada afin de promouvoir la langue française et ses multiples expressions culturelles.

Les activités auront lieu dans les écoles et les collectivités à l'échelle des Territoires du Nord-Ouest et j'invite tous les Téoïois à y prendre part.

Pour de plus amples renseignements, communiquez avec Services TNO au 1-866-561-1664, ou visitez le www.ece.gov.nt.ca.



Hon. Jackson Lafferty Minister of Education, Culture and Employment
M. Jackson Lafferty Ministre de l'Éducation, de la Culture et de la Formation



Northwest Territories Education, Culture and Employment



Territoires du Nord-Ouest Éducation, Culture et Formation



Lutsel K'e wants diamond companies to help fix social ills

First Nation says industry has contributed to drugs, crime and suicide

By MEAGAN WOHLBERG

The Lutsel K'e Dene First Nation (LKDFN) is asking one of the territory's diamond companies to assist the community in addressing a host of social problems it says have been exacerbated by industrial development.

In a letter sent to the Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board last month, LKDFN requested that Dominion Diamond Corp., which owns the Ekati mine, support the remote, fly-in community in mitigating the crime, addictions, suicide and domestic violence that have increased since the advent of mining.

Dominion is currently seeking approval for its Jay-Cardinal project, which would see two additional kimberlite pipes mined at the Ekati site, extending the mine life by 10 to 20 years.

While the First Nation said it is satisfied with the majority of Dominion's terms of reference for the project, it wants to see an assessment into why, "after almost 20 years of mining development, the social situation in Lutsel



The Lutsel K'e Dene First Nation says benefits touted by diamond mining companies are often hindrances to people's well being in the community, which is impacted by rising crime and addiction rates.

Photo: Leslie Philipp

K'e is continually degrading," along with a mitigation plan.

"It's clear to LKDFN that we are not taking advantage of employment and business opportunities for various reasons, but what is more important to LKDFN members is that we are living happy and healthy lives," states the letter from Mike Tollis,

LKDFN's manager of wild-life, lands and environment.

Tollis said government surveys, as well as community observations, indicate a rise in crime rates, violence, alcohol and drug abuse, suicide and domestic violence that share a timeline with mining developments.

Those statistics saw Lutsel

K'e's social workers band together in opposition during the latest public hearings on De Beers' Gahcho Kué diamond mine project in December 2012, arguing that another mine will only increase the social unrest being experienced by the community, which is under resourced to deal with the

drugs and cash flow that are brought home by workers from the mines.

"In Lutsel K'e specifically, the 'benefits' of employment and disposable income that the mining operations enthusiastically promote are often hindrances to community social prosperity, wellness and family cohesion," Tollis wrote.

Though the draft terms of reference require the company to document socioeconomic conditions and information on wellbeing, including local services and infrastructure, the First Nation wants Dominion to do more by working with the community to correct the issues.

"LKDFN does not believe it is unreasonable to request that (Dominion) go beyond simply reporting on the existing social environment in the community...and be required to properly analyze and provide plans to mitigate the adverse impacts of developments on the lives of community members," the letter states.

"We're not requesting that industry take the role of governments, or cross the boundary of government responsibility, but if the developer can assist the community in addressing these problems as collaborators, human health and wellness in the community would be greatly improved."

Dominion did not respond to numerous requests for comment.

Lutsel K'e accuses GNWT of bullying on devolution

By MEAGAN WOHLBERG

The Lutsel K'e Dene First Nation is demanding a fair share of resource revenues for the community regardless of whether or not it signs on to devolution.

Chief Dora Enzoe sent a letter to NWT Premier Bob McLeod last week accusing the government of using the promise of resource revenues as a "weapon to inflict political pressure and influence" over First Nations in the territory.

She said LKDFN deserves a place at the intergovernmental forum between Aboriginal governments and the GNWT after devolution even if they do not sign on to the devolution agreement.

As it stands, only Aboriginal governments party to the devolution agreement are allowed to access a piece of the 25 per cent of resource revenues promised to them and be part of the forum.

Enzoe said the First Nation is worried that revenues due to their membership for developments on their lands will be withheld or given away to others instead, which she called "wrong and unethical."

"The Lutsel K'e Dene First

Resource revenues should not be deployed as a weapon to inflict political pressure and influence. They are not your government's to hand out according to your whim, rewarding those who agree with you and punishing those who do not.

Chief Dora Enzoe
Lutsel K'e Dene First Nation

Nation will not be pressured into supporting the Devolution Agreement. We fundamentally object to the manner in which devolution and resource revenue sharing is being implemented, and to the pressure which is being brought to bear on us to either 'sign on' or 'step aside' as these fundamental changes occur," she wrote in the letter to McLeod.

"Resource revenues should not be deployed as a weapon to inflict political pressure and influence. They are not your government's to hand out according to your whim, rewarding those who agree with you and punishing those who do not. These revenues are largely derived from developments on our lands, and your government

must be accountable for their fair distribution to our people. We demand our fair share."

Enzoe said LKDFN has outstanding concerns about devolution, namely that the process is negatively impacting the First Nation's ongoing negotiations with the federal government on their unfinished land claim.

She said the First Nation is open to working with the GNWT in "good faith" in the future.

Requests to the premier for comment were unsuccessful.

Lutsel K'e is a member of the Akaitcho First Nations, who alongside the Dehcho First Nations are the last to remain outside of the devolution agreement.

Use Your Northern Voices

March is Aboriginal Languages Month!



In the Northwest Territories, Aboriginal languages are an important part of our society. They create a strong sense of identity and belonging, and let us communicate in a meaningful way.

Whether you learn your Aboriginal language out on the land, with your family, or in a classroom, being able to speak your language is a great way to be part of your community, and to communicate with Elders.

To help you learn an Aboriginal language, the Department of Education, Culture and Employment recently released the Inuvialuktun and Inuinnaqtun language apps for Apple products, which are available as a free download on iTunes. The Cree language app is also set to be released later this month. These, along with the five previously released Dene language apps, provide an exciting new interactive language learning resource available to everyone.

Languages strengthen our communities and help preserve our cultures. I encourage everyone to celebrate Aboriginal Languages Month by learning and speaking an Aboriginal language.

Masi,



Hon. Jackson Lafferty, Minister
Education, Culture and Employment





Photo courtesy of Sherritt International

Environmental monitors contracted by Sherritt International do water sampling on the Athabasca River near the site of last fall's massive coal slurry spill.

Environment Coal Spill

Coal spill cleanup could take decade: scientist

University of Alberta team to review remediation plan

By MEAGAN WOHLBERG

Four months following the worst coal slurry spill disaster in Alberta's history, scientists at the University of Alberta are projecting cleanup and restoration efforts are likely

to take years, if not a decade, to repair damage to the Athabasca River and its two impacted tributaries.

Dr. Greg Goss, an aquatic toxicologist with the university's biological sciences

department, is one of four scientists reviewing Sherritt International's remediation and monitoring plans for the Obed Mountain tailings pond spill, which dumped 670,000 cubic metres of coal sediments and

contaminants into the Athabasca last fall.

He said the long, cold winter has ensured sediment deposits have remained frozen, giving the company time to prepare for spring thaw, when the plan will be to prevent as much leftover sediment as possible from entering the river system.

"Really what needs to happen is we need to let the snow melt, capture all the stuff, prevent as much as we can from going into the river at this point, and then take a look at the site under the light of the spring and say really where we're at," Goss told *The Journal*.

While there has already been concern about the delay in getting a remediation plan in place, Goss said the public must be aware that there is no quick fix to an incident of such magnitude.

"This is a long-term process. This is going to take years, perhaps even a decade, to resolve because there are some long-term impacts, potentially with fish habitat in the region, which is I think the main scar that's going to be left on the landscape," Goss said.

"You had a wall of water rush down and essentially knock down trees in a 50-metre wide swath for 5 km. That's not a small impact, and that's going to take some time to remediate...The term says remediation plan, but in reality, it is a restoration plan."

No risk to drinking water

Monitoring efforts are going to focus on the heavy metal and hydrocarbon contaminants, which included mercury, arsenic and cancer-causing PAHs, attached to the sediments to determine where

they are now and where they are traveling.

Though there are plans in the works for long-term monitoring, Goss said in the short-term, there remains no concern with respect to filtered drinking water from the Athabasca.

He said scientists are still trying to work out the potential impacts on the Athabasca Delta near Fort Chipewyan, but estimated the risks would be relatively low from this spill.

"The total amount of sediment that's present and carried, the stuff coming out of the lowbed, is going to be a tiny fraction of the total amount of sediment, and metals and everything else (in the river)," Goss said. "But the coal fines are going to be different; in fact, the coal fines are probably floating as opposed to settling out, and are probably out on the lake (Athabasca) and the surface water and floating out."

Plans for long-term metals monitoring will depend on whether or not contaminant levels are detectable in significant amounts in the area.

"If the levels suggest that there's almost nothing or non-detectable levels emanating out of the Obed mine in that region, they've caught most of the stuff in the upper regions, then probably not, but again that's up to (Alberta Environment) and the coal mine," Goss said.

Plans still being submitted

Goss and the other scientists were contracted by the Alberta government to provide independent analysis on four plans required under the Environmental Protection Order given to Sherritt following the spill, which include plans for immediate sampling and monitoring,

impact assessment, long-term sampling and monitoring, and wildlife mitigation.

So far, only the immediate and short-term monitoring plan is available online on the government's website, though an Alberta Environment spokesperson told *The Journal* all the plans had been submitted, except for Sherritt's final long-term remediation plan, due May 16, 2014.

Goss said Sherritt has essentially accepted all of the scientists' recommendations for the short-term, which is positive.

Sediment removal priority for spring thaw

Sherritt's plans include a variety of measures intended to prevent further deposition of the coal sediments into the river while also cleaning up the Apetowun and Plante Creeks, which were hit first by the massive spill.

Measures include installing sediment traps to catch and divert sediments to pools where they can be removed by vac-trucks. Pockets of sediments will be removed by hand and the contaminated trees and rocks, downed by the gush of coal slurry, will be used to prevent further erosion and deposition during the cleanup, along with fences, bales, bags, jute mesh nets and soil stabilizers (floculants).

For now, solids removal is only planned for the immediate creeks and the site where Plante Creek meets the river, and not for the Athabasca itself.

Fish habitat will be further assessed following spring melt and on a seasonal basis, with a long-term fish monitoring program to be developed with regulators following further sampling and habitat mapping.



LET'S TALK ABOUT YOUR WORK.

The Government of Alberta invites your input on the *Employment Standards Code*, the basic rules for employers and employees.

We are looking at things like:

- Employment of youth
- Hours of work
- General holidays and vacation pay
- Special leaves
- And more

Please tell us what you think:

- Use our online Discussion Guide and Survey at work.alberta.ca/esreview
- Email your comments to jstl.review@gov.ab.ca
- Or call 1-877-427-3731 to order a paper copy of the Discussion Guide and Survey

Deadline for feedback is April 11, 2014.





Photo courtesy of Gordon Foundation

A promotional shot from Cold Amazon, a new 22-minute documentary on the Mackenzie River basin, shows aerial footage of the expansive watershed stretching to the Arctic Ocean.

Arts & Culture Film

Film puts Mackenzie River in national spotlight

Premiere of Cold Amazon documentary kicks off Canada Water Week

By MEAGAN WOHLBERG

A new documentary profiling the geographical vastness, ecological vulnerability and cultural significance of the Mackenzie River watershed will be screened for the first time this Wednesday evening in Yellowknife.

Cold Amazon, a 22-minute film produced by the Walter and Duncan Gordon Foundation in Toronto and shot by Northerners, will make its exclusive, advance screening debut at the Prince of Wales Northern Heritage Centre on Mar. 12 before it makes its official premiere as the opener of the Water Docs international festival in Toronto for Canada Water Week.

The film is intended to be both an educational tool and a celebratory work for those living in the Mackenzie River basin, said Carolyn Dubois, program coordinator for the foundation.

“We’re seeing that a lot of people haven’t even heard of the basin outside of the basin, and we thought that this was a great way to showcase it to some of the southern audiences in Canada and also internationally, but also to have something to celebrate the basin among Northerners. That’s why it was so crucial for us to have those Northern voices,” she said.

The film is narrated by a well-known Northerner, former journalist Paul Andrew, and features interviews with a variety of folks up and down the river system, from government officials to Dene elders. It was shot by the NWT-based production company, aRTLeSS

Collective, and written by a former NWT resident, journalist Tim Querengesser.

“You’ll hear from scientists, policy makers, artists, as well as more general advocates for the Mackenzie basin,” Dubois said. “One of the things that’s really special about the film is it provides some beautiful footage of the basin, gorgeous footage in both the

management means, and what are we going to do to ensure that natural wonders like the Mackenzie basin are protected, not just because they’re beautiful and should be celebrated, but because they sustain people in the North,” Dubois said.

Cold Amazon is part of the Gordon Foundation’s ongoing campaign to bring attention to the Mackenzie

a mix and mingle at 6:00 p.m., followed by a showing of the film and a panel discussion facilitated by Paul Andrew.

The film will be screened across the NWT at a later time. DVD copies of the film and screening kits, which include discussion questions

and other tools for public showings, can be made available on request by emailing Megan Lorius at Megan@gordonfn.org.

Everybody’s heard about the Amazon River basin and so few Canadians have even heard about our own basin here.

*Carolyn Dubois
Walter & Duncan Gordon Foundation*

winter and the summer, which is great, and so you’ll have aerial footage as well as some time on the water. It’s a visual piece as well as a story that’s told through perspectives of the people that live there.”

The film focuses predominantly on the Northwest Territories, but does make mention of the transboundary issues shared with the other provinces whose waters feed into the basin, with interviewees calling for protection of the watershed.

“I would like to see it spark dialogue among people across the country about what sustainable freshwater

basin in an attempt to shape public policy. The new initiative focuses on freshwater and the North, and partners with the ongoing community-based water monitoring efforts happening in the NWT to ensure Northerners have access to sound data around freshwater resources.

“It’s an introduction to such an enormous basin that many people haven’t even heard of,” Dubois said. “Everybody’s heard about the Amazon River basin and so few Canadians have even heard about our own basin here.”

Wednesday’s screening in Yellowknife begins with



**High Level
MOTOR PRODUCTS**
Tel (780) 926-3221

QUALITY USED VEHICLES

**2012 Chevrolet Cruze
Eco Sedan**
Stock #: 4CK4813A
33,800 KM's
WAS \$18,995



ONLY \$17,495!



ONLY \$18,995!

**2012 Jeep Compass Ltd.
AWD Leather Loaded**
Stock #: 3TE9868A
50,700 KM's
WAS \$21,995

Check out the rest of our stock at
www.highlevelmotorproducts.com

Fort McPherson takes the lead in biomass heating

First Nation heats two buildings with wood chip boiler

By MARIA CHURCH

While fuel bills skyrocket with the mid-winter chill, the Tetlit Gwich'in Council in Fort McPherson is feeling toasty warm operating its new wood chip boiler that has put the community at the forefront of biomass energy solutions in the NWT.

Operating on wood pellets, chips and split wood, the boiler was installed last fall to pipe heat into the band office and the nursing station, both of which had high heating costs in the past.

Johnny Kay, coordinator of the boiler project, told *The Journal* that it's too early to crunch the numbers, but there is every indication the First Nation is saving a bundle compared to what it paid for oil last year to heat both buildings.

"It's a good thing we got it going before the coldest parts of the year," he said.

The initial cost for installing the boiler was not cheap, but the First Nation was able to secure funding from the Canadian Northern Economic Development Agency and Natural Resources Canada for the project, which they touted as an environmentally



Photo: Lawrence Keyte

Johnny Kay, coordinator with the Tetlit Gwich'in Council's new wood chip boiler project, says the boiler not only saves the community money, but employs local staff and uses sustainable fuel.

friendly way of cutting energy costs and reducing the use of fossil fuels.

Kay was behind the original idea to bring a wood chip boiler to Fort McPherson, which dates back to 2010 when he and another community member attended a biomass project conference in Whitehorse.

"I thought, we have the biofuel right here in our backyard," he said.

Convinced his community was ideal for a boiler, Kay said he brought the idea to the elders who were immediately supportive, then circulated plans to the chief and council, the hamlet

government and the local youth council.

"The community members believed in what we were doing and the leadership were standing behind it," he recalled.

It took three years for the project to go through the paperwork, including

feasibility and environmental studies. The boiler was installed last November and began officially piping out heat to the buildings in December.

Now that it's operational, another huge benefit of the project is that it employs local workers, Kay said.

"The money stays in the community and in the territory," he said. "We are paying our local community members to do the work that needs to be done to get our wood supply and deliver it to the site."

Recently, Kay arranged for the local youth hockey team to split wood and store it for the boiler in order to earn money to pay for their tournaments.


The First Nation has yet to determine how many staff will be hired full time for the project, but Kay expects there will be several needed to maintain a steady supply of biofuel, which is restricted to sustainable dry wood, including willow branches and trees cleared for firebreaks and along the highways.

"There are still a few bugs to iron out, but we learn from it and we will be ready for the next season," he said. "We are learning as we go."

Kay said once the cost benefit analysis comes through this spring, he expects the community will look into connecting the boiler to other buildings or even installing another boiler.

NorthWords NWT Presents

Follow us for updates!



Two-day Creative Writing Sweatshop

Join author and editor Anita Daher for a two-day, intensive writing sweatshop designed to strengthen your skills and give you the creative boost you need.

No charge but workshop participation is limited to 15. To register, please contact Patti at 867-872-4420 or 867-621-0804 or pkayham@gmail.com

Aurora College, Fort Smith, NT (Room # will be posted)
March 15 & 16 from 9 am - 4 pm

Public Presentation

Anita will also be giving a public presentation on her latest children's book *Itty Bitty Bits*. Bring the kids!

Mary Kaesar Library, Fort Smith, NT
March 13 at 7:00 pm

northwordsnwt.ca

NorthWords NWT

Premier Sponsor
DE BEERS GROUP OF COMPANIES

AURORA COLLEGE
CBC NORTH
Northwest Territories Education, Culture & Economic Development
FIRST AIR
Lucky Jack Press
Northwestern Air Lease Ltd.

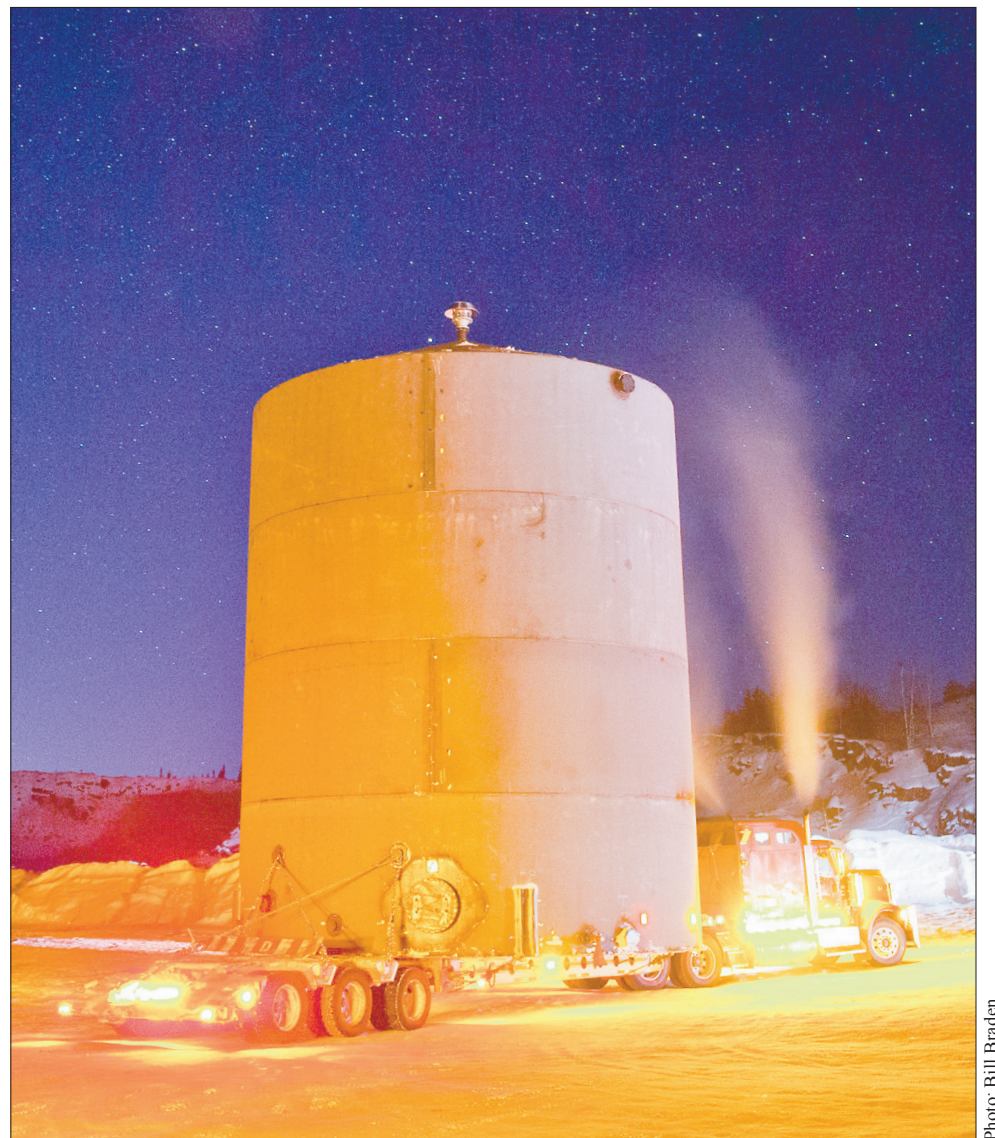


Photo: Bill Braden

Heavy haul heads out to mine

A convoy of four fuel tanks leaves Yellowknife for the Gahcho Kué diamond mine project at midnight on Mar. 3 on the winter road. In all, eight tanks, each capable of holding 500,000 litres, were shipped to the site this season in preparation for the go-ahead to start full construction as permits are finalized. The tanks were manufactured by Gem Steel in Edmonton, assembled in Yellowknife and shipped by Tli Cho Landtran Transport.

Rangers take on scientific monitoring role in Arctic

By MEAGAN WOHLBERG

Canadian Rangers are known for being the watchers of the North in terms of sovereignty operations, but patrols across the territory are also expanding their roles by taking on some new environmental monitoring efforts.

Ranger leaders from across the Western Arctic got some additional training last month in Inuvik to use on their annual Polar Passage trip, which sends patrols out on sovereignty missions across the Northwest Passage during late February and early March.

Teams were instructed on the use of equipment supplied by the federal department of Fisheries and Oceans (DFO) to be able to take samples and do readings of ocean water while out on the land.

According to Capt. Rich Layden, the operations officer for Polar Passage, the project is mutually beneficial to both the Rangers and scientists.

“It gives good interoperability with other government departments,” Layden said. “With today’s constraints, sometimes they’re not able to send scientists, and sometimes scientists aren’t the best for doing that kind of traveling and work,



Scientist Mike Dempsey, centre, provides confirmation on the use of ice training equipment to Canadian Rangers Sheldon Klergenberg, John Lucas, Emmanuel Adams and Julia Ekpakohak on Feb. 12 near Inuvik.

whereas the Rangers are ideally suited for it; they just need the baseline training on the equipment. In regards to patrolling 300-400 km away from their community and back safely, that’s their bread and butter.”

While demonstrating sovereignty remains the Rangers’

number one task, Layden said the patrols are now also trained in the use of several pieces of equipment monitoring changes in sea ice and water related to climate change, which he said is now “of grave concern” in the Arctic.

One type of equipment tests

ice and is dragged behind the Rangers’ komatiks when traveling out on the land. The other is a sensor dropped through a hole in the ice to the bottom of the ocean floor that collects a wide range of data for DFO.

“During that process, the sensor...does salinity, temperature

Sometimes scientists aren’t the best for doing that kind of traveling and work, whereas the Rangers are ideally suited for it; they just need the baseline training on the equipment.

Capt. Rich Layden

1st Canadian Ranger Patrol Group

- all those fundamental base readings that DFO scientists require. That’s something they’ve trained our patrols in doing,” Layden said.

DFO then picks up the sensors, which contain the data, and takes them to be analyzed.

This is the third year the Rangers have assisted in gathering scientific data for the DFO while on Operation Polar Passage, but the first time the training has been offered in the NWT. This year’s operation focused on the western entrance to the passage at Amundsen Gulf, which saw Rangers from Tuktoyaktuk, Paulatuk, Kugluktuk, Ulukhaktok and Sachs Harbour do patrols.

Previous years have focused on the more eastern and central parts of the passage.

“We move year to year just to spread the experience, the

training, and all that around,” Layden said. “It’s been such a good success that each year... we’ve been able to borrow more and more equipment from DFO and put it in more communities. So each year, the sphere of scientific data we’re able to give back to DFO is a little larger.”

He said his goal as operations officer is to have enough capacity established that Rangers could patrol the passage from end to end throughout the month of February.

“But that could be a dream on my part,” he said with a laugh.

The Rangers also collect polar bear feces for a separate study being done by Queen’s University.

“It doesn’t cost us anything except for a few minutes of time,” Layden said. “We’re there, we’re doing other things anyway, it’s no burden.”

Photo courtesy of Capt. Rich Layden, Ops Officer, ICRPG

Social Workers

Make a Difference!

Counsel the distressed
Empower the victim

Make a difference

Change the world

Feed the hungry
Protect the children
Defend the vulnerable

Challenge discrimination Advance social justice

Defy convention Inform the government
Shelter the homeless

SOCIAL WORK WEEK
is March 17 – 21, 2014

This is a time to celebrate the social worker whose hard work and dedication are important to our community.

The best way to find yourself is to lose yourself in the service of others.
– Mohandas Gandhi

The actions of social workers make it possible for others to dream more, learn more, do more and become more.



867-872-6300
For Emergency, After Hours and Weekends, Call 872-6200.



Photo: Nathalie Heiberg-Harrison

Alexa Kuptana, a Grade 5 student at East Three Elementary School in Inuvik, won first place in the youth division at the Arctic Image Festival for her photography. Her work was also featured at the Yukon Arts Centre in Whitehorse earlier this year.



Photo: Alexa Kuptana

"Pilings" by Alexa Kuptana won first place at the Arctic Image Festival in the youth category. The photo was taken during a youth photography workshop put on by Yukon non-profit Bringing Youth Towards Equality in Inuvik last October.

Arts & Culture Photography

Inuvik youth win photo awards

By NATHALIE HEIBERG-HARRISON

Two Inuvik youth photographers are being recognized in a big way for their photographic talent.

Alexa Kuptana, 11, and Amy Badgley, 17, both took home awards for their images at the inaugural Arctic Image Festival, held in the community from Feb. 28 to Mar. 2.

Kuptana, a Grade 5 student, won first place in the youth category for her photograph of the streets of Inuvik. Badgley, a Grade 11 student, won second and third place in the youth division, as well as the People's Choice Award, which was selected through "likes" on the festival's Facebook page.

Badgley credits a childhood babysitter for sparking her passion in photography nearly 10 years ago.

"She brought over her digital camera and we just started taking a bunch of pictures," she explained. "Ever since then I just like taking pictures."

Badgley shoots with a Canon Rebel T3 and says her favourite things to capture are landscapes, portraits and – of course – the northern lights.

During the festival she got to meet one of her favourite photographers, Yellowknife's Dave Brosha, and participate in workshops on landscape photography, composition and capturing the aurora borealis.

While Badgley has been honing her craft for nearly a decade, Kuptana said she didn't really pursue the

medium seriously until October when the Inuvik Youth Centre offered a photography workshop.

"She was definitely the youngest participant and I don't think she even really knew what was happening at the youth centre. I think she just showed up," said Tannyss Knowles, community outreach coordinator with BYTE (Bringing Youth Towards Equality), a Yukon non-profit that ran the two-day workshop.

"She had so much energy. She was just so gregarious," Knowles said of Kuptana. "She picked up the camera and was just a natural."

Whitehorse photographer Jesse Whitehead helped facilitate the workshop, and taught youth the technical aspects of photography, as well as how to tell a story through photos.

Once the workshop was finished, Whitehead and BYTE communications officer Kara Johancsik went through the youth's nearly 900 photos and selected 30 to display at the Yukon Arts Centre.

The exhibit, titled "This is Our Arctic," ran at the arts centre's Yukon Electrical Youth Gallery in January and February and centered on the theme of climate change in the North.

Johancsik also sent the photos to Inuvik for the Arctic Image Festival and is in the process of getting the exhibit – and Kuptana's photos – displayed in the ArtStarts in Schools Gallery in downtown Vancouver. She hopes to eventually show the exhibit in galleries across the country.



Photo: Amy Badgley

Amy Badgley won second place in the Arctic Image Festival's youth category for this shot. The 17 year-old said landscapes are one of her favourite things to photograph.



Photo: Amy Badgley

Amy Badgley, a Grade 11 student at East Three Secondary School, won third place in the youth category as well as the overall Peoples' Choice Award for this photo at the Arctic Image Festival.



Mary Kendi gets ready to cut her birthday cake as daughter Mabel Brown looks on. "I think she'd be more like somewhere in her 80s," Brown said of her mother's youthfulness.



Emma Dick, left, and Sarah Tingmiak, right, wish Mary Kendi, centre, a happy birthday. Kendi turned 99 on Mar. 4 and celebrated with a party in Inuvik on Mar. 8.



Lesli Kisoun was one of the many youth that attended Mary Kendi's 99th birthday party in Inuvik last Saturday. More than 80 people attended, some from as far as Yellowknife.

Northerners Elders

Aklavik elder celebrates 99th birthday

By NATHALIE HEIBERG-HARRISON

Aklavik's Mary Kendi celebrated her 99th birthday on Saturday.

If you were to ask her exactly how she did it, she would say it all came down to two things.

"I say, first, you look after yourself good," she explained. "And then, if you're gonna have fun, keep the men away," she continued with a laugh.

The elder, who now lives in Inuvik, was treated to a feast at Ingamo Hall to mark her 99 years. More than 80 family members and friends, some from as far away as Yellowknife, came to wish her well and sing her happy birthday.

"I still feel young," Kendi said. "I feel happy about everything. It turned out good."

Kendi opened the festivities with a prayer in Gwich'in. After she cut her cake, she joined everyone in singing happy birthday once more – this time for chair of the Inuvialuit Regional Corp., Nellie Cournoyea, who shares the same birthday of Mar. 4.

I say, first, you look after yourself good. And then, if you're gonna have fun, keep the men away.

Mary Kendi

The event at Ingamo Hall was organized by Kendi's daughter Mabel Brown, who said she wanted to give everyone in the community a chance to stop by and celebrate with her mother.

"She's still so sharp. She's still clear and still tells people stories and stuff like that," Brown said. "I think she'd be more like somewhere in her 80s."

Kendi was born on Mar. 4, 1915 in a camp near Aklavik. When she was six years old, she was sent by boat to Hay River to attend residential school. She stayed there three years

until an uncle brought her back to the delta.

She married Alfred Kendi in 1932 and traveled throughout the Richardson Mountains and Mackenzie Delta with him, hunting and trapping by dog team.

Her husband died in 1965, and Brown said Mary continued with a life of service. She sat on Aklavik's council for many years, sharing her traditional knowledge of the region to help positively impact decisions.

"She still tells old time stories, traditional stories, and she talks to us in the family about how to hunt and trap," Brown said.



Mary Kendi's 99th birthday feast included cake, trifle, caribou and bannock.



Wood Buffalo Frolics 2014

March 14 to March 16

Schedule of Events

Friday

	TIME	PLACE	SPONSORED BY
Kids' Carnival	1-3 p.m.	Rec Centre Gym	Circle of Friends
Sugar Shack	1-3 p.m.	Outside Rec Centre	Northern Life Museum
Community Feast	6 p.m.	Rec Centre Gym	Town of Fort Smith, MLA Michael Miltenberger
Indoor Northern Games	7:30 p.m.	Rec Centre Gym	
YK International Film Festival	7-9 p.m.	Rec Centre Theatre	Northern Life Museum and Cultural Centre

Saturday

Northern Events (Adult)	1 p.m.	Outside Rec Centre	Town of Fort Smith
Skate with Muffaloose	1-2 p.m.	Trailcross rink	Trailcross
Free Family Swim	3-5 p.m.	Rec Centre Pool	Town of Fort Smith
Artist Exhibit/Open House	7 p.m.	Museum	Northern Life Museum and Cultural Centre
Curling Funspiel/Potluck	12 p.m.	Curling Centre	Fort Smith Curling Club
Mad Trappers Ball/ Adult Talent Show	9 p.m.-2 a.m.	Roaring Rapids Hall	Northstars Ball Club

Sunday

Northern Events (Adult)	1 p.m.	Outside Rec Centre	Town of Fort Smith
Bingo	12-4 p.m.	Rec Centre Gym	Aurora College Thebacha Campus Student Association
Sliding Party	1-3 p.m.	Lookout/Sliding Hill	MLA Michael Miltenberger
Free Family Swim	3-5 p.m.	Rec Centre Pool	Town of Fort Smith
Northern Events Awards	7 p.m.	Rec Centre Foyer	

COMPETE IN ADULT NORTHERN EVENTS Prizes for All Categories

(18+) Log sawing / Wood splitting / Bow & arrow / Snowshoeing / Trap setting
Tea boiling / Bannock making / Axe throwing / Nail pounding / Tent setting and more!

OVERALL TOP MALE AND FEMALE WIN AIRFARE TO EDMONTON
COURTESY OF NORTHWESTERN AIR



The Wood Buffalo Frolics would not be possible without the generous support of:



Internet service competition heats up in Yellowknife

By MEAGAN WOHLBERG

With a successful telecommunications board win under its belt, the NWT's second and only internet service provider to compete with Northwestel's monopoly is boosting its services starting this month in Yellowknife.

NWT-based SSi Micro launched four new internet plans for Yellowknife customers last week, reducing entry level service to the lowest price in Yellowknife and increasing usage by 300 per cent on its standard home plan.

The services range from the "Snowshoe," a light internet use plan, to the "Ice Road" package for those who need "truckloads" of data. The "Dog Team" is the standard package, while the "Bush Plane" offers extra bandwidth for downloads and streaming.

The expansion comes after a three-year legal battle led by SSi to lower the costs of using Northwestel's backbone infrastructure in the North, where it has a monopoly on telecommunications.

Northwestel was recently ordered by the Canadian Radio-television Telecommunications Commission (CRTC) to reduce the wholesale rates it charges competitors to use its fibre backbone connecting Yellowknife to the rest of the system.

"They were selling to their own retail customers gigabytes, data, every month at a price that was seven times lower than they were selling to us on a wholesale level," said Dean



The team of SSi Micro is looking forward to expanding its broadband internet services in Yellowknife.

Proctor, chief development officer with SSi. "That was what the nature of the battle was about, was to make certain that they not use an asset, being their monopoly backbone for which they receive public funding, to squeeze out competitors. That's an outright violation of the Telecommunications Act."

After dropping the cost significantly, SSi was able to increase the usage cap for its residential internet plan from 8GB to 20GB at no cost to customers.

Though an appeal by Northwestel delayed SSi once more in expanding its provision, those matters have since been clarified, meaning SSi will be gradually improving its services throughout the NWT.

Jeff Philipp, founder and CEO of SSi, said the "tons of money" spent on the legal fight and the loss of customers due to Northwestel's old wholesale rates are now worth it, for both customers and competitors.

"Fair competition works across the board," he said.

"We'll keep fighting, leveling the playing field one service at a time."

Proctor said barriers still exist to what his company can provide - including backbone prices that he'd like to see come down further - but indicated that SSi continues to chip away at certain areas like mobile internet and landline services.

"Over the last three years, we have acquired spectrum to allow us to provide mobile service, so we'll be rolling into that, and that leads to smartphones and all sorts of

innovative products," Proctor said.

When it comes to voice services to the home and office, SSi will soon be able to compete with Northwestel for the first time now that Northwestel's monopoly on voice - the last in the Western world to be protected by regulation - is being opened up.

"We actually had to intervene with the CRTC to request they open up the North to competition in the voice market, and they agreed to that," Proctor said. "So we have to put in facilities that

connect with Northwestel's, so that our customers who are making voice calls can talk to Northwestel customers. That involves a pipe back and forth between our networks, so we're working to put those pipes in place."

Also, because the battle with Northwestel was over all fibre-served communities, SSi will now be able to move back into the remote areas it was pushed out of.

"Up until now, the only fibre-served community that we had was Yellowknife, because that was the only community we could actually afford to put onto the fibre backbone, and even that was far too expensive," Proctor said. "So other communities in the south of the North that are connected to fibre, you can certainly expect us to be expanding into them."

He was unable to give timelines, but said it would be done on a methodical basis.

Despite years of delays, Proctor said SSi stuck with the lengthy and costly process because of its commitment to Northerners, established over 50 years since its foundation in Fort Providence.

"Jeff has always had a passion to make sure that the smaller communities in the North, including the one he comes from, have service equivalent to and even better than one will find in southern Canada or some of the larger centres in the North," Proctor said of Philipp. "So there's a real passion and determination to make certain that no community's left behind in terms of advances in technology."



We offer a range of custom design services that include:

- Book design
- Brochures & posters
- Business cards/Stationery
- Greeting cards
- Invitations (custom design)
- Logo design
- Marketing solutions
- Photography
- Promo material
- Signs & Banners
- Stickers & Magnets
- Wedding & Party favours

We may have changed our look but we still offer all the quality products and services you are used to, plus more.

Call us at 867.872.3000

Email us at graphics@norj.ca or design@norj.ca



A mud filled crater adjacent to McDougal Rd. and close to JBT Elementary school has been the focus of attention for work crews with heavy equipment for over three weeks now as efforts in a troublesome water main break repair job are ongoing.

Water main break enters fourth week

Cascading problems plague Fort Smith work crews

By DON JAQUE

Work crews in Fort Smith will soon enter their fourth week in a battle to repair unseen problems underground while challenged by harsh weather in their efforts to return water services to the community to normal.

Pumps laboured over the weekend to remove mud and water from the gaping crater at the junction of McDougal Rd. and Conibear Cres. and the effort to repair the broken water line was renewed Monday morning while crews awaited the arrival of a hydro-vac truck capable of removing mud slurry quickly.

Leaking water was first noted at the site on Wednesday, Feb. 19. The site was excavated and repairs made, but water continued to leak.

"The repair has failed twice; the first time was due to the main breaking approximately two metres from the (initial) repair (towards McDougal) and we are in the process of determining the reason for the second failure," Mayor Brad Brake told *The Journal*.

The broken water main is a clay pipe installed in the 1950s. The cause of the break is unknown, but there is conjecture that something shifted underground causing the pipe to fracture.

The high pressure water spewing underground from the broken main line led to a plugged sewer line nearby, causing the water from the

broken main to flow into the sewer line and back it up along McDougal Rd. Several basements were flooded with contaminated water.

That break was only just being fixed when one of the water valves three blocks away near the Bank of Montreal broke as crews were trying to close it, making it difficult to shut off water to make the repairs at the site of the water main break.

"We initially tried to minimize inconvenience to residents by making repairs in the middle of the night, but when this repair effort failed we had to act quickly to stop the flow of water. Otherwise, the leak threatened to deplete our reservoir and overcome our pumping abilities and flood the area," Brake said.

In addition to the issue of the broken water main, a section of sewer line on Conibear is still not functioning. Repairs cannot be made at this time because of a large power pole installation right above the area that needs to be excavated. More digging and pipe replacements will be required later in summer. In the meantime, sewage from buildings along Conibear will be removed from manholes using pumper trucks.

"I anticipate that a complete assessment of this system will occur in due course and that valves will be added, repaired and replaced throughout town," said the mayor.



In addition to trying to repair old brittle pipes in cold weather and dealing with chunks of frozen ground, crews down in the excavation were dealing with mud as the flow of water mixed with the silt. That meant constantly pumping out the gritty mess and hauling it away by the truckload.

Photos: Don Jaque

The D elj ne Self-Government vote is on March 10, 11 and 12

your vote matters!

Polls are open in D elj ne & Yellowknife March 10-12

It's important to vote so we truly know what everyone wants.
Contact the Self-Government office if you need transportation.

How to vote in D elj ne

Dates: **March 10 - 12**
Time: **9am - 8pm**
Place: **Charter Community Council Chambers**

How to vote in Yellowknife

Dates: **March 10 - 12**
Time: **9am - 8pm**
Place: **Coast Fraser Tower (5303 52nd St.)**

Contact the Ratification Manager:

Gina Bayha, (867) 589-8120, gbayha@hotmail.com

Come talk to us in person:

D elj ne Self-Government Office or Yellowknife Self-Government Office

OUR PEOPLE
OUR FUTURE
OUR D ELJ NE

your vote

D elj ne Self-Government

www.ourdeline.ca

Dene chiefs request meeting with Governor General

Emergency meeting on Bill C-15 calls for halt to devolution bill

By MEAGAN WOHLBERG

Leaders of the Dene Nation have requested that Governor General David Johnston meet with them in the Northwest Territories over First Nations concerns with the NWT devolution bill.

Chiefs and elders met in Dettah last week for an emergency meeting on Bill C-15, which would not only transfer authority over resources from Canada to the territorial government, but amend the Northern regulatory scheme by eliminating the regional land and water boards in favour of a superboard.

At the meeting, held all of last week, leadership instructed Dene National Chief Bill Erasmus to request the Governor General refuse to sign and give royal assent to the bill before meeting with the Dene Nation.

"Before it goes to the Governor General of Canada for his signature, the Dene leadership wants a meeting in the NWT with the Right

Honourable David Johnston," Erasmus said. "We need a comprehensive assessment, a complete evaluation of the spending, decisions and conduct of the government of the Northwest Territories concerning the Dene."

Senate passed the bill last week after clause-by-clause deliberation. Previous attempts to remove the changes to the boards structure - the main point of contention for Aboriginal governments in the NWT - by Opposition members in the House of Commons were unsuccessful.

The Dene Nation recently wrote to Queen Elizabeth with its concerns. A response received from Buckingham Palace directed the Dene to get in touch with the Governor General.

Erasmus said the problem stretches to the territorial government's actions through devolution, which he claims are a power grab.

"The territorial government is proposing to become

a province and assuming authority over our people without discussing our current relationship and political reality," he said. "Both the federal and territorial governments outrightly

refused to attend the leadership meeting to explain their proposal concerning Bill C-15."

Erasmus said the Dene Nation wants written evidence that either government has

legal authority over the Dene, who are parties to Treaties 8 and 11.

"The Dene leadership are saying that the conduct over fast-tracking Bill C-15 to royal assent is unfair and

unjust," he said. "This proposed bill is a violation upon our treaties which guides how the country functions and therefore goes against the Canadian Constitution Act, 1982."



Government of Canada

Gouvernement du Canada

Public Notice

On April 1, 2014, administration and control of public lands and resources will be transferred from Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada (AANDC) to the Government of the Northwest Territories. This transfer includes the administration, control and management of onshore lands, waters, mines, minerals, and oil and gas in the NWT.

What does this mean to you?

Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada will maintain an office in Yellowknife that will:

- Advocate, advise and support Aboriginal organizations and First Nations through our new Governance & Partnerships Directorate
- Provide front line services to our clients: assistance with applications for Secure Certificate of Indian Status cards, applications for Indian status and information on the University and College Entrance Preparation Program
- Clean up contaminated sites through our Contaminated Sites Directorate and the Giant Mine Project Office
- Manage remaining Crown lands in the NWT (approximately 10% excluded from transfer due to other interests)

Learn more about the re-launch of the AANDC web site on April 1st by visiting www.aandc.gc.ca/nt

Visit the GNWT online at www.gov.nt.ca for information on devolving programs after April 1, 2014.

Ask Us!

<http://ntdevo.aandc.gc.ca>

PLEASE NOTE: In preparation for Devolution on April 1st, AANDC's Land Administration and Mining Recorder's Office will offer **reduced service on Friday, March 28th** and will be **closed on Monday, March 31st** in order to complete final preparations associated with Devolution of these programs. The offices will re-open on Tuesday, April 1st.

After April 1st AANDC will continue to be located at:

AANDC - NWT Regional Office
4923 52nd Street - Gallery Building
Yellowknife NT X1A 3Z4
Phone: (867) 669-2500



NOTICE to FORT SMITH RESIDENTS

Half Day
Civic Holiday
Wood Buffalo Frolics
2014

"BE IT RESOLVED that the Town of Fort Smith has declared the afternoon of Friday, March 14, 2014, a civic holiday in conjunction with Wood Buffalo Frolics which are scheduled March 14 to 16."

Mayor & Council
Town of Fort Smith

Canada

COMMUNITY TRADING POST

FORT SMITH CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING

Say it in 25 words or less for only \$3.50! Extra words are 20 cents each. Business classifieds are \$10 for 30 words and 25 cents for each additional word.

Email your advertising to:
ads@norj.ca
or fax it to 872-2754
or call 872-3000 ext. 26

FOR SALE: FIREWOOD. Custom cut sizes - split green, dry, bagged. Wood Gasification/Outdoor wood boilers. Delivery from Fort Smith to Hay River & Yellowknife. Contact Dave at (867) 872-3435 or cell 872-0229 or email dhehn@northwestel.net. (UFN)

BLANKET CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING

Blanket advertising reaches all 122 weekly newspapers in Alberta and the NWT with a combined circulation of over a million readers. Call our Northern Journal sales desk at 867-872-3000 ex. 26 for details.

Auctions

NEED TO ADVERTISE? Province wide classifieds. Reach over 1 million readers weekly. Only \$269. + GST (based on 25 words or less). Call this newspaper NOW for details or call 1-800-282-6903 ext. 228.

ANTIQUES & COLLECTIBLES Consignment Auction. Saturday, March 22/14. Starts 10 a.m.

sharp! Located west of Edmonton at Sand Hills Hall. To view items: www.spectrumbauctioneering.com. Phone 780-960-3370/780-903-9393.

8TH ANNUAL Red Deer Collector Car Auction & Speed Show, March 14 - 16/14, Red Deer Westerner Park. Exhibitor space available. Consign your car. 1-888-296-0528 ext. 102; EGauctions.com.

WARD'S AUCTIONS - Antiques/Estate Auction. Sunday, March 16, 10 a.m. 11802 - 145 St., Edmonton. 780-451-4549. Viewing Friday, March 14, 4 - 7. Online bidding and pictures at www.WardsAuctions.com. Taking consignments now for spring Firearms Auctions.

Auto Parts

WRECKING AUTO-TRUCKS. Parts to fit over 500 trucks. Lots of Dodge, GMC, Ford, imports. We ship anywhere. Lots of Dodge, diesel, 4x4 stuff. Trucks up to 3 tons. North-East Recyclers 780-875-0270 (Lloydminster).

Autos

TURN YOUR PASSION for vehicle restoration into a career with Lakeland College's 8-month Street Rod Technologies program at the Vermilion campus. Attend the program information session March 21. Phone 1-800-661-6490 or visit www.lakelandcollege.ca/srt.

Business Opportunities

1ST TIME, Distributorship

Opportunity. Calgary, Canmore/Banff, Red Deer, Lethbridge, Medicine Hat; other Alberta locations would be considered. Eco Dry Carpet Maintenance "green, clean & dry carpet cleaning system". Home based. Commercial & Residential. Turnkey operation. \$25,000 investment. R.O.I. inside 4 years. Includes: Equipment, supplies, training & marketing assistance. Inquiries: Email: infoecodry@shaw.ca.

GET FREE vending machines. Can earn \$100,000. + per year. All cash-retire in just 3 years. Protected territories. Full details call now 1-866-668-6629. Website: www.tvvend.com.

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY



Athabasca Chipewyan First Nation

Negotiation Coordinator

Athabasca Chipewyan First Nation (ACFN) Industry Relations Corporation (IRC) is currently accepting applications for the position of a Negotiation Coordinator. The IRC is seeking a motivated individual in the related field who has experience working with Aboriginal communities and organizations. This is a great opportunity to provide creativity, expertise and support for a small, busy First Nation corporation. The Negotiation Coordinator is responsible for assisting the Director and Senior Negotiators.

Qualifications and Competencies:

- Minimum of a 2 year College diploma in Office Administration or Business Administration
- Minimum of 3-5 years' experience supporting management in an executive role
- Must have excellent computer skills in Microsoft Office
- Project and event planning experience is an asset
- Time management, communication and decision-making skills are an asset

Duties:

- Provide project management and administrative support to the negotiation team;
- Fulfill reporting and accountability requirements to external funding agencies also top Chief & Council and Band Members
- Provide update articles to the ACFN Community Newsletter and website on the status of negotiations
- Prepare and distribute meeting agendas and meeting information packages, meeting notes, action logs, and scheduling meetings;
- Arrange travel and other logistical requirements for the negotiation team and community representatives, and assist in the submission of travel claims;
- Provide organizational, technical and logistical support to ACFN's negotiators, steering committee and community representatives;
- Must have a strong understanding of issues regarding confidentiality.

Competition closing date:
March 21, 2014

Salary will be based on experience and qualification.

Forward resumes in confidence to:

Athabasca Chipewyan First Nation
Industry Relations Corporation
Attention: Laura Mitchell
220 Taiganova Crescent
Fort McMurray, AB T9K 0T4
email: laura.mitchell@acfn.com

We thank all those who respond to this competition, but only those applicants who have been selected for an interview will be contacted.

REQUEST FOR TENDERS

As and When Contract Services

The Fort Smith Housing Authority is accepting Tender prices for **As and When Janitorial Services** for the 2014/2015 fiscal year.

Tender packages are available at the Fort Smith Housing Authority office, 89 King Street, Fort Smith, NT.

Closing Date:

March 17, 2014 at 3:00 p.m. Local time.

For additional information, please contact:

Dan Higgins
Fort Smith Housing Authority
89 King Street, P.O. Box 1287
Fort Smith, NT X0E0P0
Tel: (867) 872-2311
Fax: (867) 872-4450

A satisfactory criminal record check of selected Contractor may be required.

Lowest or any tender not necessarily accepted.

Industrial Drivers Needed In Christina Lake and Foster Creek

First Canada is looking for full-time industrial drivers for two locations: Christina Lake (south of Conklin) and Foster Creek (Cold Lake, Bonnyville area).

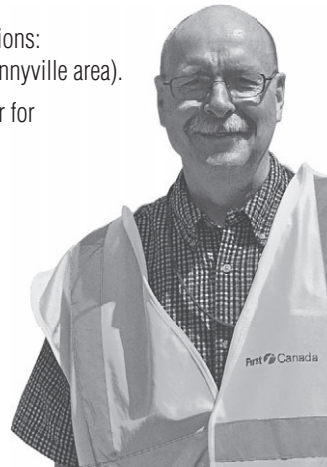
There are no flights provided, transportation will be by personal car for both locations. Camp and meals provided, 14/7 rotation.

Applicants must have Alberta Class 1 or Class 2 driver's licence (or equivalent from other provinces).

We offer good wages and a clean, friendly and respectful work environment.

If you have a clean driver's abstract, and if you enjoy driving and working with the public, are neat in appearance, presentable and friendly, email wayne.scaddan@firstgroup.com

An equal opportunity employer that values diversity.



First Canada

Rapid Petroleum Products

Delivery of Home Heating Fuel - Private and Commercial rates available
•24hr Gas / Diesel Pumps Available Competitive Pricing
•Use your Visa or Master Card at pump - no pin required
•Commercial Fleet Cards available with Commercial Rates



872 2585

Highway 5 and Pelican St. (beside NWT Power Corp office)

Home Heating Oil

For on-time or anytime delivery...call

TDC
Petroleum

872-4567

100% Locally owned and operated!
#1 Breynat Street, Fort Smith, NT



DeWolf
ArtWorks

Chris DeWolf
872-5547

dewolf@northwestel.net

DeWolf ArtWorks offers unique promotional items, custom logo-imprinted promotional gifts, trade show giveaways, and corporate apparel with factories in Canada. I am an Advertising Specialty Institute (ASI) Program member in order to provide my clients a one-stop-shop experience and do so with the lowest prices available.

If your business is in need of any promotional items, please contact me to see how I can help.

Graphic Design • Jewelry • Art • Promotional Items

Whispering Pines Cottages

Serving you with 50 years experience

- **Enjoy:** Private, clean, comfortable year round accommodations with Free WiFi and HD
- **Relax:** with our jacuzzi tub, fireplace, BBQ yard, dishwasher, great parking and plug ins
- **Affordable Rates:** daily, weekly & monthly stays available. 4 private units. 1, 2, 3 and 4 bedrooms to choose from.

Please Contact: Sandra Robichaud

Phone/Fax: (867) 872-2906 - Cell: (867) 621-0254
85 Pine Crescent, P.O. Box 300, Fort Smith, NT X0E 0P0

www.whisperingpinescottages.ca

Safe Travels



Providing connectivity - telephone and internet - solutions for industry in remote locations.

867-765-2020

sales@cascom.ca

116 Nahanni Dr., Yellowknife NT, X1A 2R1

www.cascom.ca

Please contact us for information on how we can help make your project a success!



Bob McArthur
Aurora TPI Travel

Telephone: 867-872-2462
Fax: 867-872-3986

Cell: 867-872-0806
Email: bmcarthur@northwestel.net

Box 149, Fort Smith, NT X0E 0P0

EMPLOYMENT, TENDERS AND LEGAL NOTICES

Coming Events

LEARN THE LATEST about Celiac Disease and a Gluten-Free diet at the Canadian Celiac Association National Conference, May 30 - June 1, 2014, Calgary. Visit the gluten-free market. Everyone welcome. Register at www.calgaryceliac.ca; 403-237-0304.

Employment Opportunities

VAC & STEAM Truck Operator. Valid Class 1 or 3, Safety Tickets, Top Wage, Benefits, Camp Work, Experience an Asset. Email/Fax Resume: 780-458-8701, bryksent@telus.net.

LANDSCAPING SALES & Service opportunities! Up to \$400 cash daily! Full-time & part-time outdoors. Spring/summer work. Seeking honest, hardworking staff; www.PropertyStarsJobs.com.

HIGH PRAIRIE SUPER A in Alberta is currently recruiting for: Produce Clerk. The Produce Clerk is responsible for many aspects of operating a successful produce department including, ordering, receiving, and merchandising. Previous experience is an asset. Excellent customer service and interpersonal skills are essential. The ability to provide a Clean Security Clearance is required. If you are interested in a rewarding, challenging career; if you can provide creative solutions through team problem solving while focusing on providing excellent customer service, we would like to hear from you: Sean Lee - Store Manager, High Prairie Super A, 4920 - 53 Ave., High Prairie, AB, T0G 1E0. Email: sean.lee@tgp.ca. We thank all applicants for their interest, but only those candidates considered for an interview will be contacted.

SEEKING A CAREER in the Community Newspaper busi-

ness? Post your resume for FREE right where the publishers are looking. Visit: awna.com/job-seekers.

UP TO \$400 cash daily full-time & part-time outdoors. Spring/summer work. Seeking honest, hardworking staff; PropertyStars-Jobs.com.

HIGH PRAIRIE SUPER A in Alberta is currently recruiting for: Meat Manager. Reporting directly to the Store Manager, the Meat Manager is responsible for all aspects of managing a department, including cutting meat. You will have a working knowledge of gross margins, expense control and have the ability to maintain positive relations with employees and customers. You must have a Grade 12 education and be able to provide a "clear" Security Clearance. Previous Retail Meat Management experience will be considered an asset. It offers a competitive compensation and benefit package as well as the opportunity for personal and professional development. If you are interested in a rewarding, challenging career; if you can provide creative solutions through team problem solving while focusing on providing excellent customer service, we would like to hear from you: Human Resources, The Grocery People Ltd., 14505 Yellowhead Trail, Edmonton, AB, T5L 3C4. Fax 780-447-5781. Email: humanresources@tgp.ca. We thank all applicants for their interest, but only those candidates considered for an interview will be contacted.

Feed and Seed

HEATED CANOLA buying Green, Heated or Spring-rashed Canola. Buying: oats, barley, wheat & peas for feed. Buying damaged or offgrade grain. "On Farm Pickup" Westcan Feed & Grain, 1-877-250-5252.

ENSIGN

ENERGY SERVICES INC.

Ensign is looking for Assistant Drillers, Drillers, Night Tour Pushes, and Rig Managers for our Australian Division.

Recruiter's will be in Nisku March 31- April 9th to conduct interviews. If you want to hear more about our International opportunities please contact our Global group and apply online at ensignjobs.com.
Call 1-888-367-4460.



Northwest Territories Transportation

REQUEST FOR TENDERS

Surface Aggregate Production CT101376

- Km 272, Highway 3, NT -

Drill, blast, crush and stockpile surfacing aggregate.

Sealed tenders addressed to either the Transportation Office in Hay River or Yellowknife, will be received before:

3:00 PM, LOCAL TIME, MARCH 19, 2014.

Pre-tender meeting: 1:30 pm, March 10, 2014, 76 Capital Drive, Suite 201, Hay River.

General inquiries to: Marilyn Tordoff
Phone: (867) 874-5010

Technical inquiries to: Gilles Roy
Phone: (867) 874-5019

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



2014 North American Indigenous Games Call for Coaches

The NWT Track & Field Association is pleased to announce that we have begun our Coaches search for the 2014 North American Indigenous Games, July 20-27. Our goal is to see that the NWT is fully represented at the 2014 Games in Track & Field.

Track & Field has been allocated a team size of 24 athletes, 3 coaches, and 1 manager. Events included in the Games meet are: 80m, 100m, 150m, 200m, 300m, 400m, 800m, 1200m, 1500m, 2000m, 3000m, Cross Country, 4 x 100m Relay, 4 x 400m Relay, High Jump, Long Jump, Triple Jump, Shot Put, Discus, Javelin.

Included among the general duties and responsibilities are:

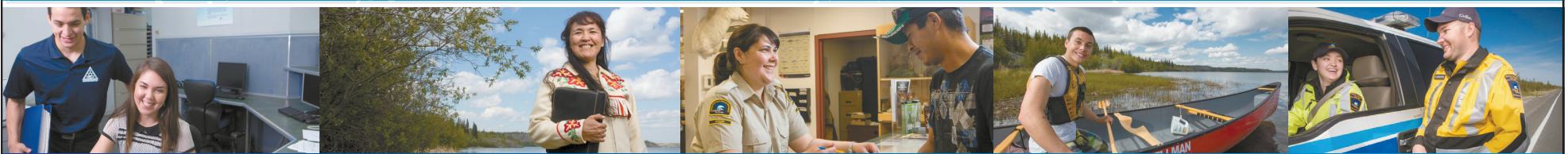
**Coordinate athlete selection process
Coordinate athlete training programs
Coordinate with ASC NWT regarding logistics and deadlines**

The NWT Track & Field Association is committed to advancing coaching development and will support the coach training for the Games. It is required that coaches attain their full Community Coach Certification (old Level 1) prior to the games. Funding is available to offset the costs for coaches selected for the Games. The NWT Track & Field is committed to helping coaches attain certification, if needed, prior to the games.

All coaches interested in this volunteer opportunity should apply by submitting a cover letter and resume outlining their qualifications to nwtrack@hotmail.com by March 17th, 2014. We would like to have all Coaches selected by April 1st, 2014. It is encouraged that coaches be of aboriginal decent. If you would like to apply or have any questions, please email the NWT Track & Field Association at nwtrack@hotmail.com

This position is subject to a current Criminal Records Check.

BALANCE Life. EXPERIENCE Living.



Come work with us! Government of the Northwest Territories (GNWT)

Job opportunities

The GNWT is responsible for providing programs and services to 44,000 residents across 33 communities in the Northwest Territories. This requires a large and diverse group of employees dedicated to, and representative of, the public we serve.

The GNWT offers a variety of benefits that help our employees manage their work/life balance. Our generous compensation package includes salary, pension, annual leave and other benefits.

If you are interested in working for the GNWT, consider applying by viewing current opportunities at www.gnwtjobs.ca.

Don't forget to join our talent community to receive automated job alerts so you don't miss out on our exciting career opportunities!



Canada's Best Diversity Employers



GNWTJOBS.CA



Community Kitchen soon to open in Hay River

Program hopes to focus on produce grown in the NWT

By MARIA CHURCH

A group of foodies looking to learn more about cooking, healthy eating and pinching pennies gathered in Hay River recently to discuss the opening of the town's first community kitchen, just weeks away from an official launch.

Based on similar programs across North America, the community kitchen will supply bulk ingredients and host regular cooking days for participants to work together to create healthy meals from scratch.

An information night held two weeks ago to gauge interest levels in the community was successful, said Franziska Ulbricht, who is coordinating the program alongside Rosie Wallington.

Northern Transportation Company Ltd. has offered its building in Hay River to operate the weekly program and Ulbricht said they are on track to see the kitchen open within a month.

Ulbricht said the main goal of the community



A group of foodies gather in Hay River to discuss the kitchen.

kitchen is to save people money, since cooking from scratch and using bulk ingredients is more economical in the long run, but the spinoff results also mean healthier food and time well spent.

"It's an old idea. Back in the days during harvesting time, people would do the preserving and canning

and such together or have a community feast. There's many ways of people coming together to cook," she said.

After cooking together once a week, the participants can choose how many portions they want to purchase at a cost of \$3.00 or \$1.50 for children. Participants will also be encouraged to buy

portions to take home and freeze for later in the week.

"It's good for families where the parents work full time, but it could also be for young mothers who are home with their newborns and want to learn how to cook, or for seniors who don't want to cook by themselves. For different reasons, it can be for so

many different people," Ulbricht said.

A grant from the NWT department of Health and Social Services covered the cost of setting up the program, including kitchen supplies and any fee to rent the facility.

Another huge benefit to the program is education, Ulbricht said.



The kitchen will be open to all shapes and sizes.

Photos: Franziska Ulbricht

"Hopefully it gets a variety of people together that come from all different backgrounds and some will be able to teach others," she said. "It's a lot about education, but also the joy and fun of cooking together."

As the program grows, Ulbricht said she would like to focus more on buying local foods from the territory, whether it be fish from Great Slave Lake or fresh produce from local farms.

Ideally, the organizers would like to set up trips for program participants to visit local producers around Hay River and learn about self harvesting, she said.

The community kitchen is an initiative of the Hay River Commons Cooperative, a community business that promotes healthy, local eating.

Ulbricht encourages people to sign up for the program, but they plan to allow drop ins once it is up and running. Find out more at www.facebook.com/groups/HayRiverCommunityKitchen/

PUBLIC MEMBER REQUIRED Dehcho Region AURORA COLLEGE BOARD OF GOVERNORS

The Honourable Jackson Lafferty, Minister of Education, Culture and Employment, is seeking applications from Northwest Territories residents interested in serving as a public member on the Board of Governors for Aurora College. A public member is currently being sought to fill a vacancy from the Dehcho Region, representing Fort Liard, Fort Providence, Fort Simpson, Jean Marie River, Kakisa, Nahanni Butte, Trout Lake and Wrigley.

A public member shares with the Chair and other board members the responsibilities of: governing the college; evaluating policies; enabling the board to make responsible decisions on fiscal and academic matters; establishing the purpose and vision of the college; and having a commitment to the academic, financial and social well-being of the college and to adult learning generally.

To be eligible you must be a resident of a community within the Dehcho region that you will represent. You should have a demonstrated interest in Northern adult and post-secondary education and an awareness of issues affecting education and the training of adults in the NWT. Interpersonal skills and the ability to deal effectively with other board members and a variety of interest groups are required. Important assets for this position include: experience serving on educational committees or committees that support community development; experience in community-based and Aboriginal education and research; a background in professional and/or business/industry; and an understanding of financial matters.. Other demonstrated community service experience would also be an asset.

Appointment: A public member is appointed for a term of three years. Board members are required to attend three face to face meetings a year for two to three days, and members are required to sit on board committees which meet either in person or by teleconference between meetings. There is no salary available with these appointments. Honoraria and travel expenses according to GNWT policies + designated per diem rates are paid when members attend meetings.

If you are interested in this unique opportunity, please forward a resume and a letter of interest outlining your reasons for wanting to sit on the Board by March 31, 2014 to:

Heather Meacock
Executive Assistant to the President
Aurora College Board of Governors
Box 1290, Fort Smith, NT X0E 0P0
Phone: (867) 872-7009
Fax: (867) 872-5143
www.auroracollege.nt.ca



www.auroracollege.nt.ca



Andrew Bierworth, Sarah Harvey, Tina Busetto, Tabitha Lichty and Julian McLean helped organize a night of nutritious food and live entertainment at Inuvik's Midnight Sun Recreation Complex.

Photo: Nathalie Heiberg-Harrison

Health & Wellness Nutrition

A healthy taste of Inuvik

By NATHALIE HEIBERG-HARRISON

Inuvik residents were treated to live music and a healthy dinner last Thursday in honour of Nutrition Month.

The event, which was hosted by local dietitians at the Midnight Sun Recreation Complex, drew more than 200 people.

"The goal was to bring the dietitians in Inuvik together to put on an event that celebrated nutrition in a positive way," said Sarah Harvey, a regional dietitian with Beaufort Delta Health and Social Services.

"Really we wanted to highlight the choices and fantastic food that we have in Inuvik, be it the restaurants or the caterers, that are right here in town."

Reindeer tacos, muskox stew and spinach salad were just a few of the items featured on the menu, while local talent Mikaela Hayes and Abe Drennan performed for the crowd.

"Overall I think it was a success. It exceeded all of our expectations," Harvey said. "We didn't know what to expect. Often when you put on

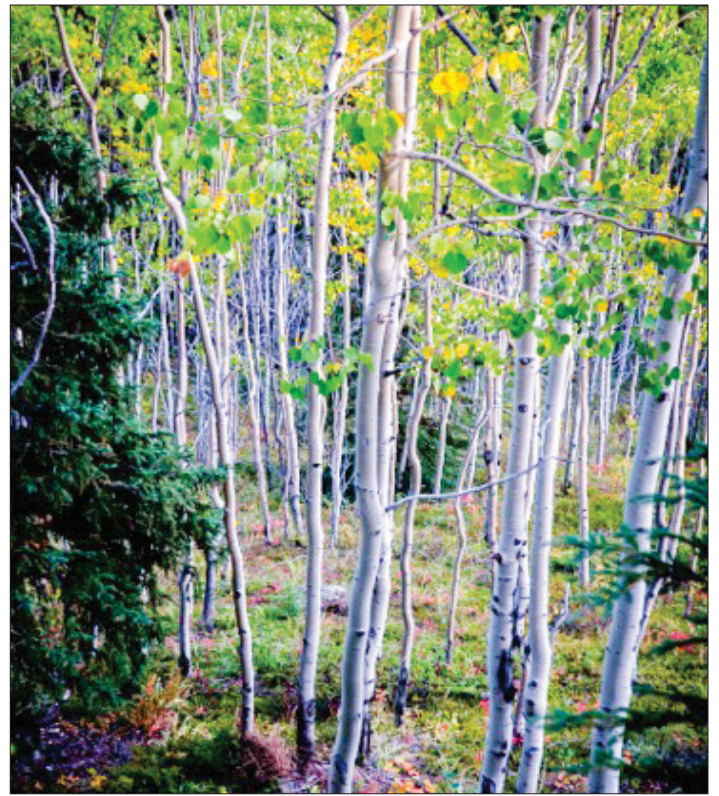
the label of a healthy event, it kind of turns people off, but in this case it worked well."

Dietitians were on hand to answer questions, and information on how to eat healthily was posted throughout the community hall.

Dinner and dessert was supplied by Inukshook Catering, Tasty Cravings, NorthMart and the Muslim Society. The event was sponsored by Nutrition North, Beaufort Delta Health and Social Services and the Northwest Territories Prenatal Nutrition Program.



A photo of elder "Lizzy" by professional photographer Shayla Snowshoe won in the people category at the first Arctic Image festival held in Inuvik two weeks ago.



Terry Halifax's photo of a birch forest won in the category of professional nature.

Culture captured at inaugural Arctic Image Festival



A photo of caribou by Sue Clarkson won the amateur nature photography award.



Kris Maeir's photo of a fisherman won the amateur people and culture category.

Photos courtesy of the Arctic Image Festival



Notice to Fort Smith Residents



It has been a challenging couple of weeks in Fort Smith

due to the water main break and sewer backup issues. In particular several people and workplaces had their downstairs flooded and many residents were without water for extended periods.

The original water mainline break was an old pipe on Conibear Crescent near JBT School that severed underground.

What happened after that was a series of cascading problems.

The high pressure water shooting underground pushed sand into the sewer line nearby on McDougal Road causing it to back up into several buildings along McDougal Road. Hard working town personnel and contract crews, bolstered by support crews and equipment from Hay River, cleared the blockage.

The water main that had broken was soon excavated and repaired, but unfortunately it broke again a few metres away and the problem continued. There were also problems with old isolation valves used to shut off the water in different locations. All those problematic pipes and valves were installed in the 1950s and are degrading or in some cases do not work. Because this type of problem had rarely been encountered in Fort Smith, previous councils and administrations were not tuned into it. The reality is, we are dealing with old, vulnerable infrastructure.

All of these problems were made much more challenging by a lack of the appropriate equipment as well as severe winter temperatures, especially in that very difficult first week.

We want to thank those agencies and businesses who stepped up and supported the repair effort. Thank you, especially, to those people whose homes were impacted, for your patience and understanding. We would like to also recognize and applaud those hard working individuals, both town staff and contractors, who have diligently persevered to resolve these problems under the most challenging circumstances.

We are striving to get things back to normal as quickly as possible. We ask for your understanding and cooperation until all the repairs are complete.

**Mayor Brad Brake
Fort Smith Town Council and Administration**

Northerner publishes first book on the Sahtu Dene

By MARIA CHURCH

Celebrated Northern writer and artist Bern Will Brown has a new book coming out that will be the first of its kind to tell the story of the Sahtu Dene.

Brown, 93, wrote *End-of-Earth People: The Arctic Sahtu Dene* over the span of 60 years working and living alongside the Sahtu Dene in Colville Lake.

The author came to the NWT as a Roman Catholic priest in the 1940s. His travels in various communities around Great Bear Lake eventually led him to build Colville Lake's first Catholic mission in 1962 called Our Lady of the Snows.

Brown left the priesthood in 1972 with permission from the Vatican to marry his wife, Margaret, and continue ministerial work for the church.

Wearing many hats in the community as a lay minister, carpenter, pilot, trapper, writer and artist, Brown became an integral member of the Sahtu Dene during a time when they were transitioning from a people dependent on



Bern Will Brown has published the first full-length book on the people of the Sahtu Dene.

Photo: John Jennings

a traditional on-the-land lifestyle to what they are today.

Speaking to *The Journal* from his home in Colville Lake last week, Brown called the transition of the Sahtu Dene "inevitable, but not desirable."

"They switched from dog teams to skidoos to travel and

they are not dependent on the trapping like they were in 1950," he said. "There are still some, maybe 25 per cent, going out in the bush trapping, but the other 75 per cent are not.

"It's not a good thing because they were better able to take care of themselves

and they were happier and healthier when they were living on the trap line," he said.

Story worth telling

After more than 60 years of writing down his observations and collecting stories from the community, Brown finally set to work

completing a manuscript in the last three years with the help of Ivan Gaetz.

Gaetz, a former Hay River local who now works as a library director at Colorado College in the US, has been working with the author to edit his work and fill in historical citations and references.

While there have been numerous articles and chapters of books published sharing the story of the Sahtu Dene people, this book is the first of its kind to fully explore their history over the past 60 years, Gaetz said.

"It's a record of a way of life that's rapidly decreasing and it's important because Bern gives insight into that transition period into modern life," he said.

The book candidly speaks about social issues that the Sahtu Dene are still struggling with, such as residential schools and dependence on government assistance, while providing rare details into the traditional practices of the Sahtu people, Gaetz said.

"He provides descriptions of their way of life

and actually tells the reader how to tan a moose hide or how to build a canoe from native material. You just don't find that stuff around today," he said.

Book available this month

In 2012, Brown's book caught the attention of Canadian publishing company Dundurn Press out of Toronto. After a lengthy process of paperwork and editing, the publisher is ready to release *End-of-Earth People: The Arctic Sahtu Dene*, complete with a foreword from Sahtu MLA Norman Yakeleya, at the end of March.

"I'm very happy now to see it in print," Brown said, adding that while he thinks it's unlikely to change the lives of the Sahtu Dene people, he hopes it reaches a broader audience who can learn from their story.

For more information about Brown and his book on the Sahtu Dene, go online to <http://ivangaetz.wix.com/sahtudene>



Northwest Territories Education, Culture and Employment

CALL FOR APPLICATIONS Healthy Children Initiative

The Department of Education, Culture and Employment is now accepting applications for the Healthy Children Initiative funding for the 2014-2015 fiscal year.

Healthy Children Initiative is a response by the Departments of Education, Culture and Employment and Health and Social Services to early childhood development needs in the NWT. Funding is provided to community organizations for the enhancement or development of early childhood intervention programs and services that will support the development of at-risk children.

Applications must be submitted to your regional ECE Service Centre and received before:

3:00 PM, LOCAL TIME, MARCH 17, 2014.

Please note that electronic applications will not be accepted.

For more information and to pick up the application guidelines, contact your Regional ECE Service Centre:

North Slave ECE Service Centre

Attn: Sherri Hughson
Nova Plaza, 1st Floor
5019 52nd Street
P.O. Box 1320
Yellowknife, NT X1A 2L9
Phone: (867) 766-5100
Fax: (867) 873-0423

Deh Cho ECE Service Centre

Attn: Amy Fraser
Deh Cho Regional Education Centre
9802 98th Ave
P.O. Box 740
Fort Simpson, NT X0E 0N0
Phone: (867) 695-7338
Fax: (867) 695-7351

South Slave ECE Service Centre

Attn: Ann Keizer
Sweetgrass Building
177 McDougal Road
P.O. Box 1406
Fort Smith, NT X0E 0P0
Phone: (867) 872-7425
Fax: (867) 872-4507

Beaufort Delta ECE Service Centre

Attn: Maria Storr
GNWT Multi-Use Facility
106 Veteran's Way
Bag Service #1
Inuvik, NT X0E 0T0
Phone: (867) 777-7365
Fax: (867) 777-7218

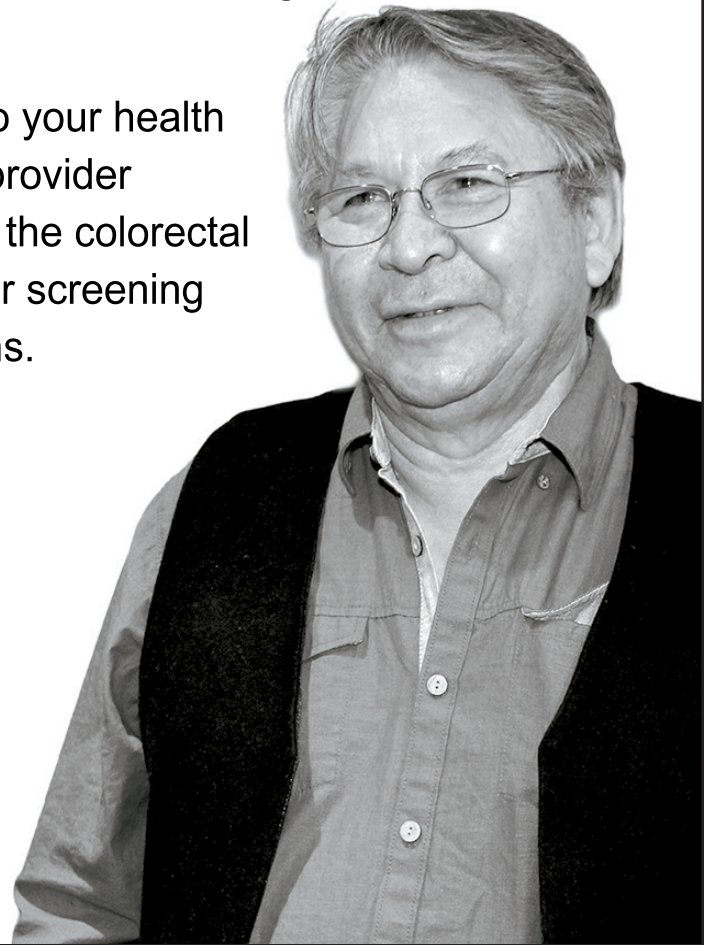
Sahtu ECE Service Centre

Attn: Karla Lennie
Edward G. Hodgson Building
P.O. Box 147
Norman Wells, NT X0E 0V0
Phone: (867) 587-7157
Fax: (867) 587-2612

For contract opportunities visit www.contractregistry.nt.ca

Regular screening for colorectal cancer can save your life.

Talk to your health care provider about the colorectal cancer screening options.



Cancer can be detected earlier, which gives you a better chance of living longer in the communities and being around family and loved ones.

Charles Furlong, Aklavik, NT
Colon Cancer Survivor





After two days of competition, Fort Smith's Brittany Brassler, in black, tries to put an end to the Cormier foursome's undefeated streak in one of the last of the round robin games of the Dominion playoffs on Sunday, but could not pull it off.

Sports & Recreation **Curling**

Dominion winners go undefeated

By DON JAQUE

The winners of the weekend's NWT Dominion curling championships in Fort Smith made sure to book their spot at the nationals in Halifax next November by going undefeated throughout the three-day tournament.

The Paul Delorey team from Hay River was a clear winner in the competitive

men's event, as was the team skipped by Sharon Cormier from Yellowknife on the ladies' side, with neither losing a game.

Seven men's and three ladies' teams from Yellowknife, Hay River and Fort Smith competed in the round robin event.

In both cases, there was tie for second place and extra

games were required to finalize the standings. The Moss team from Yellowknife was eventually victorious over the Fort Smith foursome for second place in the women's. The men's final ended in a tie and will have to be replayed Wednesday evening – a perennial grudge match between two Fort Smith teams skipped

by cousins Bruce McArthur and Nick Kaeser.

The championships are for "average" curlers who play the game only recreationally at the club level. Higher level curlers are not allowed to compete as full teams.

The event takes its name from the sponsor, Dominion Insurance. This is the fourth year it has been held.



Sharon Cormier, left, led her Yellowknife foursome to victory over the weekend, setting aside all attempts by opponents to challenge her team for the trip to Halifax next fall where they will represent the NWT.



Skip Paul Delorey, left, and teammates Darcy Delorey, Derck Bednarek and Gord Fraser went undefeated against six other men's teams at the Dominion curling championships in Fort Smith.

SPORTS

BRIEFS

NWT track team breaks 19 records at Alberta Championships

The NWT track and field team broke multiple records at the 2014 Alberta Provincial Indoor Track and Field competition in Edmonton last weekend. The team, made up of students and adults from across the NWT, saw 19 new records set for several of the track and field events. Record breaking results included Fiona Huang for the triple jump, Daniel DaRosa in the Midget 200m and the 300m, Trey Beck for the Bantam and Midget high jump, 200m, long jump and 800m, Kierra Mandeville in triple jump, Madison McPhee in 800m, 60m in Bantam and Midget, 200m in Bantam and Midget and long jump in Bantam, Desiree Brown in 1500m in Juvenile, Junior and Senior and Joe LeBlanc in the Masters 400m dash.



Photo: NWTRPA

Aklavik and Yellowknife teams take top Walk to Tuk prize

A team from Yellowknife and a team from Aklavik have taken the top prize for the NWT Recreation and Parks Association's annual competition Walk to Tuk. More than 100 teams participated in the competition that challenges teams to walk the 1,658-km distance of the Mackenzie River from Fort Providence to Tuktoyaktuk and 73 made the full trip, logging nearly 49,000 hours of walking. Dreamweaver Basil of the Yellowknife DAAIR Devil's Team and Fredrick Arey of the Aklavik Never Say Die Team both finished with top times and drew the grand prize of First Air Flight passes. Peter Terrien of team Pavlov's Pavement Pounders from Yellowknife won for team captain, Tuk's Ice Walkers II team won the school team prize, Yellowknife's Tuk Dynasty team won for corporate team, and the Bushwhackers from Yellowknife took the community team prize. Walk to Tuk T-shirts are currently being distributed to participant teams across the NWT.

NWT athletes gear up for Arctic Winter Games this weekend

Hundreds of young athletes in the NWT and northern Alberta have one week of school left before hopping on a plane to Fairbanks, Alaska for the 2014 Arctic Winter Games. The annual winter games, which will include Arctic sports, Dene games, dog mushing, gymnastics, snowboarding, speed skating, badminton and wrestling, run Mar. 15 to 22 and will see participants from across the circumpolar world. For a full schedule of the events and the medal count, go online to <http://www.awg2014.org/>

Bertha

Female Adult

Grey and white Mix

Looking for a new home!

ADOPT A Shelter Pet

Fort Smith Animal Society

Please leave a message at 872-5543 for details.

Bertha is a small and friendly creature. She makes for great company in any household. Her short-haired coat is wonderful for petting.



- Spayed/Neutered
- Up-to-date with routine shots
- House trained

WESCLEAN NORTHERN SALES LTD.
Ph: (867) 875-5100 • Fax: (867) 875-5155
E-mail: info@wescleannwt.com • web: www.wescleannwt.com

Benjamin Moore
The Colour Experts

