



March 2026

Hohtr'ey Sranän
Windy Month



Drin nëkhwè huzù'

**May the day be good
for you**

A Message from the Finance Team:

Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in is moving towards direct deposits for payments, and cheques will be discontinued as of March 31, 2026.

To register for direct deposit please send a void cheque of direct deposit form from your bank to Payables@trondek.ca or mail to:

Accounts Payable
Box 599
Dawson City, Yukon
Y0B 1G0

For more information, please contact Payables@trondek.ca
Mähsì' cho!

Request for nominations:

Yukon Child Care Board

The Yukon Child Care Board is currently seeking nominations to fill two vacancies.

The function of the Yukon Child Care Board include encouraging the development and support of child care services that meet the needs of Yukon parents and children; making recommendations to the Minister on matters related to child care; reviewing government policies, programs, services and administrative procedures pertaining to child care; advising on the planning, development, standards, coordination and valuation of child care services in the territory.

Nominees will need to confirm readiness to serve a two-year term.

Nominations must be received by April 3, 2026

Submit your nominee's resume and completed application form to boards.committees@yukon.ca

For more information, contact EDU-Policy@yukon.ca

Upcoming Council Meetings

Citizens can attend in-person or via Zoom.

Please go to trondek.ca or our FB page for the Zoom Links.

Tuesday, March 3:

Elders Council Meeting @ 5:30pm in Ätät Nēhējël

Wednesday, March 4:

TH Council Meeting @ 5:30pm in Council Chambers, Room 201A

Tuesday, March 10:

Elders Council Meeting @ 5:30pm in Ätät Nēhējël

Wednesday, March 18:

TH Council Meeting @ 5:30pm in Council Chambers, Room 201A

Tuesday, March 31:

Youth Council Meeting @ 5:00pm in K'äjìt-in Zho

For council meeting enquiries and to ask about virtual attendance via Zoom please email council.support@trondek.ca

Citizen Information Session

Fuerte Metals update on the Coffee Gold Mine





Thursday, March 26

5:00pm
Ätät Nēhējël / TH Hall
Dinner is provided



Zoom Link





The Housing Crew Hard at Work!
During the winter months, the TH construction team move indoors and concentrate on rebuilding and renovating existing infrastructure. These efforts to improve TH houses and infrastructure is all done to provide better living conditions for TH Citizens.



Top photo: Kale Michon and Darcy Moi open walls in one of the units to provide access for plumbers to replace glycol lines for heating.

Bottom photo: Steve Kocsis and Nick Gilbert lay flooring down at the meat processing plant at TH Farm.



***Hèl yädq̄y? Where is the trap?
Hèl zhìk dhèq̄! Here is the trap!***

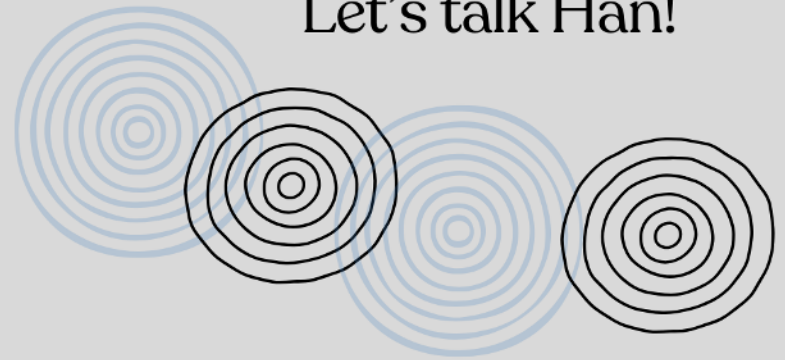
During Trapping Week at the beginning of February, Tamara Dickson from the Natural Resources Department and Ali Anderson visited the grade 5 class at Robert Service School.

Students had the chance to gain hands-on experience and learn how to skin martens.



Hän k'è tr'èhihè!

Let's talk Hän!



Community Conversation Circles

With Hän Teacher Mandi-May Bond

MONDAYS BETWEEN 5:30 - 6:30 PM
IN THE HERITAGE BOARD ROOM
Starting Monday, March 2

Have questions or concerns?
Need access to Hän vocabulary sheets?
Please email mandi-may.bond@trondek.ca

YUKON RIVER

Declaration of Personhood

Citizen Engagement Session

Thursday, March 12

5:00 pm

Āłāt Nèhèjèl

Dinner is provided

Zoom Link





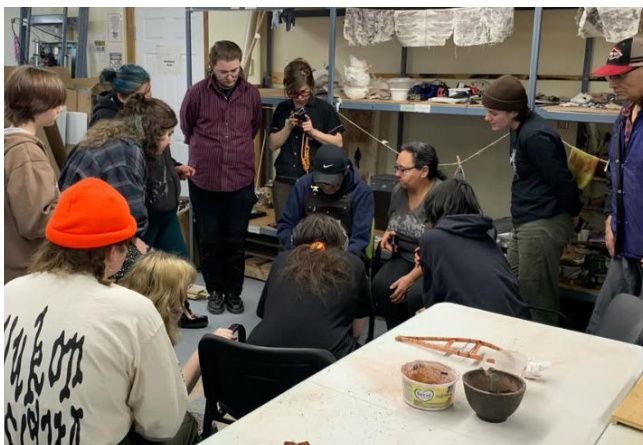
*A yädq̄? Where are the snowshoes?
A zhìk dhêdla! Here are the snowshoes!*

In mid February, the Bridging Program welcomed Bella and William Charlie from Fort McPherson for a snowshoe-making workshop. Students from both the Bridging Program and the Yukon School of Visual Arts joined in a hands on workshop.

Students learned how to carve and bend birch, practiced knitting (webbing) the sinew and babiche, and stained the snowshoes with powdered ochre.

Allie Winton, Traditional Knowledge Steward, brought in a pair of snowshoes made by Joe and Annie Henry from the TH Heritage Collection.

Mähsj' cho to our guest instructors, and to everyone who made this workshop come to life!



Photos by Hannah Jickling and Katie English.

Our Journey to the stars with Wilfred Buck



The week of February 24, we had the absolute pleasure of welcoming Wilfred Buck to our community. Wilfred is an Ininiw (Cree) astronomer, author, educator, addictions consultant, knowledge keeper and lecturer originally from Opaskwayak Cree Nation. He has 25 years experience as an educator, working with students of all ages. He worked as a science facilitator for 15 years at the Manitoba First Nations Education Resource Centre, where he did extensive research on Ininiw Acakosuk (Cree stars/constellations). He is considered the foremost authority on Indigenous astronomy in the world.

Wilfred brought his mobile planetarium with him and nine different school classes, as well as an adult learning group had the chance to learn about Indigenous astronomy. The week was full of stories, time on the land, a deep dive into the cosmos and night sky viewing.

We plan to continue our journey to learn/relearn the sky stories and Indigenous constellations. We will continue to facilitate these sorts of opportunities in the future.

This wonderful experience with Wildred Buck was a joint effort made possible by the TH Education Elders on Campus program and the Heritage Department.

Mähsj' cho to Wilfred for sharing his vast knowledge and wisdom with our community!



Director of Heritage Georgette McLeod, Heritage Collections Steward Dylan Meyerhoffer and Elder Victor Henry recently spent a few days in Ottawa building relationships with communities and national museums.

They visited the Canadian Museum of History and identified 15 cultural objects affiliated with Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in as well as 3,000 archeological artifacts collected from TH Traditional Territory between the 1920s and '60s.

The visit is the beginning of relationship-building, in the hopes of continuing discussions for possible future co-management.

During the visit, Georgette, Victor and Dylan also had the opportunity to visit with the community of Kitigan Zibi and Pikwanagan First Nation at the Canadian Conservation Institute, where Nun Cho Ga is currently being cared for.



Above: Victor and Georgette checking out a woolly rhino skeleton at the Canadian Museum of Nature, Natural Heritage Complex.

Top right: Georgette speaking with Kitigan Zibi and Pikwanagan FN community members who joined Victor and Georgette for prayer and ceremony at the Canadian Conservation Institute.

Bottom right: Victor and Georgette enjoying the sites in Ottawa.

Dãno ñts'ą' tr'ädäl Heritage Department

Citizen Engagement Session
Thursday, March 19
2:00 - 7:00 pm
Ätät Nēhējēl

Refreshments, traditional food and dinner provided.

Heritage Snowshoe Club

Every Tuesday at 3:30 pm

Meet at Käjit-in Zho!

Everyone is welcome to join us for a snowshoe
around town followed by tea and snacks at
Käjit-in Zho.

Some snowshoes will be available to borrow, but if
you have your own, please bring them with you!

In the spirit of Dãno ñts'ą'tr'ädäl (Heritage Department) hosting Snowshoe Club there are currently a pair of adult snowshoes made of young birch and sinew by Joe Henry and Annie Henry on display in Hähkè Steve Taylor Building. The toes are rounded and bent upwards with fine Gwich'in style webbing. Three stretchers across the frame. Ke ing tsik is Han for the skinny babiche webbing that fills in at the toe and back section of the snowshoe. Sh(y) a ntiing is the fill where the feet go on the snowshoe. (Language session with Percy Henry March 19, 2010)



They also have a wider mesh which suits the wetter snow in the southern lakes area. The mesh of Gwich'in snowshoes is very fine because of the much drier snow, almost the texture of sugar or flour in the extreme cold. The mesh, when finished, has equal-sized diamond-shaped holes despite the rounded and upward tilt of the toes. It is started with a complex move of the sinew from left to right to top. I observed the mesh being constructed by Joe and also by Jessie Thomas in Old Crow, but couldn't determine any repetitive pattern, it is such an ingenious abstract design, learned and passed on over centuries. Joe said that there was a special red powdered paint available at Caley's store to colour the frames but before he could buy the dye, he used the red iron clay from farther up the Dempster (I think its called Iron Creek?). They had to be painted red, he said, or it was bad luck. Another thing that was more understandably bad luck was if there were any knots in the weaving. Of course, if they broke while someone was out alone in the bush, it would slow the person's travelling

Excerpt of a story from Eleanor Millard, October, 2005 "One day I was excited to see Joe making snowshoes. He told me that he would find young birch trees only at a certain time early in the spring just as the sap was beginning to run so the wood was flexible enough, but not too strong. There was a place nearby that was good for the saplings needed for the frames. He would take a lot of them, since some of them would break as he moulded them into a proper shape, and the two sides had to be of uniform size. He was especially proud of the rounded toes, and said that they had to be rounded and bent upward so they wouldn't catch in the low bushes while moving over the land. He said Teslin snowshoes are pointed, and not as good for the northern area for this reason.



JJ Van Bibber latching up a toboggan in front of a cabin at Lover Creek on the Nation River. Clara and JJ's snowshoes can be seen leaning against the cabin.

considerably since the snow would collect through a hole. It was important to have the finest mesh with no chance of breaking. Joe said he didn't want me to buy the snowshoes that I did buy because there were too many knots in the mesh and it was bad luck. He also said he was getting tired of making snowshoes and had decided to stop. I convinced him to sell them to me, saying that I would probably never be out in the bush alone hunting in the freezing cold. I was certain that they might be the very last pair he made, although he said he would make me a better pair if I would wait. I paid \$50 for them, sometime in the early 70's. The many hours and skill involved in making them is worth much more than that, but he said that was the price."

Citizens are always welcome to visit Dãno ñts'ą'tr'ädäl, on the ground floor of Hähke Steve Taylor Building, and to join us at Snowshoe Club every Tuesday at 3:30 pm at Käjit-in Zho.



Erika Scheffen and Keisha Morberg-Green recently completed a dog blanket for Jody Potts-Joseph who will be running in the Iditarod this coming month.

Erika explains: “dog blankets have been used for a long time by First Nations dog mushers. Jody requested 16 artists to help her create and bring back this wonderful tradition. Everyone at the final will hear Jody and her bells come in and mountains will roar!”

The dog blanket designed and made by Erika and Keisha took between 90-120 hours to create, and features

tufting, a large variety of beads in different sizes including delicas, 24k gold seed beads, sterling silver seed beads. The piece also features embroidery tufting, raised beadwork, fur and crochet.

Erika writes: “The blanket has so much meaning from traditional art to contemporary. We have traditional geometric shapes used around the edging of the blanket. The triangles represent mountains, the blue bumps represented the water and the brown straight line represents the land. I got this idea from a beautiful gift I had received two years ago from one of my most favorite people, linguist John Ritter. He gifted me a purse that has the same geometrical shapes. We also have the circles that look similar to a target that represents spirituality, land and people. So with the target symbol there is usually two outer circles and one in the center. In this case we used the bell as the center. We also created smaller target symbols on each corner.

We didn’t do this all on our own, we also had some help from internationally known bead artist Dolores Scheffen. She assisted us with the sewing machine and putting the pieces together. We also went to spend a couple of hours with another international artist in my family, Jackie Olson. Jackie was also our teacher when we did the Yukon First Nations Art Certificate Course a few years ago with Yukon University Tr’odëk Campus. Jackie assisted

us with her traditional knowledge of the geometrical shapes that we used and the meaning behind it. Elaine Corden, and Miriam Behman from Tr’ondëk Hwëch’in Communications, helped us with the photography and edits of the photos. Kate Marks the Tr’ondëk Hwëch’in Events Coordinator donated the patches and some gifts for our cousin Jody. Without all you folks we wouldn’t have been able to finish all the pieces making this project fully complete with the stories, photos and putting it together (my sewing machine skills are my weakest link to my art).

On my side of the blanket, there is so much meaning from the northern lights to the stars, I have even put in the Big Dipper and Little Dipper (Which Tr’ondëk Hwëch’in and many other FN have traditional stories that have been passed down orally through generations on the Yukon River from Dawson City, YT down to Eagle, AK. Forget-me-nots to represent the Alaska State Flower, and fireweed to represent the Yukon Territorial Flower. The Moosehide Gathering patch: this is where our family comes from, also one of our traditional camps, and where the Hän as well as Northern Tutchone and Gwitch’in resided during the Gold Rush.

On Keisha’s side, she did beautiful beaded and embroidered flowers with cute little bumble bees, using all different colors, starting with her favorite color pink, blues greens, and abalone shells in the center. Without bees there would be no life. We both worked on the geometrical shapes boarder together. I beaded all of the target symbols using different shades of reds and different sizes of seed beads, the silver used is sterling silver seed beads. Dolores and I sewed the materials together. Keisha did the crochet and the edging. With crochet, I added the fur around the neck trim. Keisha and I each did our own sides of the project. Both Keisha and my initials are on the blanket so that it is copyright.”

Mähsj’ cho Erika and Keisha for sharing your beautiful work with us!



Ch'onk'ä Tsän Chu Kon' Dëk- Fire Along the River with a Spirit

A Declaration of Yukon River Personhood

The Implementation and Heritage Departments have co-developed a draft Declaration of Personhood for the Yukon River. The declaration highlights Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in's ancient and enduring relationship with the river, and the need to care for and honour the river as a relative rather than a resource.

The declaration says:

We, the Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in, affirm that Chu Kon' Dëk is a sentient being with a spirit, knowledge, rights, responsibilities, and must be treated with the same respect as an honoured relative. In colonial law, this is called personhood; in Dënezhu Law, we understand this to be the true nature of Chu Kon' Dëk.

We, the Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in, declare that the portion of the Yukon River Corridor passing through our Traditional Territory is an Indigenous Protected and Conserved Area, to be managed for the physical and spiritual health of the river and its relations.

Indigenous Protected and Conserved Areas (IPCAs) are lands and waters where Indigenous governments lead conservation through Indigenous laws and governance. IPCAs are Indigenous-led, elevate Indigenous rights and responsibilities, and represent long-term conservation commitments. Other protection designations under federal or territorial law are often layered with an IPCA designation to give the area stronger, more easily enforceable protection.

The draft declaration of Yukon River Personhood also:

- Highlights the Tsà Wëhzhè, or traveller stories as a unifying thread connecting us to ancestors and future generations, and connecting Nations along the river
- Calls on other governments to align their laws and decisions with the declaration
- Invites other Yukon River Nations to unite in protection of the Yukon River

- Invites all those who benefit from the waters of the Yukon River to recognize the river's personhood and their role in protecting the river and its rights.

The declaration lists these rights for the river:

- To live, to exist and to flow
- To maintain its natural cycles
- To maintain its integrity
- To maintain its natural biodiversity
- To perform its essential ecosystem functions
- To evolve naturally, to be protected and preserved
- To support plant medicines, animals and the return of salmon and caribou
- To be free from pollution
- To regenerate, clean itself and be restored
- To sustain life for perpetuity

We would like to hear Citizens' thoughts about the declaration.

- What do you think about declaring Yukon River Personhood and a Yukon River Corridor IPCA?
- What do you think about the name Ch'onk'ä Tsän Chu Kon' Dëk and the English translation Fire Along the River with a Spirit?
- What do you think about the list of rights for the river?

We will be holding Citizen Engagement Sessions at the Whitehorse office on March 6 and in Dawson at Áłt' Nēhējēl on March 12. Zoom links will be available for both sessions.

If you have feedback for us, would like to see the full declaration before the engagement, or if you want to chat with us about Yukon River Personhood in general we would love to hear from you! You can contact us at:

Anna Claxton IPCA Project Coordinator:
anna.claxton@trondek.ca, (867) 993-3470

Paul Butterworth Dënezhu Ways Advisor:
denezhuways.advisor@trondek.ca, (867) 993-3576

Dawson Community Meeting and Update on the Clinton Creek Mine Remediation Project

Monday, March 16, 5:30 - 7:30 p.m.
TH Hall (Äät Néhäjël)

Dinner served at 5:30 pm. Please join us for an update from TH Natural Resources and Canada on the Clinton Creek Mine Remediation Project. Learn more about employment and contracting opportunities associated with the upcoming remediation work at the abandoned Clinton Creek Asbestos Mine.

Everyone welcome!

Door prizes!

Are you a TH-owned business looking for contracting opportunities on upcoming remediation work at the Clinton Creek Mine Site?

Join the meeting on March 16 to register your interest in a follow-up meeting with project procurement representatives on Tuesday, March 17 (daytime and evening time-slots are available).

Are you a TH Citizen looking for training and/or employment opportunities associated with the upcoming work at the Clinton Creek Mine Site?

If you are interested in exploring opportunities related to the Clinton Creek Mine Site, join us March 16 to learn about upcoming employment and training opportunities associated with the remediation project. Please contact becky.alderson@trondek.ca for more information or to register your interest!

For more information about the event, or to register interest, contact Bill Kendrick, Special Projects Coordinator, at bill.kendrick@trondek.ca or at (867) 993-4762 (please leave a message).

Sränä Di Gras Family Fun Day

Saturday, March 14, 12:00 - 3:00 pm
Minto Park

This is a family friendly event with games, activities, prizes, food and refreshments!

This event is a collaboration with TH Education, Käjit-in Zho and the City of Dawson.

Tthe Dhäl Zho (Hot Rock House) Ceremonies March Wellness Camp

Nänkäk Chèholay (Land of Plenty) With ceremonies led by Randall Tetlich

Saturday, March 28

Grieving Tthe Dhäl Zho - For people who are grieving for loved ones who have passed.

Ceremony begins at 3:00 pm. Lunch and dinner will be served.

Sunday, March 29

Community Tthe Dhäl Zho - Open to community, anyone who would like to join in healing.

Sweat begins at 1:00 pm. Lunch and dinner will be served.

Monday, March 30

Packing and travelling back home.

Evening programming on March 28 and 29 will be added closer to the date.

To register, or for more information, contact:
Charmaine.Christiansen@trondek.ca, (867) 993-3679



Community Safety Plan Initiative Meeting

Session 3

Defining a community vision for long-term safety and wellness.



WEDNESDAY MARCH 25 & THURSDAY MARCH 26

ÄLÄT NĒHĒJĒL
9:00AM - 3:00PM
Everyone welcome!

We are inviting all TH Citizens and community members to participate .

This meeting will be the third and final community engagement session. We will be working on creating a workplan to implement safety measures to work proactively in our community.

- substance misuse and mental health
- housing
- community supports / traditional values
- food security

New door prizes and every attendee gets a \$25 Bonanza Market Gift Card!



Citizen Benefit Fund

Deadline for next funding is March 12, 2026



The Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in Citizen Benefit Fund (CBF), established by Chief Isaac Group of Companies, provides benefits to Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in Citizens. It's funded by partners and is distributed quarterly, with a focus on youth engagement, Elders' support, and community-based initiatives. The fund also supports educational pursuits and organizations that support or are run by TH Citizens.

We are hiring for:

- Class 3 Fuel Truck Driver
- Field Engineer - Industrial & Tech
- Assistant Manager - Grocery
- CII Business Manager - NWH

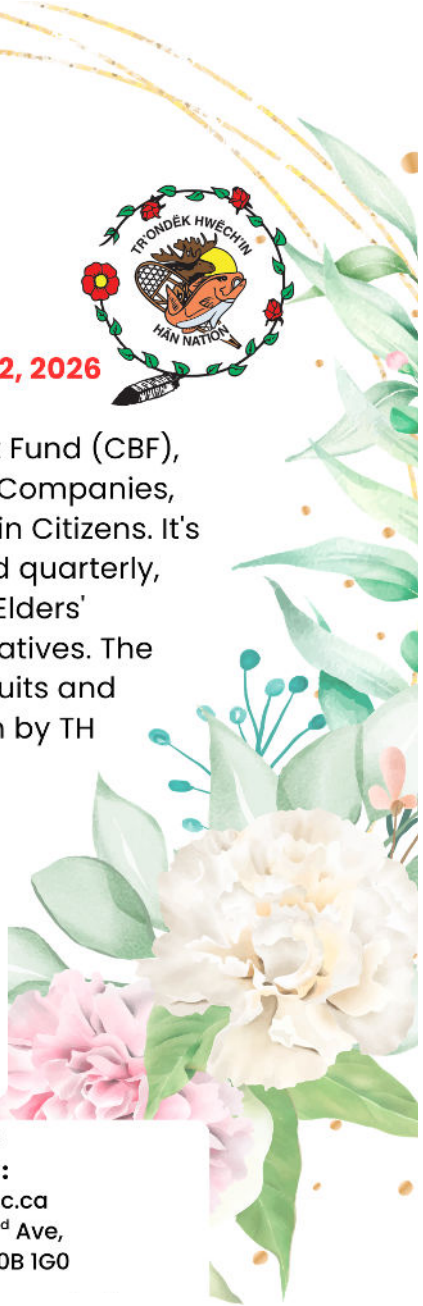
Contact Info

Email: info@chiefisaac.ca
 Phone: (867) 993-5384

Send Your Resume To:

info@chiefisaac.ca
 PO Box 1110, 1371 2nd Ave,
 Dawson City, YT, Y0B 1G0

Or find opportunities online at chiefisaac.ca




APPLY NOW!

Introductory Carpentry Training Program!

WHY APPLY

This **no-cost**, 4-week, hands-on program, delivered through Yukon University, is a great opportunity to learn foundational carpentry skills, gain real construction experience, and take a first step toward a career in the trades.

PROGRAM DATES & LOCATION

 March 30 – April 24, 2026

 Han Construction Shop (Albert Street and Front Street)

WHO CAN APPLY

This program is ideal for individuals who:

- Are interested in carpentry or skilled trades
- Want hands-on, practical training
- Are exploring employment in construction

HOW TO APPLY

To apply for the program or receive more information, please email **Clarence Olson at colson@wildstone.com**.

This program is made possible by Wildstone Construction, in partnership with Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in, the Yukon Government and Yukon University.



Attention Citizens: Yukon University is partnering with Wildstone Construction and Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in to offer a 4-week introductory carpentry training program! The program will run from March 30-April 24, 2026 here in Dawson City.

To apply, please contact Clarence Olson at colson@wildstone.com.

If you wish for additional support with applying or are seeking more information, please contact:

Becky Alderson // becky.alderson@trondek.ca

TH Citizens who are interested in the program and would like to seek funding, please reach out to the Post-Secondary Coordinator by March 20, 2026:

Natalja Blanchard // post.secondary.coordinator@trondek.ca