



2026 Moosehide GATHERING



Drin hqzq

It is my pleasure to welcome you to Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in Traditional Territory for the 2026 Moosehide Gathering. This is the 17th Gathering we have had since 1993, and we are no less proud and excited than the very first year. Mähsj' cho to all those who have taken time from their busy lives to join us.

Moosehide Gathering is time to reconnect with family and friends and to share our language, culture, and traditions. Moosehide Village has been a special place for Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in for millennia. Here, we have hosted potlaches to honour people and celebrate significant events. We have sung here, danced here, drummed here, fished here, picked berries and medicine here, and planned our future here. We have raised our families and taught our young people the values and skills that have let us thrive here. We have passed on our traditions. We have always been here, and we always will.

Our ability and desire to share this place with so many guests and distant relatives is the work of our ancestors. Our great grandmothers and grandfathers had the vision and wisdom to take care of our land so that it would always take care of us, and it is our happy responsibility to uphold this tradition. We welcome you here so you can share in our pride and gratitude for all that we have.

I offer a strong mähsj cho to everyone who helps make the Moosehide Gathering a success: our Elders and ancestors, the Moosehide Gathering organizing committee, our sponsors and jëje-in, our volunteers, and the countless others who contribute in ways large and small. I wish you a fun and safe gathering. Nëkhwe-tr'ënòh-'ay gha shò tr'inlay. K'ànàcha. We are happy to see you. Take good care.

Hähkè Darren Taylor
Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in



The Story of Moosehide Gathering

In the late 1800s, as tens of thousands of gold seekers arrived in the Klondike Valley, Chief Isaac of the Hän people recognized that his community's traditions and way of life were threatened. He took the songs and dances of his people across the border to the old Tanacross village at Lake Mansfield, Alaska, entrusting his relatives to preserve them until the time was right to retrieve them. At this time, the Hän people moved from Tr'ochëk, their fish camp at the mouth of the Klondike and Yukon rivers, to Moosehide Village where we celebrate the gathering today.

The Tanacross community and extended family members held Chief Isaac's songs for our people for many decades until we were ready to reclaim them. The 1991 Yukon Aboriginal Languages Conference provided inspiration for the renewal of Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in culture. Our main objective was to revitalize Hän history, songs, dances, and traditional dress. That same year, we held a weekend camp to bring our people together and enjoy each other's company.

In 1992, a group of Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in people travelled to Tanacross to observe and learn how to host a large traditional gathering. It was then that they began learning long-forgotten Hän songs and dances.

Committed to revitalizing our ancestors' celebrations, the Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in hosted the first Moosehide Gathering in 1993. Moosehide Gathering is a celebration of our culture an honouring of our heritage, our ancestors, and our future. We invite everyone to join us at Moosehide to share our stories, songs, and dances, enjoy local and guest performers, and delicious feasts prepared by our cooks. We are honored to have you visit us.





Info Booths

Get all the information you need at our information booths, located in Dawson City and Moosehide Village. Here you will find information on performances, workshops, camping arrangements, volunteer management, and anything else you might need to know about this year's Gathering.

What Do I Bring?

Remember Moosehide Village is located several kilometres down river from Dawson City and you will not have quick access to stores and general supplies.

Clothes: This is an outdoor event, and you will travel on the river. Please dress for the weather and bring rain gear.

Water: Potable water is available at Moosehide, however it is brought in by boat. To help us manage the demand for water, please bring your own.

Extra Snacks: We recommend bringing extra snacks with you to ensure you never go hungry. Food will be available for purchase at the concession throughout the day, and there will be a free feast every evening, however we suggest bringing extra food just in case..

Camping Equipment: If you plan to stay at Moosehide Village for the duration of the Gathering, be sure to bring all the necessary equipment for camping.

Cash Only: Be sure to bring cash if you wish to purchase merchandise, raffle/draw/50-50 tickets, or concession items.

Info Booth Hours

Thursday: 12:00pm – 8:00pm
Friday and Saturday: 9:00am – 8:00pm
Sunday: 9:00am – 12:00pm

Transportation

Free boat rides to Moosehide Gathering are provided.

Remain patient during high-traffic hours as there will be many people travelling to or from Moosehide Village. Please note that Elders and performers have priority on boats.

Boat Hours

Thursday: 12:00pm – 10:00pm
Friday and Saturday: 8:00am – 10:00pm
Sunday: 8:00am – 6:00pm

We encourage able-bodied visitors who are comfortable with intermediate hiking to walk the trail. Rides to the Top of the Dome trail will be available and guides will bring groups on the trail. The trail is a demanding 4 kilometres and takes around two hours.

This is an intermediate hiking trail with steep downhill slopes and uneven ground. Please wear proper hiking boots and we encourage you to bring hiking poles.

Hike Hours

For hikes leaving from Dawson, meet at the Dawson side info booth 10 minutes before departure.

Thursday: 12:00pm
Friday: 10:00am / 12:00pm / 2:00pm
Saturday: 10:00am / 12:00pm / 2:00pm

ASL Interpretation

We are proud to announce that Moosehide Celebration will be accessible to the deaf and hard of hearing community. ASL interpretation will be provided throughout the entire day program. Our ASL interpreters are Mary Tiessen and Ewa Carter.





Gift Giveaway

The cultural custom of gift giving is a time honored tradition in Hän culture taught to us by our Elders and Ancestors. The redistribution of wealth is connected to our values of taking care of people in our community and territory. For those who wish to take part in the Gift Giveaway, please join us at the Arbour at 12:00 pm on Sunday, August 2.

Please note: the tradition of the Gift Giveaway is for our guests, and Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in Citizens will not receive gifts during this moment of celebration. .

Feasts

Since the very earliest times, whenever a gathering was held on Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in Traditional Territory, Hän families hosted large feasts for their guests in the spirit of sharing and caring. In keeping with this tradition, all visitors are invited to join our feasts each evening during the Moosehide Gathering. Feasts will include traditional foods, wild meat, salads, sweets, and other tasty surprises! We are very grateful for our cook Ross Cockburn and his kitchen crew, and all the many volunteers who make the feast a great success.

Feast Hours
Thursday: 5:30pm
Friday and Saturday: 6:00pm
Sunday: 1:00pm

- The MC will announce when the feast is ready.
- A prayer will be offered before the feast begins.
- Elders will be served first, then performers and volunteers.
- Boat shuttles to and from Moosehide will pause during the feast.
- Please be patient! Our crew is working hard to make sure everyone is fed.

Recycling and Compost

We take great effort to make this event kind to the earth, including purchasing locally grown food, buying natural cleaning and hygiene products and composting food waste from the feasts and concession.

A Zero Waste tent is located next to the Feast Tent and we ask that you dispose of your waste there. Volunteers will be available to help you sort your waste.

Sacred Fire

Please do not feed the Sacred Fire or put anything in or around this area. Designated Sacred Fire Attendants will be caring for and feeding the fire throughout the Moosehide Gathering. If you have any questions about the Sacred Fire or its protocols, please ask one of the firekeepers.

Respecting Our Elders

It is important that we honour our Elders. You can do this by:
Offering them your chair or place at the table.
Asking them if they would like food, tea, or coffee.
Offering to help them if they seem in need.
Giving them your place in line at the boats, feast, or concession stand.

Photography

While Moosehide Gathering is a public event, we ask that you be respectful when photographing Elders and Citizens participating in cultural activities. If you wish to photograph someone outside of a scheduled performance, please ask for their consent first. Thank you for helping us create a respectful and welcoming environment for all participants.



This is a substance-free event. No Dogs.

Moosehide Graveyard

Our ancestors are in attendance at the graveyard, and it is very important that they be treated with respect. Be mindful of keeping the graveyard clean. An offering of tobacco and prayer is appreciated. Mähsj cho.



Artist Market Hours

Local and visiting arts and crafts vendors will be selling their wares in the Artist Market.

Thursday: 5:00pm – 9:00pm
Friday and Saturday: 11:00am – 9:00pm
Sunday: 10:00am – 3:00pm

Kids Zone and Education Tent Hours

The youth programming tent is hosted by the Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in Ní'ehlyat Nidahji' / Our Families, Our Future Branch, the Education Department, Yukon First Nation Education Directorate (YFNED), and other local programs. We offer daily activities, games, arctic sports, arts and crafts. This area is an activity area for children and youth. Watch out for a separate schedule.

Please supervise your children during the activities. Thank you for your cooperation.

Thursday: 2:00pm -5:00pm
Friday and Saturday: 10:00am – 5:00pm
Sunday: 10:00am – 12:00pm

Raffles

There will be daily raffles, big-ticket item draws, and 50/50 tickets for purchase. Try your luck! All proceeds go to Moosehide Gathering. Please note: big-ticket item draws will take place on **Saturday, August 1 at 6:00pm**, during the Feast line-up.

Raffle Hours

Thursday: 5:00pm – 9:00pm
Friday: 10:00am – 9:00pm
Saturday: 10:00am – 9:00pm

Merchandise Hours

All proceeds from merchandise sales directly support the Moosehide Gathering.

Thursday: 5:00pm – 7:30pm
Friday and Saturday: 11:00am – 5:00pm
Sunday: 11:00am – 1:00pm

Concession Hours

Thursday: 12:00pm – 4:00pm / 7:00pm – 9:00pm
Friday and Saturday: 8:30am – 10:00am / 12:00pm – 4:00pm / 6:00pm – 9:00pm
Sunday: 8:30am – 12:00pm

Heritage Celebration Tent

Friday and Saturday: 10:00am – 5:00pm

Join us at the Heritage Celebration Tent and be informed, explore, learn and share in traditional law and potlatch. Learn about recent donations to Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in Heritage, discover genealogy records and photos from Yukon Archives, the Tr'ondëk/Klondike as a UNESCO World Heritage Site, and our Hän language featuring daily Hän Yoga sessions, and a special puppet show based on one of our long ago stories. If you are lucky, taste some traditional food cooked on the fire. Learn about *Speaking with Chu Kon' DëkThe'* an interactive community storytelling project by the Implementation Department.

Volunteering at Moosehide Gathering

It's not too late to volunteer! If you are interested in lending a hand, we invite you to add your name to our on-call volunteer list. We will need lots of help over the weekend and would love to have you! To sign up, please visit one of our information booths.

Day 1 Thursday, July 30

3:30 pm	Opening Ceremony Opening Prayer Opening Remarks by Hähkè Darren Taylor, Mayor of City of Dawson and others Lighting of the Sacred Fire Raising of the Flags by the Dawson City Canadian Rangers & Junior Rangers Hän Singers
5:30 pm	Prayer and Feast – All are welcome <i>No boat rides during the Feast</i>
6:30 pm	Live Music at the Arbour, jigging and dancing with the Last Chance Fiddle Band, opening by the Dawson City Fiddlers and others
10:00 pm	Last Boat leaves Moosehide

Day 2 Friday, July 31

12:00 pm to 5:30 pm	Mainstage hosted by Shyanne Beatty & William Greenland Fluent speaker award ceremony for Hän language Elders presented by Heritage Department Hän language team. Speech by MP Brendan Hanley Performances featuring traditional & contemporary artists from the Yukon, NWT, BC, and Alaska including: Hän Singers, Tanacross & Northway, Dakwäkäda Dancers, Gwich'in Nation Dancers, Eldzi Drum Group, Kluane Singers and Dancers, Selkirk Spirit Dancers, Animal Calling Contest and more!
6:00 pm	Prayer and Feast – All are welcome <i>No boat rides during the Feast</i>
7:00 pm	Live Music at the Arbour with Kevin Barr and Boyd Benjamin followed by Dena Zagi
10:00 pm	Last Boat leaves Moosehide

Day 3 Saturday, August 1

12:00 pm to 5:30 pm	Mainstage hosted by Shyanne Beatty & William Greenland Performances featuring traditional & contemporary artists from the Yukon, NWT, BC and Alaska including: Hän Singers, Tanacross & Northway, Dakhka Khwaan, Selkirk Spirit Dancers, Eldzi Drum Group, Kluane Singers & Dancers, Dakwäkäda Dancers and more
6:00 pm	Prayer and Feast – All are welcome <i>No boat rides during the Feast</i>
7:00 pm	Live Music at the Arbour, jigging and dancing with the Last Chance Fiddle Band, opening by the Dawson City Fiddlers and others
10:00 pm	Last Boat leaves Moosehide

Day 4 Sunday, August 2

10:00 am	Church Service at the Arbour
12:00 pm	Closing Ceremony Lowering the Flags by the Dawson City Rangers Closing Remarks by Hähkè Darren Taylor Closing the Sacred Fire Closing Prayer Hän Singers
12:50 pm	Gift Giveaway by Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in Citizens
1:15 pm	Prayer and Farewell Feast / Open Mic
3:00 pm	End of Moosehide Gathering
6:00 pm	Last Boat leaves Moosehide

Traditional Crafts Workshop Tent

Please visit the Moosehide Info Booth, near the workshop tent for workshops scheduling, sign-up and more details. Space is limited so sign-up early if you can!

**Workshops Friday and Saturday
between 10:00am – 5:00pm**

Mini Hide Stretching Copper Caribou

Create your own mini hide frame with hand-cleaned caribou skin, sinew and cured willow.

Fish Skin Tanning Demo Cheryl McLean

Learn about and see different fish skin tanning methods

Porcupine Quill & Caribou Tufting Maria Rose Sikyea

Explore techniques in porcupine quill and caribou tufting.

Medicinal Plant Walk

Join **Fran Morberg-Green** and **Madeline Noonan** on a walk around Moosehide Village / learn about plants and their uses.

Sharing Our Stories Reconnection Vision

Join us for a two-hour workshop where we will set intentions, reflect on First Nation teachings and participate in meaningful conversations. Slow down, reconnect and ground yourself in our stories and the land.

Lanyard beading Dustin & Tristan Henry

Learn the basics of traditional beading and make a beaded lanyard.

Tea Blending & Tasting Fran Morberg-Green

Sip some medicinal teas while learning about Fran's signature blends.

Deetrù Chuh Earrings Copper Caribou

Create your own set of earrings with copper wire, caribou antler and recycled materials.

Youth Screen Printing Yukon First Nation Education Directorate

Learn to screenprint at the Youth Tent with Adam Titus! Bring your own art or create something on-site.

Horn & Antler Carving Ron Chambers

Learn basic carving skills.

Music Workshops hosted by NORTH KLONDYKE HIGHWAY MUSIC SOCIETY

Open Friday and Saturday 12:30pm to 5:00pm

The North Klondyke Highway Music Society was formed in 2008 to promote music education in rural communities with a focus on fiddle traditions and youth empowerment. This year they will offer music workshops focused on tunes and instruments used at square dances and campfire sing-alongs. Everyone is welcome regardless of skill level. There are instruments to share, or bring your own!

Boyd Benjamin has been gifted several Old Crow fiddle tunes, which he will share at his workshops. This music belongs to the Vuntut Gwitchin First Nation and those attending the workshop are encouraged to learn the tunes and the sharing protocols for the music.

A special mähshj cho to the Artcan Circle in Ontario for the generous donation of 30 fiddles. These instruments have been shared with schools and youth in Mayo, Carcross, Old Crow and Dawson City. Mähshj'!

Workshop Leaders List

Boyd Benjamin (YT) – fiddle tunes
Kevin Barr (YT) – guitar accompaniment
Gary Simple, (Alaska) – fiddle tunes, square dances
Dennis Allen (NWT) – blues guitar
Ryan McNally and Lina Halimi (YT)– fiddle tunes on banjo
CA and Sonny (Ontario)– old-time, classic country songs
Peter Menzies (YT) – fiddle and organizer

One Stitch at a Time - A Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in Podcast

Season one of our very own podcast is in the works! This project will create a culturally grounded space where TH Citizens and our wider community can connect with TH stories, teachings and knowledge systems.

Swing by our booth and share your ideas with us, or learn more about how to get involved (maybe even record a soundbite with us)!

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MASTER OF CEREMONIES, William Greenland, YELLOWKNIFE, NWT

William Greenland is retuning to Moosehide Gathering this summer! If you aren't familiar, William is carrying on his mom's legacy of being a proud Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in Citizen. William lives in Yellowknife and works as an independant traditional wellness counselor. He is also a Native American Flute Recording Artist, due to release a full length album.

William has MC'd Moosehide Gathering from 2006 to 2018 and 2024. Over the years he has heard so much wonderful music all along the banks of the Yukon River and is excited to be back as one of your hosts for the 17th Moosehide Gathering

MASTER OF CEREMONIES, Shyanne Beatty, EAGLE, AK

Shyanne Beatty is a respected media professional, and cultural advocate dedicated to preserving and promoting Indigenous cultures through language, music, arts, education, and community engagement. Her diverse career includes roles as a radio host and producer, Hän Language Coordinator for the Yukon Native Languages Centre, translator for National Geographic's Life Below Zero, conservator at the American Museum of Natural History, and Network Manager of Native Voice One Radio. She is best known as the longtime host and producer of Earthsongs, Alaska's first nationally syndicated Indigenous music program. Beatty currently serves as President of Chu K'onn Consulting and has founded initiatives including the Alaska Native Visionary Awards and Village Vogue Fashion Show.

Her work continues to advance language revitalization, Indigenous arts, nonprofit leadership, and international collaboration.



Hän Singers and Dancers, DAWSON CITY, YT

The Hän Singers and Dancers have been singing traditional Hän songs since the early 1990s. The group includes members of all ages and performs in small and large ensembles. The history of the songs sung by the Hän Singers extends back to Chief Isaac, an influential Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in leader. He foresaw that his people could lose an important part of their culture: the songs and dances. Elders tell stories of how Chief Isaac gave the Hän songs to Alaskan people for safekeeping. Elder Archie Roberts was the only one who knew the songs when Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in had their first Moosehide Gathering in 1993. Since then, Alaskan Elders Laura Sanford, Larry Jonathan, and Kenny Thomas Sr. and their family members have assisted Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in in reviving five traditional songs from Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in Traditional Territory. Since Moosehide Gathering 2006, the group has received two new songs.



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Selkirk Spirit Dancers, PELLY CROSSING, YT

The Selkirk Spirit Dancers were originally established through Selkirk First Nation's Culture Program in the early 2000s and were revitalized in 2006 by dedicated volunteers committed to restoring traditional song and dance in Pelly Crossing. These first practices started small, with a few youth being shown steps by dance leaders and Elders.

Community Elders shared stories of feasts and potlatches once held at Fort Selkirk, their ancestral home along the Yukon River. These traditions were disrupted by the relocation of the community following the end of the steamboat era and the impacts of residential schools, leading to a decline in the practice of cultural ceremonies and traditions.

After the pandemic disrupted gatherings and performances, the Selkirk Spirit Dancers were once again revitalized by dedicated dance leaders. Since then, interest in the group has grown significantly, with a renewed focus on engaging children, youth, and Elders. Today, the society has more than 55 active members, holds expanded weekly practices, and continues to strengthen and celebrate culture through both traditional and newly learned dances.

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Our Path Forward

We are honoured to serve 97 northern communities, each with a rich and unique Indigenous history, culture, and identity.

We're committed to building relationships based on partnership, consultation and respect while expanding reliable, high-speed connectivity across the North.

Learn about the progress we've made towards reconciliation in Northern Canada at nwtel.ca/reconciliation

 Northwestel



Moosehide Gathering 2024. Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in Government. - Image by Archbould Photography



Last Chance Fiddle Band, VENETIE, AK

Gary Simple, Jerry Frank and Ricky Frank have been playing fiddle together since childhood. Growing up in the '60s old fiddle tunes, played by both fiddle and guitar players, were the centre point at many dances and social gatherings. Hailing from Venetie, Alaska, the Last Chance Fiddle Band is the last traditional fiddle band still playing 12 fiddle dances, handed down since the 1800s.

Kluane Potlatch Singers, HAINES JUNCTION, YT

The Kluane Potlatch Singers were formed in 2025 after members of their Southern Tutchone sister nation, Champagne and Aishihik First Nations (CAFN), expressed a desire to hear Kluane voices singing once again. Inspired by this request, Kluane First Nation (KFN) Citizen and acclaimed singer-songwriter Diyet van Lieshout brought the idea back to her community, leading to the creation of the group.

The group's first ever performance was in June 2025 at the CAFN Waking the Land Drum and Dance Festival, where, at nearly 40 persons strong, they stole the show. Spanning six generations, the Kluane Potlatch Singers' repertoire includes both traditional songs for gatherings and potlatches as well as new songs written by Diyet.

KFN Elders are always striving to keep their people connected to their culture and traditions. The knowledge of these songs is being passed down with love and passion. Forever and always, Lhù'ààn Mân Keyí Daí Kwánje Nààtsat (Kluane Lake Country People Speak Strong).



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Eldzi Drum Group, Nazko Nation, QUESNEL, BC

Eldzi means Moon in our Dakelh language. The Eldzi Dum Group was born from a desire to heal and bring our people together through song, drumming, and culture. When our group first began, we would gather around the fire and drum late into the evening, often until the moon was high in the sky. Those evenings became a place of learning, belonging, and healing.

The Elders in our drum group are residential school survivors. They endured unimaginable hardships and returned home carrying the impacts of those experiences. Despite the trauma they experienced, they helped weave culture back into our community.

Many of the members of our group are second-generation survivors. Through our drumming and singing we are choosing a path rooted in healing, connection, and love. Over the past six years, we have worked to revitalize songs, ceremonies, and cultural practices within our community. We believe our ancestors are proud to see these teachings being carried forward and shared with future generations.

It is a tremendous honour for Eldzi to participate in this gathering. We are grateful for the opportunity to learn from others, share who we are, and bring new teachings home to our community.

Tanacross Drummers & Dancers, TANACROSS, ALASKA

The Tanacross Drummers & Dancers have been active for many years. They enjoy sharing their songs and dances as a large group to build self-esteem and show pride in their heritage. They believe it is important for future generations to learn and pass on their traditional songs and dances. The Tanacross Dancers and the Hän people have an historic connection, and the dance group enjoys coming to Moosehide Gatherings and celebrations to show their support.

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Dàkwākāda Dancers, HAINES JUNCTION, YT

Based in Dàkwākāda (Haines Junction), Yukon, the Dàkwākāda Dancers have been sharing Dän (Southern Tutchone) and Tlingit songs and dances for over 30 years. We were founded by four sisters, granddaughters of the respected Elder Ntthenada, Xixch'tlaa, the late Annie Ned.

Our dance group has a strong focus on children and youth, with some individuals that were involved in the group as children now participating with their own families. Songs and dances taught by Mrs. Ned in Dàkwānjè (Southern Tutchone) provide the foundation of our repertoire. New pieces that reflect the contemporary life experiences of our members are also being performed. Each song is introduced with its origin and story, providing context for what is being shared.

The Dàkwākāda Dancers showcase a very alive Dän culture, where dance group members connect with their ancestral traditions, culture and values, where youth take on leadership roles and even the very young respond to the call of the drum.



Kevin Barr, TAGISH, YT

Kevin Barr first picked up a guitar at the age of nine and has been playing professionally for the past 50 years. His repertoire is vast and varied, from three tours in Europe with the Undertakin' Daddies to opening for the Ozark Mountain Daredevils, BJ Thomas and Ian Tyson; he has also shared the stage with Peter Roewen of New Riders of the Purple Sage, KD Lang, Willie P. Bennett, Penny Lang and Phil Lloyd. Kevin is a well-known face at festivals across Canada and the US along with sharing album credits on many prestigious recordings.

Benjamin Boyd, VANCOUVER, BC

He can fiddle. He can jig. He can cook. He can sing. But what makes Boyd Wesley Benjamin truly extraordinary is he can fly. Boyd comes from a long line of Gwich'in fiddlers in the North and is widely known for his musical talent, but when he was growing up, he had loftier dreams.

When Boyd was a young boy, he would watch planes taking off and landing from his bedroom window in Old Crow, Yukon. Today he flies for Air Canada but during the Gathering we have the 'flying Gwich'in fiddler' here on the ground at Moosehide, playing for you.

Dawson City Fiddlers, Dawson City, YT

Dawson City Fiddlers have been entertaining local audiences since 2010 and are part of the North Klondyke Highway Music Society. Youth enter the year-round program in Grade 3 and learn both Canadian and Yukon fiddle tunes that complement Northern square dancing.



Gwich'in Nation Dancers, OLD CROW, YT

The Gwich'in Nation Dancers are a Traditional Fiddle dance group, spanning from across the Yukon, Northwest Territories and Alaska. The fiddle was introduced to the Gwich'in people more than 100 years ago. Fiddle music and dancing are a timeless art – a vibrant expression of community and heritage passed down through generations and because of its rich fiddle culture and remoteness, the Gwich'in nation has one of the Strongest and most Distinct fiddle traditions in the Yukon. Our dancers are dedicated to keeping this powerful tradition alive. With every step, we tell a Story of Rhythm, Grace and Passion. When you hear the fiddle play for a dance, you are not only listening to a fiddle tune but also to the rich history, culture, community and rhythm unique to the North.

The Gwich'in Nation dancers have been captivating audiences with their innovative and high energy dances and music. The group's reputation has led to many performances and special events across the Yukon. We hope that you will enjoy the high energy that comes with these dances. We are grateful for the opportunity to share our energy and heart when we are performing. We carry a piece of every performance with us, and we hope that you take a small piece of our passion with you as you go. On behalf of our dance group, we would like to recognize Skookum Jim Friendship Center and Vuntut Gwitchin First Nation for your support with Cultural Vitalization initiatives



Dakhká Khwáan Dancers, WHITEHORSE, YT

The Dakhká Khwáan Dancers are national-award-winning Inland Tlingit dance group based in Whitehorse, Yukon Territory. They focus on reclaiming their languages and traditional values through singing, drumming, dancing, and storytelling and strive to present their performance with the outmost respect to cultural protocol and with the highest form of artistic integrity. Members come from all Interior Tlingit nations and other welcomed nations from the Southern Yukon and elsewhere.

Dakhká Khwáan means Inland People/Nation, a name given to them by the late Dakla'weidi elder, Mrs. Eliza Bosely. The group contains members of the Dakla'weidi, Yan Yedi, Ganaxteidi, Deisheetaan, Ishkihittaan, Kookhittaan, Lukaax.ádi and Wolf clans. and is led by Marilyn Jensen, who has danced since she was two years old in the group her Late Mother started in the 1970s, The Skookum Jim/Keish Tlingit Dancers. They are advised and guided by their loving group Elders and through the knowledge passed on from their Ancestors.

Members of the group are the decedents of renowned Yukon Indigenous Elders: Peter and Agnes Johns, Angela Sidney, Dora Wedge, Johnny Johns, Patsy Henderson, Louise Dickson, Tommy Smarch, Antonia Jack and numerous others. Together, they have danced across Canada, the US, New Zealand, Taiwan, the Vancouver 2010 Olympics and the Pam Am Games in 2015.



Dena Zagi, WHITEHORSE, YT

Dennis Shorty began writing and composing songs in his language, Kaska, in 2009. In that same year, Dennis created Dena Zagi with Jennifer Frohling. Jenny is originally from East Germany and is Dennis’ partner. Together they created the band Dena Zagi, which means “people’s voice”, and is written in the Kaska language. It combines both of their talents to create a traditional contemporary duo/band. Dennis is singer, songwriter and guitarist, while Jenny is a singer, plays a traditional drum and second lead, as well as a First Nation flute.

Their lyrics are about the land, animals, respect, ancestors and traditions. They’ve played together in various venues in Canada and Germany and hope to encourage young people to preserve their language through music. Their first album Gucho Hin was nominated in 2018 for the IMA in Winnipeg and CFMA in Calgary. Their second album “282” was released May 2025.



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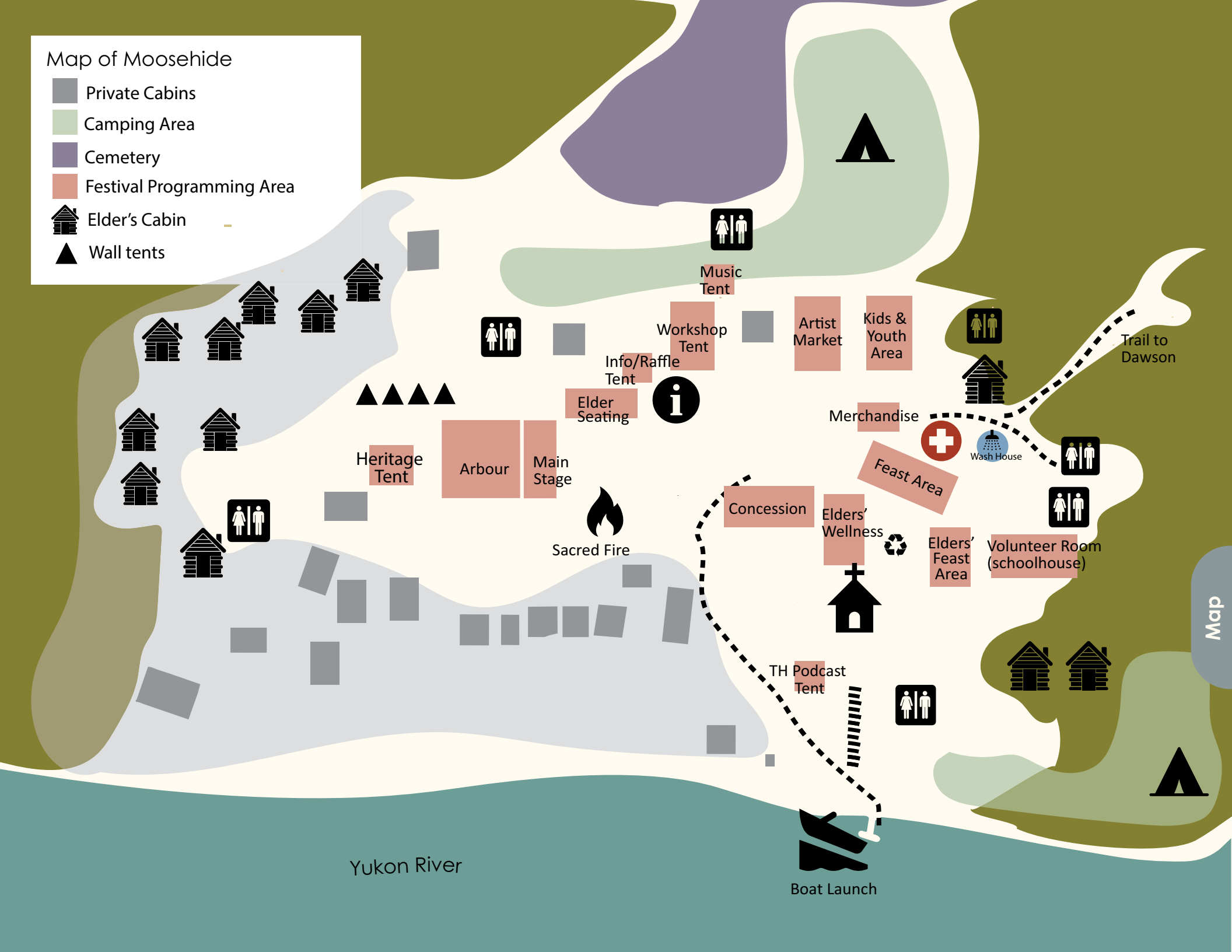


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Map of Moosehide

- Private Cabins
- Camping Area
- Cemetery
- Festival Programming Area
- Elder's Cabin
- Wall tents



Yukon River

Boat Launch

Map

Honoured Elder: Roberta Joseph

Born and raised in Dawson City, Yukon, Roberta Joseph is a member of the Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in nation, and is sixth generation of the Moosehide people and a fourth generation survivor of Residential School. Along with her two adult children, she has many family members still living in the Dawson area. Roberta has spent an extraordinary 33 years working for First Nations. She has served three terms as the Chief and two terms as a Councillor.

In addition to serving in elected office, Joseph dedicated nearly 24 years working for First Nations, including working for the TH Natural Resources Department and the Council of Yukon First Nations as the Director of Finance and Administration.



Through these opportunities, Joseph was gratefully inspired, influenced and mentored by past Yukon First Nation Elders and leaders who instilled in her the importance of the land claims; determination to contribute diligently for the implementation of modern treaties/self-government agreements and for the protection of First Nation's rights, interests, cultural and heritage values. She has served on many boards and committees including the Porcupine Caribou Management Board, TH Trust, TH Justice Administration Committee, and the Moosehide Gathering Committee. As Chief, she served on the Yukon First Nations Chief's Committee on Mining and the Yukon First Nation Chief's Committee on Education; the Assembly of First Nations' Chief's Committee on the Environment and Climate Change, the Executive Committee for the Assembly of First Nations Yukon Regional office, and the Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in Negotiating Mining Committee.

Of late, she sits on the Arctic Athabaskan Council, as nominated by Council of Yukon First Nations, in addition; they have nominated her to the Yukon Environmental Socio Economic Assessment Board (YESAB). She is also a member of the, Northwestel Community Advisory Board and the TH Settlement Land Act Review Committee. In her leisure time, she attends the Dawson Yukon University Campus to provide support to students as an Elder-in-Residence along side her Aunt Angie and Phyllis.

She is a strong supporter of her nation's cultural aspirations and is a member of the Hän Singers. She participates or volunteers at community culture initiatives throughout Tr'ondek Hwech'in traditional territory and is enthusiastic about accomplishing and advancing goals and initiatives which benefit others. Roberta holds a wealth of traditional knowledge and corporate knowledge and enjoys sharing what she knows with others.

Roberta has supported the Moosehide Gathering since it started and can remember attending the very first one in 1993. She has attended almost every Gathering and has volunteered since 2004 on the Moosehide Gathering Committee and other committees that help make the Gathering a success.

Together Today for our Children Tomorrow is a strong statement from Yukon First Nation's past leaders. To sum this up, Ms. Joseph's narrative is; "We will accomplish the mandate envisioned by our past leaders and Elders, through our agreements; always moving forward together to bring opportunities to our people; to educate ourselves; to continue wellness for those of us who are still suffering from past experiences; to preserve and revitalize our culture, language and traditions; to be full partners in ecosystem management, and to sustain progressive economic development initiatives that would transpire our future into a healthy, independent people and community".



Honoured Elder: Linda Christiansen

My name is Linda Christiansen, Tr'ondëk Hwëchin Elder. I was born and raised in Dawson City to my beautiful mother Lena and father Willam Christiansen. I attended school in Dawson until Grade 11 and decided I knew more than them so I left. In the summers myself and my four siblings spent time out on the land where we harvested berries, animals, and plants and moved back to town when school started up again in September. Those were the best times. My dream was to work in an office which I accomplished first by working in the welfare office then on to Parks Canada and finally landing my dream job at the Dawson City Nursing Station, where I stayed for 27 years and made many gummy bear friends. I along with many other volunteers organized the first Moosehide Gathering in 1993 and have had great pleasure in attending all but one since. I am thankful for the sharing of our tradition and cultures and look forward to many more. May we always be grateful to Mother Earth and Father Sky for the bounties they have given us and may we continue to look after our little people and each other.





**Proud to support the Moosehide Gathering
and the people it brings together.**

Nihè j̕hal jì' shò tr'inlay.



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Mähsj', to the many people who have worked so relentlessly to make the 2026 Moosehide Gathering a reality. Thank you to Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in Council, all the jëje-in and volunteers — thank you for your efforts, guidance, and positive energy.

Moosehide Gathering Committee

Angie Joseph- Rear
Alysha Van Bibber
Doug Van Bibber
Clara Van Bibber
Fran Morberg- Green
Shyanne Beatty
Jane Coulson
Kim Joseph
Kylie Van Every
Linda Christiansen
Roberta Joseph
Victor Henry

Moosehide Gathering Coordinators;

Kate Marks, Senior Events
Coordinator
Erica Barta, Events & Consultations
Assistant
Sol Suarez, Events & Consultations
Assistant AOC
Graphic Design: TH
Communications
Artwork: Graham Everitt
Printing: Klondike Printing,
Unbeatable Printing, Arctic Star
Program Photos:
Cathie Archbould c. 2024
Sound: Upstream Events

**Drivers: TH Drivers & Klondike
Experience**

Cash-handling: TH Finance
Celebration Tent: TH Heritage &
Implementation
Elders Support: TH Wellness &
Volunteers
Feast: Ross Cockburn & Team
Sacred Fire: Dillan Taylor
First Aid: Josephine Pickard &
Volunteers
Hike Guide: Thomas Hodgkinson
& K'äjit-in Zho team
Info Booths: Amanda King & TH
HR Department
Kids Tent & Youth Tent: TH
Education & Ni'ehłyat Nidähjì'
/ Our Families Our Future

**Merchandise: Elaine Corden &
Volunteers**

Raffles: Melissa Atkinson, Natalja
Blanchard & TH Education
Security: Chief Isaac Inc.
Stage Manager: Roberta Joseph &
Team
Logistic: Steve Billy, Jordan Ross,
Austin Taylor
Boat Management: Owen Kemp-
Griffin TH Boat Drivers, Canadian
Rangers
Dock Hands: Alex Somerville,
Fiona Nastasi, Karli Schram &
Volunteers
Zero Waste: Y2C2 & Volunteers
Concession: Andrea Jonas
Workshops Tent: Volunteers

Let's dance and be happy!
Ētr'udzä ts'ä shò ählqy!

The 2026 Moosehide Gathering poster and brochure cover feature original artwork by Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in Artist, Graham Everitt.



Graham Everitt
Feb 21, 1976 – September 2018

Graham was born with an art talent that led him to create and inspire. Whether painting, sketching or photography, his art had a uniqueness that was brought to life through his vision. He was gifted to create art in many different practices, a style to call his own, a creation to share, a story not in words but in art.

Mähsj cho to Graham's family for sharing his artwork with us.

Mähsi cho to the generous sponsors and supporters
who have donated to this year's Gathering.



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