



# VGFN NEWS

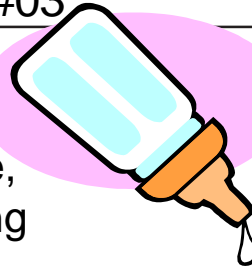
NEWSLETTER  
of the  
VUNTUT GWITCHIN  
GOVERNMENT



Issue #01, Volume #03

January 2004

**VGFN IS Photographer, Tammy Josie,** captured this boat frozen in the morning twilight of Old Crow



**Baby Breyden**  
Stephen  
Richard Frost,  
born January  
22, 2004

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**VGFN  
NEWS**  
NEWSLETTER  
of the  
**VUNTUT GWITCHIN  
GOVERNMENT**

VGFN News is the monthly  
Newsletter of the Vuntut Gwitchin  
First Nation Self-Government in Old  
Crow, Yukon, Canada.  
Contributions to VGFN News are by  
the employees of VGFN.

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**William Josie**

**Director, Natural Resources**

Happy New Year Everyone! I hope you all had an enjoyable holiday.

On the afternoon of January 8th, NYRRC, VGFN, and YTG's Forest Management Branch joined us via telephone, on our first meeting regarding the "North Yukon Forest Management Plan". The first task at hand is to consult with the community to see how we value forest, stay tuned.

During the week of January 12th, Natural Resources staff attended the 3rd Gathering of Heritage and Lands & Resources.

On Jan. 13th, I attended a CYFN Traditional Knowledge Workshop.

All Governments agree that traditional knowledge should be incorporated into the Yukon mining regime.

As a result of the last gathering in Dec. 2001, the Heritage Officer formed a working group to support and assist each other in accomplishing their common goal. The group did a presentation on their successes and their struggles. The other part of the gathering was to find out where each First Nation is at with implementing the heritage, lands, and renewable resources programs. Another goal was to share information and to make sure we are not duplicating work.

The Advisory Team Committee for the Restoration and Enhancement Project met for the last time on Jan. 19th at 2:30 pm, before we submitted our projects proposal to the Yukon Panel. The NYRRC and VGFN submitted four proposals:

1 Juvenile Chinook / Coho Habitat Assessment in the upper Whitestone River.

2 Chinook Radio Tracking / Telemetry Project: We want more information on spawning destination of Chinook in the Porcupine system.

3 Chum Mark / Recapture Program: We want some "in season" information regarding abundance & timing of the fall chum run and the proportion of Porcupine chum stock that spawn at Fishing Branch River.

4 Chum Fishery Substitution: We like to keep this program on hand to put more fish on the spawning grounds. Our pre-season meeting in early April will determine what course of action we as a community will take this fishing season. Please, I encourage you all to attend. A notice will be posted very soon.

On the evening of Jan. 21st the NYRRC held a consultation meeting with the community regarding Richardson Mountain Sheep. All agreed the recommendation that council should give to the Minister of Environment is that a joint planning process should be entered into between the Yukon and Northwest Territory, to make sure that this small population of sheep is looked after into the future.

On the afternoon of Jan. 22nd we had a short meeting with Sharon Keaton, the Conservation Officer for the Northern District, to discuss the Old Crow's 401 trapping concession. With recent regulation changes, concession holders must have completed the "Trappers Education Course". Chief and Council

will therefore transfer the responsibilities of concession 401 to the NYRRC or some other organization in our community.

On the afternoon of Jan. 28th Carl met with Greg Charlie and Joe Illes from Challenger Geomatics to discuss the next step in our Land Management program, the management of data / info from the Natural Resources Canada (the survey of settlement land) and the set up of a land registry.

From Jan. 30th, Mary Jane and Tracy will be in film making training until March 2nd.

With that, everyone please stay warm.

**Marla Kaye**

**Accounts Receivable Clerk**

Good Day to the Community of Old Crow.

Well my plans have changed and I have decided to stay in Old Crow for a while longer.

I am still enjoying my position as Accounts Receivable Clerk; things are going good so far.

Catherine is teaching me new things that will be helpful to my job if I continue on this year. I am not to sure what will be happening in a couple of months from now, but in both cases it would be great to go back to college and learn new skills. On the other hand it would also be great to have an exceptional permanent job that I enjoy doing.

I would like to congratulate all the students for making it into the Artic Winter Games that take place in Fort McMurray. I wish you all the best and hope you all bring home medals. Have lots of fun and enjoy yourselves. I'm sure you will make lots of new friends. I am happy for you all.

It is so good to see that the radio station is being used to fundraise for the youth. Keep up the good work to the people who are involved.

That is all I have to say in this months newsletter. Well I hope everyone is having a nice winter. Take care when you are out on the land and keep warm.

Massi Cho

**Paul Doehle**

**Director, Information Systems**

**Old Crow's Website**

New on Old Crow's website, Tammy upgraded the Education section of our site. She is redesigning the Education page with stories and new pictures from the Chief Zzeh Gittlit School here in Old Crow.

Coming soon to Old Crow's website, a new forums section called the "Gwich'in Forum Board" where visitors

can makes posts on a variety of topics.

We will be temporarily shutting down the Guestbook on Old Crow's website while we make design changes.

**Kai Rannik**

Kai will be leaving us soon. At this time I would like to thank Kai for her expertise in computer training, computer support, and graphic design. VG employees have benefited greatly from Kai's computer training classes. We wish Kai the best for the future.

**Robert Kaye**  
**Game Guardian**

Hello to everyone!

Well, I hope everyone is having a good winter. It is a little cold out there but it is good to see the sun. I went out on the land once this winter and made a trail to David Lord Creek. I was out to Whitehorse for Lands, Heritage and Renewable Resources meetings. All the Natural Resources Department staff went out for the meeting. Some of the topics we talked about were Trap Line Management, Wildlife Act Review, Support for Trappers and Harvest Data (Fish & Wildlife). The following is some of the information gathered at this meeting.

A common set of Fish and Wildlife acts for all First Nations is being considered.



- Enforcement-very little action has been taken by First Nations or by Yukon Conservation Officers to deal with violations by First Nation hunters.

- Voluntary compliance works best, but community support is required for this. First Nations could exchange enforcement officers (Game Guardians, CO's) to deal with offences by First Nations citizens.

- First Nations have an agreement with YTG for training with conservation officers.

**Wildlife Act Review**

Phase 3 of public consultation process on amendments to the Wildlife Act was to have been a review of the act to bring it into line with the UFA and FNFA's. This has not happened. Some traditional harvest methods such as the use of deadfall traps may be illegal under the current Wildlife Act. There is no

subsistence harvest of furbearers, bears and wolves unless the meat is eaten.

**Trap Line Management**

Training - YTG funds the Yukon Trappers Association to provide training required by trappers. First Nations could provide this training, however YTG does not recognize qualified First Nation Trainers who could conduct the workshops. The harvest record that YTG considers does not include fur that is taken by trappers for personal use within the community and not marketed at a fur auction.

**Harvest Data**

Some First Nations use licensing and permits to collect harvest data; i.e. reporting harvest is a requirement of permit. Game Guardians collect harvest data. There has been a problem with highway crews not reporting harvesting.

Thank you.

**Graham Baird**  
**Natural Resources Planner**  
**Sheep Hunting Proposal**

The Yukon Fish and Wildlife Management Board held a public meeting in Whitehorse in December to hear comments on regulation change proposals including the proposal for a licensed sheep hunt in the north Richardson Mountains. The Board considers this to be an issue of local concern affecting the people of Old Crow and has asked the North Yukon Renewable Resources Council to consider the proposal and make a recommendation. The Board is recommending that the proposal be accepted. The Board also notes that the sheep population has declined and recommends that a management plan be in place before allowing an extensive harvest or disturbance to the sheep. The NYRRC has responded to the proposal saying that they feel pressured to accept this to avoid a larger scale of hunting however would prefer a 3 week open season for the hunt rather than the proposed 45 days. NYRRC is responsible for making the

recommendation to accept, reject or revise the proposal to the Minister of Environment. A meeting to discuss this was held in Old Crow on January 26.

**Old Crow Flats SMA**

There is a requirement under the VGFNFA to develop a management plan for the Old Crow Flats. Before beginning the management planning process VGFN would prefer to have the Old Crow Flats designated as a protected area under either federal or Yukon legislation. The advantage is that guidelines from the management plan could be enforced by regulations as opposed to a stand alone management plan with no legal requirement for compliance. The Yukon government is presently considering options for designation including a Natural Wildlife Area under Canada Wildlife Act (which VGFN has been interested in); a Habitat Protection Area under Yukon Wildlife Act or a Yukon territorial park under the Parks and Land Certainty Act.

**Peel River Watershed**

A meeting was held in January to complete a General Terms of Reference for the planning commission. The final

draft of the General Terms of Reference will be considered by the Yukon Land Use Planning Council for approval. Following this, commission members will be nominated by the parties for appointment.

**Forest Management Planning**

A meeting was held in January with VGFN, NYRRC and Yukon government forestry officials to discuss how we could begin a forest management planning process for Old Crow. The outcome of the meeting was that NYRRC would write a letter to Yukon Forest Management Branch asking for support to develop a forest management plan.

NYRRC may also consult with people of Old Crow to document forestry issues in the community.

**Land, Heritage and Renewable Resources Gathering**

This meeting of First Nations was held in Whitehorse in mid-January to discuss common issues. A Renewable Resources Working Group was created as a result of the meeting. This group will meet periodically to discuss fish and wildlife issues. The next meeting is scheduled for April 20.

**Kathie Nukon**  
**Social Administrator**  
**Social Assistance**

In December 2003 twenty-two clients were issued social assistance. Each head of household and individuals who were eligible for SA also received the Christmas Allowance.

In January 2004 twenty-one clients received SA.

Applications for SA for the month of February will be taken beginning the week of February 2<sup>nd</sup>. If you earned income in January 2004, please bring in your cheque stubs. Please have with you your bill from Yukon Electrical, or receipts, if you've paid the bill.

**Adult Care**

Adult Care is being offered to the elders on a continuous basis. There are still elders that require services.

The hours are up to three hours per day, during the weekdays only. The pay rate is \$11.50 per hour.

Please call, or come in, if you would like to do light housekeeping for an elder.

**Elder's Wood and Fuel**

The elders that are eligible are receiving either 200 liters of fuel, or one cord of wood. Either one costs \$300.00.

I do up a purchase order for Northern, Shawn Bruce picks up the fuel slip from them, and then does the deliveries. Shawn delivers the fuel at the beginning of each month.

If your main source of heat is from your monitor heater during this cold spell; then you will run out of fuel quicker and the monitor could break down. The elders are encouraged to use both the monitor heater and your wood stove to alleviate some of the problems that have been occurring. Please purchase wood,

aside from what you receive from the program.

**Aboriginal Healing Foundation Project**

In December 2003 Ann and Charlie Kasook of Inuvik were invited to the community to do healing through singing. The couple was well received. Ann shared her life experiences and sang many beautiful songs that were inspirational. Ann and Charlie met with Chief and Council on the morning of Dec. 12. They also sent a thank you card, which can be viewed in the Social Department foyer by Debra's desk.

Charlene Belleau and Constable Bruce Coles of Alkali Lake were also invited to Old Crow in December. Charlene and Bruce did a presentation to both the community and to the Chief and Council. The video, "The Honor of All" was also shown at the Community Center and in the boardroom.

Const. Coles had a movie night with the children, which was well attended and much appreciated. The evening included popcorn and juice. Both parties were very happy with the turnouts and had positive outlooks for our little community.

From January 18 to 27 Be'sha Blondin and her helper, Ruth McCullough were in Old Crow to offer healing, marriage and one-on-one counseling to those that wished to attend. Be'sha and Ruth stayed and worked out of the Gathering Place, which worked out just perfectly.

Both ladies were amazed at the reception they got and are very grateful for all the help and assistance. Community members helped out in different ways to make the ladies comfortable. They loaned them a TV, brought food and tobacco, invited them

out for supper and even got ice water for them.

Be'ha and Ruth met with Chief and Council, along with the Community Coordinator on January 27<sup>th</sup>.

Roughly sixty people went to see Be'sha and Ruth. Everyone concerned is extremely happy with the turnout of people that reached out for help. Mussi cho.

On February 9, 10, 23 and 24<sup>th</sup> Cam Sinclair is offering a course called "Adventures in Attitudes". This thirty-hour course is being offered to thirty participants.

"Adventures in Attitudes" is a course on personal development that includes: effective listening, developing communication skills, attitude awareness, dealing with emotions, understanding people, attitudes of personal empowerment and much more.

There are two projects in this seminar with ten units in each phase.

If you would like to commit thirty hours of your time to empower yourself, please call me at 966-3351, or Cam at (867) 993-5543 in Dawson.

I'm happy everyone had a nice time during the holidays. I spent a quiet Christmas in Inuvik. We were able to go to Aklavik where we danced the New Years night away.

I had the opportunity to visit my cousin, Bella and her husband, Freddy Greenland. Debbie says Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to everyone in Old Crow. Debbie would like to visit Old Crow, possibly in the spring. She is doing well and is working part-time.

Mussi cho for your time.

**Sandra Newman**  
**Caribou Coordinator**

This will be a busy year for the Caribou Coordination Department.

Moses Lord attended the last Wilderness Week in Washington, in September 2003. Shortly after that he went to do a tour of Minnesota. We would like to thank Moses for his hard work and efforts in protecting the

Porcupine Caribou Herd.

Daryl Charlie will be going on a tour in Oregon. He will then join Melissa Frost and travel to Washington, D.C. for Wilderness Week.

Sandra Newman and Esau Schaeffer attended a meeting in Whitehorse. This meeting was a videoconference held with Department of Foreign Affairs in Ottawa. Also at this meeting were

representatives from Caribou Commons, Norma Kassi, Joe Tetlich, Larry Bagnell and Gwich'in representatives from the North West Territories. The main focus of this meeting was how all persons involved could best work together to accomplish the goal of protecting the herd.

**Glenna Tetlich**  
**Councilor**

This is a brief report for now. The organization is still in a transition period. We will be doing some restructuring. I will be overseeing the Social Department. Currently I'm working with past Social Director Roger Kaye to get updated on the department. Any concerns or questions regarding Health and Social can be directed to Roger or myself.

The Social Department has five employees: Home and Community Care, Justice, Social Administrator, Community Wellness Worker and Community Health Representative.

In order for the Social Department to move forward efficiently we have to understand the mandate of each program and carry out our duties accordingly.

We are in the process of hiring a Community Wellness Worker and Social Programs Director under the new structure. The direction came from the community that elected members not hold the portfolio of Directors. Since I will be overseeing the Social Programs I will proceed with the hiring of the CWW in the next couple of weeks.

The Interagency committee received approval from the Chief and Council to proceed with our plans to move forward in our efforts to develop a long term additions/treatment program for our members. Our next community consultation meeting regarding this initiative is scheduled for Wednesday February 11<sup>th</sup> beginning with a supper at 5:30pm. At this time an update will be given on where we are to date and what will be happening from now until the summer months. There will be an opportunity for members to have input in this process.

Don't forget about the upcoming workshop on "Adventures in Attitudes" facilitated by Cam Sinclair. This is a great opportunity to learn some new communication skills and have fun at the same time. Happy Valentine's and all have a great month!



**Ida Tizya**  
**Accounts Payable/ Payroll Clerk**

Hello Everyone:

I hope all are enjoying the winter months and staying warm. January was a slow month for me; I was off work for one week, but I'm getting back to the routine. Marla will be working with Finance Department until March.

**Cheque Requisitions**

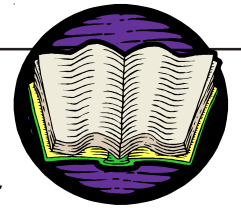
Cheque Requisitions should be submitted to the Finance Department by Monday 4.30 PM of each week to enable processing of payment cheques for distribution on Wednesday of each week.

Cheques are picked-up from the receptionist for in-town residents.

Any Cheque requisitions received after the Monday 4.30PM deadline will be processed in the following week cheque run.

I would like to congratulate the following students for making it to the Arctic Winter Games, Myranda Charlie, Travis Frost, Natasha Frost Kecia Kassi and Kyle Benjamin as well as Darius Elias.

I hope everything goes well for you, and good luck in Fort McMurray, Alberta. I will see you there to cheer you on.



**Karen Rinker**  
**Homework Tutor**

This month begins a new time with the Homework Tutor program. Roger Kaye has taken this portfolio, and we look forward to benefiting from his advice as we did from William Josie's. I enjoyed working with William, and am a better person because of it.

Since this was a new project last year, we used a lot of the resources I had brought with me. This year we needed some resources I didn't have, so VGFN and Yukon Learn pulled together and got a reading readiness program and math supplies. I had told you before that Yukon Learn had given the program two laptop computers, and they both are in use. These supplies have been a great blessing to helping the students do their work more efficiently.

January is Literacy month and this year from Jan 24 - 27th instead of the student reading to an adult, it has been turned around and adults read whole books to children. There were \$10.00 gift certificates from Northern. I suggested the children should look for books early. I know certain books in the school library are favourites with a lot of the children, especially ones about moose and caribou.

In closing I would like to say I enjoyed the cultural dancing over the holidays, and thank you for making our family feel so welcome.

**Harold Frost**  
**Housing Manager**

Here's an up date from the Housing Department. We have two projects remaining from 2003: House# 360, which is continuing and House# 375, which has been put on hold until springtime 2004. We have four new washrooms through INAC Water & Wasted Water Infrastructure's funding program allocated to Houses #540, #530, #745 and #455. The timeframe we're aiming for is March 31/04. These walls & prefabs are built, so they will be delivered on site and put together. These washrooms created new jobs for nine people.

We just got approved funding from the new housing initiative program. This will allow for three or four retrofit houses, to be determined by priority. This will create short-term jobs as well. Thanks to Dorothy for putting together a really good proposal. This may enable us to apply for more funding for more washrooms next year!

There were four people doing chimney cleaning for two weeks. We have also been getting a lot of calls on monitor trouble. Most of the time it's either out of fuel or a troubleshooting problem. The 200 liters of fuel is to help the elders out with heat; this is not to be relied on for a whole month. Each house has a wood stove as the main source of heat.

I don't have too much to add except, every one take care and keep warm!

**Megan Williams**  
**Heritage Officer**

It has been a while since I have written a report for the VGFN newsletter. I have been on maternity leave since November and plan to stay home with Aidan until the spring. I have been able to keep up with some work and still supervise the day-to-day work and future planning in the Heritage Department. Mary Jane Moses, the Heritage Researcher, is taking on more responsibilities in the department and is doing an excellent job. The department would not be running smoothly without the capability and hard work of Mary Jane.

**Phase II Oral History Project**

Before Christmas VGFN submitted an application to a federal heritage funding program. This funding will assist with Phase II of the Vuntut Gwitchin Oral History Project. Now that we have recorded and organized so much oral history and traditional knowledge we are in a position to use this information for other products such as curriculum development and place name map production. The focus of the funding over the next years will be on these products.

**Researchers**

News of the completion of the Oral History Project has reached the research community. Several researchers have applied to the VGFN Heritage

Committee for permission to access the oral history materials for research purposes. Each of these applications is reviewed by the Committee and restrictions are made if the application is approved. The Committee is currently reviewing an article written by a Parks Canada historian about the caribou fences. The Committee also reviewed an application by a graduate student to do a traditional knowledge project on wolverine in Northern communities.

**Meetings**

January 14-15<sup>th</sup> the VGFN Natural Resources Department met with all the other self governing First Nations Heritage, Lands and Resources departments in Whitehorse. The Yukon First Nations Heritage officers meet on a regular basis to share information and provide a united voice on First Nations heritage issues. This group did a presentation to the gathering on the productiveness of the Yukon First Nations Heritage Group so that the lands and resources staff can decide if they want to have a similar group. The YFNHG also produced an approach to the traditional knowledge aspect of the Yukon Environmental and Socio-Economic Assessment Act.

**Cultural Resource Management Conference**

In November 2003 I attended the Parks Canada Cultural Resource

Management Conference in Banff, Alberta. The purpose of attending this conference was to do a presentation on VGFN's partnership with Parks Canada on the Vuntut Gwitchin Oral History Project. There were three presenters on our panel: David Neufeld for Parks Canada, Jody Beaumont for Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in First Nation, and myself. The presentation focused on the successes and challenges of working in a partnership with Parks Canada.

**Visitor Reception Centre**

The first draft of ideas for the exhibits in the planned Visitor Reception Centre has been completed. This draft was reviewed by the VGFN Heritage Committee. The next steps will be to finalize the exhibit design and confirm VGFN's contributions to the exhibit area of the Centre.

**Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in First Nation's Cultural Week**

The VGFN Heritage Committee will be attending and taking part in the Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in First Nation's cultural week from Feb 26 to the 28<sup>th</sup>. This is a week of cultural activities in Dawson. The activities include presentations on cultural sites and community workshops in sleds, snowshoes, babiche bags and beading. The Committee members will be able to learn about the heritage activities of another First Nation and make connections in the heritage community.

**Tammy Josie**  
**Computer Support Technician Trainee**

Good day to all;

Wishing everyone the best for this month! I have been on my toes getting another web page set up: Education. It is now online and ready to view; other updates will be made when required. Students are working in a British Columbia Curriculum and are doing great. I personally like what I see going on there and congratulations to the Principal (Ian MacCara) for organizing all the programs. I spent a week up at the Chief Zzeh Gittlet School and got to see first hand what programs are offered to all students. Some of the more interesting programs are the Healthy Eating

Program, traditional sewing and woodworking. They also feature an at home homework tutor.

Furthermore, Information Systems Department have just completed the Computer Training Course at the College, instructed by Kai Rannik. We had four people eager and willing to learn, I was one of the four who had attended and may I say a job well done by Kai, always looking forward to working with you. It's been great, still learning the ropes and always on my toes. I agree that this course can and in fact does help with the way you work with your office computer. These training opportunities arise every so often within the Information Systems Department and are well worth the effort.

I'm currently working on the RCMP page. As most may know we have a new officer in town by the name of Scott Wessell. He has joined the force here in Old Crow and I ask that we give him a warm welcome to our community.

On Wednesday January 21, 2004 I was asked to do a radio interview with Chuck Hendry at Chon FM. It was a recording and aired the last week of January. This interview was based on Old Crow's Official Website and I hope the information was clear. I'd just like to say that I am honored to be here at home amongst my people and working to inform everyone to the best of my capabilities, mahsi cho.

**Kai Rannik**  
**IS Technician & Trainer**

This is my last newsletter report for VGFN, as I will be moving back to Ontario to visit friends and family, before exploring new ventures.

I'd like to take this opportunity to thank the many people here who went out of their way to welcome Peggy and me to your community. We have been offered caribou, moose and salmon countless times. Your generosity has not only filled our bellies, but also warmed our hearts.

I have enjoyed my term at VGFN and



**Catherine Mbae**  
**Director of Finance**

I hope you are all well and enjoying the sunshine again. The dark cold winter days are behind us and now it is more and more sunshine to look forward to. This was my first winter and it was not as bad as I imagined

**Work**

It has been a very busy month in finance, getting all the various Canada Revenue Returns prepared. We expect to mail out the T4s, T4a (for Students and Elders), T5007s, and T1204s by end of the first week in February 2004.

I will be preparing to do expenditure versus budgets review with all departments for the second week of February 2004 as well as start to plan for the 2004/2005 budgeting process with each department.

**Staff**

Marla will continue to work in our office as the Accounts Receivable Clerk for the next few months. Marla is in-charge of invoicing and receiving payment for Water and Sewer bills and Rent. She also receives payment for Materials purchase from the Warehouse and any other miscellaneous receipts like fax charges.

We are also in the process of hiring a Finance Manager and I hope to be able to introduce her or him to you in the next newsletter.

Keep well.



all the new skills I've established here. I've worked with many of you under various circumstances. I've especially enjoyed the Basic Computer Training sessions, where I've learned to know many of you individually. Tammy Josie participated in our most recent course and did exceptionally well. She will be taking over the IS Training programs in the future and I wish her every success.

I have also helped to establish a new design for the many forms used within VGFN, including the creation and distribution of electronic versions that help to reduce paper waste within VGFN.

The Newsletter was also redesigned

**Mary Jane Moses**  
**Heritage Researcher**

The first week back to work after the holidays was quite busy. I spent some time researching a lot of information from the Oral History Project for Shirleen Smith, who is writing a book as one of the end products of the project. Tracy and I are entering Imprints of Our Ancestors, Parts 1 & 2 in the 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Dawson City International Short Film Festival slated for Easter weekend of April 9, 10, 11, 2004. I submitted the forms for that and will only have to await their response, which will not be until after the deadline of February 02, 2004. I attended this film festival back in March 2001 with "Drymeat Making" which got 'Honorable Mentions' at that time.

I will continue to do ongoing research work for Shirleen most of this month. She emails me information that she needs help with and I assist the best way I can, sometimes getting help from the Heritage Committee of Jane, Brenda and Robert. Thank you for your help. I have also been busy dubbing copies of Imprints in the edit suite.

I attended a CYFN - Traditional Knowledge Workshop on January 13 with regards to Placer Mining and use of Traditional Knowledge. We listened to presenters from Yukon Placer Mining, Client Services and Inspections Branch of YTG Energy, Mines and Resources, Department of Environment, YTG Perspective and Fish, YESAA update,

and continues to evolve with each new issue.

This Newsletter was a collaborative effort between Tammy Josie and me, since Tammy will be taking over the editing and publication of the VGFN News in the future. She has shown a great deal of skill and determination with this project, which I am sure will help her to continue to produce professional and informative newsletters.

Finally, I'd like to thank Paul for his guidance and expertise throughout my time here. Best wishes to him and Tammy, as well as everyone at VGFN.

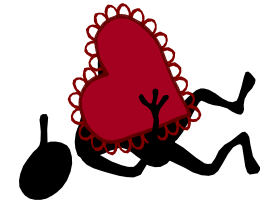
and Traditional Knowledge, legal perspective. Then we went into breakout group discussions of see how to best incorporate traditional knowledge into a new Yukon mining regime. The Yukon Environmental and Socio-economic Assessment Act (YESAA) was also discussed. This Act will implement Chapter 12 of the UFA. It will establish a single process to assess projects on federal, territorial and settlement lands; it would apply throughout Yukon and would replace CEAA. It came into effect May 2003 and has an implementation period followed by full effect taking place November 2004.

The following two days of January 14 & 15 were meetings on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Self-Governing Heritage, Lands and Renewable Resources gathering at CYFN. It was two days of lots of information. It was good for me to attend these meetings, as I'm new to the Heritage Department. It's important for me to get an overview of what's happening with other Yukon First Nation's Heritage Departments and look at ways of how we can pool resources and help each other.

On January 30<sup>th</sup>, Tracy and I will be taking 4-days training to upgrade our knowledge of Final Cut Pro [film making tool on the computer] in the Edit suite along with other relevant training to do with filmmaking. Working in the film industry we have to keep ourselves updated with the proper skills as software gets updated from time to time.

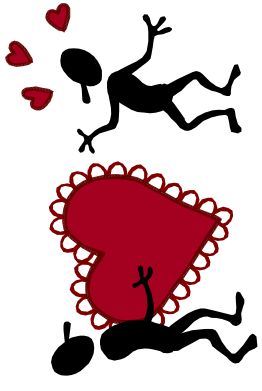



<b>Name</b>	<b>Start Date</b>	<b>End Date</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Location</b>
Megan Williams	Cont'd	Feb 8	Personal Leave	-
Kathie Nukon	Feb 9	Feb 10	Adventures In Attitudes	Old Crow
Ida Tizya	Feb 9	Feb 11	Personal Leave	-
Carl Charlie	Feb 11	Feb 15	YEC Board Meeting	Whitehorse
Catherine Mbae	Feb 17	Feb 22	INAC Finance Managers Meetings	Whitehorse
Kathie Nukon	Feb 23	Feb 24	Adventures In Attitudes	Old Crow
Megan Williams	Feb 25	Feb 29	Myth and Medium 2004	Dawson
Mary Jane Moses	Feb 25	Feb 29	Myth and Medium 2004	Dawson



# Schedule For February 2004

## Happy Valentines Everyone !!!



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10 Gym 6-7:30 pm Ages 4-6 7:30-9 pm ages 7-10	11 Floor hockey 8-10 pm Ages 13 and up 5:30 Supper Discuss Treatment Pgms	12 Basketball 8-9 pm Ages 11 and up 6pm Ducks Unlimited Presentation	13 Floor hockey 8-10 pm Ages 13 and up	14  <u>Valentines Day!!!!!!!</u> <u>Dinner For Couples</u> <u>at the Community</u> <u>Hall @ 6:00 pm</u>
15	16 After School Activities Ages 6-12 @ 3:30-4:30 AT The Hall	17 Gym 6-7:30 pm Ages 4-6 7:30-9 pm ages 7-10	18 Floor hockey 8-10 pm Ages 13 and up	19 Basketball 8-9 pm Ages 11 and up	20 Floor hockey 8-10 pm Ages 13 and up	21 Crib tournament at the Youth Center @ 6:00 pm \$10 entry fee
22	23 After School Activities Ages 6-12 @ 3:30-4:30 AT he Hall	24 Gym 6-7:30 pm Ages 4-6 7:30-9 pm ages 7-10	25 Floor hockey 8-10 pm Ages 13 and up	26 Basketball 8-9 pm Ages 11 and up	27 Floor hockey 8-10 pm Ages 13 and up	28
29 February Bazaar At the Hall Starts @ 1:00 pm	