

BURWASH BULL

EST'D. 1991



ADĀLHĒT KWÀCH'Ē
SPRING 2026 EDITION

COUNCIL UPDATE

Dakwani
Youth Council Update

DEPARTMENTAL UPDATES

Living Our Agreements
Mining Policy
PWMS Infrastructure Update

GOOD TO KNOW

New Faces in the Community
2026 Calendar of Events

CELEBRATING CITIZENS

Sierra & the Ulus

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COUNCIL UPDATE

Adalhèt kwach'e! It's springtime!

Greetings, Lhù'ààn Mân Ku Daí. The sun is back, and although it's been a chilly spring so far, we are already busy with the upcoming spring and summer season. In this update, we'll highlight the many events and projects that are either underway or will begin in the next month or two.

The Council has approved the budget for the 2026/27 fiscal year, focusing on capacity building through internal team building and recruitment. Generally, departments are concentrating on ongoing projects and those that are high priority for the nation.

We are preparing for significant changes in the community regarding infrastructure and development. You may have noticed preparations in Copper, Joe, and construction in Burwash Village. We are also preparing for the arrival of six intelligent cabins and two modular homes, which will continue over the next 2 to 3 months. The replacement build for the home lost to a house fire last year is underway.

A major announcement shared at the all-staff meeting on April 1 is the closure of the current administration building and the subsequent move to a temporary administration unit in July.

It has been in the KFN plans for several years to build a new permanent administration building, so the Council has decided to move forward with these plans.

The current building has reached the end of its life. It has been in the KFN plans for several years to build a new permanent administration building, so the Council has decided to move forward with these plans. In the meantime, we will explore options and opportunities to secure funding for a permanent government building. We are working with KCDLP to provide KFN with a temporary office unit on the KCDLP campsite. A more detailed report will be provided to citizens at the April 29 Dakwani meeting, where questions will be answered.

KFN will host the CYFN General Assembly at Duke Meadows from June 23-25. This will be a significant opportunity to share our beautiful territory with guests from all Yukon First Nations. Following the CYFN General Assembly, KFN will host our annual general assembly at Duke Meadows from July 3-5. We hope to see many of you there, participating in discussions that will guide our nation for the coming year.

As we enter the busy seasons, we usually welcome back citizens who come to work and stay in the community for spring and summer. There is always something for everyone to contribute to and participate in, and we encourage KFN students studying away to come home and work with your nation on your break. There are also many employment opportunities within the community and with other employers like Parks Canada or partners in the Kluane Lake region.

This season also sees an increase in excessive partying, alcohol sales, and drugs entering the community, leading to more violence, drunk driving, and accidents. You will notice an increased RCMP presence in the community and on the highway. Additionally, expect visible communication to all on safety and well-being in the community. We call on all community members to help create a safer community where families, elders, and all residents can live peacefully.

This month, we received the resignation of elder councillor Joyce Johnson-Albert. We extend our deep gratitude to Joyce for her years at the council table, providing us with her wisdom and deep understanding of tradition and culture. We wish Joyce all the best and hope to see her at many community functions. In response to her resignation, KFN has formed an election committee and a by-election will take place on June 29, 2026.

May 8th will be the last day for Executive Director, Tim Cant. We are thankful for his service to KFN over the past three years. Tim has a long history with KFN and has many deep connections to our community and citizens. We are grateful for the insight that Tim provided Council and the work that he has done on our behalf. We wish him all the best in his next adventure.

Stay safe and take care of each other. Be kind, as this time of year can be difficult for some.
Dak'ánáhta jè' – You all look after yourselves.

In Unity,
– **KFN Council**



Dzenù shàwkwàthan Lhù'ààn Mân Kwadân!

Our Youth Council is back for 2026, and we've got some exciting things coming up. I really encourage all our KFN Youth (ages 13-25) to get involved, attend meetings, share your voice, and take part in the opportunities being planned. This space is for youth – to connect, learn, have your voices heard, and be part of what we're building together.

We held our first Youth Council meeting of the year on April 3rd, and I am very grateful to those who continue to show up and contribute by using your voice. It is always powerful to see youth step forward, share their perspectives, and support one another. Your voice matters, and youth are the future leaders of our First Nation.



Next Youth Council Meeting ~ May 23rd from 2:00pm-4:00pm. Join in person in the **Elders' Room** at the Jacquot Hall (there will be snacks!) or join by **Zoom**. At this meeting, we will continue planning upcoming events, sharing updates, and connect as a group. New faces are always welcome – come check it out!

Youth Awards - Nominations Open

One of the key initiatives this year is the Youth Awards, which recognizes and celebrates the achievements of our KFN Youth. There will be 5 awards given out this year. Youth may nominate themselves or another KFN Youth (ages 13-25) for an achievement you're proud of. Achievements can include milestones such as:

- ✓ Harvesting your first moose/animal
- ✓ Leadership
- ✓ Graduating
- ✓ Any accomplishment that is meaningful and you are proud of.
- ✓ Personal growth goal

Each nomination must include a short explanation outlining the achievement and why the individual should be recognized. **Key Info:**

- The deadline for submitting nominations is **May 11th**
- Voting will take place at the **May 23rd Youth Council meeting**
- The recipient of the award will receive **\$1000**
- *The selected recipient must be present at the meeting to accept the award.*

Our Next Youth Council Meeting



May 23, 2026 | 2pm-4pm
Elders Room | Jacquot Hall
In person or by Zoom

Youth Gathering ~ July 2, 2026

This is the day before the KFN General Assembly. Come out a day early and be part of this great opportunity.

This gathering will include:

- Learning about our self-government and the importance of the General Assembly.
- Engaging in cultural activities
- Taking part in a youth mock GA
- Time to connect and have a good time together

During this event, we will also select a **Youth Council Vice Chair, Secretariat, and present 2 additional Youth Awards**. A big **door prize** will also be included, and all KFN youth ages 13-25 are encouraged to attend.

We are bringing The Gordon Foundation Treaty Simulation to KFN!

I had the chance to attend this simulation in Ottawa this past February, and it was informative, fun, and powerful. The teams create proposals and negotiate to reach a consensus, guided by advisors. This creates a supportive environment where youth can build confidence, learn how to navigate leadership level conversations and understand different perspectives. It helped me better understand the Final Agreements: why they exist, how they're used/implemented today, and the importance of upholding them in our governance today. Through the simulation, I also gained experience in:

- Developing proposals,
- Working within a mandate,
- Chairing a meeting,
- Negotiating respectfully while representing a position

This is a hands-on learning experience where youth:

- Step into leadership and negotiation roles
- Work in teams to solve real-life scenarios
- Learn how decisions are made at leadership tables

I am excited to bring this opportunity home to KFN sometime in Oct/Nov and encourage youth (ages 13-25) to take part of this amazing opportunity!



Youth Council Swag Logo Contest ~ your chance to design what goes on our hoodies!

• Designs should reflect: Kluane, our land, culture, community and include KFN colours such as purple and teal. I'd love to see our own youth's designs on our sweaters! More details, including submission deadlines, will be shared soon.

There is a lot to look forward to this year, and I am excited about the opportunities being created for our youth and what we're building together. Whether you join in person or virtually – come be part of it! If anything is holding you back from attending, please reach out, and I will do my best to support you.

We, the youth, are important. This is about us, learning to walk in both worlds, staying connected to the land while also stepping into leadership and our roles in KFN government.

Shàwníthan! Dàk'anítà jè,
– Pascale Dubois, Youth Councillor



How KFN Manages Land, Water, and Development Decisions

Living Our Agreements Series: Part 2 by Frank Andersen, Lands Manager

This is the second article in Living Our Agreements, a series in our Newsletter exploring how Kluane First Nation carries out the responsibilities and powers set out in the Final Agreement and Self-Government Agreement. The first article introduced what "implementation" means and highlighted major accomplishments since the agreements came into force. This article takes a closer look at how KFN manages land, water, and development decisions on Settlement Land, and what that means for citizens in practical terms.

With the signing of the Final Agreement and Self-Government Agreement, one of the most significant outcomes was the recognition and establishment of KFN's rights and jurisdiction over Settlement Land, including decision-making authority over land use, development, and natural resources on Category A lands. That jurisdiction does not operate in isolation. Many decisions involving Settlement Land and the broader traditional territory unfold through co-management processes: shared governance bodies for environmental assessment and resource management established under the Umbrella Final Agreement. Day-to-day, it is the LRH Department that administers and gives effect to that jurisdiction on behalf of KFN Council.

Implementation is not a one-time event, it's an ongoing responsibility...

Where KFN's Land Powers Come From

KFN's land authorities come from three main sources. 1) The Final Agreement sets out which lands KFN owns, what rights apply to them, and how land-related decisions must be made. 2) The Self-Government Agreement gives KFN authority to pass its own laws governing those lands and the people and activities on them. 3) KFN legislation, particularly the Lands & Natural Resources Act, translates those rights and authorities into rules and processes that guide decisions on the ground. Together, these three elements form the backbone of KFN's land governance. Implementation means making these tools work in real time, for real people.

The KFN Lands & Natural Resources Act

After the agreements came into effect, KFN developed its own legislation in 2012 to ensure land decisions could be made consistently, fairly, and in alignment with KFN values. The Lands & Natural Resources Act, along with its regulations and policies, guides land applications, environmental protections, permitting, compliance, and enforcement. In plain terms, it sets the rules for who can use Settlement Land, how they apply, and what conditions come with any approval.

An updated version of the Act is currently being developed to reflect lessons learned and to better address current and emerging challenges.

Land Use Planning

KFN has completed two important planning documents that guide how Settlement Land is used and developed: the Community Land Use Plan (updated 2022) and the Settlement Land Use Plan (finalized 2015). These plans establish zones for residential development, business activity, cultural site protection, and community expansion. They give KFN a clear framework for consistent decisions, and they give citizens a say in how the land around them develops over time.

These plans govern Category A and B Settlement Lands, but the Traditional Territory is much larger. Under Chapter 11 of the Final Agreement, KFN has the right to participate in regional land use planning for the broader Traditional Territory, and that work remains outstanding. KFN continues to press the Yukon Government to begin that process.

YESAA and Environmental Review

Many land-based activities require a review under the Yukon Environmental and Socio-economic Assessment Act (YESAA). This process exists to ensure that development projects are evaluated for their potential impacts before decisions are made. For projects that occur on or near Settlement Land, KFN is a designated decision body under YESAA, and is responsible for:

- Reviewing project proposals submitted by proponents
- Identifying cultural, environmental, and community concerns
- Communicating conditions and mitigation measures that reflect KFN values
- Ensuring that potential cumulative effects (the combined impact of multiple projects over time) are understood and addressed

After KFN issues its decision, proponents must meet KFN's conditions before work can proceed on Settlement Land. This is one of the most direct ways KFN exercises its jurisdiction in practice.

For projects that occur away from Settlement Land but that may have adverse effects on KFN rights, the LRH Department prepares comments to YESA Board outlining potential impacts and suggested mitigations and licensing conditions. These comments are considered by decision bodies, but do not have to be accepted.

Current Land Management Issues

Several areas of active work show what implementation looks like on the ground right now:

- Community planning: working with citizens and KFN Council to guide residential and community growth in a way that reflects KFN priorities.
- Monitoring mineral interests: tracking mining activity and mineral claims across the Traditional Territory to ensure KFN rights are respected and consultation obligations are met.
- Trespass and unauthorized use: identifying and responding to activities on Settlement Land that happen without KFN's knowledge or approval.
- Supporting businesses: helping citizens and entrepreneurs navigate the land access process so economic opportunities on Settlement Land are accessible.
- These are not abstract policy issues. They are things the LRH Department deals with regularly, and they directly affect how Settlement Land is protected and used.

Your Voice Matters

KFN's land governance is strongest when citizens are involved. LRH regularly seeks input on planning updates, land applications, policy changes, and major decisions. You can participate by attending community meetings, reviewing draft plans when circulated, submitting written comments, or reaching out to LRH directly. Your voice shapes how KFN's land powers are exercised.

Implementation is not a one-time event, it's an ongoing responsibility. Everyday, KFN exercises its authority to ensure decisions reflect the values, priorities, and long-term interests of the community.

We Want to hear from you: KFN Is Developing a Mining Policy

For the first time, KFN is developing a formal Mining Policy. One that will set out how KFN protects our lands, exercises our rights, and ensures citizens benefit from any mining activity in our Traditional Territory. Council is asking citizens, Elders, youth, and harvesters to help shape it.

Community engagement sessions are coming. Here's what you need to know.

Why Now?

Mining activity in our Traditional Territory is increasing. Companies are exploring our lands, potential large-scale projects like Nickel Shāw are on the horizon, and some citizens are interested in pursuing mining opportunities on Category A Settlement Land.

Right now, KFN has no consistent rules governing who can mine on our lands, under what conditions, or what benefits must flow back to our community. At the 2025 General Assembly, citizens passed a resolution directing Council to make this a priority.

In 2016, KFN began work on developing a Mining Act that would apply specifically to mining activities on Category A Settlement Land. That work was intended to operate alongside existing Yukon Government legislation, which would continue to apply across the rest of the Traditional Territory. It was set aside because KFN did not have the means to enforce any provisions the planned law might have created. The current work to develop a Mining Policy is the next step in that effort: putting in place a framework for KFN's expectations on mining and mineral development, not just on Category A lands, but across the whole Traditional Territory.

What the Policy Will Cover

The Mining Policy will address how KFN protects its interests and exercises its rights wherever mining occurs across the full Traditional Territory. Key areas include:

- **Land & Zones:** Where mining can and cannot occur – identifying areas that must be protected and areas where activity could be considered under well defined conditions.
- **Environmental Protection:** What environmental standards must be met, including protections for water quality, fish habitat, wildlife, and cultural heritage sites.
- **Benefits:** What benefits citizens and the Nation as a whole should receive from any mining in our territory; for example, jobs, training, business contracts, and financial returns.
- **Governance:** How KFN will make and enforce decisions on who reviews applications, what process must be followed, and what happens when conditions are violated.
- **Citizen Access to Settlement Land:** How citizens who want to pursue mining interests on Category A Settlement Land can do so under KFN's own rules, recognizing that this land belongs exclusively to KFN citizens.
- **Relationships with Industry:** How KFN engages with outside companies that want to explore or develop anywhere in the Traditional Territory. The policy will establish what KFN expects before work begins, what respectful conduct looks like over the life of a project, and what consequences follow when commitments are not kept.
- **Relationships with Citizens:** When a Citizen or KFN Corporation proposes to mine on Category A Settlement Land, the relationship is different; that land belongs to the Nation, and the rules are KFN's own. The policy will define what KFN owes to Citizens pursuing that opportunity, and what Citizens owe to the land and to each other.

Did You Know?

On Category A Settlement Land, KFN citizens hold both surface and subsurface rights, meaning only KFN citizens and Kluane corporations can propose mineral exploration or mining on those lands. No outside company has the right to mine there. The Mining Policy will establish the rules and process for how citizens can exercise that right. There are a small number of existing operations on Settlement Land that pre-date the Final Agreement and were grandfathered in at the time. Beyond that no pathway currently exists, which is exactly what this policy work is meant to fix.

What's the Process?

KFN is approaching this in stages. LRH staff are reviewing KFN laws, the Settlement Land Use Plan, and Yukon mining legislation to build a factual foundation. Community engagement sessions will follow, where citizens can share their values and priorities directly.

What citizens say in these sessions will directly shape the draft policy. Nothing is decided — the background materials being prepared are starting points for conversation. After engagement, staff will develop policy options for community review, followed by a legal check and Council adoption.

Trails, trails trails: A Heritage Update

"The routes and trails... were the lifelines of all Southern Tutchone peoples. KFN is committed to the rediscovery of lands that supported and continues to support its people."

— Historical Sites and Monuments Project led by Mary Jane "Gudia" Johnson (2004).

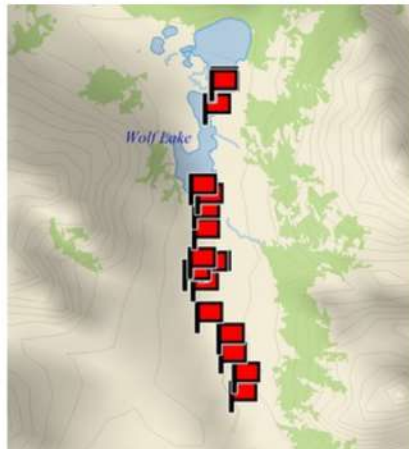
The Heritage Trails Program resumed this winter in February and March with collaboration with the Language and Wellness departments for breaking trails, exploring and mapping traditional areas, and sharing knowledge at Women's Camp and Men's Camp.

For the Women's Camp, the crew focussed breaking trail into Naamur Chù (Wolverine Creek) Camp, and up toward Taats'aāt Mâna (Teepee Lake) (KFN Heritage Routes 6 and 12). The crew also worked on cabin improvements at Naamur Chù Camp. For the Men's Camp at Nanaaje, the crew broke trail up Guy'an Nji (Wolf Creek) and towards and around the southern side Wolf Lake (Route 4).

The lead for both trips was Kwänathi inlj Bob Dickson, supported by crew members Derek Johnson and Damien Johnson. Additional assistance was provided at Naamur Chù by Alistair Maitland, and volunteer support for the stretch around Wolf Lake came from David Dickson.



The re-opening of the paths and trails within the Kluane First Nation Traditional Territory will encourage Kluane members to re-establish their connections with these traditional used areas, Lhúän Män Heritage Footpaths & Trails (2003)



Images of the Route 4 trail in KFN's trapline 175 and a trapping cabin built by Jerry Mogensen in the 1970s around Wolf Lake.
Photos: Bob Dickson

Traditional knowledge and traditional land-use insights were shared by Kwänathi inlj Dickson, and the crew worked together to identify the safest and most efficient pathways for snowmobile travel in these areas. Their findings were compiled and reported back to the Heritage Manager to support ongoing heritage resource stewardship and planning efforts.

In conclusion of the 2025/26 year, Heritage Trails Program met the overarching goal of getting citizens and community members out on the land, learning and reconnecting with traditional areas in the footsteps of the ancestors. As well the winter program explored what the Trails Program could achieve with interdepartmental collaboration and how it can be applied to strengthen community focussed on-the-land camps. This year found great success as a starting point for the renewed Trails Program, and we look forward to where program will take us next. Special thanks to all that participated in the program in 25/26 with knowledge, guidance, dedication and pure muscle!

Resources & Heritage Updates

New Signage at Congdon Creek Territorial Campground

Yukon Parks continues to look for opportunities to integrate Indigenous languages into Territorial Park signs and publications. Further to the work that Heritage and Gùdia Mary Jane Johnson have done with Yukon Parks in interpretive signing along the Khàr Shan Nji lakeside walking trail, Yukon Parks will be adding “Khàr Shan Nji” to the park portal sign at the entrance of the campground. The work is scheduled as early as possible in the snow-free season. A community celebration for the unveiling of the new interpretive signage on the campground walking trail is scheduled for later in May. Stay tuned for date confirmation and a community invite!



Beaver & Salmon Traditional Knowledge Project

The Council of Yukon First Nations conducted interviews with two KFN Elders to document traditional knowledge about the relationship between beavers and salmon in KFN Traditional Territory. The insights gathered on how beaver activity influences salmon habitats and ecosystem health will help guide the Yukon Salmon Stewardship Alliance in managing beaver populations in salmon-bearing creeks in a way that respects both ecological balance and traditional stewardship practices.

Berry Research: Your Input Wanted

Researchers Emily Studd (estudd@tru.ca) and Marilou Roy (charlie25.marilou@outlook.com) are studying how changes in berry availability may affect wildlife populations. They're looking for input from community members on what types of berry research would be most useful, and where berry monitoring could provide insights for wildlife management and local food resources. Reach out if you'd like to share your knowledge.

Kluane Climate Futures

On March 13th, the Kluane Climate Futures research team visited Burwash Landing to share the latest results from their work, following up on a community engagement event last October. Check out their infographic on the next page. Community members had the chance to see preliminary findings and provide feedback. Final results will be shared soon. Stay tuned!



Kluane Climate Futures

- Environmental change in the Kluane region is affecting how Lhù'àn Mán Ku Dañ (Kluane Lake People) live, travel, and sustain their relationships with the land.
- This project supports KFN's ability to adapt by engaging citizens in climate research and planning.
- We were guided by the question *How are Kluane peoples adapting to a changing climate, and what does the path forward look like?*

WHAT CLIMATE RELATED CHANGES ARE HAPPENING?

Physical:

- Changing weather patterns linked to lake freeze-thaw cycles
- Thinner ice and milder winters
- Altered rivers and drying lakes

Social:

- Shifting relationships with land and community
- Changing context for passing on land-based knowledge

WHAT ARE THE IMPACTS OF THESE CHANGES?

Biological:

- Shifting wildlife populations and migration patterns
- Changes to fish habitats

Cultural Practices:

- Disruptions to traditional hunting, gathering, fishing, and trapping as wildlife patterns shift

Community Wellbeing:

- Shifts in food security with changing access to traditional foods

Knowledge Systems:

- Pressure on intergenerational learning and traditional skill transmission due to changing landscapes

HOW ARE PEOPLE ADAPTING?

Kin Group Level:

- Intentional transfer of knowledge across generations (e.g. teaching land-based skills)
- Family-based coping strategies rooted in land skills and foresight (e.g. preparing youth for future reliance on traditional knowledge)

Governance level:

- Governance and economic capacity building is supporting self-determination
- Policy development to manage land, wildlife, and food security (e.g. wildlife management efforts, community gardening)

Community Level:

- Cultural preservation through documentation and skills revitalization
- Community-led infrastructure development is supporting long-term resilience (e.g. land camp infrastructure)

WHAT IS KFN'S VISION FOR THE FUTURE?

Maintain:

- Intergenerational knowledge and traditional laws
- Respect for land, animals, and Elders
- Storytelling, land-based practices, and community-led research

Change:

- Reduce harms to health
- Strengthen community-based education, local economy, and land stewardship

Grow Towards:

- Healing and ceremony
- Education for youth rooted in culture
- Ongoing knowledge-sharing across generations

KFN's Community Trapping Program



Jessie fleshing one of Luke's wolverines.

This winter has been a strong season for the KFN Community Trapping Program. Since January, the focus has been on getting out on the land, building skills, and creating real opportunities for citizens to participate. The program established and ran a community trapline on #180, located along the Brooks/Little Arm area, with regular trap checks throughout the season. Participants gained hands-on experience setting traps, checking sets, and reading wildlife signs. This is an important step in rebuilding access to trapping knowledge within the community. Over the course of the season, the program harvested 7 lynx, 2 wolverine, 1 wolf, and 1 coyote. These outcomes reflect both the effort put into running the trapline and the effectiveness of the work being done on the land.

A major highlight of the season was the successful completion of Muskrat Camp, which brought together youth, families, and community members. The camp provided an opportunity to share knowledge in a hands-on way, including demonstrations of different trapping methods and fur handling

techniques. The two wolverines harvested during the season were used as part of a live skinning demonstration, giving participants a valuable and meaningful hands on learning experience.

Throughout the season, we also focused on developing and applying clear standards for fur handling and processing, including skinning, fleshing, stretching, and drying. Wildlife observations and GPS tracking were recorded to help better understand animal movement and inform future trapping efforts.

Looking ahead, focus will be on:

- Expanding participation and access
- Continuing to support youth and new learners
- Identifying future trapline areas, and strengthening knowledge transfer within the community.

This work is about more than trapping, it's about reconnecting with the land, rebuilding skills, and ensuring these practices continue for future generations. Thank you to everyone who participated and supported this work.

Trapline Allocation Policy Update

An information session on the draft Trapline Allocation Policy was held January 20th. LRH received valuable feedback from community members on the draft, including important considerations for allocating traplines. Increases to the Trapper's Incentive Policy were also discussed. Another engagement session will be held before the 2026-2027 trapping season. Keep an eye open for details.

THIS SEASON'S HARVEST:

LYNX: 7	WOLVERINE: 2	WOLF: 1	COYOTE: 1
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Parks Canada, CAFN & KFN Sheep Knowledge Gathering

On March 4th, a Sheep Knowledge Gathering brought together Champagne and Aishihik First Nation, Kluane First Nation, and Parks Canada; a follow-up to a similar event in 2023. Participants discussed observed changes in the landscape, threats to sheep health, and the impacts of varying winter conditions on lamb survival. Parks Canada also shared results from their recent sheep survey. A summary report will be available soon.



Energy & Sustainability

N'tsi Wind Turbine: Testing Phase Underway

The Lhù'ààn Mân N'tsi wind turbine is currently in its 12-month testing phase, which began June 2025 and runs through June 2026. This period allows the team to fine-tune the system, address early issues, and make sure everything is running safely and efficiently.

It's normal for new projects to experience occasional hiccups in their first year. Hence, a testing phase. The turbine may be temporarily shut down from time to time. In December, for example, extreme cold required taking it offline, just like many of us had trouble keeping our homes and vehicles running in those temperatures. Once conditions improved, the turbine was back up and running. We look forward to seeing N'tsi move into full, regular operations in June 2026 - another exciting milestone for the community!



Upcoming: NRCan Seismic Research on the Alaska Highway

In May, you may see two Natural Resources Canada employees along the Alaska Highway between Burwash Landing and Destruction Bay. They'll be setting out temporary sensor kits to measure ground vibrations from the N'tsi turbine - valuable research as wind energy becomes more common across Canada. The sensors are enclosed in sturdy cases, wrapped in tarps, and powered by leak-proof marine batteries.

All components will be removed when finished. The scientists ask that you not disturb the equipment, as it's very sensitive. But, if you see them working, feel free to stop and ask questions. They're always happy to talk about what they do. Results will be shared with KFN once the data has been analyzed.



NRCan Research Scientist Dr. Claire Perry installs a temporary seismic station for a noise study in Labrador

Photo: NRCan.

Did you know?

March and April are a great time for solar energy - especially in the North - and here's why:

- As the days get longer, solar panels have more sunlight to work with. The sun is also higher in the sky than it is in winter, which helps panels produce more energy.
- Cool temperatures are another bonus. Solar panels actually work more efficiently in cooler weather than in the heat of summer.
- And if there's still snow on the ground, it can help too. Snow reflects sunlight, giving panels an extra boost.

All together, the spring brings a great mix of longer days, brighter sun, and ideal conditions for solar power. It's also a good time to check in on the health of solar panels and related equipment.

Amber Polson, Energy and Sustainability Analyst, is currently taking inventory of KFN's solar equipment and checking each system. You may see her in and around mechanical rooms in the community - feel free to say hello and ask questions if you're curious!

Wind Turbine Word Search

T	R	C	E	E	T	T	O	W	E	R	N	E	T
Y	R	L	C	O	L	M	G	K	Y	O	E	N	N
T	O	I	A	E	T	B	A	E	V	T	B	E	E
Y	T	M	B	U	C	R	A	E	A	A	R	R	C
R	O	A	L	E	B	B	I	W	T	R	N	G	S
E	R	T	E	D	R	E	T	E	E	E	B	Y	A
W	B	E	N	N	O	I	T	A	D	N	U	O	F
O	L	S	N	A	C	E	L	L	E	E	E	A	X
P	A	E	V	I	R	D	W	A	Y	G	W	R	S
T	D	N	E	E	N	R	O	T	A	T	I	N	G
A	E	S	I	N	N	O	V	A	T	I	V	E	W
R	S	O	C	C	O	M	M	U	N	I	T	Y	V
B	T	R	A	N	S	M	I	S	S	I	O	N	W
S	N	S	N	W	I	N	D	Y	L	H	U	B	O

ROTATING
YAW DRIVE
FOUNDATION
POWER
CLIMATE SENSORS
GENERATOR
TRANSMISSION
COMMUNITY
WINDY
INNOVATIVE
BRAKE
ROTORBLADES
CABLE
ENERGY
RENEWABLE
NACELLE
HUB
TOWER
GEAR BOX
ASCENT

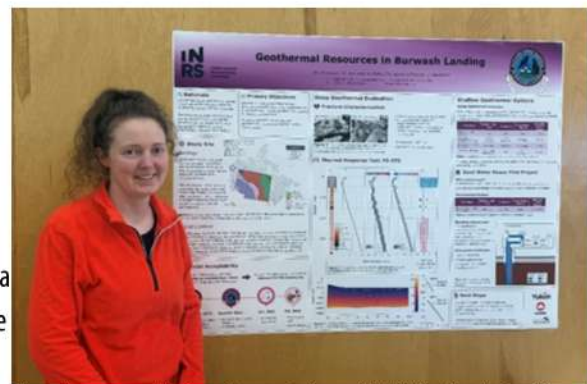


This system is up and running and producing solar energy—as Amber's smile shows!

Good Water House Geothermal Pilot Project

The Good Water House pilot project is exploring how geothermal energy could help heat the Burwash water treatment building while reducing diesel use. Currently, the building relies on fuel oil and wood for heating. This project aims to add a geothermal heat pump system to support the existing setup.

The plan is to repurpose a 385-metre-deep well drilled by KFN in 2012, located beside the water treatment plant. This well will be converted into a standing column geothermal system, allowing heat from the ground to be captured through a heat exchanger and boosted by a high-temperature heat pump to warm the building.



Fiona Chapman stands in front of a poster in Jacquot Hall highlighting the Good Water House geothermal project.

SmartICE: Lhù'dàn Mân Keyí and Beyond

As the SmartICE coordinator for western Canada there has been a lot of training this winter with different First Nations in the Yukon and B.C. I've mostly been training their Land Guardians how to use new technology to map ice thickness on

fresh water lakes and rivers. Using traditional knowledge of dangerous areas the Land Guardians will be able to map out ice thickness and conditions to help citizens to safely travel to their trading and harvesting areas. With different weather conditions it will also give the community an opportunity to see the technology in action and build understanding of how geothermal energy overflow might be used in other ways at KFN access to difficult

For more information contact Amber Polson, Energy and Sustainability Analyst; energyanalyst@kfn.ca

This ice monitoring is being done across the Canadian Arctic, resulting in safer ice roads to remote communities and safer passage across sea ice. 45 different communities across Canada are now mapping out traditional routes and training the young generation how to navigate on different ice that is under constant change. Having grown up on fresh water lakes and rivers in the Yukon I've been able to understand more about the changing conditions and safety planning that SmartICE offers.

This winter was very cold with more snow than normal. Muatne Lake takes 4 days to cover and has different areas that have dangerously thin ice near rivers or moving water underneath that erodes the ice. We did find lots of overflow this year with the deep snow insulating the water from freezing. By mapping these areas, it will help people avoid these hidden areas that are buried in snow.

Here are a few pictures that show what overflow can look like, there is often no signs of it there.

Cheers,

Sam White | Smart ICE Operator



Governance Update

The Governance Department is happy to welcome you into the spring and summer months. We hope 2026 has started well for you and wish you all the best this spring.

Looking back: January-March 2026

As we move into the new fiscal year, our team has been busy working with Executive and Finance on workplans and budgets. We are excited about what this next season will bring for KFN.

Looking ahead: April-June 2026

In May, we are pleased to once again welcome law students from the University of Calgary to the community. They will be working with Gùdia Mary Jane and Helena, and we look forward to having them here, learning from the community and continuing this relationship.

Wills and Estates Clinic

We will be organizing a Wills and Estates planning and signing session with a lawyer. We are happy to share that we have funding to offer a one-time Wills clinic for all KFN citizens over 18 years old, on a first-come, first-served basis. Please keep an eye out for more information on how to sign up, including dates, times, and how to book your appointment.

JOIN A COMMITTEE!

We are always looking for interested citizens to join our committees.

Your voice and experience help guide important decisions for our community.

Current committees include:

Election Committee – A legal review of the Election Act is planned.

Citizenship Committee – A legal review of the Citizenship Code is planned.

Constitution Committee – They are working in their 4th year on the 5-year cycle right now.

Community Consultation Group (CCG) – We held a successful first CCG meeting in March alongside the RCMP. KFN will be making changes to the Letter of Expectation with the RCMP, and we look forward to more collaborative policing efforts from the RCMP First Nations Community Policing Services. We are still looking for office space in Burwash where RCMP can hang their jackets and be more accessible to community members.

Resolution Committee – Annually supporting citizens by helping to develop clear and well-written resolutions. Please start planning and writing your resolutions now as the GA is fast approaching!

If you are interested in joining any of these committees, please contact:
Lucy-Anne, Registrar and Committee Liaison, or Helena, Governance Director.
We would be happy to talk with you about which committee might be a good fit for your interests and experience.



Thank you for your ongoing support, participation, and engagement with Governance. We look forward to continuing to work together to achieve our community's goals.

-- Helena, Lucy-Anne Carroll and Hargun

Celebrating Our Citizens

Celebrating Gùdia Mary Jane Johnson

In wider archives news, Gùdia Mary Jane Johnson was honored to be a part of the development of how Canadian archives are responding to the Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC) Call to Action 70, issued by the TRC in June 2015, which asked the federal government to provide funding to the Canadian Association of Archivists to undertake, in collaboration with Indigenous peoples, a national review of archival policies and best practices. Gùdia contributed to the editing of the Reconciliation Framework final report, a result of five years of research, relationship building, and collaborative content development. Gùdia is a member of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission Taskforce (TRCTF) and we applaud her for the important work she is doing in the Canadian archives community!

Sierra Easterson-Moore at the Arctic Winter Games 2026

Being a member of Biathlon Yukon, I was selected for Team Yukon's Snowshoe Biathlon for my first ever Arctic Winter Games. I've been participating in biathlon for over two years now and it has been a learning experience. Due to me being sick basically all season, I was unable to train nearly as much as I hoped. However, in the end, it never truly mattered once I was on the range. I pushed myself as hard as I could and passed my own expectations. You can really surprise yourself by how hard you can push the limits when you really want a medal.



I think everyone should participate in at least one Arctic Winter Games, even if that means volunteering. Every bit of the experience is amazing. It gives so many youth from across the circumpolar North a chance to race and play at a competitive level. Everyone had great energy which makes teams bond together stronger – like getting ready for our races by putting glitter and gems on our faces together in a small bathroom, or making the boys choose a bikini to wear for their races.

Out of everything that happened, my absolute favourite part was all the people I met and how close everyone became compared to the first day. The race everyone was especially excited for was the relay on our last race day. Even though we were postponed to the evening, the excitement buzzed as we all got ready with our glitter and costumes.

Arctic Winter Games came with many exciting and odd experiences. On our last full day, we went downtown and it was dark and cold. As we were waiting for a bus back down to our school dorms, we came upon a small group of Alaskan boys who were lost and trying to figure out a way back to Riverdale. They didn't believe us when we said that the bus would take them back down to Riverdale, but eventually we brought them back and saved them from a cold walk home.

– Sierra Easterson-Moore



Photos: From the archives of Donalda Easterson, Jonathan Moore and the Arctic Winter Games.

Like her big brother Nathan, Sierra has her mom's & my work ethic. Whether it would be working and playing out on Asi Keyi or working as a summer student. She has my extremely competitive nature so to watch her compete at very cold temperatures and have fun doing so at the 2026 Arctic Winter Games for Team Yukon, Kluane First Nation and the Nisga'a Nation was a very proud experience for her mom and I. Her hard work and training for this huge event truly paid off!

*Sierra's Dad,
Jonathan Moore*

Zana Ka

Muskrat Camp 2026





Lhù'ààn Mân Dañ Kwanje Nààtsat

Language Department Updates

Kluane People Speak Strong

The Language Department is looking forward to another busy season for 2026. We will be offering on-land activities this summer through the fall. Learning from elders and other knowledge keepers about how to live on the land and water empowers and connects youth, contributing to their overall well-being. Our time on this earth is to make sure the youth have a foundation to follow as guidance to keep their language and culture alive or they become lost. As Elders and Knowledge Keepers, it is our responsibility to help our children to grow in a healthy positive way by teaching them respect, kindness, caring and sharing.



Sewing Sessions

Our Sewing nights on Wednesdays from 6:30-8:30pm are well attended and we have been sewing shawls; fur hats and any projects people need to complete. A few men engaged in completing their moccasins from last year's Men's Camp. We have been sharing our patterns and making copies to be stored within the language dept. We are working on a Pattern Library. If you would like to share your patterns, please reach out to us in the Language Dept. Sewing will end in May and will start again in October.



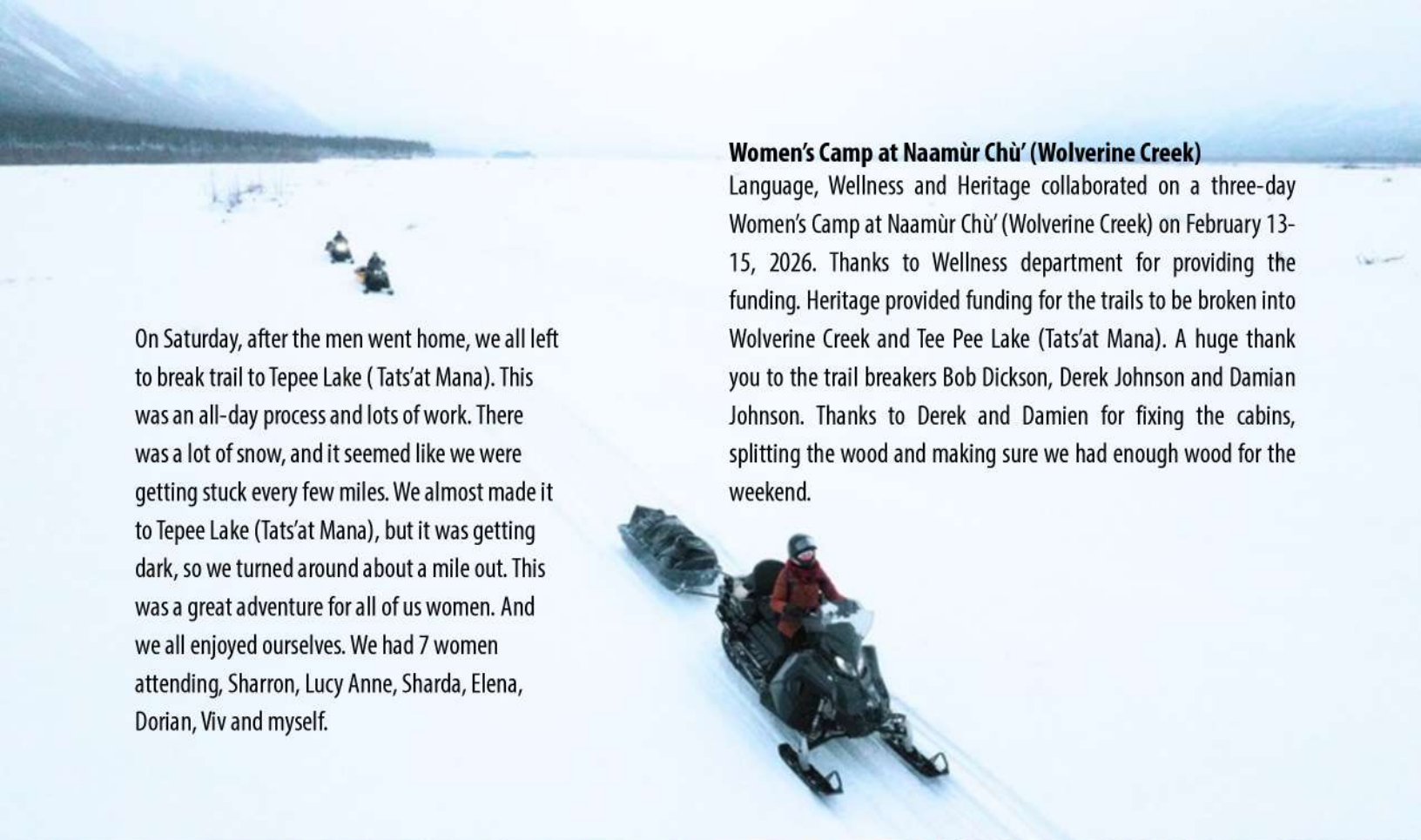
Moose Meat Jarring Workshop

We held another Moose Meat Jarring workshop on January 23-24, 2026. Thanks to DKRRC for the moose meat donations! We had a great turnout and the results were delicious.



Our beloved singers and dances gave another heartfelt and amazing performance at the Yukon Literacy Coalition's event: "Yukon: A Welcoming Place - Haines Junction". Our youth gave it their all, showed their pride, strength, rhythm and dance moves!





On Saturday, after the men went home, we all left to break trail to Tepee Lake (Tats'at Mana). This was an all-day process and lots of work. There was a lot of snow, and it seemed like we were getting stuck every few miles. We almost made it to Tepee Lake (Tats'at Mana), but it was getting dark, so we turned around about a mile out. This was a great adventure for all of us women. And we all enjoyed ourselves. We had 7 women attending, Sharron, Lucy Anne, Sharda, Elena, Dorian, Viv and myself.

Women's Camp at Naamùr Chù' (Wolverine Creek)

Language, Wellness and Heritage collaborated on a three-day Women's Camp at Naamùr Chù' (Wolverine Creek) on February 13-15, 2026. Thanks to Wellness department for providing the funding. Heritage provided funding for the trails to be broken into Wolverine Creek and Tee Pee Lake (Tats'at Mana). A huge thank you to the trail breakers Bob Dickson, Derek Johnson and Damian Johnson. Thanks to Derek and Damien for fixing the cabins, splitting the wood and making sure we had enough wood for the weekend.



Wellness Department Update

Looking Back

It's been a busy last few months at the Wellness Department. We did our best to organize and assist with events throughout the remaining winter months. We had Rebecca from Lotus Studios come to give yoga classes and massages, a cute Valentine's Day Love Note event where community members enjoyed community lunch, wrote love notes and received a chocolate to give to a loved one, to a great Easter egg hunt for families. We seem to enjoy chocolate here in Burwash Landing! Once again we worked with the Language and Culture Department and Heritage to bring you On the Land Camps.

Yoga Bolster Workshop ~ Jan 16–18

Led by Ellen Bielawski and Rebecca Schatz



Valentine's Day Love Notes ~ Feb 18



Random photos of cute kids wearing cool hats.

Wellness Department Update

Looking Ahead

"Well-being is about the combination of our love for what we do each day, the quality of our relationships, cultural connection, security of our finances, vibrancy of our Physical, Mental, Emotional, Spiritual health, and the pride we take in what we have contributed to our communities."

Vacancies:

- Recreation & Health Coordinator. (recreation + health promotion + public health)
- Culture & Wellness Support Coordinator. (Indian Residential School (IRS) + mental wellness + Cultural Camps & Traditional Healer support) Potential candidate will start in August 😊
- Day-camp Coordinator + Worker (June to August)
- Coordinators to assist with organizing "On the Land Camps"
- Director of Education

Upcoming Activities

We are collaborating with Language Department on organizing Men's & Women's, Hunting & Gathering and Hide Camps. Look out for dates! Ongoing Counselling opportunities for citizens and families are available though:

Aurora Wellness Group Counselling: 867.668.7200

Ryan Lane (Northern Focus): 587.577.0694

Jody Studney: 867.334.4402

YG Mental Wellness & Substance Use Services: 867.334.5688

The Wellness Department is also planning to bring traditional healers to the community on a regular basis as well as continue policy development for mental health, hardship, basic needs & treatment funds. Stay tuned, more info will be presented at the General Assembly in July. Our beloved and well-attended Weekly Wednesday Community Lunches will continue!

Wellness Infrastructure

A Safe House/Transitional house will be opening soon. The work on the new "Wellness Centre, a new office and activity building for Wellness Department, is underway. Funding for design stage will be confirmed in May/June. Our Wellness Cabin at 14 Sedate Street will be opening in June as well. Outreach services and counselling will be provided out of this cabin.

Opportunities

Substance Abuse & Trauma/mental health treatment support opportunities are available for KFN Citizens and families. Please apply in person to our wellness staff (Jade, Shelley, Robert) and they will work with you on available options and supports available.

FYI: The Wellness Department will be short staffed in April and May due to staff leave, please be patient and aware that this will impact services.

Lhù'ààn Mân Dunena

Daycare/Learning Centre



Barriers and Challenges

Like any growing initiative, we faced some challenges along the way. These included factors such as scheduling conflicts, weather conditions, and capacity limitations. Despite these barriers, our team remained committed to adapting and finding ways to continue delivering services and programs effectively.

We continue to learn from these experiences and are working towards improving accessibility, communication, and overall program delivery.



Looking Back

Between January and March, our learning center focused on participating a variety of programs and initiatives that support cultural learning, community wellness, and skill development. This includes land-based activities, educational support, and opportunities for citizens to reconnect with traditions and each other.

Each program was designed with the goal of strengthening community ties while creating safe and inclusive spaces for participation. We are grateful to everyone who took part and contributed to making these programs successful.



Looking Ahead

As we move into the next few months, our learning center is excited to build on the progress made so far. We will continue to participate programs that support cultural connection, learning, and community well-being.

We are focused on improving program delivery, expanding engagement, and creating more spaces for citizens to get involved.

We would like to thank all KFN citizens, staff, and partners who contributed to the success of these past months. Your participation, continuous support, make a difference. We look forward to what's ahead and to continuing this work together as a community.

— Joie/Ashley/Toshie

Lhù'ààn Mân Dunena

Kluane Lake School

Looking Back

Kluane Lake School has had another busy season, planning for and participating in Zana Camp was a massive success, and our learners had the best time! Their highlights included skinning, playing hand-games, activities with RPAY, and getting out on the land. Despite the cold temperatures and deep snow, the week was a memorable one and a fantastic learning experience. We look forward to it again in 2027!

In February, our learners had the chance to work with Gùdia Mary Jane Johnson and her team to set rabbit snares, checking them over the course of three days and then processing. Learners loved cooking and eating afterwards! We also were able to check fishnets, processing and frying our catches!

We continue to seek Elders and Knowledge keepers that are keen to work with the school! Please reach out to Kelsey.shiels@yukon.ca to discuss opportunities or present ideas for activities.

Looking Forward

Kluane Lake School is in session until early June, with lots happening between now and then. May brings assessment periods for Numeracy and Literacy, the Intermediate end of year trip to Calgary, and the opportunity to share learner portfolios with parents and guardians.

We continue to seek logo designs, and the contest has been extended until June 1st, 2026. There will be prizes for the top 3 submissions (FNSB swag), and a \$100 gift card to the creator of the chosen logo.



Community members at Zana Ka held at Nanààje.

Looking Forward

Kluane Lake School is in session until early June, with lots happening between now and then. May brings assessment periods for Numeracy and Literacy, the Intermediate end of year trip to Calgary, and the opportunity to share learner portfolios with parents and guardians.

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Residential School Survivor Quilts

Quilt Presentations



Quilts were given to KFN citizens present during the April 1 Community Lunch. Requests from recipients to gift quilts to other citizens were duly honoured.



Residential School Survivor Quilts

Behind the Scenes



We'd like to express how grateful we are to Trish and her team for making the quilts with such love and care.
Shāw níthān Trish, Lucy-Anne, Suzanne, Kelsey, Karen, Gloria, and Viv!



Public Works and Municipal Services

Priorities for 2026/27

Staffing Improvements

PWMS continues to strengthen collaboration across departments, improving coordination and service delivery with new team members in place. We have three new additions to the PWMS team:

- Elena Barroso – Housing Manager
- Jeff Flummerfelt – Water and Service Technician
- Damian Johnson – Labourer

Have a look at the *New Faces* Section of the Buzz for proper introductions. PWMS continues to strengthen collaboration across departments, improving coordination and service delivery with new team members in place.

Building Infrastructure Expansions, Repairs and Renovations

Our lovely **Jacquot Hall** will be getting a couple facelifts. The kitchen is going to be expanded and the daycare will receive an arctic entry. The existing kitchen is 472 SqFt and is being expanded by 265 SqFt to include a walk-in Fridge and Freezer and expansion area. This allows better cleaning and working areas for cooks and servers. The walk-in units will allow for better storage of food and removal of fridges presently used, thus more working area. KFN cooks were involved with input to the planning and design.

Construction is expected to begin in June. The tender process is complete and ready to be issued. The **Blue Building** will be expanding, receiving water and sewer truck bays, allowing both sewer trucks to be stored indoors year-round. Design and plans are complete and pending for approval for construction. Lastly, the **Good Water House** will be expanded to improve water supply capacity and provide storage for water trucks. We are in the planning and design phase to work out costing, with current efforts focused on securing funding for construction next year.

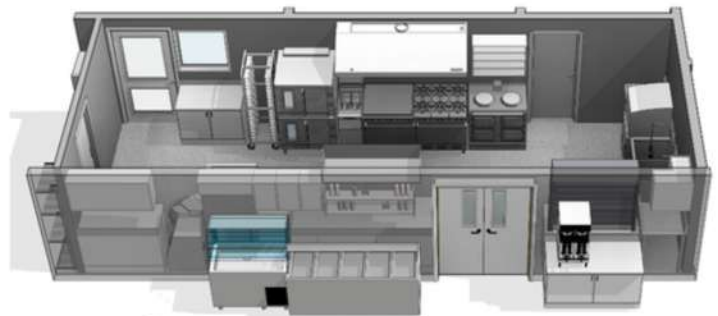
A Big Thank You from PWMS

PWMS would like to extend our appreciation to citizens, community members and staff for their continued understanding as we manage high operational demands with limited staffing capacity.

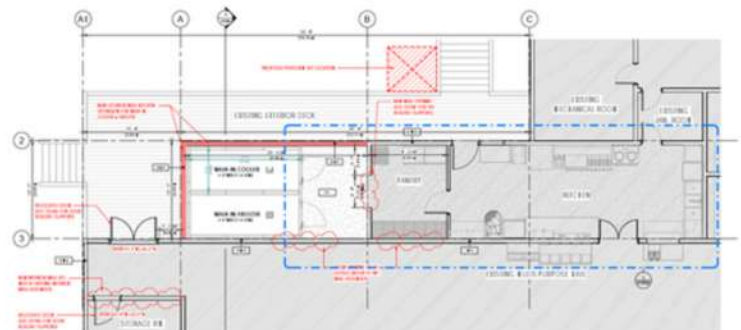
While challenges remain, the team is actively working to improve processes and provide deliver services more effectively.

We welcome respectful collaboration and encourage community members to share feedback through the available *Suggestion Forms* at the PWMS office.

PWMS will continue to support the setup and maintenance of upcoming General Assemblies and community camps, while working closely with Elders to respond to needs or issues as they arise.



A 3D rendering of the current Jacquot Hall kitchen.



The floor plan of the planned expansion of the Jacquot Hall kitchen.

Transient Homes

Here is the current status of the (8) housing units spoken about in the last Burwash Buzz. The pads are prepared and ready for installation:

- 4 Cabins will be arriving at beginning of May (2 to be completed in July)
 - 2 cabins arriving at the end of May, both to be fully completed in June.
 - 2 Homes have arrived (their materials) and will be to be completed by July.
- One of the homes is to be used as the Safe House for the Wellness Department.



Biomass Replacement

The biomass system was originally put in place in the late 1990s, heating the Jacquot Hall, Red Shop (location of biomass system is between the Red Shop and the Jacquot Hall) and later the post Office/Language Nest. After the heat exchange system began experiencing issues, a retrofit took place in 2007. The system then began losing efficiency in 2015 and failing in 2017. After a study was done, a temporary wood boiler was put in place beside the biomass system in 2017 to shore up the heat lost from the biomass system. The wood boiler has been used until the current time.

Three options came out of the 2017 study: 1) repair the existing system; 2) install a single boiler system to replace the whole system; and, 3) install a double boiler system that could be expanded to other buildings. Presently we're working on the double boiler system to include the three existing buildings, the forthcoming Wellness Center, and the new Hub/Administration building. There is also the possibility of tying into the New Water House Geothermal Research Project. We are presently working with consultants on option 3 (the double boiler) for a heating system for the community. New technologies allow for the transfer of heat through a super-insulated, non-corrosive new piping network.

Emma Street House

The anticipated Occupancy Approval (final inspection w/occupancy permit) for #5 Emma is slated for early July. The house was started in November last year by Aztec Construction and the KFN citizen-owned company needs to be commended on the workmanship, professionalism and timely construction of the fire loss re-build. Well done Austin, GP and Crew!



Housing Update (New!)

Air Duct Cleaning

You asked, and we listened! The Great Duct Deep Clean was completed on March 16th – 30th. Over 70 homes, along with the bank/post office and Jaquot Hall, are now clean, refreshed, and fully disinfected! A big thumbs up to Russel and Logan for their hard work, flexibility, and commitment to meeting tenants' needs. Here are some of the benefits that this cleaning brings to the community:

- Improves air quality: Reduces dust, allergens, and irritants for healthier breathing
- Reduces fire risk: Removes lint buildup in dryer vents, a common fire hazard
- Increases efficiency: Helps heating systems and dryers run more effectively
- Lowers energy use: Better airflow can reduce utility costs
- Enhances comfort: Promotes more consistent heating and less dust in the home

You can leave some feedback on their Website: [True Air Duct Cleaning](https://www.trueairductcleaning.com).



Chimney and Woodstove Inspection and Upgrades

Great progress is underway! So far, 22 units have been assessed, with 7 already repaired or upgraded. Roof ladders are also being installed to make future access and cleaning safer and easier. Kudos to Donald and Vance (Deetrin Contracting) for their professionalism, adaptability, and strong commitment to tenant satisfaction.



Fire Extinguishers

We will be visiting every home in April to ensure each House has a certified Fire Extinguisher, and carbon monoxide / smoke alarms in good working order. Safety First!

NEW WORK ORDER FORMS and HOUSING Phone Number

Updated Work Order Forms will help reduce back-and-forth and help us triage and assist faster. Work Orders can now be submitted by SMS to 867-332-8056.

Please note that, on occasion, our maintenance team may need to access units to complete urgent repairs in case of an emergency, even if you are not home. We make every effort to respect your space and ensure all work is carried out safely and professionally, with minimal disruption.

Submit Work Orders by Text
867-332-8056



Share the following information:

- Unit Identification (Address)
- Contact Info (other than phone number, if preferred)
- What is the issue? When did it start? What are the inconveniences?
- Any known measurements and specifications of the faulty part/appliance
- Pictures of the deficiency
- Preferred times for visits

New Faces!



My Name is Sergeant Brendan Fast, I work at the Haines Junction RCMP Detachment as the Detachment Commander, I arrived in February of 2026 with my wife and three children. I have been a member of the RCMP for 11 years, Haines Junction is my 5th post, all of my service up until now has been in Alberta. I have worked in a General Duty Capacity as a frontline officer in Rural, Municipal and Isolated communities. I grew up in Whitehorse so the Yukon is home to me, I am excited to be back in the Yukon and to get back into the world class fishing and hunting that I grew up with. This is the first detachment that I have been in command so I am looking forward to the challenges and opportunities that will come our way. I believe community engagement is one of the primary foundations of police work in every community I have served. Meeting the people, learning their cultures and hearing their stories is one of the most rewarding parts about being a member of the RCMP. I look forward to meeting the many members of KFN, when you see us out and about please don't hesitate to come say hi!



My name is Elena Barroso Alcazar. Many of you know me already as I have been part of this community for a few years now. I am originally from Madrid, Spain. Before settling in the North, I worked in a range of fields across three continents, including roles in legal consulting, procurement, community relations and development aid. I first visited Kluane in 2018 while bike touring across Canada and the US, and like many others, I was drawn in by the "spell" - the incredible beauty of the place and the warmth, generosity, and hospitality of the people, Lhù'ààn Mân Keyí. Outside of work, I have volunteered as an Emergency Medical Responder with the Destruction Bay EMS crew since 2023 and I try to spend as much time outdoors as possible. I'm both excited and a little nervous to join KFN's team as the new Housing Manager. There are many challenges ahead, but I feel fortunate to be part of such strong team and confident that we will make meaningful progress together. This spring I will be visiting every unit to learn about and better understand the issues affecting tenant's wellbeing and comfort. Looking forward to connecting with you all!!
Housing Cell #: 867-332-8056



My name is Catherine Jamnicky. I'm from Haines Junction and have spent over 30 years in the Yukon. My favourite things are the land, the water and adventures! I spend a lot of time doing sports and artwork. You might have seen my work at the last CAFN Drum and Dance Festival. Expect to see a combination of the sports and adventure soon though. (think kayaking..). I really enjoy hearing people's stories and volunteering. I currently have my eyes on the Museum.

KFN has hired me as Records Management Coordinator and I'm already elbows deep in boxes, where I love to be. I thoroughly enjoy organizing things. Everybody, every single person, has been so good and welcoming to me since I've arrived. I hope to meet you all, sooner than later. Coming to my Pickleball Drop-In will definitely help with that.

All the best, Cat



Many of you may already know Jeffery Flumerfelt, as he has previously lived in the Burwash Landing area. He brings a diverse background in security and public service. Jeffery has held security roles and has experience in customer service, administration, and emergency response, including volunteering with the Destruction Bay Ambulance crew and participating in a Yukon EMS pilot project in Haines Junction. Earlier in his career, he served as an Artillery Gunner with the Canadian Armed Forces Reserves. He is now a qualified Commercial Truck Driver.

Jeffery's varied experience, particularly in safety-focused and community-oriented roles, will be a valuable addition to our team. We are looking forward to having him join our group of hardworking labourers.

KWINDLÌ ZÈNÜ SHÁWKWATHAN
TÙLHÀSÈN!





Community Calendar: *Be In the Know!*

Wills and Estates Clinic

The Governance Department will be organizing a Wills and Estates planning and signing session with a lawyer. We are happy to share that we have funding to offer a one-time Wills clinic for all KFN citizens over 18 years old, on a first-come, first-served basis. Please keep an eye out for more information on how to sign up, including dates, times, and how to book your appointment.

Upcoming Heritage Opportunities for 2026/27

- Heritage Trails
- Archives
- Interpretive Programming
- Archeological field-work

For any interest in participating in Heritage programming and projects, please contact the Heritage Manager, Alyssa White, at heritage.manager@kfn.ca or come by the Heritage Manager office in Burwash Landing.

Community Wildfire Preparedness Day

May 8th is Kluane First Nations' Wildfire Preparedness Day. Yukon Government, FireSmart Canada, and LRH will be hosting a community BBQ and Q&A session to provide information on how to protect homes and communities from wildfire. The event will offer practical tips, resources, and guidance to help residents prepare for and reduce wildfire risks, while also fostering community engagement and awareness around fire safety.

Staff Language Learning

Language learning for staff has been postponed until late fall due to staff and citizen availability. This will run for approximately 23 weeks, twice a week. Details to come.

Thechàl Dhàl' Interpretive Program

Sewing Retreat ~ May 2-3

The Interpretive Program at Thechàl Dhàl' Visitor Centre is starting off this year with a citizen-focussed sewing retreat on May 2-3. During this weekend citizens will be tasked with finishing artwork projects to be tagged for retail at the Thechàl Dhàl' Visitor Centre. We also will be engaging in roundtable discussion about Indigenous tourism in Kluane National Park and Reserve, sharing experiences and ideas for the Interpretive Program, and connecting with Parks Canada staff.

The visitor season opens on May 20 and the centre will be open every day of the week. All citizens are welcome to participate in this program by hosting workshops throughout the season and at special events such as National Indigenous People's Day celebration. This year the Language Department will be collaborating with Heritage in program planning and support.

The Wellness Department Short-Staffed

The Wellness Department will be very short staffed for the months of April and May. Please be patient with our team and try to utilize family support before relying on the KFN wellness team. While Wellness will do it's best to continue to accommodate requests, we can't guarantee we will be able to provide support for all requests due to limited capacity.

Men & Women's Camps

We will be working on organizing a 4-day women & men's camps in May. Women's Camp will be May 4-7, 2026 and the Men's Camp will be May 8-11, 2026, at Nanààje.

KFN 2026 CALENDAR

WHEN	WHAT	WHERE	DEPT
April 29, 2026	Dakwani	Burwash Landing	Council
May 2-3, 2026	Sewing Retreat	Burwash Landing	Heritage
May 4-7, 2026	Women's Camp	Nàànaje	Wellness
May 5-7, 2026	CYFN Leadership	Whitehorse	Council
May 8-11, 2026	Men's Camp	Nàànaje	Wellness
May 13, 2026	Elders' Council Meeting	Burwash Landing	Council
May 14, 2026	Council Meeting	Burwash Landing	Council
June 17, 2026	Elders' Council Meeting	Burwash Landing	Council
June 18, 2026	Council Meeting	Burwash Landing	Council
June 23-25, 2026	CYFN General Assembly	Duke Meadows	CYFN
July 2, 2026	KFN Youth Gathering	Duke Meadows	Council
July 3-5, 2026	KFN General Assembly	Duke Meadows	Council
July 30 - Aug 2, 2026	Kluane Singers @ Moosehide Gathering	Moosehide/ Dawson City	Language
August 24-28, 2026	Hunting Camp	Nàànaje	Language





We hope you found our newsletter informative and entertaining.
If you're interested in more information, please reach out:

 Kluane First Nation, PO Box 20, Burwash Landing, YT Y0B 1V0

 comms.officer@kfn.ca

 867.841.4274 ext. 141

 www.kfn.ca