

WHITE RIVER FIRST NATION UPDATE

FALL 2012

A Note From Chief and Council

Hello Everyone,

It has been a few months since the new Council has been elected and it has been a learning curve for us all. To date I have been familiarizing myself with the new role, getting to know the programs, staff and abilities, the funders and our requirements to better understand the collaborative aspect to try new approaches for the benefit of us all.

An area of interest I have focused on is the Elders and their care that I have been trying to assist with to make life better for them. One particular area of that I am concerned with and trying to curtail is the taking of advantage of and supply of alcohol that is detrimental to health.

I have been assisting Doug Broeren the Capital Projects Manager with the Capital

Projects to plan and develop projects with intentions to hire membership versus contracting out work if possible.

Chief and Council have submitted proposals for the revision and completion of the new Election Code and Constitution but were unsuccessful with YTG for that, so are looking for other sources to complete that before my term is finished.

Chief and Council have also submitted another proposal to the AANDC (Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada) to further past work for the WRFN job descriptions, hiring policy and other related policies within WRFN.

Chief and Council have worked toward developing new policies which will assist us as a consistent base

to make decisions that will be fair to all. They all are important, and two are the Potlatch and Council policies that will be available for viewing and comment at the September General Assembly in Beaver Creek.

Another item I am interested in is getting to know all our far flung members and their abilities. Chief and Council are negotiating with mining companies, looking at getting involved more in economic development, so I am requesting that all members interested in either working here, or possibly doing contract work for us to send a current resume so we can begin to develop a database of our members abilities and know who to call when opportunities arise.



That is about it for me for this newsletter; we are planning to have many more, so if you have anything you want to contribute, please contact Val at the WRFN Office.

Thank you,

Chief Charlie Eikland Jr.

A Word From the Executive Director

In the afternoon of Tuesday, October 2nd, 2012 the White River First Nation office will be hosting a drivers testing day. Gary Owens and a co-worker will be travelling to the community in order to hold examinations for those needing to obtain their Learners Drivers License. They will also be conducting road examinations for those needing to complete their GDL li-

cence or be recertified for a expired drivers license.

During the month of October there will be an instructor visiting Beaver Creek to hold a PAL guns course. If interested in attending please contact the Administrative Assistant Val as she is the one organizing this course with the instructor.

Val: 1-867-862-7802

Toll Free: 1-866-862-9736

Also, Fire Smart will be starting up soon. If you are interested in applying please fax your resumes to the White River Office or contact the office for an employment application.

Fax: 1-867-862-7806

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Land's Department

Considering how traditional knowledge could be incorporated into the YESAA assessment.

To help WRFN Members participate and capture and express their views in a valuable manner YESAB produced four key questions every YESAA participant should ask themselves when submitting comments into an assessment. This will help assessors consider your information and allow them to follow-up with questions, if necessary.

The Chief and Council of White River First Nation are reaffirming its community rights and local autonomy with respect to decision-making processes in the traditional territory. White River First Nation Council provides our First Nations with important support services but it must be clearly understood WRFN staff even though some are members they do not represent the First Nation membership on community issues. It is about meaningful content that outlines the values that are related to the environment (land, air, water, fish, wildlife), socioeconomics (health and well-being of people), and how those values could potentially be affected by a proposed project like mining and pipelines.

Below is a list of questions that will assist you in producing comment submissions to, Sarah Chan, Assessment Officer for the Haines Junction Designated Office PO Box 2126, Haines Junction, Y0B 1L0 Telephone: 867-634-4040 Fax: 867-634-4049 that feed seamlessly into the process and ensure that what you value is clearly expressed in a way that informs the assessment.

Ask yourself....

1. What do you value in the proposed project area?

Values may include specific wildlife species or populations, environmental elements (land, air, water), aesthetics, social or cultural values (trapping, way of life), etc.

How do you use or interact with the area?

2. How might those values be affected or impacted by the proposed project, and why?

Explain how you think these values would be affected if the project goes ahead.

How would this be different from the way it is now?

3. Do you have any suggestions for how these effects could be reduced or eliminated? Include any measures you believe may lessen project effects, and why you think these measures would be successful.

4. Are your concerns based on your own experience, studies you are familiar with or information passed on to you from someone else?

This will help assessors consider your information and allow them to follow-up with questions, if necessary.

Submitted by: Glenn Stephen one of the WRFN representatives on YESAA assessment-related topics

glenn.stephen@whiteriverfirstnation.com



Elder Agnes Winzer

CURRENT ADDRESSES

Please either email, fax or phone Val, the Administrative Assistant to notify us of your current address. Thank you!

Phone: 1-867-862-7802

Toll Free: 1-800-862-9736

Fax: 1-867-862-7806

Email:

val.suddick@whiteriverfirstnation.com



Health Department

White River First Nation provides a number of FNIH community-based programs. The programming focuses on improving health by promoting health and preventing disease.

Funding for these programs will support the following community-based programs:

Aboriginal Diabetes Initiative

Canada Prenatal Nutrition Program (and MCH)

Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder

HIV/AIDS

Home and Community Care

National Aboriginal Youth Suicide Prevention Strategy

National Native Alcohol and Drug Abuse Program

Some of the activities we have done over this past summer:

2 day Traditional Parenting

Workshop/Camp, Diabetes information session with the community nurse

learn to make bone necklaces,

Blood Ties/HIV/AIDS/HEP C-

Youth Workshop

Food Safe Course

Grief & Loss Workshop

Mental Health First Aid Training

3 Day Fish Camp at Pickhandle/ Traditional Spoon Making

Grocery Trip to Tok, Monthly Trip to Whitehorse for Elders/ Diabetics for foot care/groceries

Understanding & Supporting Safe Withdrawal from Alcohol/ drugs (ADS)

Lateral Violence/Team Building Workshop,

Staff Luncheon/ fun activity afternoon.

Food vouchers to expected moms an moms with babies up to a year old.

I will be attending the Health Commission Meeting at the end of September. The Health Commission is responsible for providing advice on health issues to CYFN leadership and it is a venue to discuss larger issues of health on a territorial level. Participating as a member on the Health Commission provides another management stream whereby community priorities can be discussed in a

and broader health issues can be brought back to the community level.

In October there will be another important Diabetes Information session including blood tests and healthy eating. Lunch and door prizes!

Blood Ties will be in Beaver Creek for a dinner and a movie in October also.

Wellness

Once a month, usually occurring on the last Monday of the month I bring the Elders from the community into Whitehorse for their Foot-care Clinic.

On the third Wednesday of every month there is a Talking Circle held at the Wellness Centre that is open to all members.

Starting at the beginning of October movie nights will start up again. Dates to be set at a later time.

I try to do SA the first Tuesday or Wednesday of the month depending if I am in the office or not.

I will be out of the office on leave the last week of September.

Thank you for reading and feel free to contact me. If you have any questions

Jackie Johnny

1-867-862-7623

jackie.johnny@whitriverfirstnation.com



Capital Projects

Over the past few months we have been replacing wood stoves and furnaces in some of the White River First Nation houses to help keep bring the homes up to code.

Some renovations were complete in one home this summer on the bathroom and are currently underway in another home in the entire home for minor changes and fixes.

This winter White River First Nation plans on building a new home in the community of Beaver Creek and had placed an add for carpenters, carpenter helpers, painters and laborers in the Yukon News. The closing date for this ad was Friday, September 7th, 2012 and the response was great.

This summer Lorne Smith was in the community working to repair all the equipment White River First Nation owns. With great success he was able to get everything in working order.

At the end of this month we will also be saying good-bye to our O&M maintenance worker Gary Roussell. The White River First Nation office wishes Gary the best with his future and thanks him for his hard work over the past 3 years and his 5 years in the community of Beaver Creek.



Gary Roussell

CONTACT US!!!

WHITE RIVER FIRST NATION

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Y0B 1A0

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1-867-862-7802

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1-867-862-7806

Education & Training:

1-867-862-7051

Wellness Centre:

1-867-862-7623

OUR PAST, OUR
CHILDREN, OUR FUTURE



WHITE RIVER FIRST NATION UPDATE

Education and Training

School has started for all ages and I'm wishing them the best this year. I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate Jessie Stephen for completing her Degree in Nature-based Tourism from the University of Victoria in May 2012.

As you can see that I'm back from maternity leave and I've been very busy since returning. I don't have much to say right now because I've been working on client files. Some issues arose during my maternity leave and I will be working hard on getting information together to give to Membership so everyone can have a better understanding of my programs. I will also include the process that

one goes through, the applications for the two different programs and most important the structures of the departments and what each department has to do with my department.

Please keep in mind that it is also hunting season and I hope all parties hunt with care and safety. If you're not hunting for the meat, please make arrangements with WRFN for the Elders that can't hunt. Other than that I hope everyone has a safe travel to WRFN General Assembly on September 29, 2012 in Beaver Creek.

Up coming meeting on September 18th in Beaver Creek with CYFN on ASETS Program

If you have any questions or concerns about my department

if I can't answer your questions right away I will look into and I will get back to you as soon as possible .

Thank you for reading, Bessie Chasse

bessie.chasse@whiteriverfirstnation.com



Jessie Stephen

Upcoming GA Information

This years up coming Budget General Assembly will be taking place in Beaver Creek Yukon Territory on Saturday, September 29th, 2012 at the Beaver Creek Community Club.

White River First Nation will be covering to cost of the accommodations for those who wish to attend this meeting. If you need accommodations arranged please call the White River First Nation office and speak to the Administrative Assistant Val and she will add your name to the list. Buckshot Betty's, Ida's Motel and The 1202 are all open at this time of year. Please specify where you would like to stay and she will try to accommodate you, room permitting at the lodge.

Thank you and look forward to seeing you at the end of the month.

Safe travels to all.

White River First Nation Phone: 1-867-862-7802

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