



SELKIRK FIRST NATION COMMUNICATIONS

SFN News

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Hets eday (Telling stories)

December 2011

The Pelly River as it enters Pelly Crossing in late October 2011



Robert Van Bibber photo

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Selkirk First Nation Chief & Council 2011



Submitted on behalf of Chief and Council by Joe Gosnell—SFN Executive Director

The Selkirk First Nation, Chief and Council wish to extend holiday greetings to all our citizens and a safe and prosperous upcoming New Year.

Since our General Assembly in August 2011, we heard a call for financial transparency, accountability, more respect towards all members and especially our elders. Also, to open the lines of communication to allow the flow of information to every Selkirk First Nation Citizen.

All of the 2011 General Assembly resolutions are underway; we expect all resolutions with the exception of Resolution # 6 to be completed by the next scheduled General Assembly.

SFN General Assembly Resolution #6 Mining Royalty Policy stipulates the Finance Committee's final draft Policy and Plan be prepared for dis-

cussion and approval at a Special Assembly to be held before the 2011 Christmas break (Moved by Nyla Klugie and Seconded by Lucy McGinty).

Council wish to notify all citizens at the time of this update, the Finance Committee has not fully completed the consultation process to all SFN members, therefore, it is highly unlikely a Special Assembly can be scheduled prior to the upcoming Christmas break.

Considering the short time period we have been in office and the transition period needed to lead and implement change, the pace is not matching the very high expectations of some Selkirk members. We are working very hard to lead and implement the necessary changes needed to ensure overall efficiencies for our Nation.

Your current Chief and Council members wish to remind all citizens that 2 terms of previous leadership and philosophy will take time to transition towards the Nations priorities and long term goals to benefit current and future generations. **SFN Finances** - The 2011 Audited Financial Statements have been completed and are available to Selkirk members to review at their request. Financial highlights prepared in graph format follow this update, to inform you as well to generate further questions as to the overall financial position of Selkirk First Nation.

Chief and Council conducted a 6 month 2011-12 budget review on October 24, 2011 and plan to conduct another financial review in early December in order to allocate budget amendments where necessary.

Chief & Council Up-date—November 2011

Review of our overall financial position at this point in time shows a projected year end surplus due to the reduction in department activities and staffing in the prior fiscal period. All financial transactions are being monitored by the finance committee to ensure funding and investment opportunities are managed and reported to membership.

Our ongoing challenge is to realign all departments and programs which were cut in previous years in order to match the demands of programs and services needed by our members.

We are in the final stages of recruiting a Finance Director to be based in Pelly to oversee, manage and administer the day to day operations of the Finance Department.

Enrolment Department – The SFN Enrolment Department has been closed for over 2 years. Current Council have opened this department and have recruited staff and begun training in bringing this department up to date. Please note, no applications have been processed or will be processed until Council is confident that SFN policies, processes and enrolment committee requirements have been fulfilled according to what is required under our Constitution.

Elders Council – We will be providing the Elders Council with their own budget in order to exercise and fulfill their authority as stipulated under our Constitution. Lucy McGinty is the Principal Elder and Jean Van Bibber has been selected as the Elder Council representative to Council.

Communication – Chief and Council consider since their inception as Council, Communication needed to improve. We have re-staffed the communications department and will be publishing the SFN newsletter on a consistent basis. We are also training Selkirk members on Web Site development and maintenance to utilize our existing web site and not depend on outside contractors or consultants to communicate to all members, especially to those members residing outside of Pelly Crossing and the Territories.

Since our General Assembly the following have been planned;

October 17, 2011 – Finance Committee, Royalty consultation to SFN members in Whitehorse

October 22, 2011 – Finance Committee, Royalty consultation to SFN members in Pelly Crossing.

October 24, 2011 – Council Budget Review.

October 26, 2011 – Personal Budgeting Workshop for SFN members

October 29, 2011 – Constitution Committee meeting update with SFN Council (planning).

Chief & Council Up-date—November 2011

November 1, 2011 – SFN Investment Portfolio Update to SFN membership in Pelly Crossing, Ridgewood Capital Asset Management, Jeff Frketich, Portfolio Manager.

November 17 & 18, 2011 - SFN Council Governance Training Workshop.

November 21, 2011 – Council meeting with Lands Department Technical Team.

November 23, 2011 - Christmas Project Planning session.

November 29, 2011 – Elders meeting with Chief and Council, Pelly Crossing 1-4 pm.

December 2, 2011 – SFN Council meeting with SDC Board of Directors.

December 7, 2011 – Community meeting, Pelly Crossing (Chief and Council).

December 13, 2011 – Elders Christmas Dinner

December 15, 2011 – School Christmas Concert and Dinner (2 p.m.)

December 19 – January 2, 2012 - SFN Office Closure for the Holidays.

January 3, 2012 – SFN Office Open.

Through our most recent General Assembly we heard members and elders state that we need to

slow things down, we cannot forget who we are as Northern Tutchone people.

We need to move toward progress in all areas in order for our members to adapt at the same pace and level of understanding.

Your Chief and Council are moving towards the necessary changes overall, our first phase is to ensure the overall financial position of the nation is strong and transparent to all citizens. Secondly, in order to provide delivery of the necessary programs and services, we need a strong foundation with up to date policies and processes, this includes roles, responsibilities and authorities for our supporting administration.

Thirdly, communicate with all our members as to the ongoing process of your Government.

While we are listening to our citizens mandates, moving forward, we request all members to attend, participate and provide their input to meetings that require your feedback. We do not expect to move toward changes without your input.

Your participation is critical with your Government in moving to-

wards Health & Wellness, education, Social, housing, Lands & Resources, employment and training improvements.

We do realize the high expectations of our citizens and the slow pace of progress to date, however, if you consider the number of years it has taken our Nation to change direction more towards transparency, communication and to meet our Nation's members priorities, not the elected officials priorities, we feel we are on the right track.

This will not be the only update from your Government; we are planning and scheduling meetings throughout the year and on a more consistent basis. We intend to utilize this newsletter update and our website for ongoing updates and announcement. We request your patience as we move to more and better improvements towards serving all Selkirk members as required under our Constitution.

Chief and Council
Selkirk First Nation

Selkirk First Nation Traditional Law

Training and Education



Dooli:

“Dooli”, or traditional law, covers all aspects of the traditional lifestyle and survival of the Northern Tutchone people. Traditional values of respecting, caring, sharing, and teaching serve as a foundation for Selkirk people.

Showing respect to people and animals are all very important practices of the Selkirk people. A man’s success as a hunter can be very much endangered should he fail to be respectful towards the animals he is hunting. Traditional laws are still followed today by Selkirk People especially when it comes to harvesting their food, respecting animals and the death of a Selkirk member.

Education:

The education of children took place within the setting of the family and close relatives; children learned about the world around them and how to make a living by helping their parents and by listening to their stories. It was the elders who were the disciplinarians for children. The stories of the elders also provided children with a system of values, guidelines and models for appropriate behaviour.

Adolescence:

Formal training of boys and girls began at puberty. The training was intended both to teach and to reinforce the knowledge and skills required by each sex to make a living, and to mark the transition for an individual from childhood to the duties and responsibilities of adult life. Between the ages of 10 -15 years of age boys started a more formal training program which was carried out by either their father, or more traditionally, their mother’s brother (uncle), or whoever was best able to undertake the task.

In the past, before a boy would marry, he had to be able to hunt, and have accumulated a certain amount of wealth. If he was a good worker, he could marry as early as 16 – 18 years of age. A girl usually married at about this age and she had to demonstrate her ability to be a hard worker.

SFN LAND & RESOURCES

By Joel Jacobs—[SFN Land Use Inspector](#).

The following is an update of the activities I have been involved with over the past several months. Should more information be required on any of the items listed below, a more in depth report can be produced. Listed below is an itemized list of projects and activities.

- 1) Carmacks Stewart Transmission Line Project (CSTLP) Stage 1
- 2) Carmacks Stewart Transmission Line Project (CSTLP) Stage 2
- 3) Minto Barge Landings East and West Side.
- 4) Minto Mine Access Road.
- 5) Minto Landing Working Group.
- 6) SFN Lands / Mineral Claims
- 7) Other Land Use.
- 8) Research
- 9) General Office duties
- 10) Minto Mine
- 11) Other



1) CSTLP Stage 1

- the entire line has been inspected from McCabe Creek to Pelly Crossing
- vegetation is returning on most of the line with the exception of small portions where the volcanic ash has been exposed.
- All erosion concerns have been reclaimed and little to no erosion has been observed.
- One raptor nest which was left within the cleared portion of the ROW appears to have been abandoned, no sign of life was observed. May be considered a danger tree now however it is not situated within SFN Settlement land.

2) CSTLP Stage 2

- Several issues were identified with the stage 2 portion as a result of continuous monitoring. Issues identified are removal of debris left on the line, unauthorized cut on side hill, permafrost degradation, removal of flagging, unauthorized access, root damage to trees creating danger trees, rutting in permafrost areas, degradation from structures placed in the permafrost areas and erosion control.
- YEC was contacted and advised of the issues.
- An SFN crew has been established and is currently working to cleanup and reclaim the affected areas.
- An SFN Citizen has been mobilized to reclaim the unauthorized cut and close the unauthorized access with his equipment.
- Several recent joint inspections have taken place to ensure locations are known to YEC Contractor.

L & R STAFF UP-DATE CONT...

- Completion of the clean-up is expected to be complete by the first week in November.

Minto Barge Landing, East Side and West Side

- Continuous monitoring of the sites takes place on both side of the river.
- Although many more visits to the east side take place, several issues on the west side have been identified such as, unauthorized removal of material, fuel oil spills, unauthorized ground disturbance, unauthorized storage of fuel and attempts to hide small spills.
- Minto Explorations Ltd. was contacted by way of inspection reports and ordered to clean up the spills and clarify the unauthorized activities.
- Continuous monitoring and inspections are needed.
- Several extensions to their 2009 access permit have been granted and as I understand it. MEL has made application for a new permit.

Minto Mine Access Road

- the road has been monitored at random, several concerns have been identified such as, new pit run is showing up along the sides of the road in several locations, all access points have been blocked by wind row as a result of ditching along the road, many new pull offs have been established and are now at each km post. It appears that the road is nearly a two lane road at this point.
- The fence was taken down at Km 12 and someone has been using the area without authorization.
- We put fence back up and blocked access
- Pit at km 12 is being used for a staging area for tanker and con trucks, which results in oil spills spread out where ever the trucks are parked.
- As I understand it, a road agreement was proposed and currently is in the hands of SFN Legal Council.
- A permit should be required for the staging of equipment due to the fact that there is currently no written authorization for MEL to use the pit other than as a quarry.

Minto Landing Working Group (MLWG)

- The MLWG is made up of SFN Director, Inspector and two reps from MEL.
- Its intent, as I understand it, is to address issues and matters that arise as a result of the use of the East and West Barge Landings as well as the access road leading to the mine site.
- Several meetings have convened, where several outstanding issues were identified. The issues were as follows; spills, ditching causing access blockage to power line, unauthorized use of material at west landing, stockpiling of pit run, fire breaks, unauthorized use of equipment at km 4, trespass, unauthorized use of area at km 12, gravel use and quantity, spill kits insufficient, unauthorized storage of fuel and other miner concerns.
- Further meetings are required.

L & R STAFF UP-DATE CONT...

same Order In Council repeals a previous Order In Council referenced as PC 1996-1873 of December 5, 1996. Several attempts have been made to retrieve this OIC along with the maps that go with it however, cooperation from YG has been more impeding than progressive. Thanks to a new source, we are now getting cooperation and may get what we are looking for, thanks to Lois Craig. The file has been handed over to the Lands Manager for his continued search. As I understand it another meeting with Government is scheduled for early November.

General Office Duties

A large percent of the “General Office Duties” is spent reviewing e-mails, reviewing mine related information, monitoring the YG websites for new information or changes to the existing information, discussing relevant information with other staff members, providing technical support to all the L&R staff when needed, preparation and organization of maps needed, reviewing relevant SFN Final Agreements, permits and /or applications, reading e-mails and responding when necessary, answering and making phone calls and from time to time liaising with community members at large who stop in the office.

Minto Mine

Continued monitoring of the Mine has taken place as well as data provided to the EMR dept. of the YG. Many new plans have been submitted by MEL, which are reviewed as well as inspection sites.

Issues and concerns found as a result of inspections and information reviewed are as follows;

- Water management practices and data collection sites.
- Permafrost degradation as a result of cross cuts to drill sites and fire guards.
- Movement of Dry Stack Tailing Facility
- Movement of South-West Waste Dump
- Burying of waist, such as tires, plastics, metal etc.
- Mill Valley Fill
- Solid Waste Management

Other

From time to time other items pop up such as citizens requesting assistance, boat launching and extraction from the Pelly and Yukon Rivers, preparation of flight plans, creation of new maps and any related support required. All of which is documented in my daily journal.



Little Salmon/Carmacks and Selkirk First Nations Successful in Collaborative Bid to Ensure Sustainable Development in Yukon

Yukon Water Board's Refusal to Issue a Water License for Western Copper Project Upheld by Yukon Supreme Court

Carmacks and Pelly Crossing (February 28, 2011) – In a precedent-setting decision issued last week, the Yukon Supreme Court upheld an earlier decision of the Yukon Water Board that refused to issue a Water License for the Western Copper Corporation for a proposed heap leach copper mine project to be located near the Village of Carmacks.

In May 2010, the Water Board refused to issue a Water License for the Western Copper project because the Board was not satisfied that the waste from the proposed mine would be treated and disposed of in a safe manner in order to ensure Williams Creek and the Yukon River were protected. In particular, the Board found that Western Copper's proposed method for detoxifying the mine's heap leach was an unproven technology and it could not guarantee a "walk away" mine.

Because of their concerns about the potential negative environmental impacts from the mine, Little Salmon/Carmacks First Nation and Selkirk First Nation actively participated in the Water Board's hearing and the appeal before the Yukon Supreme Court. The First Nations did this in order to protect their water-related and fisheries rights and interests that are of fundamental importance to them. These rights and interests are constitutionally protected in their respective Final Agreements.

"We are extremely pleased with the court's decision to uphold the Water Board's reasons. We are also pleased that the court recognized and respected the important roles First Nations have in Yukon's environmental assessment and regulatory processes. The message is very clear: proponents planning to develop projects in our traditional territory must work with us and must be committed to the principle of sustainable development in order to move forward," said Little Salmon First Nation Chief Eddie Skookum.

Selkirk First Nation Chief Darin Isaac added, "Our Final Agreements and Yukon's environmental assessment and regulatory processes have created a new reality in the Yukon, so environmentally damaging projects like the Faro mine and others become stories from our past – not our collective futures. In order to achieve this, we will continue to use our jurisdictions and rights to protect our lands and waters."

In addition, in recognition of the important and meaningful role of the First Nations undertook in the appeal, Justice Veale held that the First Nations are eligible for costs against Western Copper.

A copy of the decision is available at:

http://www.yukoncourts.ca/judgements/supreme/2007/2011_yksc_16_western_copper_corporation_v_yukon_water_board.pdf

For more information or interviews contact:

Little Salmon First Nation
867-863-5576

Selkirk First Nation
867-537-3331

Submitted by Jason Madden

Communications 2011/12

By Robert Van Bibber

The Selkirk First Nation Communications & Meeting Coordinators Office has been filled with 1 position since August, 3rd 2011.

Coordinating;

The Elders decided on a date, chair person, and location for the SFN 2011 Annual General Assembly to be held at Minto Landing on August 18, 19, 20/2011. Well this was extremely short notice to Coordinate an AGA being just hired, however it is in my job description to do so. My first 3 weeks of work entailed 12-16 hours every day, mostly bringing the GA site in Minto up to a clean, safe and warm environment. A whole lot of organizing of equipment & supplies was needed to be done, as this office was shut down for about 16 months. Available AGA help seemed to be in a continues short supply. Upon completion of the AGA, much time was taken off work in September/October with-out pay to compensate the over-time needed to coordinate meetings and set-up the new office. There has been many meetings to coordinate for September, October, and November, all very important information sessions for the community.

SFN Website;

Our website is currently contracted to

Leaf Solutions to administrate. Before gaining access to the website, a half days training was required by Leaf Solutions. Upon direction from Council, I arranged for website training in Pelly for a group of SFN staff members on October 27th, 2011. Betty Baptiste (Gill) will administrate job posting & organizational chart information and I will be the main SFN Website Administrator as directed by C & C. However, we can not currently access the website from our Administration Building, we have an SFN technician trying to fix the problem. We are considering to change our website address to www.selkirkFN.ca should problems continue. I will travel to Whitehorse for more one-on-one training and to update the website with the SFN News paper December 2, 2011.

SFN News;

The newspaper currently being developed was large with many old submissions. The 1st draft had eight pages eliminated. We are working towards a paper a bit more on current Government

& community activities rather than personal submissions. The next paper should be formatted and detailed with more Language & Elder content.

Upon completion, colored copy's of the paper will only be mailed out to the Elders, and available for others on line or at the Pelly Post Office and SFN Admin. Office. Citizens requesting a mailed copy will be honored.

Communications Office;

I have begun to develop a proposal to Chief & Council to fulfill, and staff a complete Communications Department. Chief & Council's support is positive and supportive of effective communications & planning locally!

Internal Communications;

On-going staff meetings have begun, a master color coded calendar has been posted for all departments, and all community bulletin boards will continue to be serviced regularly. An internal paper will be produced to improve inter departmental knowledge of "what the other guys doing", as Capital and the Social Departments have separate buildings.

Pelly Crossing Radio;

We'll keep you posted! We do have a local radio license in Pelly which I have an interest in utilizing.



Robert Van Bibber at his new communications work station in the SFN Administration Building.

Enrollment 2011/12

By Jerry Alfred

SFN Enrolment Office up-date

Hello All,

Here is the news from the SFN Enrolment Office for the month November 2011. Our office is now set up for day-to-day business. Our computers and the rest of our equipment were out dated and most equipment has been replaced, although we are still waiting to replace the typewriter. In most cases we are either up-dating the addresses or taking newborn's applications.

Jerry Alfred and Marie Harper have been hired to run the Enrolment office. So far there are many concerns regarding transfers. There are 2 types of transfers: 1.) Indian Status Membership, 2.) Land Claims Beneficiaries. Indian Status Membership transfer is a transfer to a First Nation, or transfer out of an existing First Nation. If you are transferring out, you require a B.C.R. (Band Council Resolution) signed by the current Chief and Council.

The Indian Status Membership is a list done for Aboriginal Affairs of Canada and Selkirk First Nation, while the Land Claims Beneficiaries List is only for Selkirk First Nation viewing. It shows the members enrolled to Selkirk First Nation Land Claims. On this list the addresses are mostly out-of-date or have the wrong addresses. We are working hard to up-date the list with current and correct addresses. It would help a lot if members would have a look at the list and help make changes to their family's information.

Also the section pertaining to telephone numbers has not been completed. There are other duties such as making out Indian Status Certificate, up-dating the Selkirk's Enrolment Database, mailing out Enrolment Application Forms to those members who are in need of this service; the same applies for Indian Status Membership.

If you require further information or clarification, please do not hesitate to call at Selkirk First Nation at 1 (867) 537 3331 extension 264 for Marie, and 265 for Jerry. As well, you may contact us at our respective email addresses at harpermarie@selkirkfn.com or alfredjerry@selkirkfn.com and our mailing address is:

Selkirk First Nation
Enrolment Office
P.O. Box 40
Pelly Crossing, Yukon Territory, Canada
Y0B 1P0



Jerry Alfred & Marie Harper

Learning Disability Association of the Yukon— Tutor Training

LDAY Tutor Training

Submitted by Colm Cairns

LDAY SUPPORT: For ten years LDAY has had a professional relationship with teachers and administrators at Eliza Van Bibber School.

LDAY has been operating in Yukon for 35 years, in that time we have run successful summer, and winter fun camps for children and adolescents. These camps are about developing a child, or adolescent's strengths, abilities, & confidence in a supportive non-evaluative environment.

Tutor Training

If there is an active tutoring program (partnership between school and First Nation) OR
If there is a desire between the School and First Nation to establish a tutoring program to assist students who are struggling.

LDAY SUPPORT:

LDAY could train people in the community, possibly (including High School students), to be effective tutors. Part of the training would centre on the different ways people learn, including discussions about learning styles and how these learning strengths and weaknesses impact school-work and, to a lesser extent, social skills. This would include highlighting tutoring strategies that can boost academic performance, boost confidence, and contribute to positive self-image. For the student sometimes the type of intervention is not what makes the difference, it is often just the fact that there is support available. Some research indicates, regardless of the type of tutoring, a trusting, supportive, non-judgmental one to one relationship is the most effective tutoring intervention.

Parent Support

If there is a need to support families affected by learning difficulties.

LDAY SUPPORT:

LDAY can provide workshops specifically for parents. Parents would learn about the different ways we learn. Parent workshops would also cover the differences between academic (3RRRs) and experiential learning. This workshop could also offer strategies and advice for parents who would like to more effectively advocate on behalf of their children, including effectively communicating with teachers, and school administrators. If parents are interested the workshop could be expanded to include ways the parents could help at home to contribute to their child's success.



Professional Development for Teachers and Educators (including Educational Assistants)

If the community has identified professional development needs in order to meet the needs of students with learning difficulties

LDAY SUPPORT:

For ten years LDAY has had a professional relationship with teachers and administrators at Eliza Van Bibber school. In the past LDAY was invited to EVBS to contribute to professional development day training and/or tutor training. Depending on the type of need identified, LDAY could customize a workshop or series of workshops to increase the capacity of educators to meet the needs of students with learning difficulties. These workshops could include: assistive technology, multiple intelligences, transition strategies, reading and math strategies.

Student

There may be a number of ways to directly support students with learning difficulties.

LDAY SUPPORT:

LDAY could advise on screening students at risk for learning disabilities and or ADHD. This might include the use of some quick assessment screening tools, and/or an interview with parent and the teacher.

LDAY has been operating in Yukon for 35 years, in that time we have run successful summer, and winter fun camps for children and adolescents. These camps are about developing a child, or adolescent's strengths, abilities, & confidence in a supportive non-evaluative environment. It is possible, resources permitting, that LDAY would be able to travel to Pelly Crossing to train summer/winter fun camp coordinators and counsellors.





ELIZA VAN BIBBER SCHOOL NEWS

The school year started off on a very positive note with each student and staff member receiving a school t-shirt featuring the new school motto "Proud To Be From EVB" (see picture on next page). The t-shirts will also have the winning student-designed logo added to them soon.

On September 16, 2011 EVBS students, staff, volunteers and four elders embarked on a river journey to historic Fort Selkirk. School was held at Fort Selkirk that day with educational activities assigned to each grade, based on the curriculum IRPs. The main ideas and support for their work was gained by each student while at Fort Selkirk and developed to full meaning back at school during regular class time. The entire school worked on their Fort Selkirk projects and students created some exceptional work depicting some of their experiences through pictures, text and poems. Drop by and see our Fort Selkirk displays in the Eliza Van Bibber School Rotunda.

Our new and returning staff were very grateful for the welcome they received at the Community Orientation/ Welcoming Ceremony hosted by Selkirk First Nation. This event drew an appreciative crowd to the Link Building again this year. Mussi cho to Julia Joe and her team for all the hard work they put into this year's Welcoming Ceremony.

The School-wide Write saw students from grades 2-9 demonstrating their writing skills again this month. The students were given the topic of "Fort Selkirk" to write about. The purpose of this

exercise, as you may remember from last year, is to establish a benchmark of a student's skills at the beginning of the year and then have them complete another piece of writing towards the end of the school year in order to compare the two samples. Comparing the samples provides an opportunity to assess how students have progressed in developing their literacy skills.

Due mainly to the efforts of EVB high school teacher Claus Vogel, each student from grades 8 to 12 now has an ipad to

use in the classroom. EVB is part of a pilot project that kicked off with training sessions for both students and staff.

The 2011 Remembrance Day Ceremony was held on November 10th at EVBS with the participation of both the local Rangers and three R.C.M.P. officers dressed in their formal red serge uniforms. Many thanks to Mrs. Rachel Tom Tom, elder Jean Van Bibber, Principal Keith Clarke, R.C.M.P., Rangers, EVB staff, students and community members for their contributions to this event.



What happened this Fall?

- Visiting author
- Grandparents Day Tea
- Cranberry Picking
- School trip to Fort Selkirk
- School-wide Write
- Dental Therapist checkups
- Wake & Bake performance
- Welcoming Ceremony
- Dream Catcher Conference
- Pumpkin Carving Contest
- Halloween Fun Afternoon
- EVBS Carving Project starts
- Remembrance Day Ceremony
- Pancake Lunch for the community



Luke's snowman
- Principal Clarke's hat!

Congratulations to Mrs. Nancy St. Laurent's class for being such great pumpkin carvers. They won their class enough money to finance their own Christmas party. (see picture on next page). Our thanks also goes out to "Mrs. Nancy" for her continued dedication to feeding the hungry masses through the Food For Learning Breakfast & Snack Program—your hard work is appreciated!



EVBS Annual
Cranberry Picking



Eliza Van Bibber School 2011-2012 "Proud To Be From EVB"



EVBS Pancake Lunch



Congratulations Pumpkin Carving Contest winners!



Fort Selkirk

I went to Fort Selkirk on a boat.

It feels sad and lonely there.

When I look in the abandoned houses

I can imagine how hard it was to build them.

I saw sunlight coming through the cracks in the wood.

It is time to go... but I don't want to leave.

I want to keep the houses company.

By: William Grennan — Grade 7



All ten of the students in Mrs. Dockum's Grade 6/7 class took their Fort Selkirk experiences and chose to express their thoughts and feelings through poetry. All of these poems are displayed in the EVBS rotunda.

Fort Selkirk



Teachings from the Elders: Northern Tutchone Values

Every Northern Tutchone person is responsible to all others for survival of our cultural spirit and the values and traditions through which it survives. Through our extended family we retain, teach and live our Tutchone way.

With guidance and support from our Elders we must teach our children Northern Tutchone values:

Love for children

Respect for others

Sharing

Humility

Hard work

Spirituality

Cooperation

Family roles

Knowledge of family tree

Knowledge of language

Hunter success

Domestic skills

Avoid conflict

Humour

Respect for First Nation

Grand Opening—Yukon College Pelly Crossing Campus

By Gabriel Ellis—College Instructor

“Magic moments”, that is the only way to describe the ‘Community Grand Opening’ of the new Yukon College Pelly Crossing Campus. This mod-

ern facility was ten years in the making and was built next to Eliza Van Bibber School so that the next generation can help feed, energize and welcome this community learning house or other wise known as Hets’ edän kü’.

The evening started off with speakers including Elder Betty Joe doing opening prayer, Selkirk first Nation Deputy Chief Jeremy Harper, Mayo Tatchun MLA Jim Tredger, Yukon College President Karen Barnes and Community Campus Instructor/Coordinator

Dorothy Johnson. Topics including During all the eating, mingling and

smiles was Juno Award Winning Jerry Alfred playing guitar, harmonica and traditional drum. The event inspired young and old to inquire about possibilities to become new students. Anne Bowen from Yukon College spoke to high school students about signing up for college courses after graduation.



The New Pelly Campus

Robert Van Bibber photo

‘new beginnings’, learning from First Nation cultures, meeting job market demands and ‘opening new doors’ including working toward starting a university in the Yukon.

Next folks lined up for amazing food prepared for by Toni Blanchard and Patty Isaac including an assortment of fruit, vegetable, meat, cheese, and cracker appetizers. The moose meat for the stew and bannock was donated by Robert Van Bibber, and was a real crowd pleaser.

The exciting part of the new college is attracting new ‘youth in transition’ for a Skills for Employment (15 credit) program including certification courses, distance learning courses, workplace tours, volunteer work placements and guest speakers. Next semesters Plumber’s Helper program is an opportunity to plant the training seeds needed for generations to come...magic moments indeed.



Robert VanBibber photo

Jerry Alfred performs as the crowd of about 60 or more lines up for a catered lunch.



Robert VanBibber photo

Dorothy Johnson addresses the Pelly Campus Open House in the New Yukon College facility next to the Eliza Van Bibber school.

SFN Investments

By Robert Van Bibber

On November 1, 2011 Jeff Frketich of Ridgewood Capital—SFN investment company, provided an up-date on the current status of our “Land Claims Compensation Dollars” which we have invested with Ridgewood. Jeff’s presentation began with Chief & Council at 1pm and the community at 6pm—at the Link Building with a community supper. The presentation included a run through of “investment basics” and closed with a question & answer period. Ridgewood has been working for SFN since early 1999. In that time, over various time periods, Ridgewood has received from SFN a total of \$ 27,572,000.00. That means SFN has made about $(\$25,270,000.00 - (27,572,000.000 - \$8,535,999)) = \underline{\$6,233,000.00}$ since they have held our funds. “This is a good result, remembering that 2008 was the worst market since the Great Depression, and most portfolios lost around 40% during that time” said Frketich. Jeff Frketich is the Vice



Jeff Frketich delivering the investment up-date.

Robert VanBibber photo

President of “Ridgewood Capital Asset Management” an investment company with about 15 employee’s, a relatively small firm. Our money is invested in about 60% Stocks & 40% Bonds. Ridgewood’s clientele include; 120 individuals, 18 First Nations, and 10 Firms.



Robert VanBibber photo

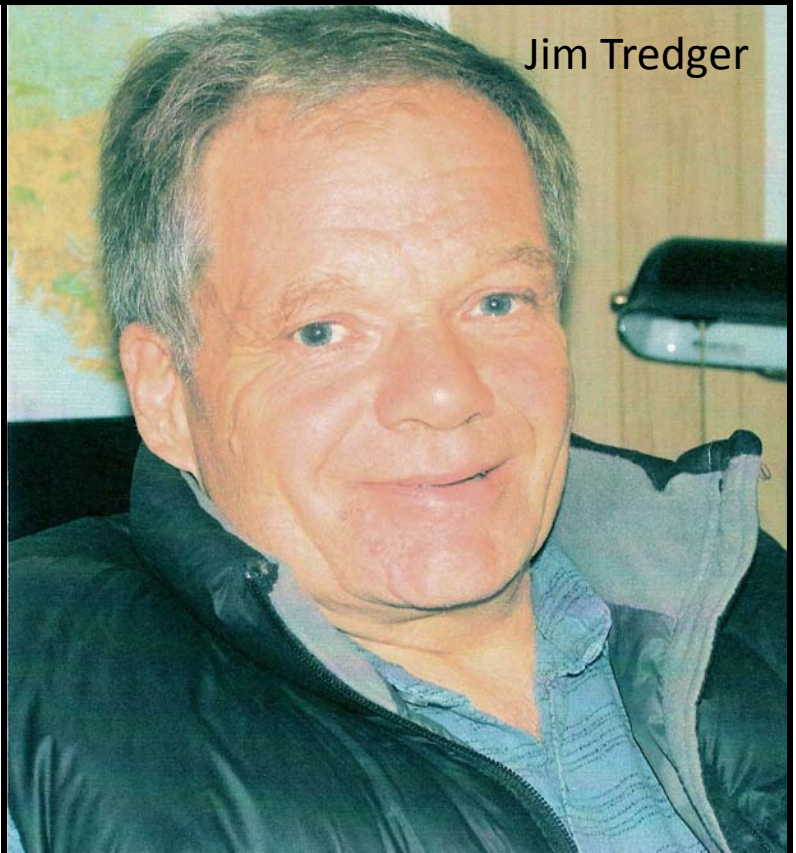
The Investment up-date meeting commenced with a stuffed pork chop dinner, awesome catering in Pelly.

YTG—All Candidates Forum in Pelly

By Robert VanBibber

An all Candidates Forum was held in Pelly Crossing on Sunday October 9, 2011 at the Link Building on a moments notice! To most of the peoples recollection, this was a first of kind with Yukon Government candidates in Pelly. About 30 people turned-out, with an awesome question & answer period, followed by an awesome Turkey dinner. Community members in attendance commented this was a great opportunity for Pelly to address community concerns.

Jim Tredger (NDP), Eric Fairclough (Liberal), and Elaine Wyatt (Yukon) were the candidates running for office—the Mayo-Tatchun riding.



Jim Tredger

Jim Tredger successfully won his seat as the NDP MLA for the Mayo-Tatchun riding on October 10, 2011.

Retired in Pelly!

Richard Baker, retires from Selkirk First Nation at the age of 65 on October 17, 2011. Baker's last position for SFN Capital Department was Maintenance Manager for a total of 19 years. Richard said "after his trip to Las Vegas, he's taken a year off". A well attended luncheon retirement party was put on by the Capital Department at the new Capital Office & Warehouse. Members of Chief & Council along with fellow employee's all had the chance to re-cap Richards well mannered and pleasant work ethics.



A catered retirement Luncheon at the New Capital Warehouse.



The new SFN Capital Office & Warehouse, where Richard's place of permanent employment ended with the pride of long service.



Richard & Audrey Baker



Richard Baker being presented with a retirement plaque by Chief McGinty, Councilor Harper, and Capital Director Darcy Marcotte in the Capital Warehouse in October.

Audrey Baker, retires from Selkirk First Nation with 9 years in the Social Department on August 3rd, 2011. Audrey has served many years as a Councilor for SFN. A retirement supper party was held at the SFN Link Building for Audrey, she worked as the Social Intake Worker.

By Robert Van Bibber

SFN Container Homes—The Straight Facts

By Mike Tuck , Property Manager— SFN Capital Dept.

The Container Homes have been a source of contention since they were purchased in the spring of 2011. In October 2010 I was approached by a company in Alberta who thought this style of home may be of interest to Selkirk First Nation. I took the information to the then- Chief Darin Isaac and Council, presented the homes, and they decided to purchase two of them at a cost of \$72,500 each.

It should be noted that I did not receive any money for the transaction, that I did so in order to help the band out with a less expensive alternative to housing.

The homes were held up at the border for about three weeks, and when they did arrive in Pelly we did not have the equipment to unload them off the trucks. They were sent back to TSL's compound in Whitehorse where they were stored free of charge until we could get the required equipment to unload them.

We tried, unsuccessfully to arrange with TSL a time to have them bring up the containers. The only other company capable of doing the work were unable and un-interested in doing the work.

When the containers finally did arrive, on July 22/2011, we placed them on the locations in the Main Village and Jon Ra Subdivision. It took until August 3/2011 to get cement poured for the foundations.

On August 7/2011 American Container Homes sent up a supervisor to help set up the homes. It was felt at the time that after putting up one building that our own workers would be able to complete the second one. Unfortunately, work progressed more slowly that anticipated and we were only able to partially complete one house before the supervisor had to return to the United States. We were under the impression that the worker would be able to return to help complete the work with-in the next few weeks.

On September 6/2011 we received notification that American Container Homes had closed its doors due to internal problems between to two partners.

We tried unsuccessfully to negotiate the return of the supervisor, and finally were forced to bring two supervisors up to Pelly Crossing at the band's expense. Unfortunately Canadian Immigration did not share our views on what was covered in the NAFTA Agreement and turned the workers away at the border due to lack of the proper visa paperwork. To get a visa requires at least ten weeks, and we are now in a race against the weather.

Our only option, in the interest of getting these homes up quickly, is now to bring a person up from Vancouver who has been involved in the building of steel frame houses for a number of years. We will hopefully have him in Pelly starting the week of Oct 24/2011.



Robert VanBibber photo

Jon Ra subdivision



Robert VanBibber photo

Main Village

Please Note: The SFN Capital Dept. does not and has not allocated houses, this is a SFN Chief & Council responsibility under "housing allocation".

Darcy Marcotte,
SFN Capital Director



Pelly Crossing Rangers

By Robert Van Bibber

The Pelly Crossing Rangers

ers begun as the Pelly/Carmacks Patrol back in 1992.

Our first regular exercise (type 1) started at the Pelly Crossing Fire hall. In 1994 the patrol was separated into two separate patrols do to the growing size.

Today we have 26 members whom reside in or near Pelly Crossing, with the exception of a couple in Whitehorse.

The Canadian Rangers are part-time reserve soldiers who provide a military presence in Canada's remote and isolated regions, including Pelly Crossing, Yukon. They provide assistance in emergencies such as searches, plane crashes, and high water.

They also operate the Junior Canadian Rangers, a youth program for boys and girls aged 12 to 18.

The origin of the Canadian Rangers go back to the Pacific Coast Militia (PCM) Rangers, a group created in 1942 to act as coastal watchers for enemy activity dur-

ing the second World War.

Based on the wartime activities

ted northern, coastal and iso-

lated areas of Canada which can-

not conveniently or eco-

nomically be provided by other components of the Canadian Forces."

To fulfill that role the Canadian Rangers continue to expand and today there are about 4,200 Rangers operating in 163 patrols in seven provinces and three territories. There are Rangers in the Yukon, Northwest Territories, Nunavut, Newfoundland and Labrador, Alberta, Saskatchewan, Manitoba, British Columbia, Quebec and Ontario.

As members of the Canadian Forces, Canadian Rangers must be mature, self-reliant and capable of operating in winter and summer.

Membership is open to

men and women who are Canadian citizens and 19 years or older. All Canadian Rangers are paid for between eight and 12 days service a year and receive additional pay for special training and operations.



Robert Van Bibber photo

Pelly Rangers participating on a Type 1 exercise at Frenchman Lake this past October, 2011



Robert Van Bibber photo

Pelly Rangers in competition for the annual top shot award at Frenchman Lake, set at 100 meters. October, 2011.

of the PCM Rangers, the Canadian Rangers were formally established as a corps of the reserve militia in 1947 and their role was expanded to cover vast areas of the Arctic and Canada's northern, western, and eastern coastlines. The Rangers role today is still "to provide a military presence in those sparsely set-

Cont. next page...

Pelly Rangers Cont...



Upon enrollment, Rangers participate on a 10-day type 1 exercise that includes 4 days of training in the community (Pelly), and 6 days out-on the land. New recruits will be required to participate for the full 10 days. The training includes basic drill, gun safety, shooting, general military knowledge, navigation (map, compass, and global positioning systems), search and rescue, wilderness first aid and radio communications.

The Canadian Ranger uniform is based on the concept that Rangers are outdoors people and are already well equipped and able to survive in their environment. They are supplied with a distinctive red sweatshirt, t-shirt, ball cap, military boots and winter coat. Each Ranger is issued a .303 rifle with an annual issue of ammunition. Annual (Type 1) Training Exercises consists of formal military instruction followed by a field exercise. Patrol Sergeants and Master Corporals are required to attend an annual five day leadership training in Yellowknife—Ranger Headquarters.

The Pelly Ranger patrol is seeking new members on-going. The next type 1 exercise is expected to be in March,

2012.

Ranger Leadership in

Pelly are particularly interested in recruiting individuals interested in coordinating the Junior Canadian Ranger (JCR) program in Pelly. Presently the Pelly JCR are inactive and without a program leader. The Corporal in-charge of the JCR program has had a new job in Carmacks for some time and relocated to Whitehorse recently for school.

Parents & adults interested in helping with the Junior Ranger program, or being on the JCR Adult Committee, please feel free to contact Master Corporal Robert Van Bibber @ (867)537-3366 or Sergeant Darcy Marcotte @ (867)537-3015.

Thanks!

Vigilans



Robert VanBibber photo

Pelly Rangers at Frenchman Lake this past October, just after supper in the main camp.



Robert VanBibber photo

Pelly Rangers participating on a Yukon River Mass Exercise, all Rangers receiving communications training by a Dawson City Ranger at the main camp.



Robert VanBibber photo

Yukon Ranger Mass River Exercise, boats docked at the main camp located just below Thistle Creek on the Yukon River.

\$ SFN Royalties \$

By Bill Trerice—Selkirk Finance Committee Member

Selkirk First Nation Royalty Policy Consultations

During the month of October the Selkirk Finance Committee conducted 3 consultation sessions with Selkirk Citizens on the draft Mine Royalty Policy. These consultation sessions were an opportunity for Citizens to better understand the draft Mine Royalty Policy and the circumstances related to mine royalties. At these consultation sessions Citizens could ask questions or present their perspectives, ideas or values on development of a Selkirk First Nation Mine Royalty Policy.

Mine royalties are now and may continue to be a significant source of revenue that can help address Selkirk First Nation government and individual Selkirk Citizen objectives. Selkirk Finance Committee has prepared the draft Mine Royalty Policy with different types of considerations in mind. The 4 committee members and our legal advisor worked to ensure the draft policy reflects a balanced forward thinking approach and considers various practical policy implementation hurdles.

The draft Selkirk First Nation Mine Royalty Policy has several components that deal with technical matters but at the core is an allocation formula, how to invest and/or allocate this money. There are 3 primary categories in this regard:

First charges are a set of expenses Selkirk First Nation incurs as a result of this policy, the establishment of a Selkirk Trust for royalties and mining development government administration in general;

Distribution to Citizens are presented as 3 different options from no allocation, to a set one-time payment or a larger amount but paid out over several years; and

For Special Purpose Funds these are:

- 1) an **Education Fund** to support different kinds of education for all individuals, investments in Registered Education Saving Plans for our children;
- 2) a **Business Development Fund** to support business activity of Selkirk's corporations or business trust and Citizens;
- 3) a **Traditional Development Fund** to support Selkirk's presence on the land by way of trails, cabins and other infrastructure, and by way of support for traditional pursuits;
- 4) a **Community Infrastructure Fund** to support community infrastructure.

Royalties Cont... \$\$\$

All 3 consultation sessions were well attended by Citizens in Whitehorse, Elders in Pelly Crossing and Citizens in Pelly Crossing. Each session followed a similar process beginning with an overview of how these royalties came about, a detailed description of the draft Mine Royalty Policy and time for Citizens to ask questions or make comments.

The Selkirk Finance Committee is working toward having a Selkirk First Nation Mine Royalty Policy recommendation ready for the next Selkirk Special General Assembly. The consultation process continues through the development of a Selkirk First Nation Royalty and Trust website to disseminate information that includes an email address for more comments from Citizens. A Selkirk First Nation Citizen information pamphlet on the draft Mine Royalty Policy which has been prepared and distributed at consultation sessions. The pamphlet is available by request at the Selkirk Administration Building Reception Office. Selkirk Finance Committee members will try and contact as many Citizens as possible by phone for an individualized discussion on the draft policy. You can request a phone call from a Finance Committee member by leaving a message with the Receptionist at 867-537-3331. Citizens can also put their comments on the draft Mine Royalty Policy in writing and either emailing

royaltyconsultation@selkirkfn.com section of our website, or by dropping off their letter in an envelope addressed to the Selkirk Finance Committee or by mailing a letter addressed to Selkirk Finance Committee at Box 40, Pelly Crossing Y0B 1P0.



Robert VanBibber photo

Elder Royalties Consultation at the Link Building on October 20, 2011.



Robert VanBibber photo

Community Royalties Consultation at the Link Building on October 21, 2011.



Sharon Nelson photo

Community Royalties Consultation at the Westmark Hotel in Whitehorse on October 17, 2011.

FORT SELKIRK—DESIGNATED A HISTORIC SITE

Fort Selkirk is set in a pristine river valley, rich in natural resources and surrounded by rugged boreal landscape with a dynamic geological record. The site is central to the home land of the Northern Tutchone and their cultural traditions and has been an important harvesting, meeting and trading place for thousands of years.

The Hudson Bay Company established a trading post here in 1852, beginning a new era of commerce and communications with the outside world. A permanent community evolved in the early 1890's with the establishment of Arthur Harper's trading post and Anglican Church mission.

The community grew quickly as thousands of stampeders headed for Dawson City during the Klondike Gold Rush in 1898. The strategic location of Fort Selkirk led to its use as a base for the Yukon Field Force and a North-West Mounted Police post and its consideration as the first capital of the Yukon Territory.

Throughout the first half of the 20th century, Fort Selkirk remained a stable, thriving community where two cultures lived, worked and prayed side by side. Abandoned in the 50s, due to the construction of modern roads and the end of sternwheeler traffic, members of the Selkirk First Nation and other Yukoners continue to think of it as their ancestral home. The partnership between the Selkirk First Nation and the Yukon Governments as co-owners and co-managers of the site illustrates the continuing spirit of deep and cooperative care for Fort Selkirk.



The un-veiling of the Fort Selkirk ceremonial plaque by Chief Kevin McGinty and Environment Minister Elaine Taylor, July 12, 2011 as read to left of this picture.

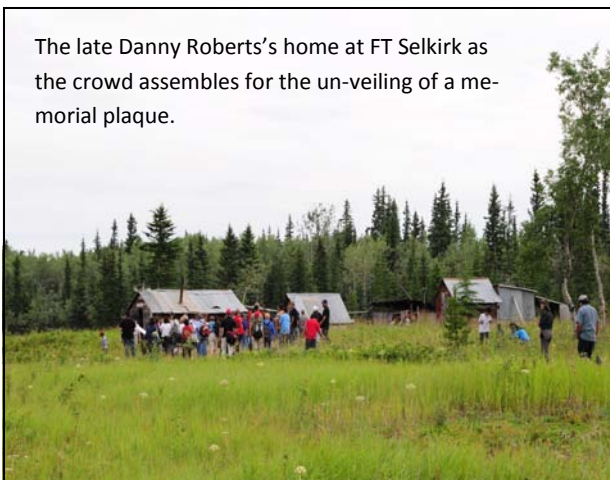


Cerimonial Dinner at FT Selkirk.

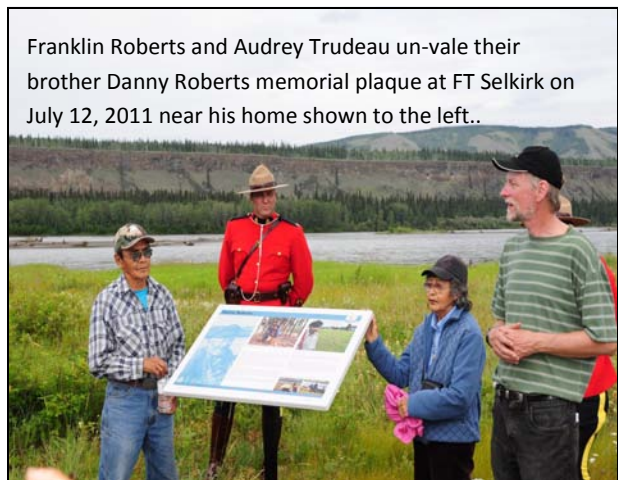
The Fort Selkirk designation of a "Historic Site" ceremony celebrations was coordinated by Toni Blanchard—SFN Lands & Resources and in affiliation with the Yukon Government Heritage Dept. Chief McGinty commented, "we waited a long time for this". The special event was well attended with good weather, and the food was great.

Danny Roberts Memorial Plaque Ceremony at FT Selkirk

The late Danny Roberts's home at FT Selkirk as the crowd assembles for the un-veiling of a memorial plaque.



Franklin Roberts and Audrey Trudeau un-veil their brother Danny Roberts memorial plaque at FT Selkirk on July 12, 2011 near his home shown to the left..



Halloween 2011 Picture Gallery





Remembrance Day 2011 Picture Gallery



Photo's By Julia Joe

December 2011

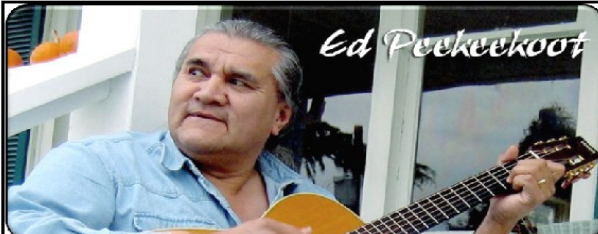
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 Elders Tea 2-4pm / Carmacks Bazaar - Rec. Center	2	3 Constitution Committee 1- 4pm
4 Pelly Bizarre 12-4pm	5	6	7 Community Meeting—Chief & Council Up- date. 10am- 5pm	8 Elders Tea 2- 4pm	9 SFN Open House 1-5pm	10
11 Christmas Bingo 1-5pm	12	13 Elders Christmas Dinner	14	15 School Concert / Christmas din- ner with Santa	16 SFN Staff Party 1-4pm	17
18	19	20 Porker Tourna- ment— Recreation	21	22	23	24
25 Christmas Day	26 Boxing Day	27 Porker Tourna- ment— Recreation	28	29	30	31 Dance & Fireworks

⇒ The Christmas Work project from November 28th—
December 9th, 2011

⇒ Fund Raising Bingo—Dec. 1,6,8,13,15,20,22,27,29/11
7pm—Link Building

⇒ The Selkirk First Nation's office will be closed from
December 19 to January 2, 2012.

⇒ **Parent Capacity**—Cooking Nights every Wednesday at
5:30 & Fitness Nights Tues/Thur. at 7pm (Youth Centre)



Ed Peekeekoot — Musician, Artist, Visionary

Guitarist, singer-songwriter and seasoned entertainer, Ed Peekeekoot also plays fiddle, banjo, and traditional Native flute and drums. A solo performer for over three decades, Ed also appears in duos with musical friends including Winston Wuttunee and Alan Moberg.

Ed's "In the Key of Cree" was nominated for Best Country CD at the Aboriginal People's Choice Music Awards 2008 and he performed on the awards show broadcast live on APTN.

LIVE in Pelly Crossing!

Potluck Supper and Concert
Sunday, December 4, 2011
starts at 6:00 p.m.
at the Old Community Hall

Limited Seating!
TICKETS \$9 at the door

For more info and to arrange potluck donations please call Gabriel Ellis at Yukon College 537-8800



SELKIRK FIRST NATION COMMUNICATIONS

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Yukon Y0B 1P0

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"vanbibberr@selkirkfn.com"

UPDATED SFN Website: www.selkirkfn.com

Attention

The SFN Newsletter is published solely for the purpose of providing information to Selkirk First Nation Citizens.

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Editor's Note

By Robert Van Bibber

Greetings Citizens,

Its been about 3 years since I've taken part in publishing of the SFN news paper, I was rehired in August 2011 as the Communications & Meeting Coordinator. My first task was to co-ordinate the 2011 Annual General Assembly followed parallel by re-organizing from old to new office. Our Communications office coordinates almost all of SFN meetings lately, and internal communications is on-going.

Being a very busy office, and so many other communication and coordinating issues to deal with, I've finally begun to get too the news paper. We're hoping for additional communications staff in the near future. With the Enrollment office up and running, there will be a continuous up-dated mail-out list.

We will design the SFN news to reflect accountability and transparency of the Government of Selkirk First Nation. A lot of time with a small monthly news letter, by the time it is published, it old news.

Happy Holidays from the Communications Office.



Fire Department

537-3000

Fire Dept. Chief: Adam Van Bibber
Deputy Chief: Jake Brown

Fire Dept. Members: Andy Silverfox, Alan Joe, Darlene McKnight, Ryan Silverfox and Betty Baptiste.



Ambulance Service

Ambulance Supervisor: David Bennett

Ambulance Attendant: Gabriel Ellis

Ambulance Drivers: Brian Isaac , David Bennett



537 - 4444

ATTENTION COMMUNITY MEMBERS

Your local ambulance service needs **YOU!**

Drivers and attendants needed ASAP!

ATTENDANT REQUIREMENTS:

- ✓ Clear Criminal Record Check
- ✓ CPR "C" Level 1/AED

DRIVER REQUIREMENTS:

- ✓ Clear Criminal Record Check
- ✓ Class 4 with clear Driver's Abstract



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