

# TAAAMU



TAKU RIVER TLINGIT  
First Nation



Spring Issue 2021

## Tie Dye Sharron

BY SHARRON ROSE LEECH

### ALSO INSIDE

- PAGE 5 LAND GUARDIANS
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## T'aakú Téix'i The Heart of the Taku

Contributors to this publication include: TRTFN staff and community members. Its aim is to showcase the amazing work of our TRTFN staff and share stories and knowledge within our community.

**Editorial Note:** We hope you enjoy this Spring edition of the TRTFN T'aakú Newsletter. With each issue we invite you our community members to share your feedback and offer ideas and content you wish to see. Please share this publication with your family and friends.

Visit our website at [www.trtfn.com](http://www.trtfn.com) for more information about TRTFN and to download this and past issues.

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**TAKU RIVER TLINGIT**  
First Nation



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# JOHN WARD

There is great sadness in our community this season. We have lost one of our oldest matriarchs Lorraine Dawson. I knew Lorraine most of my life. Not having her with us makes me sad, she will be missed. My heart goes out to her family at this time.

It's in times like these that I hope that we are drawn closer to each other. Share comfort and support in any way we can. And not just for a period, but a lasting support that truly builds community.

Sometimes it feels like my world is shrinking around me. I know all too well the sting of loss. I have said farewell to my parents, my aunts and uncles, and even children and stepchildren.

In sad times it's a wonderful thing to receive healing and get wisdom and understanding from life. Sometimes knowledge can be hard to hear, you know what they say about ignorance being bliss, but we are survivors and knowledge is a powerful tool for healing.

There is something to be said about family dynamics and nurturing. It is a feature that most of us have been neglected because of trauma and abuse. To see loving, caring families in our community, to experience our community taking care of each other should be our vision and dream for our tomorrows.

We each need to do our little part. I would like to encourage our Community to continue, carry on, don't give up. I see the facility at the Tutan Hitt Outreach Center as a step in that direction. I wish you all warmth and love and togetherness in this and every season.

Gunalcheesh  
John Ward

If you would like to speak to your Spokesperson John Ward please contact Dana Mills at **(250-651-7695 ext 108)** and we will help you set a time to meet and ask questions with him at the Drop-in center.



# Community Cook

Greta Thorlakson

Sharing my gift as the community cook for Health & Social is rewarding! I enjoy what I do. I have been doing this work for about 5 years. It feels so wonderful getting appreciation from citizens, which always energizes me to keep going.

It is said that good meals bring people together, well, together is where we need to be right now. We have spent so much time apart already during this pandemic. I miss people coming and sitting, I miss our visits and our laughs and sharing time.

***I think what keeps me going is my refusal to indulge in my pain. I acknowledge it, I feel it, set it aside and pick it up another time and move forward gently.***

I was brought up in such a way, that I'm able to see a need and fill it. I was taught to help out and do my part for my community and family. When I was younger, if my aunt was going down to the lake with a bucket to get water we were told; go! help her out! And we did. We didn't need a reason; it was just what needed to be done.

It was my personal choice to come work for my First Nation. When you feel your life's purpose, things align just right. You begin to listen to your body, take time when you

need it and get yourself right. On my journey to this place in life, I have learned so much. My experiences have been good and bad. I always love to share what I've learned.

I miss the days when the Elders would gather to share around a fire and reunite. I think we as Elders need to give one another a call and stay in touch. Give each other energy and strength. Our youth are being looked after and led in the right direction. Our Elders are receiving more than they ever did.

We need to focus our energy now to connect young and old together; truly listening and learning and sharing our traditions and culture.

Let us keep moving forward positively, encouraging each other. Celebrating the work we all do. Let us intentionally live healthy and purposeful lives.



# Stewards Of The Land



Charmaine Thom  
Manager of Lands & Resources



View of the aftermath of a massive Christmas Eve rock-slide about 46 miles northeast of Juneau. (Darryl Keith Tait)

We started off the new year with the Taku River Slide, it was significant enough to cover the whole riverbed. About one 8th of the mountain had come down and wiped out the river in front of it. Thankfully the mighty Taku River is swift and smart.

By the time we went down to it, the river had already moved from underneath the slide and was moving along the sides of it. We are currently working on a monitoring plan that includes the University of Yukon and the University of Montana.

We continue with the momentum of the past year, we are excited for the programming that we are developing throughout this department. In Mining, Heritage, Lands and Resources all our staff work together for a shared vision.

The Land Guardian program is recognized throughout Canada. The successful models that are adapted throughout our territories

a new position this year, that I believe truly compliments her ability as a Land guardian Shauna's new position title is "Land Guardian Program Liaison". She will be coordinating the communication efforts of the program, building on the synergy of our nation and becoming the ambassador for our guardian program here. Our goal is to find ways where the Land Guardian program can support other projects and programs and positively engage the community.

I can't say enough great things about our Land Guardian program. There is a lot of Synergy that we all hold. In truth however, we need more land guardians. Stewards of the Land, men and women who love their job and who are eager to share and care for their environment and its natural inhabitants.

We all are striving for the same goal. Our love for the land is why we live where we live. Everything is connected in a beautiful balance.

**We need to work together, to meet our youth and our citizens where they are at, so we all can care for this beautiful place we live in together.**

is based on the model we have developed here in the TRTFN. Our Knowledge keepers and guardians have made this program a success. I introduced Hannes, our new Land Guardian Coordinator in the last issue of this magazine. Under his lead, the land guardian program has recently completed a successful Strategic Planning Session. We have three senior Land Guardians, Jerry Jack, Trevor Williams, and Shauna Yeomans. We have moved Shauna Yeomans over to

Throughout TRTFN and in every department, we need to work together, to meet our youth and our citizens where they are at, so we all can care for this beautiful place we live in together.

# DO YOU WANT TO BE A LAND GUARDIAN?

Are you interested in working with wildlife and the Haa Aaní Tulatín - Land Guardian Program this summer?

We are looking to provide opportunities to youth and community members to earn money and spend time on the land. Examples of work include monitoring wildlife, patrolling TRTFN Traditional Territory, and helping to organize on-the-land cultural activities.

If you are interested, please contact Ryan (wildlife.coordinator@gov.trtfn.com, 250-651-7900 ext. 208) or Hannes (landguardian.coord@gov.trtfn.com, 250-651-7900 ext. 206), or come by the band office.



“TRTFN health sampling the local Tawéi/Sheep”

## FAVORITE TREASURES

Shauna Yeomans

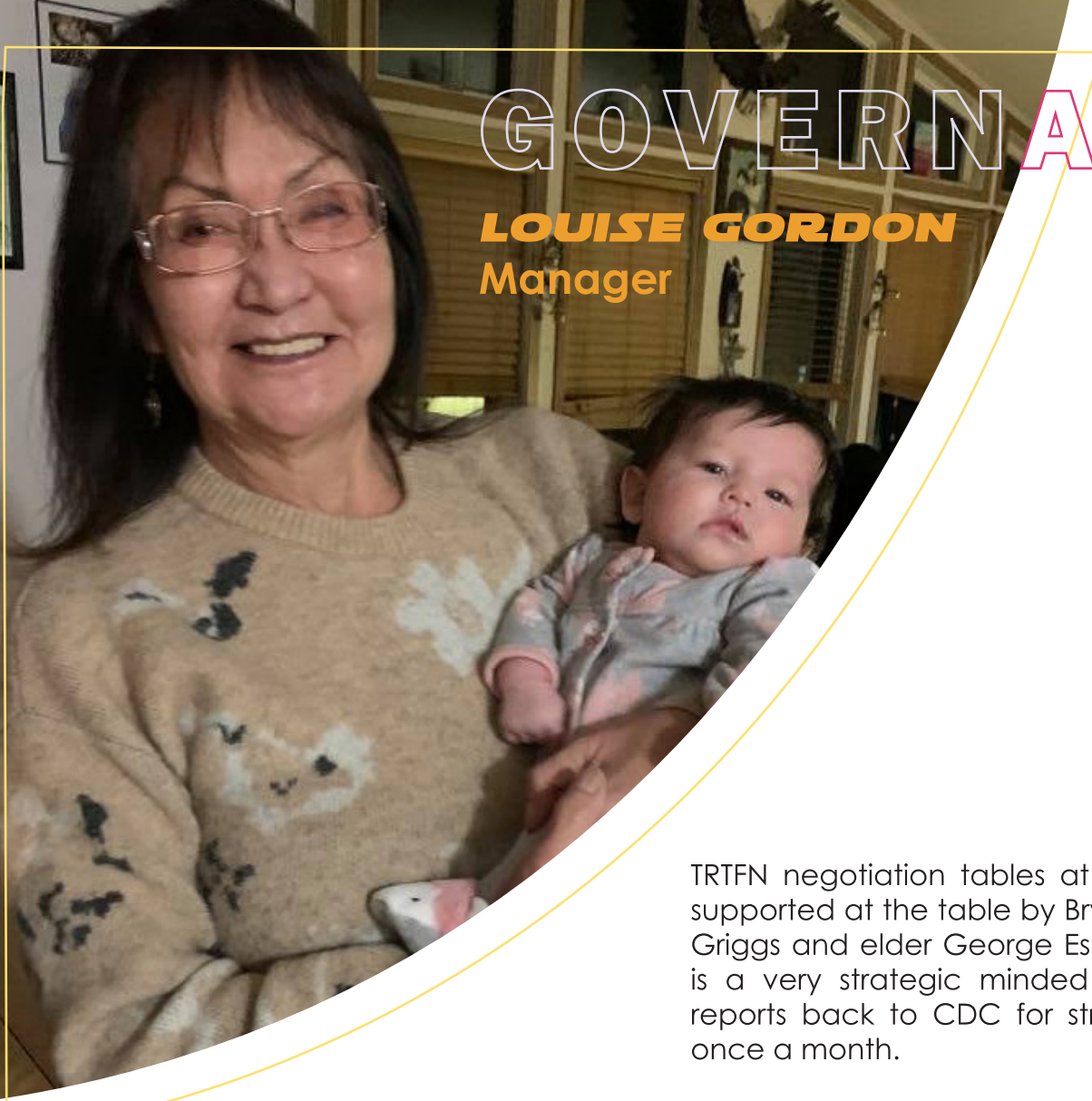
The map behind me was made by my Gramma Ali Shirley Carlick 19 years ago, in 2002. It is one of my favorite treasures; showcasing our amazing homelands, but more importantly it takes me back to sitting under her mapping desk, or around the heritage room as a little girl. She is one of my biggest inspirations; many of my passions lead back to my time spent with her at work, or down at her camp—learning about history, land and philosophy.



“Please let the Lands Department know if you see any moose missing hair. With climate change, winter ticks are a growing threat.”

# GOVERNANCE

**LOUISE GORDON**  
Manager



TRTFN negotiation tables at this time. She is supported at the table by Bryan Evans, Julian Griggs and elder George Esquiro. Chantelle is a very strategic minded negotiator and reports back to CDC for strategic direction once a month.

## INTERNAL RESEARCH PROJECT

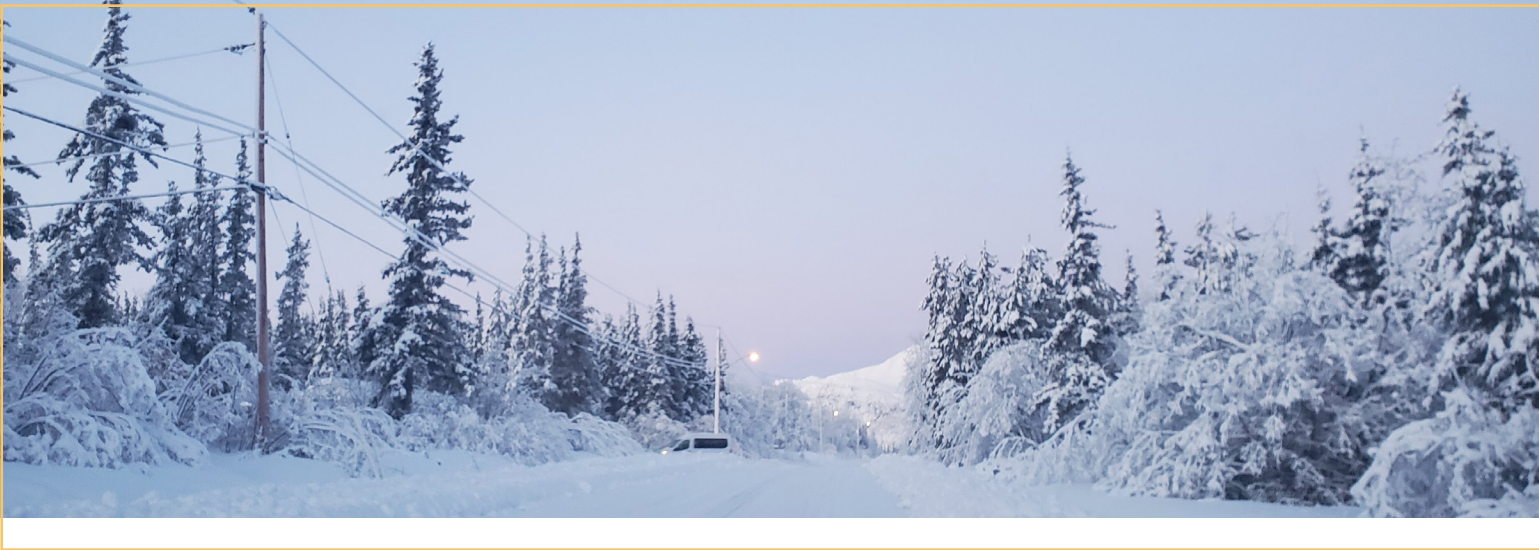
I also work on gathering information that will help provide strategic direction for negotiations. For example, a part of our Internal Research Project is TRT's 1985 Elders Traditional Knowledge tapes housed in our Heritage office. The TRT Elders Traditional Knowledge information extracted could be used for other TRT projects as well as to develop Tlingit way of life curriculum at the Atlin School! The spinoffs from this project are endless!!

Gunalcheesh to Roberta and Ben for your serious dedication to this important project.

**2021** begins with positive energy and gratefulness. I am so happy to announce that I am a proud great grandmother! My Granddaughter gave birth on February 8th to a beautiful baby girl and we are so happy to welcome her into the world and this community.

The Governance Department is a new department that works closely with the Lands and Resources department. The department is highly political in many ways. One of the main objectives is to oversee Land negotiations on behalf of the Taku River Tlingit First Nation. Chantelle is the lead negotiator for the





The highlight of the Internal Research projects is the 1985 TRTFN Family's Genealogy Mapping that is now completed. The Genealogy maps are now in a Family Tree data base and printed. The completed Family Trees will be shared at a meeting soon, so that the younger generations could add information about you and your family onto the completed genealogy/family tree chart.

Gunalcheesh to Logan Law for your continued dedication to finishing this project. Another big Gunalcheesh to John Williams for your advice on the project .

We continue to work with the COVID19 Team along with the Health & Social department. We continue to work in

partnership with the Land & Resource Department so that we do not duplicate work already done and develop a better sense of our department as a whole.

We are humbled to do the work we do for our people. I am grateful for the teams of people we have at TRTFN working together for our common good.

Take time to enjoy your family and be thankful for every gift the Creator gives to us.

Gunalcheesh



Community engagement Event Wed 24th February 2021

# HEALTH & SOCIAL



Anne Campbell **Manager**

## DROP IN CENTER

We are still working out the kinks but Tutan Hit is now open regularly and a schedule set for various activities during the week. What is the drop-in centre you ask? In order to be responsive to community needs, Health and Social needs to be open and accessible to the community in as many ways as possible. Staff including Dana Mills, Family Support and Debra Michel, Cultural Outreach, and Wayne Carlick are available each day at the drop-in centre and a monthly schedule of activities will be posted.

### Some of the regular features available:

exercise machines, computer/printer telephone, staff available to assist with questions and guide to resources, Private meeting space for small groups as well as counseling space upstairs.

**We look forward to seeing you there and hearing about your ideas for services or activities at the Drop-in centre.**

**NEW!! Kicksleds!!!** Recently purchased through Ministry of Children and Family Development funds are 6 kicksleds of various sizes. Come and sign one out and give it a try.

### Sign-out and borrow Snowshoes!



## Drop-In Center Hours are:

Monday – Friday from 1:00 pm – 4:00 pm.  
CLOSED PAYDAY FRIDAYS  
250 651 7695 Dana – ext 108  
Deb – Ext 102

**Centre for Culture** 250 651 7837

We hope to see you there to have a snack, help us figure out what you'd like to see happening at the drop-in centre and what you would like to participate in.

## EMERGENCY PHONE!

There is an emergency phone installed next to the door to the drop-in centre under the porch roof. It is in the box. In the event of an emergency lift the receiver and wait for the RCMP to answer to describe your emergency. After 6 months of waiting it is operational!!

## VAN SERVICE

Thanks to Mal Wesley we have an amazing service for those needing rides from 5 Mile to Town for appointments and to Whitehorse on Payday Fridays. All appointments must be booked at least one day ahead. Contact 651 7900 ext 310 or any H&S Staff to book your ride.



## SUMMER WORK – Trails and Garden

The garden will grow again and we hope to hire energetic and enthusiastic gardeners to learn and work in the garden this year. We want to expand the garden to build outdoor beds, plant some berries, build a compost, and host classes about various aspects of gardening.

We also have plans to continue work on the Como Lake Trail and hope to have a small crew to work on that with Devin Wettig who will be here to work with our Youth from April – September.

## YOUTH COORDINATOR

Given the success that Becky and some of our youth have achieved in various media arts, the focus of Becky's work has shifted from "youth coordinator" to "media coordinator". Still working with our youth but focused on mentoring individual media projects, the magazine and helping youth as well as other community members build on those skills. The role of Youth Coordinator is now posted and we hope to fill that position as soon as possible.

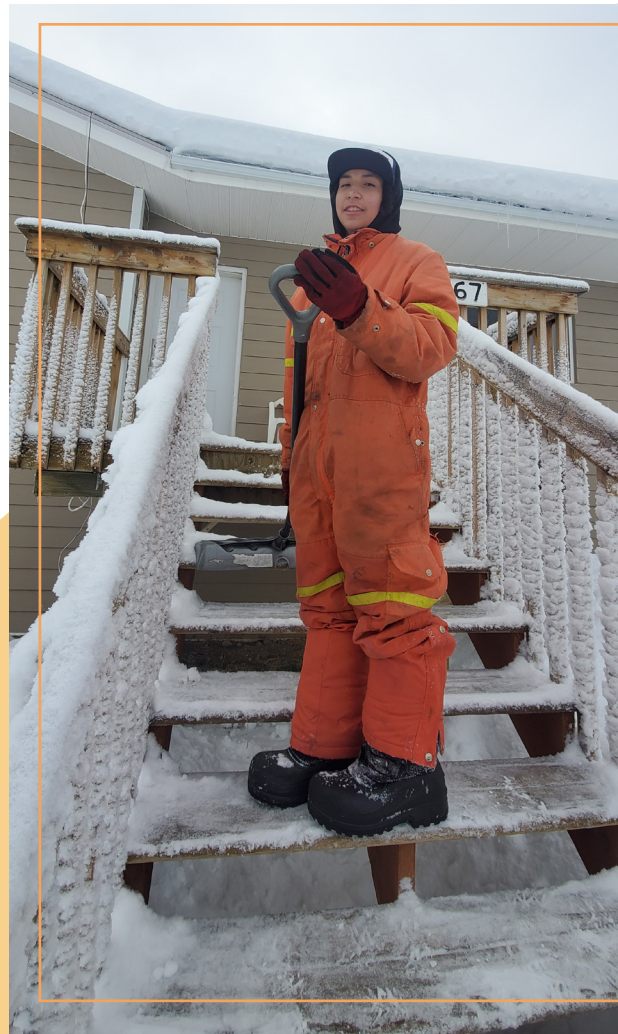


Health & Social Hampers 2020

## COVID 19

Vaccinations are going well and we are so fortunate to be an early part of this process. Second doses are being scheduled as are appointments for first doses for those not already vaccinated. So many thanks go out to our volunteer ambulance crew and of course Health Centre Staff Helen Smith, Janice Adams and Nurses Rosie O'Reilly, Jen Stonge and Dolores. Huge thanks also goes to our First Nation Health Authority rep Shannon Hall who has been working tirelessly on our behalf.

We are still required to maintain the restrictions set out by Dr. Henry in BC and Dr. Hanley in Yukon. By maintaining our distance, wearing masks, keeping to small gatherings, and washing our hands regularly, we will continue to keep our community safe.



Izaiah Carlick (Shoveling stairs at an Elders home)



## HEALTH & SOCIAL WELLNESS COORDINATOR

Donna Patrick



People need to be in a good, positive, warm, safe space if they wish to heal. To have those places in their community to go to when they are doing their healing work.

The Safe House, located in town, needed an upgrade and renovation. The Williams family construction crew have replaced the flooring, cupboards, counters, appliances, porch, insulation and siding. With the completion of renovations it is ready as a short term stay for one of our young couples starting their family until a TRTFN house becomes available.

Another aspect of the work we support is that of mentorship. Jaden Tizya and Brandon Williams work alongside seasoned carpenters Philip Williams and Robert Williams who each take an apprentice and teach them on the job. Showing them how to do the work of a carpenter, and finish and fix up a home. The youth learn and gain knowledge from their Elder and the Elder fulfills their purpose of knowledge sharing and gifting for another eager generation

**Environment is key  
for people to do  
their healing**

The Matriarchs are diligently working this year on projects dear to our hearts. Photo legacy, Sacred Laws, baby showers, naming, family tree, ancestry with Logan Law, community safety program, family cohesion & the community garden project. As we prepare for the warmer seasons, we plan for the growing months.

The greenhouse project was such a success last year, with many community members participating and benefiting from the wealth the earth gives us. We are in the planning stage for hiring a Gardening manager this year to oversee the work of the Greenhouse and outdoor gardens in the Tutan Hit Outreach Area at Cove in the Long Point.

### Wellness Services provided this year:

- Individual In Patient Treatment
- AA, Detox, Personal Growth & Development Programs (Choices), Case Configuration, Transition House & Safe House Intervention
- On the Land Healing
- Wellness Planning
- Counselor Referrals
- Assisted Living
- Canada Revenue Agency Taxes Assistance
- Justice Referrals
- Peace Making Circles
- Weekly Risk Management
- Hosting MMIW Information Sessions
- Daily Coaching, Decision making & Problem solving Services



*We Remember & honor Loriane Dawson.*



*Remembering Homecoming 2019.*

*Kyra Shaye Dorris Louise  
Folbar-Tootoosis*

We are thrilled to  
introduce  
the new love of  
our lives  
Kyra-Shaye  
Dorris Louise  
Folbar-Tootoosis  
9lb 2oz  
February 8th 2021  
Whitehorse YT

*Evelyn & Kobe*



# CHILDREN OF THE TAKU

K'èdukà Jack

The Children of the Taku Society (COTTS) is a nonprofit organization that was incorporated in 2012 by Taku River Tlingit citizens. This organization was born out of the need for a grass roots effort to protect Haa Kusteeyí. In the beginning our efforts were primarily focused on land protection, and in recent years we have taken on the responsibility to support the revitalization of our language.

We hope that the work facilitated by COTTS will bring more Taku River Tlingit's together to support the vision of Lingít language fluency for the Lingít people. Specifically, the revitalization of the language in our home community and among our Taku River Tlingit Citizens.

Although we have been actively working in language revitalization, we are still at the beginning stages of our work. Our work follows an effective format that has been hugely successful down south with the Salish people. They have generously trained us to follow in their footsteps, and we have begun the work of establishing a fluency transfer system that is intended to restart the natural intergenerational transmission of our ancestral language.

To date we have taught an introductory beginner language course three times. We taught in Whitehorse, in Atlin through the STEP program, and in a language intensive last summer. We currently have a class of 12 people at a low-intermediate speaking level who are continuing their language journey through our second Textbook, which is literature based. We will graduate for this course in March 2021, and are on schedule to move on to vetting our newly developed third Textbook.

Even though we are in the beginning stages of our work, and are still putting most of our resources into the development of advanced language textbooks, we intend to create as many opportunities as we can for individuals who are interested in learning the Tlingit Language. We host a training for new teachers each fall, and have trained 10 new Tlingit Language teachers to date.

We have a Facebook page with regular updates, and a website ([childrenofthetaku.com](http://childrenofthetaku.com)) where our curriculum is available at no cost for anyone who would like to access the resources we have developed. This work has created opportunities for

**It is our dream that our language is available to each and every one of you, our children and future generations forever.**

Our work and all of our resources are focused on curriculum development, and immersion programming to vet the curriculum. We have developed 2 sequential beginner Tlingit Language Textbooks and are currently in the final stages of developing a third intermediate Textbook. We are scheduled to start the development of a fourth intermediate level Textbook in the new fiscal of 2021-2022.

people with zero speaking ability to move into an intermediate speaking level in less than a year's time. Our cohort of learners and new teachers is made up of individuals who have always wanted to learn, or attempted to learn, but could not find a path that was reliable and accessible.

The Graded Intergeneration Disruption Scale (GIDS) is a well-known language



endangerment evaluation framework which has 8 stages. Examples of level 1 languages are English and French in Canada, which is defined as a language that is used across the country, as well as in all levels of government.

The GIDS defines a level 8 language as one with no new speakers, and very few elderly and culturally isolated speakers left. After a Level 8 the language is considered extinct.

After a few years of working in language revitalization, we understand that the Atlin Dialect is currently defined as extinct, after having lost the last of our birth speakers over the past 2 years.

The Lingít language is not being transmitted naturally within the homes of Lingít people anymore. We have come to understand that an intensive, supportive and safe learning environment coupled with effective curriculum is required to revitalize it.

There are few opportunities for TRT members living in Atlin to learn the language, and on a larger scale, there is not a single program operating in any Tlingit community that is consistently creating fluent speakers. Our goal is to

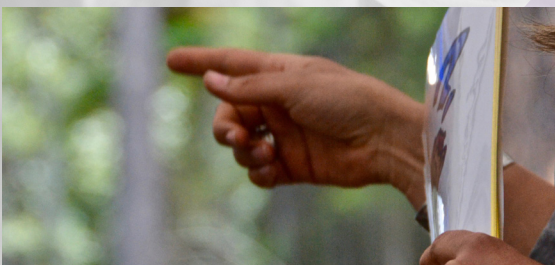
reverse this trend and the methodology that we are learning, teaching, and training in has brought new life to our efforts. Grassroots organizations that can create autonomy from politics have proven to be consistently successful in language revitalization across the world, as they can quickly adapt to the changing environments, and adopt new techniques and methods as needed.

Children of the Taku is one such grassroots organization that has found significant success in navigating the heavy workload and deep healing process that language revitalization work requires. We are establishing a new standard of accountability in learning, and safety for our learners and teachers.

Combining accessible resources and classes, safe learning environments, and sequential curriculum is a priority for our program, and will eventually contribute to not only the health and wellbeing of our people, but the empowerment of our Nation as a whole. It is our dream that our language is available to each and every one of you, our children and future generations forever.

**K'èdukà Jack**  
**Children Of The Taku Society**

[childrenofthetaku.com](http://childrenofthetaku.com)



# OPERATIONS & MAINTENANCE

**ANDY CARLICK** *Manager*

This has been quite a winter.

I have not seen it like this in many years. We experienced our challenges with the snow, ice, fallen trees and wind. We had a few snow days and power outages.

Our team continues to do great work to overcome the challenges we face on the road ways and driveways. We keep things clear and accessible for our citizens and our buildings warm and secure.

I am proud of the work we continue to accomplish each day. We continue

to encourage our citizens to let us know when they need help or when issues arises in your homes. We are dedicated to being there to assist you.

This season we have a few available positions here at O&M , we welcome dedicated and reliable people wishing to join our team, to apply in person or to our email below.

Our community is our home, we cherish each member and encourage you to respect and look after each other. We are a strong people and we move forward together.





# Community Health Representative



**ROGER THORLAKSON**

"You cannot grab what is in front of you, if you are hanging on to what is behind you."

Healthy habits make a big difference. Good health isn't just about healthy eating and exercise — it's also about having a positive attitude, a positive self-image, and a healthy lifestyle. One thing that I see a need for in our Community is for each of us to see a need and fill it. Look after our Elders, visit them. Visiting an elder can be as easy as stopping by to have a chat, or seeing how they are doing. Seeing a stairway that needs shoveling and doing it, or asking an Elder a question about their early life. Be present.

Our effort to share time with each other can make a world of difference.

We encourage our citizens to take advantage of our Will writing service. By creating a will you are putting your wishes on paper to help your loved ones avoid unnecessary hassles, and you gain the peace of mind knowing that a life's worth of possessions will end up in the right hands.

We wish to thank the Food Bank for their donations of food items, and our volunteers that help with Meals-on-Wheels deliver food to those who need it. Thank you All! For all upcoming opportunities and workshops we ask that you keep looking at our notice boards and social media or contact CHR Rodger Thorlakson for information.



**HAVE YOU THOUGHT ABOUT  
WRITING A WILL?**

A last will and testament is beneficial to anyone who wishes to dictate how their assets will be distributed after they pass away instead of leaving it up to the court.

You should consider a Last Will In Testament if you:

- ◆ Get married, have children or separate from a spouse
- ◆ Have monetary assets, such as investments or savings you wish distribute to family or friends
- ◆ Own property or a business

Please Contact Community Health Representative at  
**250 651 7900 ext 301**  
hss.chr@gov.trfn.com



**DO You or Someone You Know Have  
A CRIMINAL RECORD?**

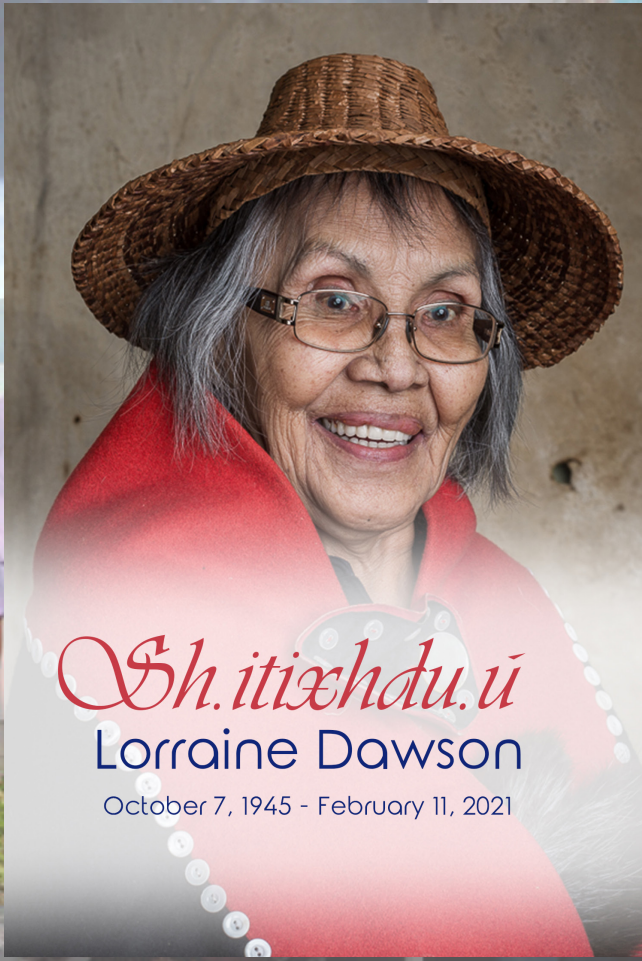
**Need help getting a  
RECORD SUSPENSION?**

All information will be kept  
**Private & Confidential**

The Community Health Representative  
Will help you understand the Process of  
getting a record suspension



Forever Loved



*Sh. itixhdu. u*  
Lorraine Dawson  
October 7, 1945 - February 11, 2021

and Remembered



# MEDICINES

# JOANNE WILLIAMS



Joanne Williams has bottles of medicines for all your needs for trade or donation, she is willing also to teach you to identify and gather medicines and share the wisdom she has acquired over the years.

Yarrow, Arnica, Pine Pitch, Spruce Pitch, Balsam Pitch, Dandelion, Creams, Teas, Salves and more.



Contact Joanne at :

**250 651 7664**

Also ask her about Bentwood boxes!

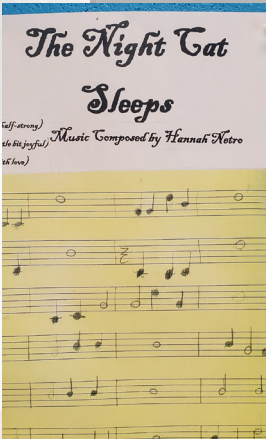


## Covid 19 Vaccination Clinic January 2021



# YOUTH

## School Projects



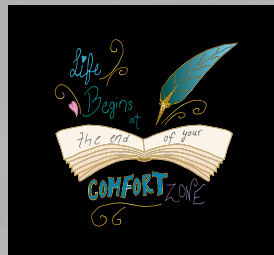
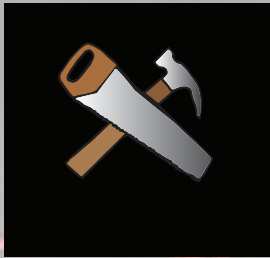
The Night Cat Sleeps  
original music by  
Hannah Netro



Solar System by  
Hannah Netro



Art by Dorrian Tirzya



Hoodie Designs by High School youth facilitated by TRTFN Media Coordinator Rebecca Law

**Spring Break Activities will be advertised. Check Notice boards or mailboxes for a list of Activities, Events & Dates !**

TRTFN thank the Atlin School & staff for sharing these few samples of the work our young people do at school!

# FINANCE & ADMINISTRATION

**Robyn Moore, Administrative Assistant/Finance Assistant**

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The Admin and Finance departments have been quite busy the last couple months working on streamlining daily tasks. We have been learning more about the software that TRTFN has and using it to the fullest of its abilities. Laura in Accounts Payable has been doing training for a software that is compatible with Sage 50. This software is assisting her with vendor invoices.

Paper invoices no longer need to go back and forth between departments for signatures and coding. It can now be done online making the process quicker and more eco-friendly. As for myself (Robyn), I've been working on digitalizing TRTFN's timesheets.

All TRTFN employees are now on Time Management (electronic timesheets). This also is more eco-friendly, reducing the amount of paper waste TRTFN creates. We implemented Absent Management in mid-February.

This will replace the leave forms that are currently still being used. With the new e-timesheets Payroll is requesting that TRTFN staff submits their timesheets for approval bi-weekly on Friday before noon. This gives the managers more time to approve timesheets on Friday afternoon.

Currently TRTFN has several employment opportunities. The open positions are Youth Coordinator, Receptionist/ Administrative Assistant for Health and Social, Home Care Worker and Environmental Officer- Mining. For more details on these job opportunities, you can visit [trfn.com](http://trfn.com), Yuwin, Indeed or view the job postings outside of the Atlin Trading Post or in either of the TRTFN office buildings.

## WE WELCOME ALL THE NEWEST EMPLOYEES TO TRTFN!



# DROP-IN CENTER

MARCH 2021

MONDAY 1	TUESDAY 2	WEDNESDAY 3	THURSDAY 4	FRIDAY 5	SATURDAY 6	
Elder Lunch Elder Afternoon @ Tutan Hit 2-4 pm	AA @ Tutan Hit 9:45am - 10:45 am Community Lunch Yoga @ Tutan Hit 2-3pm	Service Canada Tax and Benefit Information Session @ Tutan Hit 12-3:30pm by Appointment Call 7900 x 315 Board Games @ Tutan Hit 2-4 pm	AA @ Tutan Hit 9:45am - 10:45 am Community Lunch Community Fire @ Tutan Hit 2-4pm	Pay Day - Office Closed		
SUNDAY 7	MONDAY 8	TUESDAY 9	WEDNESDAY 10	THURSDAY 11	FRIDAY 12	SATURDAY 13
Elder Lunch Elder Afternoon @ Tutan Hit 2-4 pm	AA @ Tutan Hit 9:45am - 10:45 am Community Lunch Yoga @ Tutan Hit 2-3pm <b>SVENJA IN ATLIN - FOR APPOINTMENT CALL 867-335-3248</b>	Board Games @ Tutan Hit 2-4 pm	AA @ Tutan Hit 9:45am - 10:45 am Community Lunch Community Fire @ Tutan Hit 2-4pm	MOVIE MATINEE @ TUTAN HIT 2-4PM		
SUNDAY 14	MONDAY 15	TUESDAY 16	WEDNESDAY 17	THURSDAY 18	FRIDAY 19	SATURDAY 20
SPRING FORWARD 	Elder Lunch Elder Afternoon @ Tutan Hit 2-4 pm SPRING BREAK STARTS →	AA @ Tutan Hit 9:45am - 10:45 am Community Lunch Yoga @ Tutan Hit 2-3pm	Board Games @ Tutan Hit 2-4 pm ST. PATRICK'S DAY 	AA @ Tutan Hit 9:45am - 10:45 am Community Lunch Community Fire @ Tutan Hit 2-4pm	Pay Day - Office Closed	First Day of Spring 
SUNDAY 21	MONDAY 22	TUESDAY 23	WEDNESDAY 24	THURSDAY 25	FRIDAY 26	SATURDAY 27
Elder Lunch Elder Afternoon @ Tutan Hit 2-4 pm	AA @ Tutan Hit 9:45am - 10:45 am Community Lunch Yoga @ Tutan Hit 2-3pm	AA @ Tutan Hit 9:45am - 10:45 am Community Lunch Yoga @ Tutan Hit 2-3pm	Board Games @ Tutan Hit 2-4 pm	AA @ Tutan Hit 9:45am - 10:45 am Community Lunch Community Fire @ Tutan Hit 2-4pm	MOVIE MATINEE @ TUTAN HIT 2-4PM SPRING BREAK ENDS →	
SA for April - Call Zoya to make Appointment- 7900 x 306						
SUNDAY 28	MONDAY 29	TUESDAY 30	WEDNESDAY 31	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>DROP IN AT TUTAN HIT 1-4PM -- MONDAY TO FRIDAY</li> <li>CULTURE CENTER OPEN BY APPOINTMENT -- CALL 7837</li> <li>VAN SERVICE FROM 5-MILE TO TOWN -- MONDAY TO FRIDAY -- CALL 7900 X 310</li> <li>VAN SERVICE TO WHITEHORSE PAY DAY FRIDAYS - CALL 7900 X 310</li> </ul>		
Elder Lunch Elder Afternoon @ Tutan Hit 2-4 pm	AA @ Tutan Hit 9:45am - 10:45 am Community Lunch Yoga @ Tutan Hit 2-3pm	AA @ Tutan Hit 9:45am - 10:45 am Community Lunch Yoga @ Tutan Hit 2-3pm	Board Games @ Tutan Hit 2-4 pm			

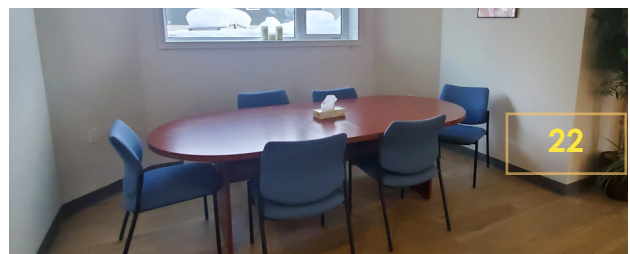
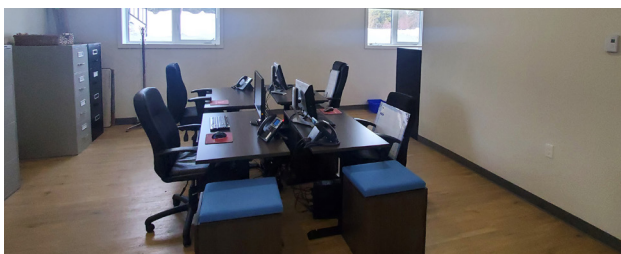
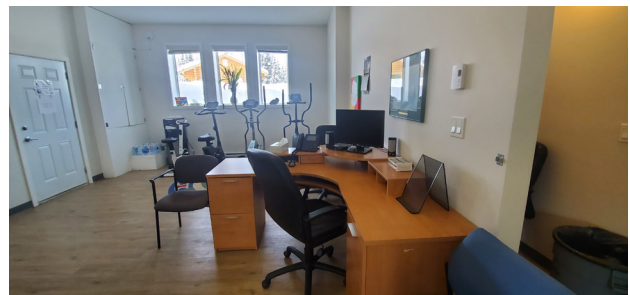
## Tutan Hit Drop in Schedule

**Monday** Elders Afternoon 2 - 4 p m  
**Tuesday's** AA 9:30am - 11am / Yoga 2pm - 3pm  
**Wednesday** Boardgames 2pm - 4pm  
**Thursday's** AA 9:30am - 11am / Community Fire 2pm - 4pm  
**Every non Payday Friday** Movie 2pm - 4pm

## Everyday

Phone / Internet Cafe  
 TV, Exercise Equipment  
 Snacks & tea /Coffee  
 Loaner Equipment  
 (Kicksleds, snowshoes, etc.)

This schedule subject to change. Keep your eyes and ears open about programming Changes and additions. All activities will comply with the latest COVID-19 Safety Protocols





# Tlingit Family Learning Center

**JORGE LLACA BUZNEGO, PHD.** Education Manager

We are so happy to announce that the TFLC acquired our license for 2021! It took a bit of time but we began the year on this good note. We also are pleased to announce that we have a new administrative assistant Sue Thorne. We welcome Sue to our TFLC team.

Roberta continues to be such a wonderful asset to this team, and is so well loved by the children who come each week. Also our volunteers and parents who help out when they can, we are so grateful for their support to keep these doors open and the space warm and friendly.

Our team is not complete however; we are still searching for Early Childhood educators. We are confident that this will happen soon, but we want to continue to put the word out.

If you want to make an impact, choosing to become an early childhood educator is a winning choice. You will be helping little minds make some of their first social connections, practice and prepare for a structured school day, fine-tune their fine motor skills, and even harness more emotional awareness – both for themselves and for others.

At the TFLC we continue to be passionate about Tlingit language and culture, we recognize its importance as one of the essential pillars for early childhood education for Tlingit children and non Tlingit Children living in a First Nation community. We are in the process of implementing a program that will encourage Tlingit language teachers and speakers, elders and artists to volunteer and/or work to share their knowledge here with our young children and families. If you are one of these people please connect with me in person or via email or phone.

Going forward in this year, we are applying for funding to implement more Land based programming, encouraging time spent outdoors in the fresh air, the beautiful wooded areas and on the lake.

We know Covid has kept us all indoors and isolated for our safety, but we recognize the value of natural light and the land that we are so blessed to have here in Atlin.

For this Spring season, I wish for you to embrace the light, the longer daytime and the changing weather. The blessings are all around you and everything is going to be alright.

*Jorge Llaca Buznego*

This Season our theme is "Community time!" We are working on community safety. The board is set up like Atlin with pictures of the buildings like the RCMP, The RedCross, the stores and even the TFLC building.

We want our kids here to be familiarized with their community, where they are in it and the people who live here. It was quite cold in the first few months so we keep the kids inside; we miss our walks, but we know its going to warm up soon. The enrollment is still small, but good, people show up most days.

We do miss Grace! So from all of us here at TFLC we want to send her our very best and before we know it she will be back here with us! Enjoy the Spring Season everyone, and celebrate the people in our neighbourhood.

*Roberta Vaneltsi,*





# Kalsey Josetta Anne Rose Carlick

Kalsey Josetta was born on my grandmother's birthday.

My Grandmother's name was Cathy Josetta Carlick. Grandma Cathy raised me, and I loved her so much. It was such an emotional and heart warming surprise to have this beautiful girl come on Cathy's birthday.

The delivery was good and uncomplicated.

On December 18th Kalsey arrived 6 lbs 14oz. We are so happy that we have her.

She was born healthy and happy, we couldn't ask for anything else. And she is already a story teller!

*Quinta and Coleson*



# Community PARAMEDIC

Scott Cole



Times are changing. In 2016, British Columbia Ambulance Service hired 20 community paramedics to work in remote northern communities.

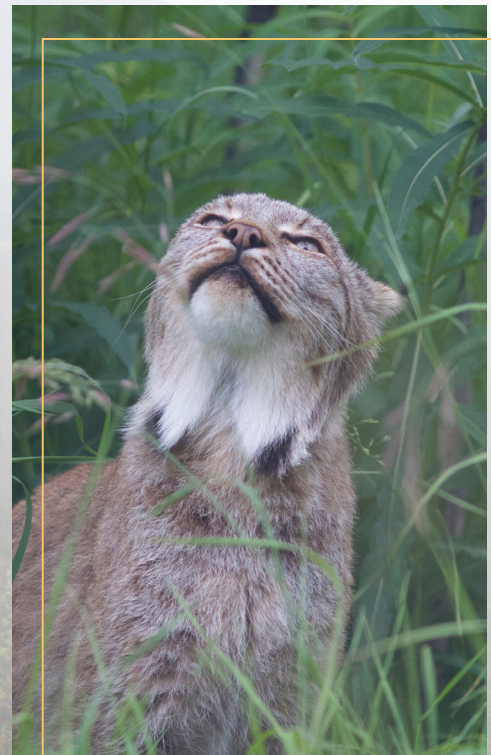
Scott Cole arrived in Atlin October of 2016. In the last four and a half years, Scott has worked in partnership with the Taku River Tlingit First Nation Health and Social Department, the Atlin Health Centre, the Northern Health Authority and the First Nation Health Authority in providing health care services to the Atlin community.

Atlin residents have grown to know Scott through his work in Community Outreach and Awareness. The key has been building better relationship with the health care authorities and the community of Atlin. The Atlin Supportive Living Society is a key organization in providing improved health care services.

Health promotion is another key area. Scott has been involved with local health fairs, contributed to Advanced Care planning, and Naloxone training. He is best known for his wellness checks with individual community members. This service connects patients with the nurses and physicians at the Atlin Health Center.

Scott works hard to reach community members through wellness clinics. 200 community members are now vaccinated with the COVID19 vaccine. Northern Health Authority, FN Health Authority, Atlin Health Centre and the BCAS partnered to make this a great success.

Scott's passion is photography. He loves to explore Atlin's back country capturing the breath-taking scenery and wildlife.



# Meet Our COUNSELOR

Tayo Adamek MA, CCC



Tayo is a Canadian Certified Counselor and has experience working with adults, teens, and children. Tayo uses a range of effective therapeutic approaches including CBT, EMDR, & AF-EMDR (Attachment-Focused EMDR) techniques and goes beyond talk-only therapy for deep, effective change. Tayo has experience with a range of issues including trauma and PTSD, depression, anxiety, attachment, and suicide. Tayo is a Yukoner who draws on his diverse community experience in his clinical work in Whitehorse and northern rural areas.

He believes we hold the ability to improve our lives, heal, and find meaning and is honoured to be a part of his client's journey on this path. Tayo provides an open, safe, collaborative and welcoming space and prioritizes the very important relationship between client and counselor in his work to tailor his services to meet your specific needs. As a therapist, he works with people in a deeply meaningful and impactful way to become the best version of themselves.



## T'akhu Â Tlèn Conservancy

### Taku River Tlingit Law Revitalization (RELAW) Update

Amiee Shultz

The Taku River Tlingit RELAW project is planning to start community interviews between mid-February and April.

The RELAW (Revitalizing Law for Land, Air and Water) project is writing down Tlingit legal principles that guide Tlingit relationships with the land and wildlife. This process involves learning from Tlingit stories, community interviews and community meetings.

The community interviews will focus on specific questions about Tlingit relationships with the land, responsibilities, decision making and teaching the law. We will be reaching out to schedule

interviews beginning in February. The interviews will be completed by Lands staff and a TAC contractor, Kiri Staples.

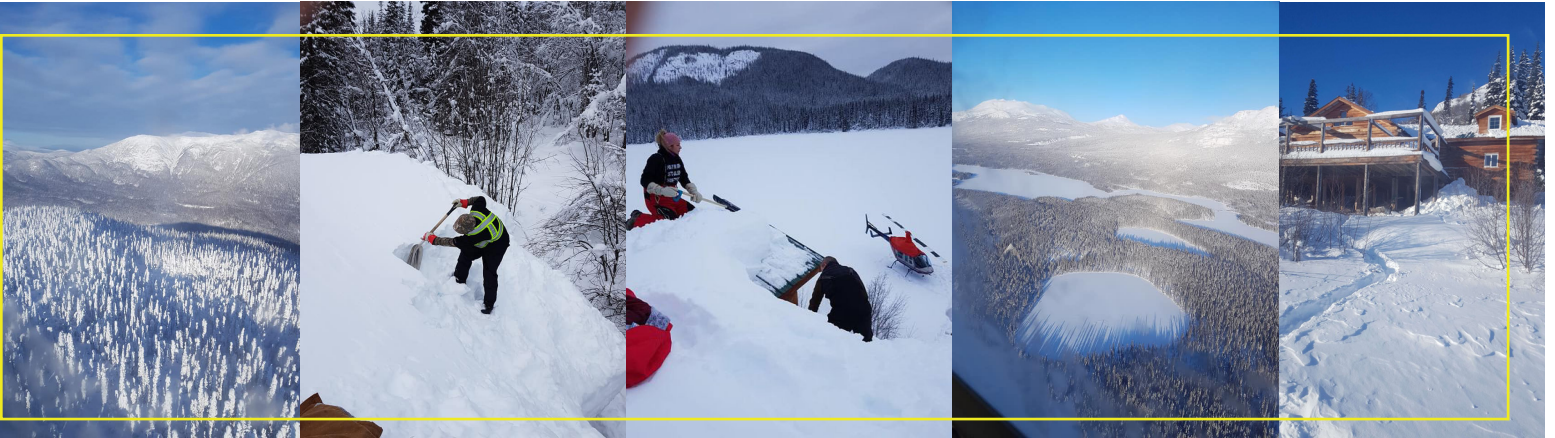
If you are interested in sharing your knowledge of Tlingit law or would like to know more about the project please call Aimee Schmidt (867) 332-3267 or email [relaw.coor@gmail.com](mailto:relaw.coor@gmail.com).

The project is being administered on by T'akhu Â Tlèn Conservancy on behalf of TRTFN and is carried out in partnership with West Coast Environmental Law.



## King Salmon

Maurice said he had an amazing day , They went down to King Salmon to shovel off the lodge roof. He went on a 45-minute helicopter ride down to Kingsalmon, Maurice had a great idea to ask the helicopter Pilot Matt O'Brien from Discovery, to fly over the lodge and blow the snow away. It didn't work very well, but It was a good idea. It was -24 when they flew down but it warmed up to about -5 , It was hard work. Here are the beautiful pictures that he took to show you.



Kuthai Feb 3-4, 2021... With Trevor James Williams & James Williams

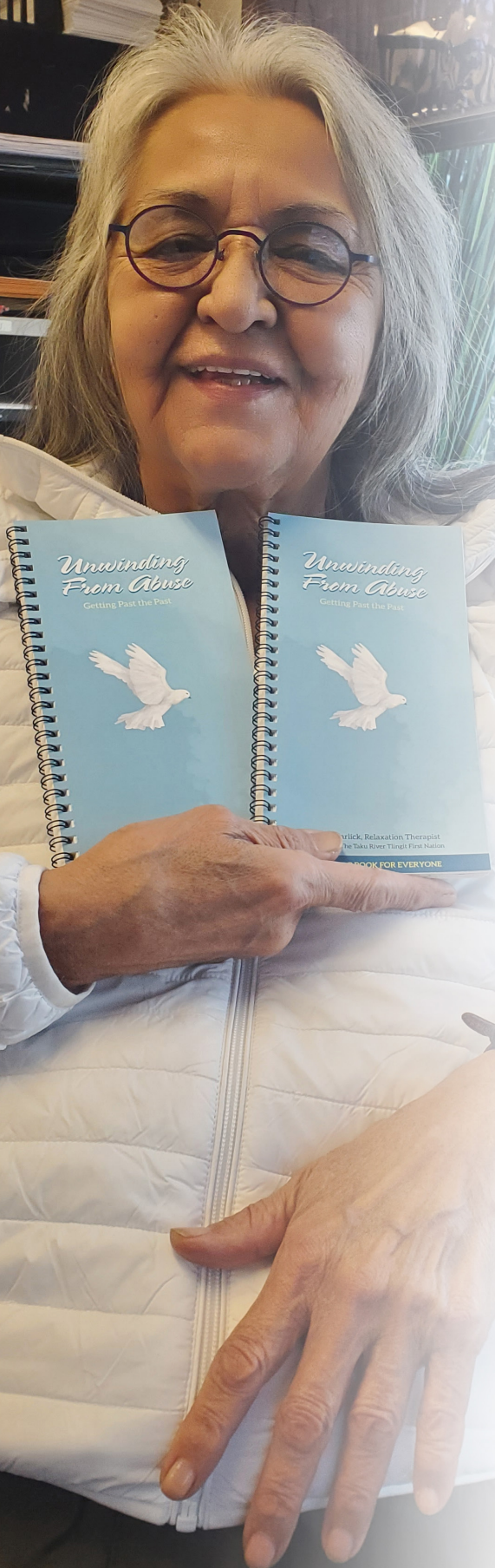


**CARVING WORKSHOP** with Wayne Carlick at the Center for Culture February 2021.  
For Workshops visit the Center for Culture for info **Monday - Friday 10:30 - 4pm / 5pm - 9pm**



# Elder

## ALICE CARLICK



I have worked with my first nation for over 25 years. And I've had many jobs, experiences and opportunities. I worked in Mapping, Heritage, I used to be a surveyor and so much more.

I am so happy to be welcomed back as a contractor, working in the O&M and Capital office. It feels like the doors to heaven opened for me. You see, I've felt quite isolated from my community and it's so nice to be part of a team again in this way.

I have a special love for Heritage, one main reason was that when I transcribed the tapes I got to hear the Elders voices. That was so dear to my heart. To hear my mother's voice, that was something so special.

My dream is to see a Tlingit map and Tlingit dictionaries in every home, to know that our culture is alive and thriving and being taken forward by our children and grandchildren.

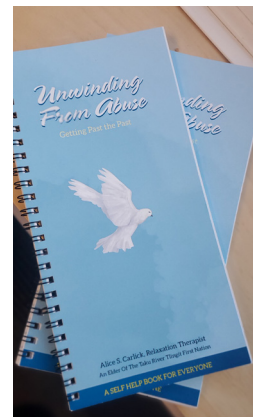
I have so much information in my head, it sometimes feels overwhelming, and I just want to share it. For 20 years I've written down

things that helped me, and I know they can help other people.

Everything that I've gone through, other Residential School survivors went through similar things. So I decided years ago to write a book to share, help and encourage anyone struggling from trauma and abuse.

I entitled it "Unwinding from abuse, getting past the past" It's a self help book for everyone. It's my dream to be able to be published and my knowledge shared with many people.

This book is about sobering up, accepting the past and forgiveness.



Connect with Alice Carllick at the TRTFN Band Office to inquire about her book "Unwinding From Abuse."

# TRTFN JOB OPPORTUNITIES

## HOME CARE

**POSITION:** Home Care Worker  
**SUPERVISORS:** Community Health Representative, Manager Health and Social  
**WAGE:** \$20.52 - \$24.62  
**STATUS:** Casual, on call, up to 20 hours per week  
**CLOSING DATE:** On going

Being a home care worker is a rewarding and wonderful job that takes a special person with special qualities, the most important is having a caring nature. Everything else can be taught, you can do courses in first aid and manual handling and all the other important aspects of home care, but being caring is a natural attribute.

As a home care worker you will provide support to our wonderful Elders of the TRTFN in their homes. You may be a licensed healthcare professional who provides medical care or a simple caregiver who helps with daily tasks such as eating, cleaning the home, preparing meals, assisting clients to community lunches or assisting with light shopping and errands. As the Home Care worker you will provide direct care to enhance the lives of our Elderly citizens.

If this is a job for you please email Resume and Cover Letter to [hss.mgr@gov.trtfn.com](mailto:hss.mgr@gov.trtfn.com) Or apply In Person at the Reception at Health and Social, Multi-Purpose Building, Atlin. Provide Criminal Record Check, Vulnerable Sector. Drivers licence an asset.

## YOUTH

**POSITION:** Youth Coordinator  
**SUPERVISORS:** Manager Health and Social  
**WAGE:** 27.42-32.91  
**STATUS:** Full time, 72 hour each 2 week pay period  
**CLOSING DATE:** March 31, 2021

The youth coordinator is someone who works on programs addressing the needs of the young people. As the Youth Coordinator of the TRTFN you should process a desire to help young people in their desire to lead a healthy active lifestyle, learn new skills and connect to mentors in the community or virtually. Youth workers strive to improve young peoples access to a safe place to hang out, provide academic tutoring when needed and encourages mentorship and networking. This work is exciting, rewarding and fun and connects you with a dynamic group of talented eager young minds.

If this job feels right for you please email Resume and Cover Letter to [hss.mgr@gov.trtfn.com](mailto:hss.mgr@gov.trtfn.com) Or apply In Person at the Reception at Health and Social, Multi-Purpose Building, Atlin.

**CONDITIONS OF EMPLOYMENT Provide Criminal Record Check, Vulnerable Sector, Drivers Licence an asset**



# TRTFN JOB OPPORTUNITIES

## OPERATIONS MAINTENANCE

**POSITION:** **Operational Maintenance Worker**  
**SUPERVISORS:** Operations and Maintenance Manager or Designate  
**WAGE:** \$23.00 - \$28.00 per hour dependant upon experience & suitability  
**STATUS:** Permanent Full time in Atlin British Columbia  
**CLOSING DATE:** **Open until filled – 2 positions needed**

Operational maintenance finds you doing flexible work outside in the fresh air and inside homes. You'll provide a variety of services to the community members of the TRTFN in Atlin BC. You will use your skills on equipment in homes, like furnaces. You may also be asked to provide plumbing, electrical, and carpentry services and ensure that maintenance requests are responded too in a timely manner.

You will be asked to drive the flatbed, garbage, water & sewer trucks and in winter the removal of snow and ice. There are many rewards and benefits of this type of work. At TRTFN after three months probation, you will enjoy a wonderful benefits plan, including medical, eyewear and dental. Along with a generous pension plan.

If this job feels right for you please email resume and cover letter to [capital@gov.trfn.com](mailto:capital@gov.trfn.com) Or apply In Person at the Reception at Health and Social, Multi-Purpose Building, Atlin.  
**CONDITIONS OF EMPLOYMENT** Class 2 or 3 (with air brake) driving license required with clean driving abstract records. **Criminal Record check (Required)**

## GARDEN

### EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

**POSITIONS:** **(4) Gardeners \$18/ hr**  
**(1) Garden Manager (Wage dependant on experience**  
**CLOSING DATE:** **Open until filled**

Starting ASAP we hope to build on the garden project we began last year. Starting seeds learning to garden, planting & building outdoor garden beds.

Please contact H&S staff if you are interested.

Contact: 250 651 7900 Ext 305 [Hss.mgr@gov.trfn.com](mailto:Hss.mgr@gov.trfn.com)

# Tie-Dye

## SHARRON ROSE LEECH



I am from the wolf clan and have lived in Atlin most of my life. Over the years I have moved around. I went to school in Whitehorse for a time, it was difficult for me. You see, I process and think differently from other people. I was diagnosed with FAS (Fetal Alcohol Syndrome). So trying to fit into a place that didn't understand my process was tough.

In 2001, I attended (FASSY) The Fetal Alcohol Syndrome Society Yukon, where I learned how to Tie-dye. That was a game changer for me. I fell right into it. Since then I have been doing Tie-dye. I love this art so much.

I will tie-dye anything! Right now I am doing socks and undies, shirts and dresses and bedsheets. Things for women, men and even babies. lol. You can call me Tie-Dye Sharron!

My favorite part is taking the elastics out. Oh my face gets red, I look at my design and I am so proud of it. It makes me feel so free and happy. Its my addiction. I am proud to admit that I don't drink or have any other addictions. Tie-dye, this is it for me. My dad falls in love with my tie-dye and I feel so supported by my husband and all my family.

Speaking of my supportive husband, In 2004 I got married to the love of my life. He even got on his knees. I wore a deer hide white dress that was so beautiful. He is a wonderful artist too. I like making tie-dye special for my clients as well. I use their favorite colors, as

is the Tlingit way and make it personal for them. I am also passionate about recycling and reusing materials, so much of my work is recycled materials made new again.

My artistic process can be compared to daydreaming with a smile on my face. I think about what I want to see for a while, the colors, the patterns, and then I get to work to make it a reality. It's as simple as that. I also learned how to make decorative flowered pens.

It gives me a sense of joy looking at my work and I sometimes wish I could keep it all for myself, but I love to share the art I create. This is my passion, but it's also my business and I wish for my community to see and enjoy what I do.

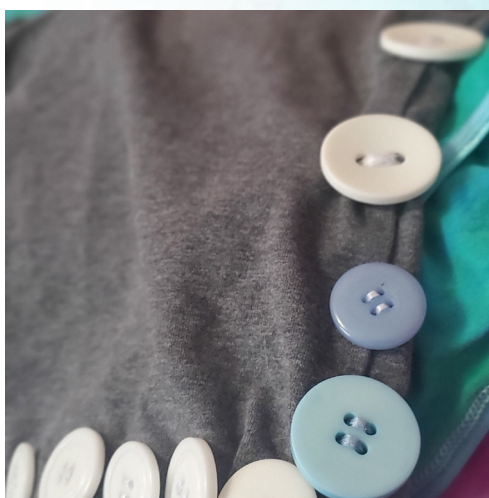
Self expression is so important, it helps with mental health. I wish that our local Tlingit youth see how much fun it is to be creative and flood this place with our Tlingit art. I would love to see a Tlingit Store in town, a place dedicated to Tlingit artists so we can share and sell our work.

I can't wait for the summertime, you see, I also love collecting rocks. I have a rock garden and that is another one of my hobbies.

Be yourself, be creative, support local artists.



# ARTIST SPOTLIGHT



To support this local artist please look for brochures of her work at the Band office and at the Trading Post, or contact her directly. **250 651 7678**

# RAVEN

## TLINGIT STORY

# CAUGHT IN A LIE

One day Snook received word that a large canoe was lying in the outer bay, waiting for the tide to rise so it could go through the pass.

“They must be the people from the other side. It’s time for herring eggs.” Said Snook.

The big canoe come slowly into the salt lake when the tide had ceased to roar through the rocky pass and the waters ran slack. In it was a trading party from the seaward side of the big island where the herring ran thick in the spring. They wanted to get eulachon oil and brought many dried herring eggs to trade. Snook had plenty of eulachon oil so he took all the herring eggs the visitors brought, and they went happily away.

When the herring swarmed in from the ocean, these westward people had cut down hemlock trees to put into the water for the spawning fish. Millions of tiny white eggs were caught on the branches, which were then taken out to dry in the wind and the sun.

To eat the eggs, the branches were soaked in water until the eggs slipped off. Then the eggs were boiled a very short time until they were like transparent seed pearls. Kahtahah liked to eat herring eggs because of the fresh salty taste and the crackly noise the made between her teeth.

The chief had been right when he said that there would be no deer near the summer camp because the wolves had driven them away. Not once all summer long did the hunters see a deer track along the beaches and the creeks. Whenever they needed venison, the young men had to hunt across the channel on

another island where there were no wolves. The meat that was not used at once was cut into thin stripes and dried and smoked. The tallow was mixed with berries and poured into skin bags for winter use, and the skins were tanned and bleached. sometimes as white as the blossoms of the crab apple trees, for clothing and moccasins. The old women sat constantly at the stretching frames, scraping and softening the skins with their dull bone knives.

Kahtahah, already a skillful seamstress, was making herself a white deerskin dress with bead trimmings. She had a shiny needle that had belonged to her real mother and some bright beads that Snook had traded for furs from the Hudson’s Boy Company. As Kahtahah sewed, she watched two old black ravens strutting back and forth on the ridge of the smokehouse, talking to each other.

“They sound like two old men,” she said. “I wonder if they are talking about the salmon in the smokehouse. Ravens are greedy, but they are lazy, too. Mother, tell me the story about how the raven tricked the sea gull and the crane.” She told the following story as they sewed.

“Raven walked along the beach one day, hungry. The water bubbled with a big school of herring, but Raven, though a fish eater, was no fisherman, and he had to find a way to get a herring. He looked around and saw a crane standing on one leg in the water, fishing, and a sea gull that had just lighted on a rock after swallowing a nice, fat herring. He could see the big bulge that the herring made on the side of the sea gull’s breast and said to himself. ‘I must have that herring or I’ll die.’

“He walked past Crane and spoke to him,

and then strolled over to Seagull. Returning to Crane, he said. 'I don't like to tell you this, but I feel that I ought to because I am your friend. You saw me talking with Seagull. He called you an ugly, long-legged brute and said that your ancestors were slaves.' Crane did not answer.

"So Raven walked over to Seagull and asked. 'You saw me talking to Crane just now? I really don't like to do this, but I feel that I should because I am your friend. That Crane called you some very insulting names; said you were a no-account, a common thing of low birth, and that your grandmother was a witch.' Seagull said nothing.

"Raven then walked back to Crane and whispered. 'I think I had better warn you that Seagull just told me that he was coming over here to fight you. If he does, just remember that his weak spot is his chest. Kick his chest hard and you will win the fight.' Crane looked over at Seagull, who acted restless. He felt grateful to Raven.

"Raven then went to Seagull. 'I wonder.' He asked. 'What is the matter with Crane? He seemed so angry at you, kept calling you insulting names, and just now told me that he was coming over here to give you a beating. You had better not wait. See him looking at you? You had better start right out and if he tries to kick you, stick your chest at him and he can't hurt you. You go at him hard with your chest.' Just then Crane shifted from one foot to the other. 'See that? See that?' Raven exclaimed. 'He is planning to come at you. You had better start at him right now.'

"So Seagull and Crane started toward each other, grateful that their good friend Raven had warned them and prepared them for victory. They walked faster and glared at each other as they approached. Both fairly flew the last few feet. Remembering the good advice Raven had given him. Crane raised his foot and kicked at Seagull's chest with all his might, and Seagull, having been warned by

his good friend Raven, promptly presented his chest to receive the blow. Crane struck, and the herring popped out. Raven caught it before it fell into the water, and flew off chuckling. Crane and Seagull realized that Raven had told them a bunch of lies and stopped fighting. When our people hear stories that make them feel angry toward others they say. 'Perhaps Raven is carrying tales to Seagull and Crane once more. Everybody understands what is meant.'

Kahtahah laughed. "Raven was always playing tricks on people, wasn't he, mother?"

"Yes," she answered. "but Raven was kind to us, too."



Carving by Wayne Carlick



Photography by Scott Cole