

Draft  
Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in First Trapper  
Final Report



Prepared for: Yukon Trapper and Wildlife Enhancement Fund

Prepared by: Roberta Joseph, Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in

February 2012



**Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in**

# **First Trapper Final Report 2012**

## **First Trapper**

Submitted to:

**Yukon Trapper and Wildlife Enhancement Trust: Board of Trustees  
Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in Natural Resources Department  
Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in Education Department  
Dawson District Renewable Resource Council**

Submitted by:

Roberta Joseph  
Trapper and Wildlife Coordinator

Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in

Box 599

Dawson YT Y0B 1G0

867-993-7115

[Roberta.joseph@gov.trondek.com](mailto:Roberta.joseph@gov.trondek.com)

## **Acknowledgements**

Mähsi Cho everyone who made this initial First Trapper possible, to those who planned, to those who were a part of the workshops, to those who supported the project and to those Youth who attended and participated in the many activities offered. The following are some of the people, organizations and departments that took part in First Trapper 2011-2012. We would like to thank them for their contributions and efforts on behalf of this event.

- Yukon Fish and Wildlife Enhancement Trust and Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in for funding this event
- Bruce Taylor - Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in Trapper
- Peter Nagano - Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in Trapper
- Peggy Kormendy - Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in Elder
- Kevin Johnstone - YG Conservation Services, Mayo
- Martin Kienzler – YG Fish and Wildlife Technician, Dawson
- Darren Taylor - Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in Director, Natural Resources
- Roberta Joseph - Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in Fish and Wildlife Coordinator
- Ryan Peterson - Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in Fish and Wildlife Steward
- Julia Jennings - Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in Department of Education, CELC
- Jody Beaumont - Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in Department of Heritage, Traditional Knowledge Specialist
- Bobbie Milnes - Volunteer
- Bonnie Rear - Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in Department of Natural Resource, Administrative Assistant
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- Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in Heritage Department for vehicles and documentation

If we have missed mentioning anyone, we apologise and assure you that your contributions were welcome and helped us to deliver our program on time and in an efficient manner.

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### **First Trapper 2011-2012**

Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in (TH) First Trapper Culture Camp 2011-2012 was to be held at the Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in Culture and Education Camp at Km 131, Dempster Highway, but due to seven unforeseen passings and cold weather delays, it was decided to hold several days of workshops over a period of time to try and meet the goals that were in the initial First Trapper schedule. Orientation was held on January 7, 2012 at the TH Hall, the first Workshop was held on January 17, 2012 at one of the TH Trapper's residence in the Dome Subdivision. The final two Workshops commenced at the Dome Resident once again and both days took the group on skidoos up behind the Second Dome, approximately 12km return, to check the trapline. This initial First Trapper program, hosted by Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in was geared towards enhancing trapping activities and stewardship for Dawson City youth. During the Workshops, the youth were exposed to many issues and practices associated with commercial and subsistence trapping, furthermore, biological and habitat particulars. The youth learned about different types of management, different fur bearing animals, traditional knowledge, how to handle the traps, set the traps, retrieve the traps, trap safety, out-door safety, skidoo maintenance and how to skin a marten, in addition to numerous discussions about respect for the land.

The Workshops was created to teach safe, ethical, and respectful trapping practices to our young community members. First Trapper also helped the youth gain self-esteem and skills in order to make healthy, safe, positive lifestyle choices, and a chance to learn about Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in culture and heritage.

### **First Trapper Teachings**

Getting out on the land to a trapline provided significant trapping experience. The First Nation trappers, with years of experience, provided excellent teachings and knowledge of the many different kinds of situations that could be encountered when out on a trapline. Some of those situations could possibly include circumstances such as overflow, hand parts caught in the trap or a broken down snow machine. Additional knowledge and hands on included setting the traps, Belisle 330 for wolf, link and fox and Belisle 120 for marten and mink. The intent of the First Trapper Orientation/Work Shops was to teach traditional knowledge and skills to the younger generation through the assistance of supervisors,

volunteer, elder and trappers. Further presentations provided at the Orientation were topics on such topics as disease and biological data of fur bearing animals and management of commercial and subsistence harvesting. During orientation there was an opportunity to include one elder to share their life long experiences, stories and traditional knowledge. Modern day knowledge was also shared

### **Planning**

This is the first year, the Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in's, Fish and Wildlife Branch has ever organized a First Trapper project. The Branch set-up and organized an ad-hoc planning committee including individuals from the TH Fish and Wildlife Branch, Heritage Department, Education Department, TH Trappers and a volunteer. The planning committee's role was to provide direction, guidance, assistance, and advice to the organizer. Every committee member was given tasks to complete prior to follow-up meetings and provide updates to ensure that tasks were getting completed in a timely fashion. The first two meetings were held in December 2011, but with Christmas events taking place, it was decided to hold the Orientation in early January with the understanding that cold weather will start setting in during January, and could possibly delay the out-door training and trapping work shops. A second work shop was planned for half day to go over out-door safety out-door dress code to keep warm, skidoo maintenance and actual trap setting demonstrations. The following two work shops were scheduled in February to take the youth out by skidoo to a trapline near Dawson.

### **Work Shops Set-up**

The Work shops were coordinated by the Fish and Wildlife Branch, specifically the Fish and Wildlife Coordinator, Fish and Wildlife Steward and the Natural Recourses Assistant. Coordination of the project included, correlating the orientation information, invitation to presenters, ensuring adequate supplies, equipment, trucks, skidoos, meals and groceries were provided for each workshop days. The Fish and Wildlife Branch also ensured the required infrastructure was in place and operational prior to the work shop days. The Fish and Wildlife staff were in attendance throughout each of the workshops to ensure the project objectives were being met and to provide First Aid when required. The Trappers, Fish and Wildlife staff and supervisors provided transportation for the youth to

and from the trapper's residence and the meeting location.

The Orientation was held at the Tr'ondek Hwech'in Community Hall, the first work shop day was held at the trapper's resident in the Dome Subdivision, the third work shop was scheduled to take the youth to the trapline and back to the TH meeting room, the last work shop was scheduled to take the youth to the trapline and to the trapper's skinning shed. Supervisors throughout included either staff from TH Fish and Wildlife, Education and volunteer.

At the Orientation the First Trapper project was explained and the expectation from participants was conducted by the event Coordinator.

As this was the initial First Trapper project, it was viewed as a pilot project to see if there was interest this year and possibly for continuance in the future. Upon completion of the final work shop the all the youth expressed interesting in attending next year's First Trapper.

### **Participants**

This year, the planning committee set the limit of 10 youth participants for the camp to maintain an enriching experience for the youth. However, this year only 7 youth registered for First Trapper. There were 5 male and 2 female participants. During the final two work shops, not all youth were able to attend due to conflicting schedules. There were approximately 3 supervisors, 1 volunteer, two trappers to chaperone and teach the youth and share their knowledge of Trapping and other land-based bush survival. Two of the youth were already experienced sno-machiners, only one of them volunteered to drive a skidoo. Since the actual camp did not happen as planned, it was decided that all of the meals will be organized by staff and catering service. Lunches, snacks and one dinner was provided to keep the participants well-fed, so the trapping activities could take place and remain an integral part of the workshops.

Due to the challenges of the timing of the work shops, it was decided that it was best to

meet the objectives by focusing on the youth rather than opening to more participants as would have been, in a camp setting.

### **Activities**

Initially, the planning committee had made a schedule of activities to happen at the camp, but trapping activities would take precedence over any other activities, since the camp did not take place, activities through out the work shops were limited to meeting the objectives of the trapping activities.

Orientation: Included presentations from Roberta Joseph, coordinator of First Trapper and Fish and Wildlife Coordinator for TH, she provided an over-all understanding on the goals of the First Trapper camp as follows:

- Who would be conducting presentations throughout the day and what the topic would entail;
- What the expectations are for the camp and when it would take place;
- A brief history was provided on trapping and the value of furs for subsistence and commercial uses;
- Out-door safety and being well dressed to ensure comfort and fun, are to be had.

Fish and Wildlife Steward, Ryan Peterson presentation was on behalf of Martin Kienzler, YT, Wildlife Technician as he was not able to attend due to other commitments. Although Martin provided several topics of information which included: Biology and Trapline/Furbearer Management, Biology and Harvest Strategy for -Wolf, Coyote, Fox, Lynx, Pine Marten, Beaver, Muskrat, Wolverine, other Mustelids and Parasites and Diseases. Ryan selected the following two to present on:

- Biology and Trapline/Furbearer Management
- Parasites and Diseases

Roberta Joseph then followed with a brief presentation on TH Final Agreement, Chapter 16 and Subsistent Harvesting followed by a lunch break which lunch was provided.

Life long trapper, Elder, Peggy Kormendy joined the group during lunch and provided the



youth with some of her experiences on where she trapped, how long, safety examples, accident experiences, trapping management on each trapline, the enjoyment of trapping and the enjoyment of the land, and shared some interesting stories.

Peggy's presentation was followed by YG, Mayo Conservation Officer, Kevin Johnstone who traveled all the way from Mayo as the Dawson Officer's were unavailable at the time.

Kevin's presentation included as follows:

- Out-line of Commercial Trapping regulations and how they are based on the International Trapping Standards;
- Different harvesting times;
- Specific traps for different species;
- Checking trap requirements;
- Reporting requirements and exporting;
- Trapping certification qualifications.

Kevin also provided a trapping regulations summary to all the youth for information to add to their binders.

The TH Heritage Department staff developed a 40 page information package which included data collected over the years on traditional knowledge on trapping. They also brought a file of furs including marten, wolverine, wolf and foxes for the youth to review.

Finally, the remainder of the day was facilitated by trapper, Bruce Taylor with the assistant of staff on the following:

- Educated the youth on his experiences, how long he was trapping, how he accessed his line, how he does trapping for enjoyment of being out on the land not necessarily for the money as there is little money to be made these days, talked about safety and examples of accidents he had and how to avoid them;
- He also educated on the importance of always letting somebody know where your going and how long you'll be and when to send help out if necessary;
- Educated the youth about the different kinds of traps and what species are caught in them;
- Educated on the different kinds of equipment necessary for when on the trapline;
- What tools are required for skinning and stretching the furs;
- What sort of knives he used for skinning and why;
- He provided a demonstration on how to set and disengage the traps.

The youth had learned a lot of theory and had an opportunity to get used to handling the traps and were looking forward to the camp.

In preparation for the camp, groceries were purchased, supplies purchased and equipment reserved along with a fleet of trucks. First Trapper Camp was to be held on January 13-15, 2012. Several passings occurred and cold weather set in, as a result, the camp was modified to hold several work shops, a new schedule was developed in order to carry on with the project. The groceries were used throughout the remainder of the workshops for lunches and snacks. The Committee decided to use a trapline concession closer to Dawson which was only accessible by snow machine. The Coordinator contacted YFWET, Executive Director regarding the modification of the project and advising that not all of the funding will be spent.

Work shop No. 1: Was held the afternoon of January 13, 2012. Although, this was a regular school day, Robert Service School now acknowledges regular attendance for projects such as these that are provided by TH. Lunch was provided in a camp setting at the trapper's resident (Dome Subdivision). Following lunch, trapper, Peter Nagano educated the youth on how important it was to wear water proof and warm clothing when out trapping. Being an avid out-door individual, he provided examples on the different types of clothing and foot-wear to use and what not to use and why. He provided examples on why it was so important to dress adequately to ensure comfort and warmth while out on the land. He explained that the land has different environmental geography and weather conditions such as overflow, cold weather etc.

The youth were then guided to a skidoo. Peter provided a tremendous amount of knowledge on how to deal with a broken down skidoo. Several simple mechanical modifications were shared, those of which can only be gained through personal experience. He also educated the youth on rules for traveling as a group and different signs that are used when traveling as a group. Who to follow and distance kept between sleds, signs to demonstrate for warning stops and come here.

The remainder of the afternoon was presented by trapper, Bruce Taylor who provided

actual, trap setting demonstrations in the greenbelt. Bruce explained about making a false front with willows and spruce tree branches and laying the leg hold trap in-side and covering it with snow, with only a touch of snow on the lever to ensure it did not snap shut. Other demonstrations included various ways of setting a trap for a marten, wolf and lynx. The youth participated where required. The highlight of this demonstration, was when the group was back-tracking to collect the traps and snares, a frozen marten was in one of the traps. The trapper had gone out of the way for a bit and placed it in the trap as a reality example.

Work shop No. 2: The youth met at TH at 12:00 pm, organized their lunches and snacks and went over the schedule for the day. The group departed to the Dome resident. From there the group was organized with two snow machines. Along with the trappers, two additional snow machines were rented. From there, the group headed out onto the greenbelt, on up-towards the Dome and then onto Second Dome. The group started descending down towards the trapline to check the pre-set traps. The trip was approximately 3.5 hrs long. Two martens and one weasel were caught in the traps. At the start of the trapline the youth were asked if they wanted to leave the traps in until the following Friday and return to check them. They immediately agreed to leave the traps in and re-check them the following week. It was decided to set two more traps which were set by the youth. There was also a lynx trap set, there were tracks but it did not take the bait. The youth assisted with checking the traps, setting new bait, closing up the sled with the equipment after each check. The trapping equipment was rented to carry out the project.

After returning to the Dome resident, the youth and coordinator headed back to the office and had dinner and a video. The video was based on a documentary of a Cree family and friends, spending the winter on their trapline. It was very detailed on all what was involved and included camp set-up and building a log cabin, the chores, harvesting of small game and a moose, the trapping preparation, the skinning, and the selling of furs and receiving supplies by plane, it turned out to be very informative and educational.

Work shop No. 4: Once again, the youth met at TH at 12:00 pm, organized their lunches and snacks and went over the schedule for the day. The group departed to the Dome

residence, from there the group was organized with snow machines. Along with the trappers, two additional snow machines were rented. From there, the group headed out onto the greenbelt, on up-towards the Dome and then onto Second Dome. The group started descending down towards the trapline to check the pre-set traps. The trip was approximately 3.0 hrs long. After returning, the group went to another trappers shed, where the set up was arranged for skinning furs. Trapper, Bruce Taylor skinned the first marten explaining a long the way each step and why it was done that way. The youth assisted by handing Bruce what he needed. The Coordinator skinned the second marten as by then the youth were quite famished from a long day out doors. They youth expressed their thanks and appreciation for the trappers time and helped clean up to get ready for departure.

### **Food and Cooking**

The food was provided for all participants. A caterer was hired for the lunch provided at the Orientation. The first Work shop, the group had a camp fire and cooked hotdogs and had sandwiches and snacks. The second Work shop, the dinner was cooked by the staff. Being out-doors uses up a lot of energy so it was important to ensure that all youth and participants are properly fed so the focus of the information and demonstrations can remain focused on programming.

### **First Trapper Reception**

The First Trapper acknowledgements will be held early April with a reception and slide show of the event. The reception will be to honour the youth for all their hard work and eager learning abilities to encourage them to return next year. The youth will decide on what they would like done with the martens and weasels, whether they would like to display it at the school or donate it to one of the TH Departments.

The reception will be open to the community and the youth will bring their families, Elders and other community members. The Coordinator says thank – you's, we show a slide show of all the photographs from the event, then we honour the participants and thank the supervisors, facilitators and volunteers with gifts.

### **Feedback and Recommendations**

The most positive aspect of the program was having experienced and knowledgeable persons on hand all the time to provide direction, input and suggestions and teaching the youth proper technique in the preparations and trapping of fur bearing animals. The individuals who were working with the youth, demonstrated great patience when youth were learning how to set the traps, check and re-setting the traps and the proper way to skin the marten which allowed for error to provide perfect teaching opportunities. The individuals praised the youth whenever they did an exceptional job of what ever they were doing, whether it was practising trap setting or setting and checking traps. The youth also felt comfortable with the individuals once they got to know them. Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in provided a safe learning environment for the youth. There were enough breaks when needed and there was enough food at the Orientation and Work shops. The supervisors and facilitator and volunteer were good role models for the youth.

A fair amount of objectives were met, although several were also left out of the initial schedule due to timing. The Work shop information was very good although more activities would have benefited the participants if the opportunity to have the project in a camp setting. With trapping and winter conditions and school events, the schedule may never go as planned, and modifications will always need to be made, but as long as the objectives of the project are being met and the youth are learning new activities all ends up well. It is inevitable to continue with flexibility for future First Trapper camps. The biggest challenge is to keep a balance between fun and work for the youth. This year proved to be a lot of fun whether in attending the Orientation, or any of the other Work shops, the youth were great and very enthusiastic to the end. Without a camp, there were not as much opportunities for the youth to learn more about Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in different trapping experiences, in the future the First Trapper project will need more citizens involved in the camp to share stories and knowledge about life as a trapper and living on the land. It is possible that more stories could be shared at the campfires and connections some of the youth might have with trappers in their families.

We hope that each year, the First Trapper project will improve and as part of that, the planning committee is an integral part to provide feedback and recommendations to

improve the project for community youth. The best part is the end of the project, is when you know that everybody had a great time, when the youth are wondering around saying they wish the event was longer and are not in a rush to go home.

**TR'ONDEK HWECH'IN**

**First Trapper**

**12 Periods Ended 31/15/2012**

**Unaudited**

	<b>Current</b>	<b>Year to</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Free</b>
	<b>Month</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Budget</b>	<b>Balance</b>
<b>REVENUE:</b>				
YFWET		5,431.00	8,696.00	3,226.74
<b>TOTAL</b>		5,431.00	8,620.00	3,150.74
<b>EXPENDITURES:</b>				
Materials & Supplies		944.25	600.00	374.05
Contract/Honorarium		1,905.00	3,520.00	2,545.95
Travel Expenses/Rentals		2,581.75	4,500.00	1909.79
		5,431.00	8,620.00	3,150.74
<b>TOTAL</b>	0.00	0,000.00	0,000.00	0,000.00
<b>EXCESS OF REVENUE OVER EXPENDITURES</b>	0.00	0,000.00		0,000.00



## INFORMATION and Registration FOR PARENTS AND PARTICIPANTS

**\* Registration Closing date is December 21, 2011\***

<b>At A Glance</b>	
<b>What?</b>	First Trapper Camp! Learn the skills used to properly trap animals, as well as bush skills and cultural teachings.
<b>When?</b>	Workshop/Orientation: Saturday, January 7, 2012 10am-5pm in the TH Hall <b>MANDATORY Attendance is Required- Dinner will be provided</b> First Trapper: January 13-15 <sup>th</sup> Check traps: Saturday, January 21 <sup>st</sup> Check traps: Saturday, January 28 <sup>th</sup>
<b>Who?</b>	Youth ages 12 years and up Space is limited
<b>Where?</b>	Km 131, Cache Creek – Dempster Highway

<b>Points to Remember...</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ You <b>must</b> attend the workshop/orientation meeting</li> <li>✓ Good gear is important for a good trip</li> <li>✓ You must have a signed waiver and positive behavior contract</li> <li>✓ You must agree to practice safe and ethical trapping methods and be respectful to all people at the camp</li> </ul>

### What is First Trapper?

First Trapper is being hosted by Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in. It is a way for people to learn about the traditions of the Han people, as well as the importance of fur bearing animals and modern day environmental pressures on this important part of our culture. It is an opportunity for the community to meet and interact; youth and elders. And a great way to get away from the pressures of town! After the catch, the youth will be called back to help skin the fur bearer and correct processing methods. This is to teach them that it is important to take responsibility from the moment you take the animal's life, to the point it is in the freezer.

### When is it happening?

Workshop/Orientation: Saturday, January 7<sup>th</sup> 10am -5pm in the TH Hall  
**MANDATORY Attendance is Required- Dinner will be provided**  
First Trapper: January 13-15<sup>th</sup>  
Check traps: Saturday, January 21<sup>th</sup>  
Check traps: Saturday, January 28<sup>th</sup>

All youth attending First Trapper must also attend the Workshop/Orientation on Friday, November 25<sup>th</sup>.



IF YOU DO NOT ATTEND THE WORKSHOP YOU WILL NOT MEET THE PRE-REQUISITE TO ATTEND FIRST TRAPPER. (People who have a valid reason for missing the meeting can make alternate arrangements) This is essential, as we need to ensure that pre-training takes place in order to carry out the trapping activities on the land and every one knows what is expected of them.

Our first ever, First Trapper Camp, will be held on January 13-15, 2012. We will depart for camp in front of the TH Hall January 13 at 12:00 pm. We will return Sunday evening. It is very difficult to name a specific time (approximately 4pm return on Sunday), youth will be able to call home for rides from the Hall when we arrive back at TH Hall.

### **Who is this camp for?**

The camp is open to Dawson youth ages 12 years and up, First Nations or Non-First Nations. You do have to agree to practice safe and ethical trapping techniques, and be respectful to every one at First Trapper.

### **Can Families Attend?**

The information in this form is specific to youth attending First Hunt under the care of Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in Staff. However, families are welcome and encouraged to attend the event. You are welcome to stay for the whole time, but if you can't stay away that long come up when you can! Pop in for the day or stay for the weekend or any combination of the above. Families attending First Hunt will be required to bring their own equipment, but are welcome to join the programs.

\*THOSE WHO WANT TO UTILIZE THE RESOURCES AND HOSPITALITY OF OUR CAMP ARE  
EXPECTED TO ATTEND IN THE SPIRIT OF THE FIRST TRAPPER\*

For families that are joining us with children, not all youth will be able to participate in the actual trapping. It will depend on their knowledge and experience, as well as the staff to youth ratio. There will be activities running in camp for any one not participating in the hunt. If children are registered to attend with staff, and their family joins them at First Trapper, they are still under the care of staff and will be expected to behave appropriately.

### **Where is all of this happening?**

First Hunt will be based at Km 131, Dempster Highway at Cache Creek (TH Culture and Education Camp). The trapping will take place off the highway where conditions are appropriate for fur bearer animals. Other programming will be happening in different locations around the camp ground area.

### **What kind of activities will be running?**

The main activity of the camp will be learning about trapping. This will take different forms for each youth, based on their knowledge and experience. Some of the skills we will learn include: trapping ethics and safety, rifle shooting, and other bush skills. If the trapping is a success, a priority will be the handling of the animals to ensure proper care. We will also be hosting storytelling by elders and professionals, on traditional skills and knowledge, ecology, modern practices and more. There will also be lots of fun time, including games, campfires and maybe even some free time.

### **Safety**

Safety is a priority for staff, and is built into every activity. Every activity will have specific guidelines that youth and staff will be expected to follow. Staff to youth ratios will be kept low.

Staff are experienced and qualified at their jobs. They are experienced hunters and guides and will only be leading activities in which they are proven competent. All staff working with youth have gone through a RCMP criminal records check; Staff are experienced and knowledgeable about safety in the bush. The first day of First Trapper will be time dedicated to safety and general camp rules.

Youth may NOT bring firearms to First Trapper.

In Case of emergency we will have radio phones to call into town. An emergency vehicle is available 24hrs a day. Staff has first aid training. Vehicles will travel in groups of at least two in case of break down. All activities will have a minimum of two staff on hand. Activities taking place away from the highway will have a snow machine with them for emergencies.

Each participant is required to sign a Contract of Positive Behavior. This is taken very seriously, so please read it over and ensure your child understands it before signing. Youth caught using substances, including tobacco, or whose behavior has become a danger to themselves or others, will be removed from the camp. Removal or consistently poor behavior will result in disciplinary action, and may prevent youth from participating in further Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in AND City of Dawson Rec Department events. Parents will be responsible for transporting their child home in the event that they have been removed from camp.

### **Living arrangements**

There are two large cabins that the youth will be staying in, one for the boy youth and one for the girl youth. There are woodstoves for each cabin, where there will be an experienced staff in the cabin to ensure safety. Generated lighting is used to reduce fire risk. There is also a separate cook house, and a mess hall, where everyone eats, separate sleeping quarters for elders, and a large tent with stove where the youth can process any animals coming into camp from trapping.

Meals will be served at the camp. If your child has any specific dietary requirements, please note down on the health form (ie allergies, lactose intolerant). Except for the bus ride up, Youth do not need to bring any food with them.

Please do not send any radios or walkmans/Discmans with your child. We ask that all electronics are left at home. Please see the attached gear list for more details on which gear they require. To ensure that everyone is warm and comfortable please send everything on the gear list. If you have questions please do not hesitate to call Roberta at 993-7115 or Ryan Peterson at 993-7127

### **Camp life**

Participants will be required to follow the schedule and participate in all activities. This includes camp chores. Since we are living as a group every one will have to help keep the site clean and healthy. Bring your spirit of fun and cooperation along with you!

### **Skidoo use**

First Trapper is not an appropriate place for youth to have their own snow machines. There will be skidoos on site for training and use for setting traps if needed. The skidoos are not available for personal use.

### **Health**

If your child requires any medication, please label clearly with their name and the dose, and note on the medical form and hand into staff. We are not able to administer any over the counter medications, including Tylenol and Graval. In the event of an emergency, you will be notified immediately, and all steps will be taken to ensure adequate medical care for your child. Most staff have Standard First Aid with CPR.

### **What do I need to bring on this trip?**

Your spirit of adventure! We will be trying new things so come ready to participate fully in all activities, and have fun. Team Work! This is a group event. There will be things we need to do to keep the camp clean and safe, that every one will have to help with. This includes the dishes, chopping wood, getting up at night to relight the fire, set up and tear down of camp, etc. Everyone is expected to help with these duties.

**Actual stuff to bring... PUT YOUR NAME ON EVERYTHING!**

- Cold weather Sleeping bag
- Foamie/cot (if you bring a cot, you must also have some kind of foamie)
- Toothpaste, brush, soap etc. There are no showers here.
- Flash light + extra batteries
- Potlatch bag– a bag of unbreakable dishes, cutlery and cup
- Personal first aid kit
- Day pack – very important
- Thermos
- Knife
- Ground sheet or tarp
- Clothing:
  - Several pairs of heavy socks for each day
  - Long johns/ turtle necks
  - Warm fleece pants
  - Warm fleece sweaters
  - Something warm to sleep in
  - Snow pants and Jacket
  - Boots and spare liners
  - Neck warmer / scarf
  - Mitts, liners, and spares
  - Toque – a cap won't cut it

**Tips for dressing for the out doors**

- ✓ **Layers!** Warm air gets trapped between layers of clothes, keeping you nice and warm. If the temperature fluctuates its easy to add or take away a layer
- ✓ **Tommy Hilfiger, Bootlegger, the Gap, jeans, etc do not design suitable outerwear for cold climates.** There are no fashion crimes in the bush. If it's warm wear it.
- ✓ **Please no electronics, such as i-pods, portable dvd players, cell phones (there is no reception up the Dempster), psp's or any video games at all.**
- ✓ **Those fancy fabrics that 'whisks away' perspiration are great if you already have them. But here's a hint: any material that has NO COTTON in it will do this (nylon, wool, silk, fleece)**
- ✓ **Don't even think of running shoes. Cold feet will lead to a miserable trip. Wear Big Warm Boots!**
- ✓ **You lose 80% of your body heat through the top of your head. Keep a HAT on it!**

Concerns about what to bring? Call or Roberta or Ryan at 993-7100 for some advice on keeping your toes warm!

**PARENTS: label everything! Lost and found can be picked up at the TH Fish and Wildlife Office**

To Register: Please contact those named above. You can also reach us by email.

**\*\*\* Sign up ASAP as there is limited availability \*\*\***

Roberta.Joseph@gov.trondek.com or Ryan.Peterson@gov.trondek.com

*All information provided on this form is confidential*

## **Informed Consent Agreement**

I the undersigned, hereby acknowledge that certain risks of injury are inherent to participation in recreation and sport activities, including the First Trapper Camp at Cache Creek from December 2-4<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, and 17<sup>th</sup>, 2011. I understand that certain activities require a minimum level of fitness and health (physical, mental, emotional & spiritual) and that each person has a different capacity for participating in these activities. I hear by warrant my son or daughter fit to participate in the First Trapper Camp, and understand the choice to participate brings assumptions of risks inherent to this activity.

I agree that Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in or their employees, servants, or volunteers shall not be liable for any injury, damage or loss of property incurred to my child arising from or in anyway resulting from participation in the above mentioned event.

I agree that as the parent/guardian I will be responsible for any damage caused intentionally by my child.

I declare having read and understood the above informed consent agreement in its entirety, and hereby give my consent to participate acknowledging all of the foregoing.

Name of participant \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Parent or Guardian \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

## **New Requirement**

**\*We also require for all youth participants to not wear any Rangers clothing because this is not a Rangers Camp. This is to ensure that all youth feel equal.\* Thank you**

**Youth Participant (printed name):** \_\_\_\_\_

**Youth Participant Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Have you had experience trapping in the past?** \_\_\_\_\_

**If so, what year?** \_\_\_\_\_

## Participant Medical Information

It is important that this form be completed in full

Name of Participant \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_ Health Insurance # \_\_\_\_\_

Please list any known injuries, allergies or medical conditions that staff should be aware of:

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Please list any special diet requirements \_\_\_\_\_

Emergency contact name and phone # \_\_\_\_\_

**Please do not send any medication with your child. All medication should be labeled with name and dosage, and given to a trip leader. Thank you.**

I the undersigned hereby acknowledge all given medical information to be accurate in its entirety

Signature of Parent/ Guardian \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

*All information provided on this form is confidential*

## **Positive Behavior Contract**

The following is behavior participants must understand and adhere to:

- Participants are expected to conduct themselves with a positive attitude
- Participants are expected to follow the schedule and participate in activities
- Any and all forms of substance use (including the use of tobacco, illicit drugs and alcohol) will not be tolerated and will result in removal from the trip
- Respect for oneself, others and other property is mandatory at all times
- Engaging in any deliberate activities that risk the mental, physical, or emotional well being of oneself, or any one else will result in removal from the trip at the expense of the participant/ parent/ guardian.
- Any previous restrictions during Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in programming, or restrictions resulting from inappropriate behaviour during this trip will result in a ban of participation until further notice.
- Participants are expected to inform chaperones of personality conflicts and issues arising before they become a problem

The Staff will take all precautions to ensure the safety of the participants in their care. Upon misconduct such as verbal abuse, bodily harm or destruction of another's property Tr'ondek Hwech'in staff has the right to send my child home.

For the overall safety of all involved in this trip, this contract may be added to prior to departure by parents, guardians, participants and chaperones. Please take the time to consider all behavior you feel would be inappropriate, or would require disciplinary action. Parents and guardians are encouraged to discuss behavior exclusive to their child and note it below.

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**PLEASE READ THE WHOLE INFORMATION PACKAGE BEFORE SIGNING BELOW.**

The above statements are understood and agreed to by:

Participant \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/guardian \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Chaperone \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

# First Trapper Camp Schedule

	DAY 1 – <i>Departure Day</i>	DAY 2	DAY 3 – <i>Return Day</i>
MORNIN G		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Breakfast</li> <li>• Review of Traps</li> <li>• Trap Safety</li> <li>• Trap Demonstrations</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Breakfast</li> <li>• Check traps &amp; re-set</li> <li>• Trapping Video</li> </ul>
AFTERNOON	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Depart at 12 noon</b></li> <li>• Arrive and set-up camp</li> <li>• Camp introduction</li> <li>• Survival safety</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lunch</li> <li>• Set traps</li> <li>• Skidoo safety</li> <li>• Gun safety</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lunch</li> <li>• <b>Clean and pack-up camp</b></li> </ul>
EVENING	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dinner</li> <li>• Skinning demo</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dinner</li> <li>• Trapping stories</li> <li>• Free time</li> </ul>	

## **AGENDA**

First Trapper Youth Program  
Workshop/orientation  
Tr'ondek Hwech'in Hall, Dawson City

January 7, 2012  
10:00 am

1. Welcome and introduction
2. Orientation/registration and safety – Roberta Joseph
3. Fur Bearing Wildlife and diseases – Ryan Peterson (TH)
4. Tr'ondek Hwech'in Fish and Wildlife Act-Subsistence Trapping – Roberta Joseph
5. Lunch Break – Lunch Provided
6. Elder – Peggy Kormendy
7. Yukon Government Regulations – Commercial Trapping Kevin Johnston
8. Break
9. Trapping and Equipment – Facilitators Bruce Taylor/Peter Nagano
10. Trapping Demonstrations – Facilitators Bruce Taylor/Peter Nagano



First Trapper  
Friday, January 13, 2012  
11:45 am

- 1) Meet at the TH Lands Meeting Room
- 2) Briefing on where we will be going
- 3) Head to Dome Resident
- 4) Have a campfire lunch
- 5) Out-door Survival by Trapper, Peter Nagano
- 6) Sno-machine Maintenance and rules by Trapper Peter Nagano
- 7) Trap setting Demonstrations and Practice

First Trapper  
Sunday, February 12, 2012  
12:00pm

- 8) Meet at the Lands Meeting room (above TH Hall)
- 9) Briefing on where we will be going
- 10) Pack lunch
- 11) Head to Peter Nagano's before 1:00 pm to pick up the skidoos
- 12) Head out to check the traps
- 13) Return and head back to the Lands Meeting Room
- 14) Watch Cree Family trapping camp
- 15) Eat Dinner
- 16) Leave between 5-6 pm

**Dress very warm as we will be on skidoos for most of the afternoon.**

First Trapper  
Friday, February 17, 2012  
11:45-12:00 pm

- 17) Meet at the Fish and Wildlife Office to pack a lunch (TH Admin main floor in the back)
- 18) Briefing on where we will be going
- 19) Head to Peter Nagano's before 12:30 pm to pick up the skidoos
- 20) Head out to check the traps
- 21) Return and head back to the TH Hall
- 22) Skin the catch
- 23) Leave between 5-6 pm

**Dress very warm as we will be on skidoos for most of the afternoon.**

**Please confirm your attendance by calling Roberta Joseph at 993-7115 as Julia will be away. This is very important as we will need to book enough skidoos.**

**Thanks**

