

Government of
Northwest Territories



2015-2016
**Traditional Knowledge
Annual Report**





Introduction

2015-2016 Traditional Knowledge Annual Report

The Government of the Northwest Territories (GNWT) is committed to ensuring traditional knowledge (TK) is considered and reflected in its decision making, and in the delivery of programs and services to NWT residents.

The 2015-2016 TK Annual Report highlights some of the programs and activities undertaken by GNWT departments to fulfill its obligations under the Traditional Knowledge Policy 53.03.

The Traditional Knowledge Policy calls upon the GNWT to incorporate traditional knowledge into government decisions and actions, where appropriate, and the GNWT TK Implementation Framework provides direction to departments and agencies for effective, respectful and appropriate incorporation of traditional knowledge into government programs and services.

Under the mandate of the 18th Legislative Assembly, the GNWT commits to leading economic diversification and environmental stewardship in the NWT by improving coordination and effectiveness in resource management systems, recognizing traditional knowledge, land claim agreements and devolution. Specifically, the GNWT commits to implementing the Traditional Knowledge Policy and Framework across the GNWT, while working with Indigenous governments to develop an action plan to improve the inclusion of TK in program development, implementation and decision-making.

Substantive work is done each year by GNWT departments to foster the implementation of TK. All GNWT departments participate in the development of this report through the GNWT Interdepartmental Traditional Knowledge Working Group.

GNWT Traditional Knowledge Policy

In 1997, the GNWT established a government-wide Traditional Knowledge Policy, currently referred to as the Traditional Knowledge Policy 53.03.

According to this Policy:

The Government recognizes that Indigenous traditional knowledge is a valid and essential source of information about the natural environment and its resources, the use of natural resources, and the relationship of people to the land and to each other, and will incorporate traditional knowledge into government decisions and actions, where appropriate.

The definition of traditional knowledge guiding the Policy is knowledge and values, which have been acquired through experience, observation, from the land or from spiritual teachings, which were handed down from one generation to another.

The Traditional Knowledge Policy 53.03 and Implementation Framework are currently under review by the GNWT.

For more information, visit enr.gov.nt.ca or contact the Traditional Knowledge Coordinator at 867-874-8229.



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Acronyms

CAM	Consultation, Assessment and Monitoring Division (ENR)
DAAIR	Department of Aboriginal Affairs and Intergovernmental Relations
DOT	Department of Transport
ECE	Education, Culture and Employment
ENR	Environment and Natural Resources
ENV	Environment Division (ENR)
FMD	Forest Management Division
GTC	Gwich'in Tribal Council
HSS	Health and Social Services
ITI	Industry, Tourism and Investment
Justice	Department of Justice
Lands	Department of Lands
MACA	Department of Municipal and Community Affairs
NWT CIMP	Northwest Territories Cumulative Impact Monitoring Program
PWNHC	Prince of Wales Northern Heritage Centre
PWS	Department of Public Works and Services
RRC	Renewable Resource Council
SMCC	South Mackenzie Correctional Centre
SRRB	Sahtu Renewable Resource Board
TK	Traditional Knowledge
WRRB	Wek'èezhì Renewable Resources Board
YKDFN	Yellowknives Dene First Nation

Core Services





Core Services			
Activity	Responsible Department(s)	Description	Timing
CICan Indigenous Education Protocol	Aurora College	Aurora College became a signatory to the College and Institutes Canada Indigenous Education Protocol. The protocol lays out seven principles to adopt and implement to support indigenous students and education.	June 2015 and ongoing
Inuvialuit Enrolment Database	Aurora College/ Aurora Research Institute	The Inuvialuit Regional Corporation is supported in the development of their Enrolment Database Replacement. This includes the specification and development process, and putting historic documents into a usable spreadsheet format.	2012/2016
Counselling Services	Aurora College	At the Yellowknife North Slave Campus the student Counsellor is Dene, and provides services to students from an Indigenous cultural perspective.	Ongoing
Indigenous Education Protocol	Aurora College, Yellowknife	At the Yellowknife North Slave Campus the Board of Governors signed protocol which hangs prominently as inspiration for staff, faculty and students to value and include Indigenous knowledge in all college activities and teaching. Faculty in the School of Health and Human Services are committed to this protocol and to building supports for Indigenous students' successful learning.	Ongoing
Negotiation, implementation and monitoring of land, resources and self-government agreements, including treaty land entitlements.	DAAIR	DAAIR continues to facilitate and lay the basis for the GNWT and Indigenous governments to use, preserve and promote TK through the negotiation, implementation and monitoring of Aboriginal rights agreements.	Ongoing
Tłıchų All-Season Road	DOT	Engagement with Tłıchų communities and other IGOs continues as part of the regulatory process associated with the proposed all-season road to Whatı. This will ensure impacts on traditional activities and areas of cultural importance from construction work are minimized.	Ongoing
Airport Project Planning	DOT	TK is sought during the planning stages of projects taking place at airports across the NWT.	Ongoing



Core Services

Activity	Responsible Department(s)	Description	Timing
Mackenzie Valley Highway	DOT	First Nation groups along the Mackenzie Valley Highway corridor have been extensively engaged with respect to TK to select the route for the proposed all-weather highway. Community meetings and further TK will be required during the Environmental Assessment stage of the project to finalize the route and ensure impacts to traditional activities and areas of cultural importance from construction work are minimized.	Began in 2011 and ongoing
Canyon Creek All-Season Access Road	DOT	The proposed Canyon Creek All-Season Access Road TK study was conducted by one-on-one interviews with local land users and cabin owners in 2015. Extensive engagement sessions were held throughout the planning stages.	2015-2016
NWT Cultural Places Program	ECE	The Cultural Places Program (PWNHC) continues to work with communities to make traditional geographic place names official. The program has been working with the communities of Łutselk'e, Trout Lake and the Tłıchq̓ Government towards replacing existing names, and approving additional traditional place names.	Ongoing
Cultural Contributions Program	ECE	Cultural projects funded in 2015-16 include: Dehcho First Nations - Kók'é Gozhq̓ Map Project in Fort Simpson, the Ulukhaktok Family Cultural Camp, the SRRB: Délı̄ne Song, Story and Games project in Délı̄ne, the Gameti Community Sewing Program and Wha Ti Sewing Project, the Aklavik Drumming and Hand Games program, and the Tłıchq̓ Government: Gamèti to Délı̄ne Canoe Trip project.	April 2015 - March 2016
Who are Yellowknives Dene?	ECE	Members of the Yellowknives Dene First Nation are contracted to provide interpretive services to school groups wishing to visit the Wiilideh Yellowknives Dene exhibit. The program includes traditional stories, language and overview of Yellowknives Dene culture and history.	Ongoing
Aboriginal Council	ENR (ENV, Contaminated Sites)	The Aboriginal Council is an advisory body which provides counsel on the application of TK in the implementation of the GNWT's contaminated sites program. Member of the council include Indigenous representatives from all signatories to the Devolution Agreement. The committee meets twice a year with representatives from the GNWT and the Government of Canada present.	2015/2016 and ongoing



Core Services

Activity	Responsible Department(s)	Description	Timing
Giant Mine A-Shaft and C-Shaft Demolition	ENR (ENV, Giant Mine Project)	Demolition of the C-shaft and A-Shaft was scheduled based on elder input. Elders recommended that activities occur in August as there would be less wind and rain to distribute potentially harmful dust.	2015/2016
Giant Mine Surface Design Engagement	ENR (ENV, Giant Mine Project)	In 2015, the Giant Mine Remediation Project (GMRP) initiated an engagement process related to the plans for the surface the Giant Mine Site. Over 100 people from Yellowknife, N'dilo, and Dettah participated in the Surface Design Engagement. In addition to the topics discussed at the Surface Design Engagement, specific focused engagement initiatives have occurred around: landfill siting, Baker Creek alignment, water quality objectives, and outfall location. Though the final plan may not reflect every stakeholder groups' first choice for closure, there is more of an understanding of the many other perspectives that must be considered by the project team in selecting closure options.	2015/2016 and ongoing
Matrix Program	HSS	This 12-week addictions program incorporates cultural healing through the use of art therapy, smudging, and healing circles. Components of the program include individual therapy, relapse prevention, family education, and social support.	Ongoing
Dialogue and Storywork in Support of First Nations, Inuit, and Métis cancer patients throughout oncology and primary care transition experiences	HSS	Testimonials from Indigenous cancer patients and survivors were recorded on video in Aklavik, Fort Good Hope, and Fort Resolution. These testimonials were shared with health care providers in Inuvik, Yellowknife, and Edmonton, who responded by video. The material will be integrated into resources to support dialogue and strengthen trusting relationships between Indigenous cancer patients and their health care providers.	2014-2017
Culturally appropriate guidelines for palliative care	HSS	These guidelines, developed through the Dene Nation Palliative Care Project, were revisited in development of a draft Palliative Care Approach Framework for the NWT.	Ongoing



Core Services

Activity	Responsible Department(s)	Description	Timing
<i>Aboriginal Custom Adoption Recognition Act</i>	HSS	The GNWT recognizes and supports Indigenous custom and adoption rights and practices.	Ongoing
The importance of vaccines - NWT residents talk	HSS	Video testimonial from a mother in Behchokò sharing her experience about the importance of childhood vaccines in keeping young children safe and healthy was produced for NWT-wide education during National Immunization Awareness Week.	April 2015
Stop TB event on World TB Day	HSS	A community lunch, presentation from community members, question and answer period and information booth were organized in Behchokò to share information and experiences, and address concerns, about Tuberculosis infection in the NWT as part of World TB Day.	March 2016
Community consultations on sexual health and sexually transmitted infections	HSS	A new strategic direction to improve sexual health and decrease sexually transmitted infections in the NWT is being developed with a focus on improving the well-being of communities through holistic, culturally-appropriate programming. In 2015-16, community consultations were held in 8 communities during community healthy living fairs to help inform future programming.	Ongoing
Anti-Poverty Fund	HSS, in accordance with the Territorial Anti-Poverty Action Plan	The Anti-Poverty Fund supports community-led projects to address the 5 pillars of the Territorial Anti-Poverty Action Plan: Children and Family Support; Healthy Living and Reaching our Potential; Safe and Affordable Housing; Sustainable Communities; and Integrated Continuum of Services. Some of these projects have TK components and funding recommendations are made by an Advisory Committee with representatives from several NWT regions. Annual roundtables are held with all partners. Beginning in 2016 these roundtables will rotate through all regions of the NWT.	Ongoing



Core Services

Activity	Responsible Department(s)	Description	Timing
The Aboriginal Wellness Program	HSS (Stanton Territorial Health)	Indigenous clients and family members are connected with healthcare professionals and other service providers to ensure Indigenous clients receive culturally-safe, appropriate, and timely care. The program is meant to: increase clients' sense of community and kinship; reduce cultural barriers; work towards culturally appropriate tools and measures; provide medical interpretation in the nine official NWT Indigenous languages; help patients navigate the health care system; and promote traditional healthcare approaches. A palliative program is being developed to explore cultural and traditional beliefs and practices.	Ongoing
<i>Our Elders, Our Communities</i> Framework	HSS	The Framework assists older adults in remaining in their communities as long as possible. A Continuing Care Services Action Plan around the seven priorities of the Framework is being developed. The priorities are: Healthy and Active Aging; Home and Community Care Services; Integrated and Coordinated Services Across the Continuum; Caregiver Supports; Elder Responsive Communities; Accessible and Current Information; Sustainable Best Practices.	Ongoing
Seniors Information Handbook	HSS	In collaboration with the NWT Senior's Society, the Seniors' Information Handbook was released electronically in May 2015. It is currently being updated and a print version was distributed in summer of 2017.	2015-2017
Caregiver Guide	HSS	In collaboration with the NWT Senior Society, the Caregiver Guide was released electronically in May 2015. A print version of the Caregiver Guide was distributed in October 2015.	2015-2016
Aboriginal Tourism Champions Program	ITI	This Program is the result of recommendations from the Aboriginal Tourism Advisory Council. It provides advice and guidance to tourism operators and communities about creating and delivering authentic Indigenous experiences to visitors. It encourages interest and pride in younger generations in their culture, history and heritage.	Ongoing



Core Services

Activity	Responsible Department(s)	Description	Timing
Community Justice Committees and Diversions	Justice	Communities may choose healing and/or crime prevention activities through Community Justice Committees or other local agencies. These activities promote and support the community's capacity to address its own justice issues while maintaining a safe and secure environment. This may be facilitated on the land while respecting local customs and traditions and can be delivered in Indigenous languages by local Elders or community facilitators.	Ongoing
Corrections	Justice	Corrections, through facility programming and probation, aims to respect Indigenous values and encourages offenders to successfully reintegrate into their communities.	Ongoing
Policing	Justice	Policing should respect community and Indigenous values and encourages communities to take an active role in preventing crime. This is done in partnership with residents and leadership to build a policing service reflective of the NWT and delivered in a culturally appropriate manner.	Ongoing
Community Reintegration Teams	Justice	Community Corrections engages with community members, leaders and/or Elders to reintegrate offenders back into their communities. Cultural processes and protocols are balanced with corrections and judicial processes. Reintegration plans are developed for offenders on a case-by-case basis.	Ongoing
Supervision of Federal Offenders and Conducting Community Assessments	Justice	Indigenous leaders and Elders provide historical information and recommendations for consideration by the Corrections Services Canada for case planning. Community assessments assist the Parole Board of Canada in assessing release plans for Federal offenders applying for conditional release.	Ongoing
Engagement on Court-ordered Reports	Justice	Indigenous leaders and Elders provide historical information and recommendations for consideration by the courts when sentencing offenders. This is done on a case-by-case basis.	Ongoing
Victims Services	Justice	Indigenous beliefs and practices are respected. Upon request, resources for language translation are available to clients and stakeholders in NWT Official Languages.	Ongoing



Core Services			
Activity	Responsible Department(s)	Description	Timing
Land and Resource Management Boards	Lands	Land and resource management boards support inclusive and public decision-making processes which fulfill the purposes set out in land claims and legislation. Boards must consider all available traditional and scientific knowledge, and incorporate it into their recommendations and decisions as appropriate. TK holders often participate directly in these processes, and in some cases are members of the boards that hear and weigh the evidence.	Ongoing
Resource co-management workshop	Lands	An annual resource co-management workshop is hosted in collaboration with land and resource co-management boards. Workshop participants discuss best practices and how to incorporate TK into these processes.	Ongoing
Land use planning processes	Lands	Land use planning processes incorporate input from all parties with interest in land including TK holders.	Ongoing
Planning of Design for Łutselk'e School project	PWS and ECE	Łutselk'e continues to be consulted on the school projects design elements. This includes a Ceremonial Circle Fire Pit and Meat Drying Space. Interior features include: community supplied antler door pulls in public spaces; display cases by the main entrance to showcase local and cultural exhibits; and wall backings that can support hanging traditional cultural items such as drums or canoes. Words and phrases will also be incorporated into the design features.	2015-16 and ongoing
ENR in partnership with Kát'odeeche First Nation have developed a forest management plan incorporating TK and Slavey Indigenous language citations within the document.	ENR [FMD]	ENR/FMD continues to facilitate and lay the basis for the GNWT and Indigenous governments to use TK in forestry through the funding, negotiation, adoption and implementation of the KFN forest management plan entitled Náhendee K'eh Dech̄ta K'ehodi Gh̄h Sen̄dádodét'a, which translates as Planning to Take Care of our Relationship with the Forest.	Continuing on an annual basis



Core Services

Activity	Responsible Department(s)	Description	Timing
ENR in collaboration with Deninu K'ue First Nation, Fort Resolution Metis Council, Deh Gah Gotie First Nation and Fort Providence Metis Council negotiated Forest Management Agreements.	ENR [FMD]	ENR/FMD negotiated two (2) Forest Management Agreements integrating TK cultural resources (graveyards, camps, etc.) as identified by the Indigenous community within the operating areas. Regulations require an Archaeological Impact Assessments using TK by the FMA holders under their Land Use Permits.	Continuing on an annual basis
ENR wildland fire annual updates and Indigenous community engagement.	ENR [FMD]	ENR/FMD engages with Indigenous communities by providing wildland fire updates. If warranted, ENR provides wildland fire flyover consultations with the affected Indigenous community leaders to view cultural and heritage resources to reinforce the visual aspect of TK.	Continuing on an annual basis
ENR wildland fire response strategy.	ENR [FMD]	ENR/FMD strategy supports expanded involvement of TK by applying TK in wildfire management decision-making and developing a system for acquiring TK about wildfire ecology.	Continuing on an annual basis
ENR Forest Industry Biomass Initiative.	ENR [FMD]	ENR/FMD incorporates TK decision making in pan-FIBI delivery through processes under the Interim Measure Agreements, Interim Land Withdrawals, Land Use Plans, and other legal instruments with non-claimant Indigenous groups located in Dehcho, South Slave and Akaitcho regions.	Continuing on an annual basis

Cross-cultural Awareness





Cross-cultural Awareness

Activity	Responsible Department(s)	Description	Timing
Curriculum: Community Health Representative Certificate Program	Aurora College/ HSS	TK is integrated into course work and case studies.	Ongoing
Elders Tea	Aurora College	Elders are welcomed to the Aurora and North Slave campuses for the annual Elders' tea with students and staff to share their wisdom and stories. Aurora Campus also has a Bingo for the Elders.	Ongoing
Inuvialuit Elders and Musicians	Aurora College	Afternoon of Elder activities and local musicians during Aurora College Week and convocations at the Aurora Campus.	Ongoing
Traditional Sewing Classes	Aurora College	Embroidery, Gowak making, beading and fur mitt-making at the Aurora Campus.	Ongoing
Caribou Creek Hike	Aurora College	As part of Orientation activities, a trip to Caribou Creek for students staying in residence at Aurora Campus was organized. Students enjoyed campfire tea and easy hikes and had the opportunity to share their knowledge of berries, spruce gum and various traditional plant remedies.	September 2015
Cultural Tents	Aurora College	Tents are available through the Aurora Campus for cultural activities.	Ongoing
Lunch & Learns	Aurora College	As part of Family Violence Awareness Projects, all campuses show various videos demonstrating the impact of substance abuse and violence on traditional Dene life. Some videos included "The Walk" by Dennis Allen.	February/March 2016
Culture Room on Campus	Aurora College	A culture room at Thebacha Campus is available for all students to use as a quiet gathering or meeting place. Various Elder-led cultural activities are held there.	Ongoing
Christmas Feast	Aurora College	Staff prepared a Christmas feast at Thebacha with fresh bannock prepared by a local Elder as well as story telling by a local Elder.	December 2015



Cross-cultural Awareness

Activity	Responsible Department(s)	Description	Timing
Feeding of the Fire Ceremony	Aurora College	Led by a local Elder, staff and students took part in a "Feeding of the Fire" ceremony at the Thebacha and North Slave Campus before the Orientation BBQ.	September 2015 and ongoing
Hand Games Demonstration	Aurora College	Hand games demonstrations take place every Wednesday evening at the Thebacha Campus.	Ongoing. October 2015 -April 2016
Aurora College Week	Aurora College	A traditional beading circle and traditional games contest take place on Thebacha Campus daily during Aurora College Week.	Annually in February
Beading Circle	Aurora College	Students and staff work on their various traditional crafts and projects at the North Slave Campus	Ongoing
Snowshoeing	Aurora College	As part of developmental studies, students learn to snowshoe at the North Slave Campus.	February
Indigenous Games	Aurora College	Students and staff participate in a half day Karnival Kick-Off, at the North Slave Campus. Activities include Indigenous games such as seal kick, hand pull, head pull, sticking pin, and others	March
Culture Camp	Aurora College	Students and staff at the North Slave Campus participate in a one-day camp led by local Elders. Teachings and topics have included storytelling, trapping, drying fish, canoeing and bannock making.	Annually in fall since 2009
Stories from the Land	Aurora College	The North Slave Campus hosted a cultural author-held workshops for students to talk about their stories. Stories were then shared at a luncheon.	November 2016
Contextualizing Courses	Aurora College	The School of Education has culture-based educational practices around the Dene Kede and Inuuqatigiit curricula and the Education Renewal Initiative.	Ongoing
On-the-land Learning	Aurora College	The Bachelor of Education and Aboriginal Language and Culture Instructor programs has students and staff spend three-five day sessions on the land learning traditional skills such as hunting, storytelling, dance, games, and food preparation. Discussions are held around historical and political activity in the region, under the guidance of Elders at various locations.	Annually since 2007



Cross-cultural Awareness

Activity	Responsible Department(s)	Description	Timing
Classroom Learning	Aurora College	To obtain an Early Childhood Development Certificate, students are encouraged to engage with community Elders and resource people to complete their assignments. These insights are brought into class discussions.	Ongoing
Indigenizing Science	Aurora College/ Aurora Research Institute	Indigenous and western science are incorporated into the Bachelor of Education science classes to provide a greater understanding of the natural world.	Ongoing
Classroom Learning and course work	Aurora College	Culture and cultural competency is a key component of the Bachelor of Science program. Nursing students participate in a "Circle in a Box" workshop that helps students explore the history and legacy of residential schools. Levelled cultural safety courses are required across all four years of the curriculum. "History of First Peoples" is offered as an elective course. Relational Practice 1 workshop is based on history of colonialism, guest speakers are in Health & Healing IV, and V discusses residential schools impacts. Relational Practice II studies communications techniques across various cultural groups.	Ongoing
Case Studies	Aurora College	Culturally-relevant case studies are threaded throughout the Nursing Program curriculum. This allows students to problem-solve health care related scenarios they may encounter in the Northern Indigenous context. In Health and Healing I students create a poster related to health needs of northern people. Health and Healing V requires students to work through a case of an elder living in a remote community who requires dialysis.	Ongoing



Cross-cultural Awareness

Activity	Responsible Department(s)	Description	Timing
Classes, case studies and coursework-PSW	Aurora College	Culture is a key concept in all Personal Support Worker courses. Students problem-solve health care related scenarios in a northern Indigenous context. Daily discussion and interactions relate to cultural diversity in classroom and practicum settings, focusing on the exploration of culture, what it is, and what it means for each student. Students work in practicum with a diverse group of health care providers and clients. Cultural awareness and safety are discussed and explored throughout the school year as it applies to the students and the Elders receiving care.	Ongoing
Cultural Awareness & Cultural Safety Education	Aurora College	Cultural Competence for Northern Social Work Practice is a required course for the Social Work Diploma. Cultural awareness; Indigenous realities; understanding colonization and residential schools; impact on individual, family, and community well-being; developing Indigenous approaches to child welfare and community development; communicating with Indigenous clients; are key concepts in the Social Work Diploma. Education includes cultural awareness, cultural safety, and experiential education through Indigenous ceremony. Guest Elders bring perspectives from Dene, Métis & Inuit worldviews.	Ongoing
Classroom teaching, discussions, and assignments	Aurora College	Three core courses are required to obtain a Social Work Diploma. These courses specifically address NWT indigenous issues: History of First Peoples in the NWT, Cultural Competence for Northern Social Workers, and Cultural Camp.	Ongoing
On-the-land Learning	Aurora College	A seven-day, on-the-land camp with Elders and indigenous resource staff is required to obtain a Social Work Diploma.	Annually, spring semester



Cross-cultural Awareness

Activity	Responsible Department(s)	Description	Timing
Classroom teaching, discussions, and assignments	Aurora College	The Expanded Nursing Practice, including the Remote Nursing Certificate has a large component including cultural awareness and diversity. There are assignments on both of these topics and one on implementing the TRC recommendations regarding health care.	Embedded in classes throughout the program
Research Lectures	Aurora College/ Aurora Research Institute	The Aurora Research Institute hosts research lectures that communicate information on regional research projects back to community members. Lectures may be on a wide range of topics; many incorporate TK and local research experts.	Ongoing
ARI Herbarium	Aurora College/ Aurora Research Institute	A herbarium of NWT plant species is maintained at the Western Arctic Research Centre in Inuvik. A subset of specimens are listed under both their scientific and traditional names, and are presented alongside information on their traditional uses.	Ongoing
Research - Curriculum	Aurora College/ Aurora Research Institute	The School of Education and Aurora Research Institute received a SSHRC grant to fund a collaborative research project with post-secondary partners across Canada examining decolonizing efforts in post secondary teacher education programs.	2016-2018
Elders in Schools Program	ECE	Elders play a vital role in the promotion and integration of languages and culture in the school program. Elders have valuable skills and knowledge to share with children and youth. The overall objective is for students and teachers to learn about northern heritage and place through authentic experiences led by Elders. These learning experiences will help students shape their identity as people of the NWT.	Ongoing



Cross-cultural Awareness

Activity	Responsible Department(s)	Description	Timing
New to the NWT Educator Orientation	ECE	In August 2015 and 2016, 40 newly-hired educators across the 8 K-12 school jurisdictions learned more about teaching in the NWT. A focus on culture and language was a priority. Important sessions included: Introduction to Self and Orientation to Place; Culture-based Education, a Responsibility for All Educators!; The History and Legacy of Residential Schooling; Living Together – The History of Treaties and Land Claims; Former Residential School Students' Experiences; Intergenerational Impact and Healing; and Reconciliation.	August 2015 and 2016
Education Leadership Program	ECE	In partnership with the NWTTA, Phase I and Phase II of the Education Leadership Program (ELP) is offered on alternating summers. These two courses meet the requirements for NWT Principal Certification. Phase I and Phase II have an extensive 3.5 day cultural component with Elders, focusing on community relationships, community assets and the importance of culture and language.	Ongoing, each summer
My Residential School Experience – Paintings by Robert Burke	ECE	Fort Smith born artist Robert Burke exhibited nine large paintings and gave a public talk describing his residential school experience and healing journey. During the six-month exhibition, his work was seen by over 26,000 visitors.	May 2016
Experiential Science	ECE	Experiential Science 10 Terrestrial Systems (ES10), Experiential Science 20 Marine Systems (ES20) and Experiential Science 30 Freshwater Systems (ES30) are unique TK and field-based research experiences. They provide students with the opportunity to work with Elders, and have on-the-land experiences to share knowledge, skills and attitudes about geology, geomorphology and the environment from a systems approach to studying the NWT.	Ongoing



Cross-cultural Awareness

Activity	Responsible Department(s)	Description	Timing
Heritage Fairs	ECE	NWT students from K-9 participate in local and regional heritage fairs across the NWT. Students work with Elders and other community experts to explore stories, skills, issues and people of significance to their families, communities and the North. Research and presentations done in Indigenous languages is encouraged. In several regions these projects are pursued at all grade levels. These inquiry-based projects are often integrated as key parts of culture-based education initiatives. The winners attend a territorial fair in May. In 2015 the Territorial Fair was in Tulita.	Annually
Residential School teacher in-service	ECE	As of February 2015, all NWT teachers have been in-serviced on the history and legacy of residential schools. The next step is to ensure all teachers new to the NWT are in-serviced on these issues during the 2015 N2N Teachers' conference.	Ongoing
Tundra Science and Culture Camp	ENR	Initiated in 1995, the TSCC provides students with an interdisciplinary exposure to Arctic ecology, natural history, human history and Tłıchʔ TK. Participants work closely with scientists, environmental educators, university researchers and Tłıchʔ elders. The focus is on learning about the land from both scientific and Tłıchʔ perspectives in a cross-cultural setting.	Continuing on an annual basis
Cross-cultural Research Camp	ENR/SRRB	The camp was held at Whiskey Jack Point on the shores of Great Bear Lake, about an hour NE of Déłıne by boat. The camp was run and organized by the Sahtu Renewable Resources Board and had presenters/participants from universities, provincial/territorial and federal government as well as local knowledge holders and youth. Each year the cross cultural camp maintains a theme, this camp's theme was climate change. Most of the research presented had some relevance to the climate change.	Ongoing since 2004



Cross-cultural Awareness

Activity	Responsible Department(s)	Description	Timing
Northern Studies 10, 20, 30	ECE	Northern Studies 10 is a mandatory course for graduation worth 5 full credits. The course includes 5 modules exploring identity, the history and legacy of residential schools, the northern economy, treaties, land claims, devolution and a fifth self-guided practicum module. In the practicum students select and work with a community mentor or Elder to develop a traditional skill or northern competency of their choice. The Wise-People Committee was brought together to discuss the development of Northern Studies 20 and 30. The final version of the curriculum has been deferred, following the completion of the new competency-based curriculum direction, which is part of the Education, Renewal and Innovation (ERI) initiative.	Ongoing
Tundra Science and Culture Camp	ENR/ECE/ITI	Indigenous elders and scientists come together to share their knowledge with high school students at GNWT's Tundra Ecosystem Research Station on Daring Lake in the Barrenlands. Annual since 1995.	Ongoing
Indigenous Cultural Awareness Training	DHR	Training designed to encourage Indigenous cultural and historical understanding and awareness among government employees and to reaffirm the fundamental importance of Indigenous values in program design and delivery. The training is mandatory for all employees and is accessible to the public through the Department of Human Resources website.	Ongoing
Dene Ts'ı̨ı̨ School	ENR/SRRB	The two-week on-the-land school was run and organized by the Sahtu Renewable Resource Board with funding from ENR. The objective of the school was to bring together traditional and modern knowledge while teaching skills on how to survive on the land and how to adapt to the changing world. Participants learned to harvest wood, gather ice for water, make a comfortable home in a wall tent, and keep safe and warm in a cold climate. The participants also learned how to set rabbit snares, partook in a gun safety course and piloted the new Hunter Education curriculum which was instructed by ENR staff. TK was passed on from the elders in most activities as well as story telling.	Feb. 17- Mar. 3 2017



Cross-cultural Awareness

Activity	Responsible Department(s)	Description	Timing
Indigenous Culture and Language Information Sessions	HSS/NWT HSS Authority, Beaufort-Delta and Fort Smith Regions (NTHSSA-BD NTHSSA-FS)	Interactive presentations on regional Indigenous languages and culture at the Inuvik Regional Hospital and Fort Smith Health and Social Services Centre for Indigenous Languages Month (March)	Ongoing
Cultural Capabilities Pilot Training	HSS	“Cultural capabilities” refers to the ability of an organization to provide care and services equitable and respectful of diverse cultures and practices. Topics covered include historic and settler colonialism, social determinants of health, racism in health care and awareness of implicit assumptions. Ongoing evaluation informs and refines subsequent training.	Ongoing
Cultural programming in territorial parks	ITI	Cultural programming at Fred Henne Territorial Park is presented throughout the summer. Visitors are encouraged to participate in activities including presentations on traditional hand games, foods, medicines, storytelling and fiddling.	Ongoing
Cultural awareness programming at territorial parks	ITI	Parks in all five NWT regions regularly offer cultural awareness programming. Events range from beading demonstrations to story-telling, drumming ceremonies, hide tanning events and Indigenous Day festivities.	Ongoing
Traditional arts and fine crafts workshops	ITI	Public workshops, presentations and marketing initiatives promote arts and fine crafts as part of the Indigenous traditional way of life. E-commerce workshops teach artists how to earn a sustainable living through their art, while keeping culture and traditions alive in their family and community.	Ongoing
Marketing and promotion of traditional products	ITI	Direct marketing and promotion of traditionally produced products through the NWT Arts Program and the nwtarts.com website increases economic benefits to traditional artists. This increases awareness and cultural value of NWT visual art and fine crafts locally, nationally and internationally.	Ongoing



Credit: S. Bannon

Cross-cultural Awareness

Activity	Responsible Department(s)	Description	Timing
Traditional arts and crafts training	ITI	Workshops are offered in communities upon request and on an as needed basis. Workshops include "How to Price Your Art", "Introduction to E-commerce and Selling Online", "Brand Awareness and Marketing Tools", "Introduction to the NWT Arts Program" and "Programs and Services Offered by ITI". Training enhances artist's and crafter's ability to self-market, reach new audiences and sell their wares.	Ongoing
Support for traditional arts and crafts	ITI	NWT artists and crafters receive financial assistance to support their projects. Approximately \$1.3 million was provided in financial support for the NWT Arts Sector in 2015/2016.	Ongoing
NorthernMost Host customer service program	ITI	The Program includes a section on Indigenous tourism and how cultural exchange and understanding is a key element in service delivery. During program revision process, several NWT Elders were consulted about northern hospitality and welcoming visitors.	Ongoing
Traditional activity workshops	ITI	Workshops in the Dehcho include traditional arts and crafts such as beading, drum making and storytelling.	Ongoing
Community events	ITI	Handgame tournaments and spring gatherings are held in the Dehcho showcasing traditional games and providing opportunity for artisans to sell their products to visitors and tourists.	Ongoing
Corrections Northern Recruitment Training Program (CNRTP)	Justice	CNRTP provides successful applicants with the basic skills and standard qualifications to apply on entry-level jobs in correctional facilities, or for other security-related jobs. The program includes a section on cultural awareness and diversity.	Ongoing

Culture





Culture			
Activity	Responsible Department(s)	Description	Timing
Convocation	Aurora College	Convocation at all campuses has local Indigenous drummers and singers who perform for processional and recessional, and provide prayer songs. Many students wear handmade beaded stolls.	Ongoing
Traditional Arts Program	Aurora College	At the Aklavik Community Learning Centre, classes include traditional doll-making; bushcraft: traditional tool-making, fur-tanning, willow basketry; moosehide tanning; history of Indigenous art 1, 2, 3; footwear (hide sewing, beadwork); northern embellishment (use of fish scale, moose hair tufting, quillwork etc); product development; and small crafts (using previous skills to make small marketable ornaments).	2012-2016
Community Partnership Programs	Aurora College	At the Dettah Ndilo Community Learning Centre, partnerships with the Yellowknives Dene First Nation (YKDFN) help run community reflective programming that ensures local and cultural supports such as wellness, land and language. The YKDFN Dechita Naowo Program helps the Community Learning Centre to reach community members and increase participation rates in community-based developmental studies. The Community Learning Centre supports Dechita Naowo programs by providing the academic upgrading courses, skills-based training, and learning centre supports.	Ongoing
Digital Storytelling Workshop	Aurora College	The Tsiigehtchic Community Learning Centre hosts a week-long digital storytelling workshop. Students create a short film on a topic of their choice. They can present on community, culture, family, fishing camps, language or another topic.	Annually in Spring
Tłıchǝ Agreement Workshops	Aurora College	A one-day workshop outlining the Tłıchǝ Agreement is hosted at the Yellowknife North Slave Campus.	Ongoing
Day on the Land	Aurora College	Students and staff at the Thebacha Campus spend the day off campus learning about medicinal plants with an Elder, making fire, traditional games, beading, cooking and baking.	Fall



Culture			
Activity	Responsible Department(s)	Description	Timing
Drumming Workshops	Aurora College	Local drummers at the Thebacha Campus hold free workshops on campus once per week, open to the community.	Ongoing, weekly, September through June, since 2010
Elders Tea	Aurora College	Each month at the Yellowknife North Slave Campus an Elder is invited for tea with students. Stories, wisdom, and Dene laws are shared with students and staff.	Monthly
Beading Circle	Aurora College	Students and staff at the Yellowknife North Slave Campus gather in the front lobby to work on crafts and projects.	Over lunch hour, ongoing
Traditional Flute music	Aurora College	Local Indigenous musician William Greenland performed on campus at the Yellowknife North Slave Campus.	December, and Convocation 2016
SW 389 and BSN Year 1	Aurora College	A counsellor joins in the classes in facilitating cultural teachings, talking circles, and smudges at the Yellowknife North Slave Campus. This is in line with the curriculum of colonization and residential schools.	Fall and Winter terms, ongoing
Traditional crafts	Aurora College	Students at the Yellowknife North Slave Campus have an opportunity to make baby slippers/mocassins/mittens and blankets.	Winter and ongoing
Fur Identification	Aurora College	Betty Dixon, a Cree seamstress, prepared a kit comprised of tanned hide samples of various NWT species, to deliver wildlife techniques for the Environment and Natural Resources Technology Diploma.	Ongoing
Trapping Program	Aurora College/ ENR	A two-day seminar on trapping takes place in the second year of the Environment and Natural Resources Technology Program. Students learn how to set traps and snares for various species, and discuss handling of fur. Students learn skinning techniques and how to put hides on stretchers.	February and ongoing
Traditional Knowledge sharing	Aurora College	TK resource people present to classes throughout the year including jigging, throat singing, drumming, story-telling, beading, fish scale art, Indigenous Governance, hand games, medicine wheel, and healing/talking circles.	Ongoing



Culture			
Activity	Responsible Department(s)	Description	Timing
Learning Activities	Aurora College	Classroom learning activities for the Bachelor of Science in Nursing are tailored to realistic Northern scenarios in health care, with Indigenous people. Culture is a key concept in all Nursing Practice, Health and Healing, and Relational Practice courses.	Ongoing
Nursing Practice Courses	Aurora College	At least two days per week in years 2, 3, and 4, Bachelor of Science in Nursing students are in practice with clients from a variety of cultural backgrounds and collaborate with them on health related issues and needs. Many clients are Indigenous and from various communities across the north.	Ongoing
Practicum	Aurora College	During practicum, Personal Support Worker students at Stanton Hospital are encouraged to participate in activities with staff from the Indigenous wellness program. This is done 14 days per year.	Ongoing
Case studies	Aurora College	Case studies incorporate and explore Indigenous culture in every course of the Personal Support Worker program. As many of the students are Indigenous, they are encouraged to provide input and create realistic and accurate case scenarios depicting individuals from their culture/communities. Students are encouraged to use story-telling in the classroom as a way to learn about each other's culture and cultural lens.	Ongoing
Indigenous perspectives	Aurora College	Indigenous perspectives are incorporated into all social work classes. This includes: Indigenous realities; Indigenous lens applied to social work theories; holistic approaches to counselling, community development and social problems.	Ongoing
Minister's Culture and Heritage Circle awards	ECE	The awards honour those who have contributed to preserving and promoting the arts, cultures and heritage in the Northwest Territories. The 2015 awards recognized NWT Youth Ambassadors to the 2015 Pan Am and Parapan Am Games. Youth recognized include Berna Beaulieu of Behchokò, Jeanna Graham of Hay River Reserve, Vivian Edgi-Manuel of Fort Good Hope, and the Yellowknife Ukrainian Association.	Ongoing



Culture			
Activity	Responsible Department(s)	Description	Timing
Traditional artist in residence	ECE	The PWNHC hosted a series of interpretive demonstrations and workshops for summer visitors. Indigenous artists and artisans demonstrated porcupine quillwork, Métis sash weaving, dryfish making and traditional storytelling.	July 2015
The NWT Conservation Network and cultural landscapes	ENR (CAM) in partnership with other GNWT Departments	The Conservation Network aims to preserve the ecological and cultural values of the NWT through the creation, use and management of protected areas. Many NWT communities have initiated candidate areas for protection due to their biological diversity and therefore, cultural richness. A cultural landscape consists of sacred areas, trails, harvesting areas, places holding stories and TK significant to the identity and wellbeing of the Indigenous Peoples of the NWT. The conservation network provides an opportunity to support the viability of Indigenous food systems in the NWT, and contribute to the preservation of culture and well-being of the people in the NWT.	The process of establishing a protected area can take an average 10 years to complete. Once it is established it is meant to operate in perpetuity.
Presentation	ENR	Sahtu regional staff spent a morning at the Mackenzie Mountain School in Norman Wells talking to the Grade 3-4 class on the traditional harvesting cycles of Indigenous people in the Sahtu.	September 2016
Community wellness plans	HSS and community Indigenous governments	Community wellness plans exist for all NWT Communities. They focus on culture, TK, language, youth, Elders and community members.	Ongoing
Nutrition Fact Sheet Series on Traditional Foods	HSS	Nutrition Fact Sheets provide nutrition information about the most commonly eaten traditional foods and the most popular vegetables in the NWT.	2014-2015
Recipe Book for Northern Cooks	HSS	A collection of quick and easy recipes using local ingredients.	2015



Culture			
Activity	Responsible Department(s)	Description	Timing
Traditional Food in Facilities	HSS	A traditional foods in HSS facilities policy has been drafted.	Ongoing
Pleasure Craft Operator's Card	HSS/ITI	Boating safety course accredited by Transport Canada with TK content.	Ongoing
Nutrition North Canada Community-based Education.	HSS	This Program increases knowledge of healthy eating and helps develop skills to select and prepare healthy store-bought and traditional or country food options. This complements the Nutrition North Canada Food Subsidy Program.	Ongoing
Traditional Economy	ITI	Shared TK is preserved and encouraged as it relates to making traditional garments and other products typically used in everyday life. The program provides finished beaver and seal pelts and locally tanned moosehides to crafters throughout the NWT at cost.	Ongoing
Genuine Mackenzie Valley Fur (including European Union Seal Products)	ITI/ENR	Northern furs are sold at auction events outside the NWT. The Inuvialuit have been formally recognized under the Indigenous exception to the European Union's seal products prohibition. NWT seal products will be marketed to the European Union under the existing Genuine Mackenzie Valley Fur brand.	Ongoing
Fur in the Classroom Project	ITI	Fur remnants are provided to all NWT schools to teach students the importance of fur to northern cultures and livelihoods. The project has been well received and has generated positive feedback.	Ongoing
Cultural Sessions	Justice	The North Slave Correctional Complex – Youth Unit incorporates seasonal cultural camps, sharing circles, traditional cooking programs, igloo-building workshops, and Dene hand games into programs and services provided at each facility.	Weekly
Wilderness Program	Justice	Offender's links with the land, cultural values, practices and traditions are renewed. Activities include canoeing, plant and animal identification, counselling on the land, fleshing and cleaning moose hides, and trapping.	Under review



Culture			
Activity	Responsible Department(s)	Description	Timing
Elder Visits	Justice	Visits with Elders are coordinated at all correctional facilities.	Ongoing
NWT Youth Ambassador Program	MACA	The NWT Youth Ambassador Program features a guided and structured volunteer experience for NWT youth at major events to develop significant life and job skills and build the confidence necessary for youth to deal with many of the complex challenges of modern society. The program includes public speaking and outreach related to Indigenous and NWT culture and demonstrations and teachings related to traditional Indigenous games.	Continuing on an annual basis
Traditional Games Tours and Gatherings	MACA	MACA and a group of Youth Ambassadors deliver traditional games workshops to youth across the NWT as part of the Traditional Games Strategy. The Strategy aims to create a passion for the culture and physical activity aspects of traditional games.	Continuing on an annual basis
Dechinta Bush University	MACA	Dechinta's curriculum is designed to reflect the critical issues facing the North today, incorporating TK, language and cultural teachings. Students live in a community with their peers, elders, children and professors.	Continuing on an annual basis
Taiga Adventures Girl's Camp	MACA	The Camp is supported by Youth Corps funding and aims to build socially aware, community-minded, resilient, adaptable, creative young women. Taiga Camp programming is inspired through cultural and TK, outdoor adventure, creative expression, empowerment, esteem, and technical and physical skills. The camp is delivered in part through in-house staff and specifically recruited guests.	Continuing on an annual basis
Dehcho Traditional Knowledge and Ecology courses	MACA	The Dehcho TK and Ecology courses provide youth with a positive outdoor experience, giving them the opportunity to learn from the experiences of their elders and professionals in the environmental sciences field.	Continuing on an annual basis
2014 North American Indigenous Games	MACA	Support was provided for Team NWT participation in the 2014 North American Indigenous Games held in Regina, Saskatchewan and an NWT Youth Ambassador Program at the same event.	Assistance provided on a per Games basis
Walking in Both Worlds	MACA	Walking in Both Worlds promotes the mental, physical, emotional and spiritual wellness of Fort Liard youth by offering a variety of cultural, leadership and recreational programs in Fort Liard, and opportunities to attend such programs outside the community.	Continuing on an annual basis

Language





Language			
Activity	Responsible Department(s)	Description	Timing
Wiliideh Language Initiative	Aurora College	At the Yellowknife North Slave Campus, a collaborative effort with the Goyatiko Language Society offers lessons and engages residents in N'dilo, Dettah, and Yellowknife with the Dene language.	Ongoing since 2014
Language Translation Competition	Aurora College	During Aurora College Week, students at the Yellowknife North Slave Campus participated in a competition to make a statement about Aurora College, translate it into their traditional language and one other language. This encouraged students to contact family members and Elders about writing in their language. Most participants were fluent speakers.	February
Gwich'in Language Initiative	Aurora College	The Fort McPherson Community Learning Centre partnered with the Gwich'in Social and Cultural Institute to offer language lessons and encourage residents to learn their language. ALBE (upgrading) students learned one Gwich'in word each day to use in conversation.	Beginning in 2016
Indigenous Language use during practicums	Aurora College	Personal Support Worker students complete practicum hours at Avens Community Centre, Stanton Territorial Hospital, Salvation Army, and Yellowknife home care. Students who speak their Indigenous language are encouraged to interact with Elders/clients in their Indigenous languages. Students caring for Indigenous Elders are encouraged to learn key words of the language to better communicate with them.	Ongoing
Chipewyan language and Wiliideh language in Classroom teaching, field practicum, On-the-land learning	Aurora College	Indigenous languages are brought into every activity of the Social Work Diploma, including trapping, cooking, traditional foods, and Chipewyan syllabic writing. Students speak first languages and guest speakers bring Indigenous languages into the classroom. A senior Instructor integrated Wiliideh language skills into the classroom and office. Cultural camp Elder/resource staff speak Indigenous languages and teach oral and written skills throughout camp.	Ongoing



Language			
Activity	Responsible Department(s)	Description	Timing
Inline translation proof of concept and outreach	Aurora College/ Aurora Research Institute	Inline translation allows students of organizations to adapt existing dictionaries to inline translate webpages with word replacement and context suggestions. Students conducted a demonstration and proof of concept of translating the data.nwtresearch.com website into various Indigenous languages. The project has been positioned as an option for high school language class projects.	2013-2016
Elders on campus	Aurora College	Elders and staff led sewing circles; sharing skills to make items such as mukluks, canvas hunting/gathering bags, V-stoles and small beaded projects on moosehide.	2015-16
Program Instruction	Aurora College	The Indigenous Language and Culture Instructor program delivers full time courses in North Slavey for the Sahtu region (Tulita), part time courses in Cree/Chipewyan/South Slave for the South Slave Region (Fort Resolution, Hay River, Fort Smith) and Wiiliideh Yati for people of the Yellowknife region.	2015-16
Our Languages Draft Curriculum	ECE	ECE restarted the language curriculum process in 2014. Engagements began with a dedicated group of Indigenous language experts representing NWT education bodies and Regional Indigenous Language Coordinators. The draft core curriculum “Our Languages” is for JK-Grade 12 Indigenous Language learners throughout the NWT and is aligned with the two foundational documents, Dene Kede and Inuuqatigiit. It focuses on student attainment of five language learning levels: Emergent, Beginner, Intermediate, Advanced, and Proficient. Work is ongoing to align common goals of school and community in Indigenous language renewal. The curriculum will be rolled out in a pilot phase during the 2017-18 school year.	Ongoing



Language			
Activity	Responsible Department(s)	Description	Timing
Five-year Regional Indigenous Languages Plans	ECE	The preservation, revitalization and strengthening of Indigenous languages and cultures are best managed by Indigenous people and communities. Regional Indigenous Governments must have control over their own languages. As part of the renewed funding agreement, each regional Indigenous government has developed a five-year Regional Indigenous Language Plan (2013-2018). They identify specific actions to promote and revitalize Indigenous languages in their unique regions. The language communities are in their third year and are in the process of implementing their language plans.	5 Year basis
Approval and announcement of five Indigenous place names for the Mackenzie River.	ECE	In 2015, the GNWT made five traditional Indigenous place names for the Mackenzie River official geographic names. The river now has seven official names: Dehcho (South Slavey), Deho (North Slavey), Fleuve Mackenzie (French), Grande Rivière (Michif), Kuukpak (Inuvialuktun), Mackenzie River (English), and Nagwichoonjik (Gwich'in).	January to August 2015
NWT Archives Oral History Preservation Program	ECE	The NWT Archives actively acquires, stores, and reformats for preservation purposes, oral history materials generated in the NWT. The Archives collaborated with ethnomusicologist Nicole Beaudry to prepare audio recordings from her audio recordings collected in the Sahtu. Copies of 123 audio recordings from the collection of Nicole Beaudry's recordings to the people of Deline.	Ongoing
NWT Archives official languages calendar	ECE	A calendar of northern celebrations for 2017 with a different official language for each month.	December 2016
PWNHC Birch Syrup Camp	ECE	A Yellowknives Dene language and culture instructor taught traditional methods of tree tapping and related Tłıchǫ vocabulary to students at the annual Birch Syrup camp near Dettah.	May 2015



Language			
Activity	Responsible Department(s)	Description	Timing
SAHTÚ GOTĪCHÁDÍ CALENDAR 2017	ENR, SRRB	The ʔehdzo Got'ine ʔots'é Nákedı (Sahtú Renewable Resources Board) and Environment and Natural Resources (ENR) worked in partnership to produce the Sahtú Gotıchádı Calendar 2017 (Wildlife of the Sahtu). The calendar showcases important information on wildlife and harvesting within the region, traditional and local knowledge, important dates for community events, and the <i>Wildlife Act</i> . Both the SRRB and ENR realize that language and the land are interconnected, in an attempt to promote and preserve the North Slavey language and its three main dialects, the Dene language was used throughout the calendar.	December 2016
Cancer terminology development in Sahtu dialects	HSS	Elders and knowledge keepers from each community in the Sahtu participated in a January 2016 workshop to develop cancer terminology in their respective dialects. These new terms will be audio recorded and compiled in a printed glossary for use by health care providers, patients, and others in the region. Print glossary and audio to be available in 17/18.	2016 and ongoing
CanTalk Over-the-Phone Interpretation (OPI)	HSS	CanTalk provides interpretation services, via telephone, at Stanton Territorial Hospital and NTHSSA-Yellowknife Region. Interpretation is available in 8 of the 9 Official Indigenous Languages of the NWT: Chipweyan, Cree, Gwich'in, Inuktitut, Inuvialuktun, North Slavey, South Slavey, Tłıchɔ. Service will be available system-wide in 2016.	Ongoing

On-the-Land Skills





On-the-Land Skills

Activity	Responsible Department(s)	Description	Timing
Introductory Field Camps	Aurora College	For the ENR Technology Diploma, students, staff and local Elders at Thebacha Campus participate in a remote introductory field camp at Tsu Lake. They learn basic field resource studies, techniques and traditional wilderness travel skills. Students and staff travel to Campbell Lake in the Mackenzie Delta to develop TK skills in travel, using land mark navigation, terrain identification and wilderness travel techniques under the guidance of local Elders.	Annually since 1980
Trapper Education Field Camp	Aurora College	One of the key aspects of the ENR Technology program is to develop clear linkages between TK and scientific education. Instruction is shared between Elders, environmental professionals and College instructors. Students learn best practices in humane trapping and monitoring population trends. Learning takes place in the classroom and on the land. It includes muskrat trapping, cleaning, skinning, stretching and drying, along with snare building, setting traps, trail navigation, shelter building and winter survival techniques.	Ongoing
Winter Field Camp (Combined)	Aurora College/ ENR	Students at the ENR Technology Diploma, Thebacha and Aurora Campuses, work alongside Elders, hunters and ENR biologists to study Barren ground caribou. Students learn traditional hunting techniques, and technical and scientific skills. Meat is distributed to Elders.	Ongoing since 1980
Wilderness First Aid Training	Aurora College/ ECE/GTC	Four days of Wilderness First Aid training is provided at the Community Learning Centres in Tsiigehtchic and Fort McPherson. They include on-the-land injury prevention & emergency exits from remote areas, backcountry treatment of shock, local landskills and knowledge.	Winter/spring



On-the-Land Skills

Activity	Responsible Department(s)	Description	Timing
On-the-land learning	Aurora College	Students and staff at the Yellowknife North Slave Campus participate in a one-day camp led by local Elders. Teachings and topics have included storytelling, trapping, drying fish, canoeing and bannock making.	Annually, in fall, since 2009
On-the-land learning	Aurora College	Students in the Northern Leadership Development Program at the North Slave Campus participated in one day of on-the-land activities at B-Dene Camp in Dettah with Elders and resource people. Traditional activities included ice fishing, cleaning fish, storytelling, fire starting and making a teepee.	2016
On-the-land learning	Aurora College	Bachelor of Education and Indigenous Language and Culture Instructor program students and staff spend three to five days on the land learning traditional skills. These include hunting, storytelling, dance, games, food preparation, holding discussions around historical and political activity occurring in the region with site based exploration, under the guidance of elders at various locations.	Ongoing since 2007
Traditional Knowledge Day	Aurora College	Year 2 Bachelor of Science in Nursing students spend a day on the land with elders, student counsellor and faculty in spring practicum. Students spend the day listening to elders, participating in fishing and trapping, preparing food, and learning about ceremony including participating in a feeding the fire ceremony.	12 hours, annually, ongoing
On-the-land learning	Aurora College	Personal Support Worker students at the North Slave Campus participated in on-the-land activities at B-Dene Camp in Dettah with Elders and resource people. Traditional activities included cleaning fish, storytelling, canoeing and cooking over an open fire.	Fall, ongoing
On-the-land learning	Aurora College	Social Work students participate in a seven-day on-the-land camp led by Elders and YKDFN resource people. Teaching includes: fish nets, traps, snares, ducks, moosehide, traditional food preparation, traditional medicine, ceremonies, setting up tipi/tents.	Annually in May, ongoing



Credit: J. Graham

On-the-Land Skills

Activity	Responsible Department(s)	Description	Timing
Field Camp Support	Aurora College/ Aurora Research Institute	The Environment and Natural Technology (ENRTP) diploma program at Aurora Campus runs on-the-land camps, including a muskrat trapping camp, winter/snowmobile camp, and marine camp. WARC technicians accompany the students and share their TK. Instruction includes navigation, safe practices on the land, hunting/trapping skills, and survival techniques.	Biannually
Researcher Support	Aurora College/ Aurora Research Institute (Ari)	ARI technicians provide on-the-land support for visiting researchers from southern universities and institutions. This includes TK about regional navigation, wildlife safety, safe travel procedures, the natural environment and seasonal cycles.	Ongoing
Cassette Islands Project	Aurora College/ Aurora Research Institute	In partnership with Smith Landing First Nation, Indigenous knowledge is used to document impacts of climate change on food security in the Cassette Islands of the Slave River. The project incorporates intergenerational learning; two on-the-land camps bring youth and Elders together to learn about traditional use of the territory and document the changes.	2014-2016
On The Land Program	ENR	This was a collaborative program between the Mackenzie Mountain School and ENR. Teachers of the school were in charge of the daily camp operations whereas elder, Edward Oudzi, and ENR staff provided on the land instruction. On the first day, trapper training occurred with the elder, on the second day a snow survey was completed with explanations as to the importance of doing a snow survey for fire management, and on the last day marten skinning was done along with necropsy of the animal.	March 14-17, 2016
Sight in Your Rifle	ENR	In a response for the need of caribou education, Deline and Fort Good Hope's Renewable Resource Officers and the regional Biologist collaborated to host a Sight in Your Rifle event prior to the Barren-ground caribou hunting season. At the event in Deline, a snare making station was set up, a table showcasing typical emergency gear that should be taken out on the land was set up, a station showing caribou research was set up and a station where participants brought their guns to be sighted in was set up. The event in Fort Good Hope just consisted of sighting in your rifle. Sighting in your rifle is essential in any type of hunting especially when you have animals in large numbers. This prevents crippling, excessive shooting, untargeted loss and wastage.	Ongoing



On-the-Land Skills

Activity	Responsible Department(s)	Description	Timing
Tundra Science and Culture Camp	ENR/ITI/ECE	This 10-day annual science and culture camp blends western science with TK. Tł̨chq̨ Elders teach cultural studies and share their TK of living and working on the land. Other scientists offer on-the-land learning opportunities in human history, geology, caribou ecology, plants, fish, and bird studies. Aimed at high school level students (Grades 10–12), this camp has enlightened students from all backgrounds to potential careers in science.	Ongoing
On-the-Land Mental Health and Addictions Programming	HSS	The Program works with Indigenous governments to deliver on-the-land activities and traditional healing options for mental health and addictions programming in NWT communities.	Ongoing
NWT On-the-Land Collaborative Fund	HSS/ENR/Tides Canada/Community Advisors appointed by Indigenous governments/funding partners	The Fund, launched in 2015, provides support for 35 land-based projects across the NWT. The collaborative approach is informed by community priorities, and increases access to resources through multiple partners while reducing competition for limited funding.	Ongoing
On-the-Land Program	Justice	The Fort Smith Correctional Complex (FSCC) has annual trapping, hunting and snaring programs. A yearly winter and summer camp retreat teaches canoeing, water safety, survival skills, setting nets under the ice, smoking fish and collecting sweet grass. Students also work with Elders.	Seasonally, ongoing
Pan-Territorial Crime Prevention Research Project	Justice	“Building a Northern Evidence-Based Approach to Crime Prevention,” allows the three territories to collaboratively collect quantitative and qualitative data to develop best practice and evidence-based crime prevention programming. TK is incorporated to build a common understanding of the causes of higher crime rates and factors that protect against crime. In the final year, each territory will incorporate the knowledge gathered into a pilot crime prevention project.	Four-year project, from 2014-15 to 2017-18

Research and Monitoring





Research and Monitoring

Activity	Responsible Department(s)	Description	Timing
Traditional Knowledge Research and Collection	Aurora College	First year students in the ENR Technology program conduct research and collect TK as part of assignments.	Ongoing, annually
Research field trip	Aurora College	Aurora College students and staff in Inuvik met with Sami Reindeer herders from Russia and Norway and took part in a research field trip.	Winter 2015
Indigenizing Science Curriculum	Aurora College	Students in the Bachelor of Education program participate in sharing circles with members of the Thebacha Campus learning community to discuss opportunities and challenges to indigenizing science classes.	2014-2016
Readings	Aurora College	Students in the Bachelor of Science in Nursing program participate in relation to Tri-Council Research policy statements and ethics. Students were assigned readings concerning research with Indigenous people.	Fall 2014
Support for visiting researchers working on traditional TK	Aurora College/ Aurora Research Institute	Researchers visiting the NWT are supported at the 3 regional research centres in Inuvik, Fort Smith and Yellowknife. Research projects can be on a wide range of subjects. While most projects are not exclusively focused on TK, many incorporate TK to some extent.	Ongoing
Research Program	Aurora College/ Aurora Research Institute	A grant to fund a collaborative research project with post-secondary partners across Canada examining decolonizing efforts in post secondary teacher education programs.	2016-2018
Ethnobotanical Garden	Aurora College/ Aurora Research Institute	Since 2011, the Western Arctic Research Centre (WARC) has been developing an educational garden. The garden contains plant species local to the Inuvik region, many of which have ethnobotanical significance. In collaboration with the Inuvialuit Cultural Resource Centre and the Gwich'in Department of Cultural Heritage, WARC is developing informational placards that will include plant names (in English, Gwich'in, and Inuvialuktun) and traditional uses.	Ongoing



Research and Monitoring

Activity	Responsible Department(s)	Description	Timing
NWT Regional Contaminants Committee	Aurora College/ Aurora Research Institute	The Aurora Research Institute is a member of the NWT Regional Contaminants Committee (NWTRCC). One of the main responsibilities of NWTRCC members is to review proposals and provide feedback to researchers on TK, capacity building, communication, and consultation.	Ongoing
Cumulative Impacts Monitoring Program	Aurora College/ Aurora Research Institute	The Aurora Research Institute is an Observer on the Steering Committee for the Cumulative Impacts Monitoring Program (CIMP). It is comprised of representatives from First Nations, Inuvialuit, Métis, federal and territorial governments. The overall goal of CIMP is to monitor cumulative impacts within the NWT. CIMP employs science, TK, and local knowledge to establish priorities and conduct tasks.	Ongoing
Local Area Monitoring Plan (LAMP)	DOT	Community members from Tsiigehtchic and Fort McPherson help collect valuable bathymetric data on the Mackenzie, Arctic Red and Peel Rivers. A community member is hired to interview local fisherpersons and the data is summarized and presented back to the community, the Renewable Resource Councils and the Land and Water Board.	2010-2016
Tłıchǫ All-Season Road (TASR)	DOT/Tłıchǫ Government	In July 2016, the TASR project was referred to environmental assessment. TK is an integral part of the environmental assessment process and has been incorporated where possible. TK has been provided and gathered at community meetings and public scoping sessions. A targeted archaeological impact assessment of potential borrow sources will be conducted in May/June 2017.	2013 and ongoing



Research and Monitoring

Activity	Responsible Department(s)	Description	Timing
Inuvik to Tuktoyaktuk Highway (ITH) Wildlife Monitoring and Environmental Monitoring	DOT-ITH Contractor	The ITH project employs wildlife monitors to help mitigate potential human-wildlife interactions and minimize potential harm to wildlife. The project employs environmental monitors to monitor and mitigate potential environmental issues such as spills and address erosion and sediment control measures. Monitors are local community residents and are typically hired at the recommendation of the local Hunter and Trappers Organization.	2013-2017
Airport Wildlife Manual Update	DOT	Updates to airport wildlife manuals are a regulatory requirement. Communities' advice on the type and frequency of wildlife typically seen around NWT airports is sought.	Ongoing
NWT Ice Patch Study	ECE	Tulita Elders and archaeologists from the PWNHC are collaborating on a long-term project to investigate ancient caribou hunting on alpine ice patches in the Mackenzie and Selwyn Mountains.	Ongoing
Climate Change Adaptation	ECE	In 2015/16, archaeologists from the PWNHC continued to collaborate with the Gwich'in Tribal Council's Department of Culture and Heritage, the Northwest Territories Geological Survey, and the University of Victoria to create a risk map for impacts to cultural resources from thawing permafrost in the Gwich'in Settlement Area (GSA). This included field research in the GSA to monitor thaw slumping activity in areas of high cultural use.	2015/2016
Ezǝdzìti Archaeology Project	ECE	Guided by Tłı̄chǝ traditional knowledge and oral histories related to Ezǝdzìti (the Refuge), archaeologists from the PWNHC and University of Toronto conducted an archaeological survey of an important fishing site in this area.	2015/2016



Research and Monitoring

Activity	Responsible Department(s)	Description	Timing
Polar Bear TK Study	ENR	The ENR Inuvik Region is a partner with the Wildlife Management Advisory Councils (WMAC) to collect TK on polar bears from TK holders in the six regional communities.	Research completed in 2012, report published and shared March 2015
Peary Caribou TK Project	ENR	The Peary caribou TK interview project in the Inuvik region is an ongoing initiative to collect local and TK on Peary (and Dolphin and Union) caribou in the Inuvialuit Settlement Region.	Ongoing
Species at Risk Status Reports	ENR	Species at Risk Committee Status Reports have a specific comprehensive section for the available traditional and community knowledge relevant to the species.	Ongoing
Tulita Winter Wildlife Track Survey Pilot Study	ENR	ENR HQ and Sahtu regional wildlife biologists worked in partnership with the Sahtu Renewable Resources Board on a pilot project to conduct winter wildlife track surveys with community members from Tulita. A workshop was first held with Tulita community members to get their input into the study design, methodology and selection of data recording equipment. An ENR biologist then worked with Tulita harvesters and youth environmental monitors in training to conduct the wildlife track surveys by snow mobile along different survey routes. Having an ENR biologist, harvesters and youth work together on the surveys provided an opportunity for on the land knowledge exchange about wildlife track identification, behaviour and habitat.	Ongoing. Year 2 of a 3 year project.
Boreal caribou range planning community meetings	ENR	ENR HQ, Dehcho and South Slave regional biologists have held meetings in all the Dehcho and South Slave communities to seek assistance in identifying important areas for boreal woodland caribou based on local knowledge of community members. Maps and information from these meetings will be used to inform the development of regional range plans that outline how critical habitat for boreal caribou will be maintained. Similar meetings will be held in other regions of the NWT as range planning progresses.	Ongoing



Research and Monitoring

Activity	Responsible Department(s)	Description	Timing
Bathurst Range Plan	ENR	ENR is working with other government departments, Indigenous organizations, industry, non-governmental organizations from NWT and Nunavut to develop a Range Plan for the Bathurst herd. The Range Plan will make recommendations for the management of land disturbance and will utilize science and TK in developing these recommendations	Ongoing. To be completed 2018.
Bison Management Plans	ENR	ENR staff from HQ, South Slave and Dehcho regions are working with community members from those regions on bison management plans for the Nahanni and Slave River Lowlands bison populations. Working groups comprised of Indigenous and other organizations utilize scientific and TK to draft the plans. A similar working group has completed its work on a plan for the Mackenzie bison population.	Ongoing. To be completed 2018.
Geospatial models and isotope tracers to identify key fish and animal habitats along the Slave River	ENR (CAM)	This project was funded by NWT CIMP and led by the University of Saskatchewan. It combines geospatial modeling and isotope tracers, with traditional and local knowledge to predict and evaluate important areas for spawning, rearing and staging for fish and other animals. The project informs our understanding of cumulative impacts by providing information on historical-baseline conditions, impacts and changes over time.	2014-2017
Barren-ground caribou Traditional Knowledge mapping and analysis (CIMP171)	ENR (CAM)	This project is funded by NWT CIMP and led by the Yellowknives Dene First Nation. It aims to make previously documented and current Yellowknives Dene First Nation TK available to decision-makers, regulators, community members and researchers. This will be done by digitizing previously documented TK, conducting an analysis of the data to identify gaps, and then using the gaps to guide current research.	2015-2018



Research and Monitoring

Activity	Responsible Department(s)	Description	Timing
An investigation of variable fish mercury concentrations in Dehcho Lakes (CIMP154)	ENR (CAM)	This project is funded by NWT CIMP and is led by the Indigenous Aquatic Resource and Oceans Management Program. It is investigating patterns of fish mercury accumulation in several Dehcho lakes that differ in temporal trends and represent significant variation in fish mercury levels. The project is combining traditional and local knowledge with scientific results to identify critical variables for future cumulative impact monitoring and management.	2013-2018
Dene Mapping Project Repatriation and Analysis: Understanding valued places at the intersection of caribou ecology and harvesting (CIMP158)	ENR (CAM)	This NWT CIMP-funded project was led by the SRRB. It digitized and catalogued baseline ecological and cultural data gathered from hundreds of land users during the 1970s and 1980s by the Dene Mapping Project. The purpose of this project was to repatriate the data to Sahtù communities and to provide historical socio-ecological and wildlife baseline information to communities and regional decision-makers.	2013-2016
Evaluating diversity and spatial organization of caribou in the Sahtú Region for management and environmental impact assessment (CIMP165)	ENR (CAM)	This project, funded by NWT CIMP, and led by the SRRB, brought together TK and science to understand patterns of caribou gene flow across space and between caribou ecotypes (mountain, boreal and barren-ground caribou) in the Sahtù region. Caribou fecal pellets were collected in collaboration with local community members.	2014-2016



Research and Monitoring

Activity	Responsible Department(s)	Description	Timing
Marian Watershed Stewardship Program (CIMP159)	ENR (CAM)	This project, funded by NWT CIMP and led by the Tłıchǫ Government, developed and implemented a community-based Aquatic Effects Monitoring Program in the Marian Watershed, with specific considerations of future impacts of the licenced NICO Project and other developments. Both science and TK were drawn upon to obtain baseline conditions in the Marian Watershed.	2013-2016
Tłıchǫ Ekwo Nàowo: TK Based Monitoring of the Bathurst Caribou Herd (CIMP94)	ENR (CAM)	This NWT CIMP-funded project is led by the Tłıchǫ Government. It is developing a detailed understanding of the cumulative impact from natural and anthropogenic factors on the Bathurst caribou and their habitat over multiple years. The project builds on a previous NWT CIMP funded project, "Using Tłıchǫ Knowledge to Monitor Barren Ground Caribou," to advance the previous TK research by applying a combination of methods of storytelling, observation, photo-documentation and GIS mapping.	2008-2019
When do caribou return?: Impacts of wildfires on Tǫdzı and ʔekwo CIMP169	ENR (CAM)	This NWT CIMP-funded project led by the WRRB is using TK to document the relationship between preferred habitat and boreal caribou, with a focus on the research and monitoring questions of 'When do boreal caribou return to and stay in an area that has been burnt?'	2015-2018
Candidate Protected Area Assessments	ENR (CAM)	Conservation Planning supports a sound approach to land use decision-making by ensuring the best available TK, ecological, cultural, social and economic research is conducted for each of the candidate protected areas. Candidate protected areas undergo a series of assessments to determine their ecological, cultural and economic values. TK holders help over see these assessments and are also contributors to the assessments.	These assessments are required prior to candidate area establishment and can be carried out over a few months.



Research and Monitoring

Activity	Responsible Department(s)	Description	Timing
Protected Area Management and Monitoring	ENR (CAM)	The planning and management of protected areas aims to preserve ecological, social and cultural values. Management planning provides a clear vision, goals and objectives agreed upon by all parties involved in governance. TK is used to inform protected area management plans. Once established, these areas implement monitoring of management objectives. Post-devolution improvements to existing protected area legislative, policy and decision making frameworks, includes research and development of new equitable management and governance approaches in collaboration with Indigenous governments. Conservation Planning supports working with Indigenous governments and communities to reinforce the manner in which ENR draws upon TK in decision-making and with respect to stewardship of the NWT's environment for the benefit of current and future generations.	This management planning can take on average 2 to 5 years to accomplish. The monitoring aspect would be ongoing in perpetuity for core protected areas.
Shúhta ʔepé (Northern Mountain Caribou) Stewardship Initiative	ENR/SRRB	This initiative is lead by the SRRB with funding coming from GNWT-ENR, Tides Canada and NWT Species at Risk Stewardship Program. This initiative will contribute to development of a collaborative Shúhta ʔepé Stewardship Plan with delegates of the SRRB, Tulít'a Dene Band, Tulít'a and Norman Wells RRCs and Ross River Dena Council. Sahtú delegates previously attended a July 2014 meeting hosted by the Ross River Dena Council in Ross River, Yukon, to discuss concerns about the Shúhta ʔepé population in the Dechenla/K'á Te (McMillan Pass/Canol) area. At this meeting, a joint caribou stewardship planning process was committed to, and has begun anew starting with the Shúhta ʔepé Stewardship Plan Scoping Workshop in Tulít'a in Fall 2016, to be followed by a Summer 2017 meeting in the Dechenla/K'á Te (McMillan Pass/Canol) area, right in the middle of the caribou habitat under discussion.	2016-2018



Research and Monitoring

Activity	Responsible Department(s)	Description	Timing
Winter Track Surveys	ENR [CAM]	Communities, government and industry have all expressed interest in monitoring the cumulative impacts of oil and gas exploration activity and other natural factors on wildlife within the Sahtu region. NWT CIMP is funding a collaborative monitoring program that uses surveys of wildlife tracks in the snow to measure abundance and distribution of species in the Sahtu. Wildlife monitors from communities are hired to conduct surveys along trails and seismic lines. Tracks are marked with GPS and photos. Repeating this survey along the same trails and lines over many years can measure if wildlife abundance and distribution is changing and if there is a link to industry activity.	2014-2017
Willow Lake Duck Banding	ENR	This project has been ongoing since 1995 and is a collaborative project between the SRRB and US Fish and Wildlife Services. In the past, ENR was heavily involved in running the camp, however current involvement is limited to providing logistical support. The annual goal is to band 2,000 mallards and 1,500 northern pintails from August 1-September 1. The information is used by wildlife managers to monitor the health of waterfowl populations and to set annual hunting regulations in the US and Canada.	1995-ongoing
Sahtu Environmental Research and Monitoring Forum	ENR, SRRB	This project is led by the SRRB and partially funded by ENR. There are representatives from ENR, the Government of Canada, industry, academia and each of the local RRCs. The objective of this forum is to create a strategy that would address gaps and coordination issues associated with research and monitoring in the Sahtu.	2014-ongoing
Mile 222 monitoring with RRC	ENR	This project was led by ENR in collaboration with the Norman Wells RRC, to help monitors understand the role of ENR officers while on duty at Mile 222. The goal was to better understand the monitored area, take notes and observe the authority of ENR officers, talk with hunters in the area, know travel distances in and around the area between Mile 222 to the Yukon Border, and resupply the station using the Canol Trail.	July-Sept 2016



Research and Monitoring

Activity	Responsible Department(s)	Description	Timing
Tracking Change: The Role of Traditional and Local Knowledge in Watershed Governance	ENR	<p>This six-year collaborative, community-driven research project is a collaborative initiative led by the University of Alberta, in partnership with the MRRB, ENR-GNWT, Indigenous governments from across the Mackenzie Basin, and several Canadian and international universities. The project is funded by the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC).</p> <p>The broad goal of the project is “to create opportunities to collaboratively document and share local and traditional knowledge about social-ecological change in the Mackenzie River Basin, Lower Mekong and Lower Amazon Basins and determine its role in watershed governance”. For a full list of partners and activities, please see www.trackingchange.ca.</p>	2015-2021
Delta Dialogue Network	ENR	<p>The Delta Dialogue Network brings together partners from three northern inland deltas (the Saskatchewan River Delta, Slave River Delta, and Peace-Athabasca Delta) to share knowledge, experiences and research and monitoring information both within and beyond the deltas. This project is a collaboration between the Slave River and Delta Partnership, the Peace-Athabasca Delta Ecological Monitoring Program, community partners from Cumberland House, SK and the University of Saskatchewan. The project was funded by SSHRC.</p>	2014-2017
Traditional Knowledge and Strengthening Partnerships Steering Committee Ongoing	ENR	<p>ENR champions, and chairs, the Traditional Knowledge and Strengthening Partnerships Steering Committee (TKSPC) of the MRRB. The TKSPC is currently working on ensuring meaningful inclusion of TK in the upcoming State of the Aquatic Ecosystem Report.</p>	Ongoing



Research and Monitoring

Activity	Responsible Department(s)	Description	Timing
Slave River and Delta Partnership (SRDP)	ENR	The SRDP was formed in 2010 to collaboratively address concerns about the health of the Slave River and Delta. It consists of Indigenous governments from Fort Smith and Fort Resolution, municipal, territorial and federal partners and local academic institutions. In 2015-16, the SRDP continued collaboration with the University of Saskatchewan on the Slave Watershed Environmental Effects Program (SWEET). The SWEET project is developing a community-based, cumulative effects monitoring framework that draws on TK and western science collectively.	Ongoing
Implementing collaborative cross-NWT water quality monitoring to address the needs of water partners, focusing on cumulative impacts and community concerns	ENR	ENR, with its water partners, coordinates and supports the Community-based Monitoring Program by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • training and supporting community monitors to measure water quality using standard methods • analyzing the water quality baseline data across the NWT and compares whole basin data to identify spatial and temporal trends, building on long-term water quality monitoring already occurring throughout the NWT. Currently working with 20 communities on monitoring at more than 40 sites. Traditional and local knowledge were key factors in the determination of sample site locations. This project receives funding from NWT CIMP (CIMP145). 	Ongoing during the ice-free season
Transboundary Water Management Agreements	ENR	TK is a critical part of the development and implementation of transboundary water management agreements with Alberta, British Columbia, Yukon, Saskatchewan, and Nunavut. TK is a core theme in agreements completed with BC and AB, which include an appendix to guide use of traditional and local knowledge in bilateral agreement implementation and decision making.	Ongoing



Research and Monitoring

Activity	Responsible Department(s)	Description	Timing
Fort Resolution Historical Underground Pipeline Assessments	ENR (ENV, Contaminated Sites)	As part of the Devolution Agreement, the GNWT was to complete an assessment of the Historical Underground Pipeline in Fort Resolution. There was no record of the footprint of the pipeline. ENR used the community's TK to guide the Phase I/II Environmental Site Assessment work and delineate the pipeline.	2015-2016
Historical tailings spill north of Dam 3 - Giant Mine	ENR (ENV, Giant Mine Project)	Community informed Giant Mine Remediation Project there was a historical tailings spill of which the project was unaware. The area was subsequently investigated and is now intended to be remediated.	2015-2016
Giant Mine Human Health and Ecological Risk Assessment	ENR (ENV, Giant Mine Project)	A human health and ecological risk assessment was completed using a country foods sampling program. Residents from Dettah, Ndilo, and Yellowknife submitted foods and identified their location of harvest. Samples were analyzed for arsenic. A complementary dietary survey was undertaken on consumption of foods. Results were inputted into various risk scenarios.	2015-2016 and 2016-2017
Project partner in <i>Addressing Community Concerns about Health Risks from H. pylori Infection</i>	HSS	A research program led by the University of Alberta aims to develop community-driven strategies to manage Helicobacter pylori (H. pylori) infection in the Beaufort-Delta.	Ongoing
Social/Cultural Review of Northern Contaminants Program Research in the NWT	HSS	The federal Northern Contaminants Program reviews research proposals for human health implications. As part of the review process, an assessment determines whether effective community consultation and research activities recognize and support TK.	Ongoing



Research and Monitoring

Activity	Responsible Department(s)	Description	Timing
Contaminants Fact Sheets	HSS	Environmental contaminants fact sheets were published, with input from the NWT Regional Contaminants Committee, (including representatives from the Dene Nation, Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami, Akaitcho, Dehcho First Nations, Gwich'in Tribal Council, Inuvialuit Regional Corporation, North Slave Métis Alliance, Tłı̨chǫ Government, Sahtu Secretariat Incorporation and NWT Métis Nation).	2015-2016
Rights Issuance	ITI	TK holders are involved in the processes to issue petroleum interests for exploration and development. This ensures the lands being put up for bid do not interfere with the traditional land use practices in a particular region.	Ongoing
TK in Environmental Regulation	ITI	Legal clarity in the new Canadian Free Trade Agreement was secured to ensure the GNWT, the federal government and all provinces and territories in Canada, take into account the value of TK when developing environmental regulations.	Ongoing

Traditional Healing



Photo: Don Aubrey



Traditional Healing			
Activity	Responsible Department(s)	Description	Timing
Forgiveness Workshop	Aurora College	In partnership with the Inuvialuit Regional Corporation, and through Family Violence Awareness funding, Aurora College offered two 2-day workshops focussed on exploring forgiveness and understanding, and how it could be applied to participant's own lives to make better choices around relationships, coping strategies and self-care.	Winter 2015
Traditional Plants	Aurora College	Caribou Outreach students at the Inuvik Campus held TK activities such as Ethnobotany Workshop with local Elders.	Winter 2015
"Crazy Water" sobriety workshop	Aurora College	At all campuses, Dennis Allen, the author of "Crazy Water", premiered his movie and held a discussion on sobriety.	Winter 2015
Traditional Healing and Counselling and on-the-land learning	Aurora College	At the North Slave Campus the student Counsellor is Dene and does traditional healing and counselling services and participated as a healer in all camps.	Ongoing
Smudging ceremonies	Aurora College	Social Work program students at the North Slave Campus have the opportunity to participate in smudges throughout the year connected to educational and ceremonial opportunities.	Ongoing
Program Orientation	Aurora College	The North Slave Campus partnered to support Aline Laflamme (BC First Nations Elder/healer) to support orientation activities.	Fall 2015
Therapy Dogs	Aurora College	Therapy dogs were brought to the Yellowknife North Slave campus to help students with spiritual, emotional and mental health and healing, according to the medicine wheel philosophy.	December 2015
Gwich'in Elder/Healer	Aurora College	The Personal Support Worker program in Inuvik has traditional plants, medicines and healing as part of the Pharmacology course.	2015



Traditional Healing			
Activity	Responsible Department(s)	Description	Timing
Indigenous Healer	Aurora College	A staff member, who is a YKDFN member, leads healing sessions with Social Work students cultural camps and throughout the year.	Ongoing
Sharing Circles	Aurora College	The Bachelor of Education program provides sharing circle opportunities, led by an elder, to assist students in dealing with difficult and stressful situations which arise throughout the course of their studies.	2015-2016
Drum Making Workshop	Aurora College	A Cultural Awareness and Drum-Making Workshop was held for the nurses working in isolated NWT communities. The three-day workshop was part of a six-week introduction to northern remote nursing. In the process of making a drum the nurses learn about Aboriginal world view and beliefs. The nurses take away a new understanding, and a different perspective on the world. This is hopefully translated into the care that they give.	June 2015
Guest Speakers	Aurora College	Elders come to the Bachelor of Science in Nursing class to speak about their residential school experiences.	Ongoing
Traditional healing	Aurora College	A healing tent for Social Work students On-the-Land Learning camp. Students benefitted from individual healing sessions with an Indigenous student counsellor.	Spring
Traditional healing	Aurora College	Elders met with Personal Support Worker students for a traditional healing and smudging ceremony and about traditional healing and beliefs in their Human Body and Common Illnesses class.	Ongoing
Cancer Sharing Circles	HSS	Cancer sharing circles bring communities together to discuss the cancer journey and encourage healing. Recommendations from communities include increasing the integration of culturally-appropriate support and resources into the NWT health system, as well as strengthening linkages with traditional medicine. Activities are being implemented in response to these recommendations, which directly informed the development of the territorial cancer strategy released in October 2015.	Ongoing



Traditional Healing

Activity	Responsible Department(s)	Description	Timing
Pre-Treatment Healing Program	Justice	The SMCC Pre-Treatment Healing Program is open to all offenders and is intended to restore dignity and integrity and prepare offenders for the group format of other programs.	Three times per year for a period of four weeks
Sweat Lodge Ceremonies	Justice	SMCC has a Sweat Master and may offer Sweat Lodge Ceremonies to inmates at the SMCC. These may be carried out as a part of the Pre-Treatment Healing Program or Addictions Program. North Slave Correctional Centre (NSCC) also offers Sweat Lodge Ceremonies.	Three times per year
Addictions Program	Justice	A Traditional Addictions Counselor at the SMCC delivers an addictions program based on the integration of evidence-based addictions treatment strategies and Indigenous culture values and beliefs. This may be in collaboration with the Traditional Liaison Counselors and the Pre-treatment Healing Program.	Three times per year for a period of 28 days
Healing Circles and Traditional Activities	Justice	Healing circles and other traditional activities are held in designated spaces at each correctional facility to aid offender rehabilitation and healing.	Daily
Program for Men Who Use Violence in Intimate Relationships	Justice	The 'New Day' Healing Program is a healing program for men who use violence towards themselves, partners, children and their communities. This program is based on curriculum designed for group delivery called Narrative Therapy: Abuse Intervention Program. The program incorporates the participation and guidance of Elders in group sessions.	Contract for the pilot was awarded in December 2014 and the program has been ongoing. Development of a long-term program delivery model is underway.
Restorative Justice	Justice	Restorative justice is a non-adversarial, non-retributive approach to justice based on traditional values that emphasizes healing in victims, meaningful accountability of offenders, and the involvement of citizens in creating healthier, safer communities.	Ongoing

