

# Traditional Knowledge Annual Report



2011-2012



# Introduction

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 2011-2012 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.

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



Photo by ENR

Dene games with Jerry Antoine.

**Culture**

Activity	Responsible Department(s)	Description	Timing
Weekly Cultural Information Sessions	Justice	NWT youth correctional facilities incorporate seasonal cultural camps, sharing circles, traditional cooking programs, igloo-building workshops and Dene hand games into programs and services provided at each facility.	Weekly, continuing on an annual basis
Wilderness Camps	Justice	Wilderness camps help renew the offender’s links with the land, cultural values, practices and traditions. Activities include canoeing, plant and animal identification, counselling on the land, fleshing and cleaning moose hides, and trapping.	Some are year round, others are two to four times a year
Oral Traditions and Cultural Enhancement: Cultural Projects Funding	ECE	Offered through ECE’s regional service centres to promote and preserve cultural identity. Each regional office works with their communities to determine funding for cultural projects in their region. Examples of supported projects in 2011-2012 include teaching the Yellowknives Dene First Nation’s youth the cultural relevance of the drum and the initiation of a cultural resource inventory by the NWT Métis Cultural Institute.	Continuing on an annual basis



Photo by PWNHC

Abel Tingmiak accepts the Minister’s Cultural Circle Award at the PWNHC.

<b>Culture</b>			
<b>Activity</b>	<b>Responsible Department(s)</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Timing</b>
Minister's Cultural Circle Awards	ECE	The Minister's Cultural Circle was established in 2011 to recognize those who have contributed to preserving and promoting the arts, cultures and heritage in the Northwest Territories. The first awards recognized elder Abel Tingmiak of Inuvik, the Aklavik Delta Drummers and Dancers, the Chief Jimmy Bruneau School Trails of Our Ancestors program, and Ben Nind for their exceptional contributions to the promotion of culture. The Youth category was awarded to Evan Tordiff of Fort Smith for his commitment to learning about his Métis culture through hunting and trapping.	Continuing on an annual basis
Sponsorship of Cultural Delegation at Sports Events	ECE	Funding is provided to support the participation of NWT traditional knowledge and cultural artists and performers in cultural programming at regional, national and international games events. The Ulukhaktok Drummers and Dancers performed at the Kamloops Cultural Festival at the Western Canada Summer Games in August 2011. Through collaborations with Sport North, a cultural delegation was selected to participate in a cultural celebration at the 2012 Arctic Winter Games in Whitehorse.	Continuing on an annual basis
Traditional Tłıchǵo Drum Music Project	ECE	The NWT Archives is working with the Tłıchǵo Government, Dene Nation and CBC North to produce a CD recording of Tłıchǵo drum music, recorded in 1982. The CD will be distributed, free of charge, by partner organizations, to all schools and cultural organizations in the NWT. A website for the CD, with information about the recordings, will also be created.	Scheduled for completion in 2012
Traditional Games Tours	MACA	Staff from MACA, along with a group of youth ambassadors, deliver the traditional games workshops to children across the territory as part of the department's Traditional Games Strategy, which aims to create a passion for the cultural and physically active aspects of the games that will remain with them for life and encourage youth leadership.	September to June, on an annual basis
Aboriginal Tourism	ITI	ITI has established an Aboriginal Tourism Champions Advisory Council, supporting the development of an Aboriginal tourism sector.	2011-2013

## Culture

Activity	Responsible Department(s)	Description	Timing
Traditional Arts and Crafts	ITI	Public workshops, presentations and marketing initiatives were offered to promote arts and fine crafts as part of the Aboriginal traditional way of life. E-commerce (selling online) workshops provided artists with knowledge of how to earn a sustainable living through their art, while keeping culture and traditions alive in their family and community. Other workshops delivered in 2011 included beading/sewing and art pricing.	Continuing on an annual basis
Traditional Arts and Crafts	ITI	ITI provides financial assistance to individual artists to access raw materials, supplies and tools.	Continuing on an annual basis
New School Complex – Inuvik	PWS	New school design incorporates many cultural elements, including a history wall in the high school area inspired by the Delta braid and northern landscapes, a story telling area in the library, and local animals and landscapes depicted on walls in the kindergarten area. The school also has colourful canopies over the entrances, which were inspired by the Delta braid and the northern lights.	Scheduled for completion in 2012-2013



ECE Minister's Cultural Circle Award Recipients, 2011.

Photo by PWNHC



Photo by T.Andrews/GNWT

Students and elders helping with research at an alpine ice patch.

## Research and Monitoring

Activity	Responsible Department(s)	Description	Timing
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.	Continuing on an annual basis
Five Lakes Archaeology Project	ECE	Archaeologists from the PWNHC are working with elders and students from Jean Marie River to record archaeological sites and other places of cultural importance in the Five Lakes area.	Continuing on an annual basis
Kakisa Archaeology Project	ECE	Archaeologists from the PWNHC are working with elders from Kakisa to record archaeological sites and other places of cultural importance on Kakisa Lake.	Continuing on an annual basis
Indigenous Talking Circle	ENR	The Indigenous Forum working group, a group of northern TK research partners worked with ENR staff to organize an Indigenous Talking Circle as part of the International Arctic Ungulate Conference held in Yellowknife in August 2011. A Talking Circle is a traditional process employed by indigenous peoples to share traditional knowledge and explore their issues around wildlife and the land. Indigenous delegates from many parts of the circumpolar world, including Canada and the North, were in attendance. The Talking Circle was the first of its kind to be held as part of a northern science based conference.	Completed

## Research and Monitoring

Activity	Responsible Department(s)	Description	Timing
State of the Environment Report	ENR	For the first time, the NWT State of the Environment Highlights Report 2011 included a more inclusive description of traditional knowledge and how that knowledge informs the understanding of the state of the northern environment. This understanding can be measured each year by the number of resource management decisions that have relied on TK, the number of times communities have engaged in collaborative research with the GNWT to solve common problems, and the number of times TK is placed in government planning documents, reflecting the emphasis on the application of TK within government. Tracking and reporting on these indicators began in 2012.	Completed
Traditional Knowledge Water Workshops	ENR	The Land and Water division held a series of workshops with local elders in communities, including Fort Smith and Fort Resolution, in 2011 to gain an understanding of the indigenous perspectives and knowledge of water as well as current conditions, water quality, changes over time, special places, ecosystem conditions and upstream pressures. The knowledge will be applied to trans-boundary water negotiations and community-based monitoring programming.	Ongoing
Sahtu Duck Banding Project	ENR	Local environmental traditional knowledge was used to identify, establish and continue the duck banding project at Willow Lake, Tulita. Aboriginal youth and elders have participated in this successful field research project.	Ongoing
Sahtu Community-based Wildlife Health Monitoring	ENR	The community-based wildlife health monitoring project in Deline and Fort Good Hope collected biological samples from subsistence hunted moose and caribou by select Aboriginal hunters for analysis of parasites and disease.	Ongoing



<b>Research and Monitoring</b>			
<b>Activity</b>	<b>Responsible Department(s)</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Timing</b>
Diavik Project Community Advisory Board	ITI	The Diavik Project Community Advisory Board applies traditional knowledge in community-based monitoring. The Board applies community developed surveys and focus groups to assess the social and economic impacts on communities from the Diavik Diamond Project.	Ongoing
NT Energy: Great Bear River Environmental and TK Study	ITI	An environmental and TK overview program was conducted on the Great Bear River through NT Energy. Aurora College has been assisting NT Energy in interviewing elders and land users to collect TK on important cultural and harvesting sites on the river, icing and flow conditions in the river, how the river is used by local people, and how TK can be used to minimize environmental impacts from future hydro development.	Summer/Fall 2011



Dr. Moorman teaches Tulita students about the properties of ice – NWT Ice Patch Study.

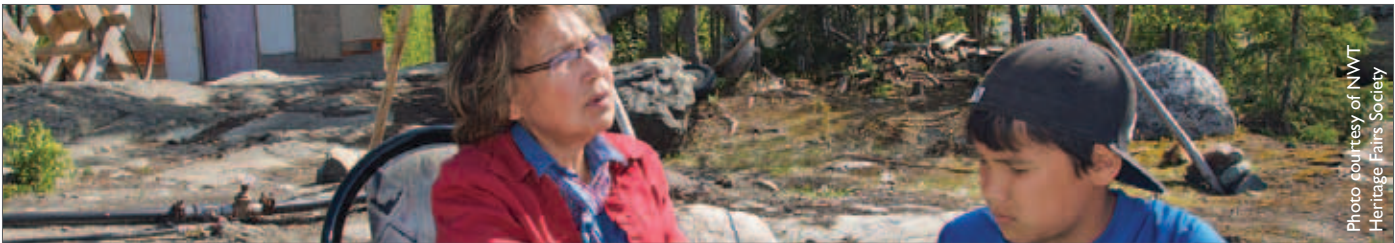


Photo courtesy of NWT Heritage Fairs Society

Murial and Frank Betsina Working on his George Blondin Heritage Fairs Project.

## Language

Activity	Responsible Department(s)	Description	Timing
NWT Literacy Strategy Implementation	ECE	Community literacy projects in the Aboriginal languages are funded in all NWT regions through the Community Literacy Development Fund.	Continuing on an annual basis
Documentation of Traditional Place Names	ECE	Projects are currently underway in the NWT Cultural Places program with communities in the Beaufort Delta, Dehcho and South Slave regions to document traditional place names so that they may be submitted for approval as official NWT place names.	Continuing on an annual basis
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 continued with the reformatting and creation of indexes and public copies of the Dr. Robert Howren Linguistic Sound Recording Collection recorded between 1960 and 1980, mainly in Tłıchǝ, but also in Chipewyan, Gwich'in and North Slavey.	Continuing on an annual basis
Aboriginal Language Enhancement Contribution Program	ECE	The Culture and Heritage division supports projects that promote and encourage the use of NWT Aboriginal languages. Projects supported in 2011-2012 included a youth and elder cultural camp in the Sahtu region, supporting a Dehcho-based artist who created a South Slavey language learning resource for children, an Inuvialuit language and museum research initiative, and the creation of a moose hunting video and associated language terminology in Hay River.	Continuing on an annual basis
Aboriginal Languages Revitalization	ECE	ECE provides annual funding to Aboriginal language communities and other Aboriginal organizations for community-based language and literacy activities and for the development of language-related resources.	Continuing on an annual basis

Language			
Activity	Responsible Department(s)	Description	Timing
Language and Cultural Bridging	ENR	Renewable Resource Officers and ENR staff offer services, often in the Dene and Inuvialuktun languages, in the communities they serve. These language skills and culturally appropriate ways of communicating with and serving clients is of benefit to the community and the Department of ENR.	Continuing on an annual basis
Official Languages Consultant	HSS	The HSS Official Languages Consultant regularly provides training and information sessions to HSS and HSSA staff about Aboriginal languages and works to ensure compliance with the obligations of the NWT <i>Official Languages Act</i> by the HSS system.	Continuing on an annual basis
Cultural Interpretive Signage	ITI	Cultural interpretive signage that showcases Aboriginal languages, culture and history was erected in some NWT parks. This included a Mountain Dene culture interpretive sign at MacKinnon Territorial Park, Tłı̨ch̀ı̨ interpretive signage at North Arm Territorial Park and Dene interpretive signage at Fred Henne Territorial Park.	2011
Cultural Interpretive Tours	ITI	Interpretive tours or self-guided signage are available at Twin Falls, Queen Elizabeth and Fort Smith Mission Territorial Park.	2011



Art Pricing Workshop in Aklavik.

Photo by ITI



North Slave Correctional Centre.

## Traditional Healing

Activity	Responsible Department(s)	Description	Timing
Pre-treatment Healing Program – SMCC Hay River	Justice	The program is open to all offenders and is intended to restore dignity and integrity and prepare offenders for the group format of other programs.	Quarterly, for a period of three weeks each time, on an annual basis
Healing Circles and Traditional Activities	Justice	All NWT correctional facilities have a designated space for healing circles and other traditional activities to aid rehabilitation and healing. Elders were consulted in the design of both the young offender and adult correctional centre in Yellowknife.	Daily, on an annual basis
Wellness Programs	Justice	Inuvik and Fort McPherson corrections staff participate in Gwich'in wellness programs, helping to launch and promote them.	Continuing on an annual basis
Community Counselling Program	HSS	The new mental health and addictions action plan will be released in June 2012 and focuses on prevention and making the best use of available resources, including traditional knowledge. The department invests \$6 million to the Community Counselling Program on an annual basis.	Continuing on an annual basis
Incorporation of TK and Care with Palliative Home Care Programs and Services Project	HSS, HSSAs and Dene Nation	Specific, culturally-relevant palliative care guidelines were developed for use in the regions of the NWT and distributed to care managers for implementation. These guidelines are also available online. The next step is to incorporate these guidelines into a Territorial Framework for Continuing Care.	Continuing on an annual basis
Aboriginal Healers: Working in Harmony with Western Medicine Project	Dehcho Health and Social Services Authority (DHSSA), HSS and Dene Nation	The Aboriginal Healers project involved a series of sharing workshop and resulted in a report and recommendations for aligning indigenous and western medical systems.	Completed



Photo by ITT

Sealskin kayak.

## On-the-Land Skills

Activity	Responsible Department(s)	Description	Timing
Dehcho Youth Ecology Camp	ENR/Nahanni Butte Dene Band/ Parks Canada	The 2011 Youth Ecology Camp was held at Rabbitkettle Lake, near the South Nahanni River. Fifteen students from around the Dehcho spent time out at the camp learning natural history, Dene culture and traditional knowledge, water and bear safety, boreal and terrestrial ecology, and mapping and orienteering.	Completed
Take a Kid Trapping – South Slave Region	ENR/ITI/MACA	ENR staff, Fort Smith elders and instructors delivered a TAKT program at the Schaefer Camp at Hanging Ice River for students from JBT Elementary School in May 2011. The students learned how to hunt muskrat and beaver in open water, how to prepare the furs for market and how to cook the meat, which they enjoyed. They also learned how to identify medicinal plants and the history of the area and the Dene peoples experiences with the fur trade.	Completed
Inuvik Caribou Hunting Camp	ENR/SAMS School	Grade Six students spent three days out on the land near Midway Lake on the Dempster Highway learning about caribou conservation, bear safety, harvesting practices, hunter ethics, and living and working on the land. They did not get a caribou or grizzly bear, but learned a lot about hunting and experienced the beautiful land of the Inuvik region. The partners also included RRC and HTC in Inuvik.	Completed
Bliss Lake Trapper Training Program	ENR/ITI/MACA	The program engages high school aged students in traditional and cultural harvesting techniques. The program is run in the months of January and February. Activities during these months include setting a fish net under the ice, setting and checking traps, snowmobile and wilderness safety, and learning survival techniques. The program is delivered by Renewable Resource Officers, experienced trappers and an elder.	Continuing on an annual basis

## On-the-Land Skills

Activity	Responsible Department(s)	Description	Timing
On the Land Mental Health and Addictions Programming	HSS	On-the-land programming increases connections with culture and reduces vulnerability to addictions. In 2011-2012 HSS made \$25,000 available to each NWT community to conduct On-the-Land Addictions programming.	Continuing on an annual basis
Take a Kid Trapping	ITI/ENR/MACA	Under the Take a Kid Trapping program, youth are immersed in on-the-land training in traditional methods of trapping as well as learning the history and skills of on-the-land living. Activities across the NWT regions over 2011 included winter survival skills, ice and travel safety, firearm safety, snowmobile maintenance, and chainsaw safety. Hunting and trapping activities included setting snares and traps for lynx, mink, wolverine and fox, hunting for caribou and moose (including traditional butchering techniques), and creating trapping tools, fish hooks, seal hooks and harpoons.	2011-2012



Ecology Culture Camp, 2011.

Photo by PWNHC



Sealskin kayak.

Photo by ITI

<b>On-the-Land Skills</b>			
<b>Activity</b>	<b>Responsible Department(s)</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Timing</b>
Take a Kid Trapping – Beaufort Delta	ITI/ENR/MACA	Students of Mangiluk School constructed a traditional sealskin kayak that is being showcased at the Tuktoyaktuk Airport.	October 2011 – February 2012
Take a Kid Harvesting	ITI	Under the Take a Kid Harvesting program, youth across the territory are exposed to all forms of traditional harvesting. The program allows students to see and experience themselves as part of their culture and learn how to live off the land like their ancestors did. Activities included hunting skills, firearm safety, survival skills, caribou and moose harvesting, butchering techniques, collecting wild edibles, and berry harvesting.	2011-2012
Genuine Mackenzie Valley Furs	ITI	ITI provides financial incentives to hunters and trappers, encouraging a traditional way of life and diversifying the NWT economy. Incentives include financial allotments under guaranteed advanced payments, prime fur bonuses, grubstake payments, commissions, and handling fees. Seven hundred and forty two trappers delivered furs to the Genuine Mackenzie Valley Fur in 2011.	Continuing on an annual basis



Ernest Hardisty shows youth how to prepare Rat Root used in traditional Dene medicines, at the Ekali Youth Ecology Camp, August 2010.



David Yallee and Ricky Andrew of Tulita share information and stories of the Shúhtaot'ine with PWNHC researchers.

Photo by PWNHC

## Core Services

Activity	Responsible Department(s)	Description	Timing
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 Aboriginal governments to use, preserve and promote traditional knowledge through the negotiation, implementation and monitoring of Aboriginal rights agreements.	Continuing on an annual basis
Community Justice Committees Diversions	Justice	Communities have the opportunity to undertake healing or crime prevention activities. These Community Justice Committees use a community-based approach to allow stakeholders to discuss options which may be done in Aboriginal languages.	Continuing on an annual basis
Corrections	Justice	Programming at correctional facilities and in communities as part of probation is carried out in a manner that respects Aboriginal values and encourages offenders to take an active role in their rehabilitation.	Continuing on an annual basis
Implementation of GNWT Consultation Framework	Justice	Justice emphasizes the importance of traditional knowledge by educating GNWT employees on how to implement the GNWT Consultation Framework.	Continuing on an annual basis
Policing	Justice	Policing is carried out in a way that respects community and Aboriginal values and encourages communities to take an active role in preventing crime.	Continuing on an annual basis



<b>Core Services</b>			
<b>Activity</b>	<b>Responsible Department(s)</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Timing</b>
Prince of Wales Northern Heritage Centre (PWNHC) Collection Strategy	ECE	The PWNHC is consulting with communities to collect information related to museum and archival materials. Tulita elders visited the museum to share information about museum collections for display in a new Mackenzie Mountains diorama. Museum staff also travelled to Tulita in August to acquire new objects for the museum collection.	Ongoing strategic activity
Cultural Organizations Operating Funding	ECE	This program provides operating funding contributions to organizations that undertake the research, preservation and promotion of the cultural heritage of the Northwest Territories.	Continuing on an annual basis
Prince of Wales Northern Heritage Centre (PWNHC) Exhibit Development	ECE	The PWNHC continues to engage traditional knowledge advisors to help develop new, permanent diorama exhibits that highlight the cultural importance of the land and animals through stories, museum objects and interactive cultural displays. Exhibit researchers worked with advisors from 17 communities to gather stories and information about caribou, muskox, polar bears and muskrats, in the Beaufort Delta, Tłı̄chò, South Slave and Great Bear Lake regions.	Scheduled for completion in 2014
Hunters of the Alpine Ice Exhibit	ECE	A new exhibit designed and produced by the PWNHC featuring research on ice patches in the Mackenzie Mountains and discoveries of ancient hunting tools of the Shúhtaot'ine. A second copy of the exhibit was installed in Chief Albert Wright School, Tulita. The exhibit features traditional and scientific knowledge from the International Polar Year (IPY) sponsored NWT Ice Patch Study. The exhibit was officially opened on December 8, 2011, at the PWNHC by the Right Honourable David Johnston, Governor General of Canada.	Completed December 2011
Experiential Science 30	ECE	Traditional knowledge was incorporated into the curriculum and nine specific layout items were highlighted in the student textbook.	Completed January 2012; to print March 2012

<b>Core Services</b>			
<b>Activity</b>	<b>Responsible Department(s)</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Timing</b>
Wildlife Surveys	ENR	Prior to conducting annual bison surveys in the Dehcho region, the Wildlife Technician consults local people, like the fire crew members, who know the river to determine existing conditions on the Liard River. Changing conditions, such as water levels and the disappearance or appearances of new islands will affect how the bison surveys are carried out.	Continuing on an annual basis
North Slave Caribou Monitoring	ENR	ENR employs Community Wildlife Monitors in the Tłıchq̓ region to record caribou harvest information and to record and report environmental issues in their communities.	Continuing on an annual basis
Child and Family Services (CFS) Committees	HSS	The department is working with health authorities to establish CFS committees in each region to promote community-based service delivery for children in care.	Continuing on an annual basis
Building on Our Foundation 2011-2016: A Strategic Plan for the NWT Health and Social Services System	HSS	HSS has committed to working with Aboriginal governments across the territory to ensure that services and programming serve the needs of NWT communities.	Ongoing until 2016 (date of expiry of the Strategic Plan)



Photo by PWNHC  
 Michel Louis Rabesca of Behchok̓ provides guidance to the NWT Archives during the Tłıchq̓ Music Project.

<b>Core Services</b>			
<b>Activity</b>	<b>Responsible Department(s)</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Timing</b>
Update to Good Building Practices for Northern Facilities Guidebook	PWS	The guidebook provides information on designing and constructing quality buildings in the NWT. It emphasizes community consultation during the siting and design of new and retrofitted community facilities.	Continuing on an annual basis
Health Centres – Fort Providence, Norman Wells and Tulita	PWS	Community meetings regarding siting and orientation of new community facilities.	Continuing on an annual basis
Long-term Care Facility – Behchokò	PWS	Community meetings regarding siting and orientation of new community facilities.	Continuing on an annual basis
Tank Farm – Tulita	PWS	Community meetings regarding location of new tank farm.	Continuing on an annual basis



Photo by Tessa Macintosh

Kate Inuktalik of Kugluktuk shares stories about an ancient sealskin kamik found on Banks Island with PWNHC Curator Joanne Bird.



Photo by Justice

North Slave Correctional Centre.

## Cross-cultural Awareness

Activity	Responsible Department(s)	Description	Timing
Victim Services	Justice	Victim Services encourages women to use traditional spiritual practices wherever appropriate. The program design has identified cultural considerations to meet the needs of Aboriginal clients.	Continuing on an annual basis
Correctional Northern Recruitment Training Program (CNRTP)	Justice	The CNRTP training is provided to all new correctional staff and includes a section on cultural awareness and diversity.	The CNRTP is completed twice a year for all new correctional staff
Tundra Science Camp (TSC)	ECE/ENR	TSC brings Aboriginal elders and scientists together to share their knowledge with high school students at the GNWT research station at Daring Lake.	Continuing on an annual basis since 1995
Birch Syrup Harvesting Camp	ECE	The PWNHC hosts a day camp program to introduce students to the traditional and modern methods of preparing birch syrup as well as forest ecology.	Continuing on an annual basis since Spring 2011
Land and Water Science and Culture Camps	ECE	Scientists and cultural instructors from ECE, in partnership with the Yellowknives Dene First Nation, host day camp programs that incorporate traditional and scientific knowledge on land and water themes, including fish, water quality and permafrost.	Continuing on an annual basis since Fall 2011
Heritage Fairs	ECE/DECs	Students from Grades Kindergarten to Nine work with elders and other community members to explore stories, skills, issues and people significant to their families, communities and the North. Research and presentation in Aboriginal languages is encouraged.	Annual, with territorial showcase in May

<b>Cross-cultural Awareness</b>			
<b>Activity</b>	<b>Responsible Department(s)</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Timing</b>
Cultural Orientation for all NWT teachers	ECE/DECs	ECE provides funding to Divisional Educational Councils for the provision of a two-day, on-the-land cultural orientation for teachers, with the assistance of community members.	Continuing on an annual basis, occurs at the beginning of every school year
Northern Studies 10, 20, 30	ECE	Course includes exploration of northern identity and on-the-land skills module.	Pilot Project 2012
Serving Traditional Foods in NWT Health facilities	HSS	The department is updating policies on traditional and related food services in schools, day cares and long-term care homes as part of the "Healthy Eating" promotion under the Healthy Choices Framework.	Continuing on an annual basis
Community Health Representative Certificate Program	HSS	Community Health Representatives represent the link between a western medical clinic and traditional Aboriginal communities. Through Community Health Representatives, services are delivered in a culturally-specific manner.	Continuing on an annual basis
Aboriginal Custom Adoption Recognition Act	HSS	Through this legislation the GNWT recognizes and supports Aboriginal custom adoption rights and practices.	Continuing on an annual basis



Birch Syrup Harvesting Camp.

Photo by PWNHC



Fire Feeding Tent, North Slave Correctional Centre.

Photo by Justice

## Cross-cultural Awareness

Activity	Responsible Department(s)	Description	Timing
Child and Family Services Act (CFS Act) and Associated Services	HSS, HSSAs and communities	HSS has accepted many recommendations in the Act and is in the process of implementing planning.	Expected to continue on an annual basis in the near future
Community Counselling Program Toolkit	HSS and HSSAs	The toolkit includes standards and resources for community counsellors and traditional healing practices. The toolkit is scheduled for an update to occur over the next three years.	Continuing on an annual basis
Seasonal Circle of Northern Life: A Different Way of Living – Guidelines and DVD, 2007	Pan-territorial HSS Departments	The DVD and guidelines specific to the NWT were developed by the NWT Task Force and Local Advisory Group (HSS and Aboriginal group membership). These resources continue to provide orientation and continuing development training for HSS providers.	Continuing on an annual basis
Aboriginal Wellness Program	Stanton Territorial Health Authority	The Aboriginal Wellness Coordinator, with input provided by the Elders Council, coordinates the Aboriginal Wellness Program and language interpretation services for the patients at Stanton Territorial Health Authority. The program is expanding to include kinship and cultural visits to patients, and cultural activities that can provide physical and cognitive therapy to support patients.	Continuing on an annual basis



Behchoko students with Traditional Medicine Heritage Fairs Project.

Photo courtesy of NWT Heritage Fairs Society



Take a Kid Trapping Program.

Photo by ITI



