



Take a Kid

Trapping & Harvesting

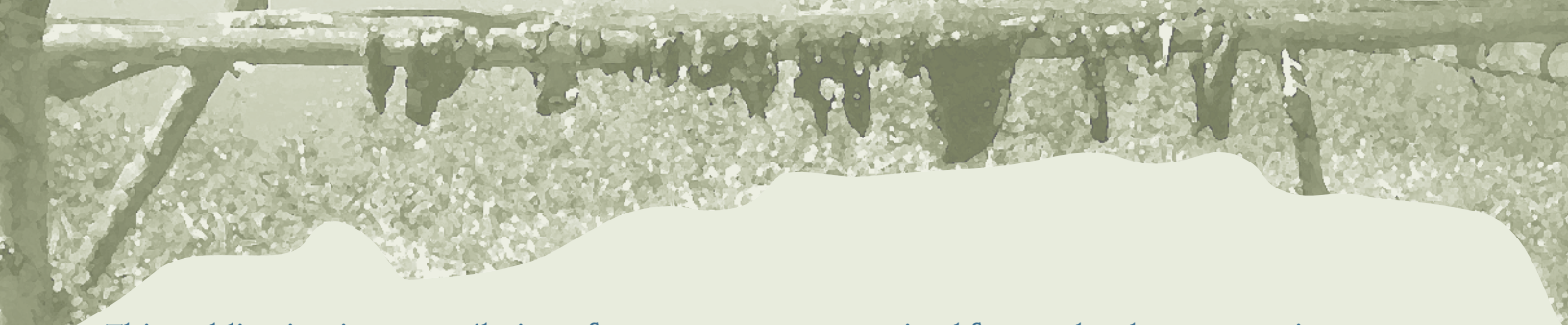


Report 2010-2011



Table of Contents

Introduction.....	ii
Sahtu Region	1
Chief Albert Wright School - Moose Skin Boat Project (TKT)..... Tulita	1
SDEC Colville Lake School Trapping Program (TKT)..... Colville Lake.....	2
Chief Albert Wright School (TKT & TKH)..... Tulita	3
Colville Lake School (TKT)..... Colville Lake.....	4
?Ehtseo Ayha School (TKH)	5
South Slave Region	6
École Boréale (TKT)..... Hay River.....	6
Deninu School (TKT)	7
Western Arctic Leadership Program (TKT)	8
P.W. Kaeser High School (TKT).....	9
Deh Gah Elementary School (TKT & TKH)	10
Princess Alexandra School – Birch Syrup Harvest (TKH)	11
École Boréale – Birch Syrup Harvest (TKH)	12
École Boréale – Beaver Harvest (TKH)	13
Deninu School – Moose Hunt (TKH).....	14
Joseph Burr Tyrell School (TKT)	15
North Slave Region	16
K’alemi Dene School – Birch Syrup/Traditional Foods (TKH) N’Dilo	16
Chief Jimmy Bruneau School (TKH)..... Behchokò	17
Jean Wettrade Gameti School (TKH)..... Gameti	18
Yellowknife Catholic Schools (TKH)..... Yellowknife	19
Elizabeth Mackenzie School (TKH)..... Behchokò	20
YK Education District #1 (TKT)..... Yellowknife	21
Lutsel K’e Dene School (TKT)..... Lutsel K’e	22
Mezi Community School (TKT)	23
Alexis Arrowmaker School (TKT)..... Wekweeti	24
K’alemi Dene School (TKT)	25
Inuvik Region	26
Tuktoyaktuk Community Corporation – Canoe Trip (TKH)..... Tuktoyaktuk	26
Moose Kerr School – Youth on the Land (TKH)..... Aklavik	27
Tuktoyaktuk Community Corporation – Big Game Harvesting (TKH) .. Tuktoyaktuk	28
Paulatuk Hunters and Trappers Committee - (TKT)	29
Moose Kerr School (TKH)..... Aklavik	30
Helen Kalvak School (TKT)..... Ulukhaktok.....	31
Aklavik Hunters and Trappers Committee (TKT)	32
Sir Alexander Mackenzie School (TKT)	33
Moose Kerr School (TKT)	34
Dehcho Region	35
Sambaa K’e Dene Band (TKT)	35
Charles Yohin School (TKH & TKT)..... Nahanni Butte	36
Louis Norwegian School (TKH & TKT)..... Jean Marie River	37
Thomas Simpson School (TKT)	38
Echo Dene School (TKT)..... Fort Liard	39
Bompas Elementary School (TKH)	40
Thomas Simpson School (TKH)	41
Dehcho First Nations (TKH)	42
Chief Julian Yendo School (TKH & TKT)	43
Sambaa K’e Dene Band (TKH)..... Trout Lake	44



This publication is a compilation of program reports received from schools, community groups and other associations who participated in a Take a Kid Trapping and/or a Take a Kid Harvesting Program. Aside from minor edits, reports in this publication have been reproduced verbatim.

Introduction

Take a Kid Trapping/Harvesting

For 2010/2011, the Take a Kid Trapping/Harvesting Program supported 49 projects involving 2,259 participants at a total cost of \$376,000.

Purpose

This program is designed to introduce Northwest Territories (NWT) youth to the traditional life-skills practices of hunting, trapping, fishing and outdoor survival. It is designed for youth of all ages as a method to build on the traditional practice of passing on skills and knowledge to the next generation. The program was developed in 2002 out of concern that the average age of a trapper/harvester was 60; it was believed that the survival of traditional harvesting practices would be threatened if more youth weren't encouraged to participate.

Partners – Delivery

The program is administered and managed by the Department of Industry, Tourism and Investment (ITI) in partnership with the Departments of Municipal and Community Affairs (MACA), Environment and Natural Resources (ENR) and Agriculture Canada. Delivery is done through schools and Aboriginal organizations in co-operation with ITI, MACA and ENR. Third party clients must prepare and submit an application for funding to the Regional Superintendents of ITI. Applications are reviewed by regional committees made up of representatives of ITI, ENR and MACA.

Successful third party applicants will hire Instructors and incorporate on the land programs to promote hands-on experience setting traps, snares, fishnets and other traditional life skills, while promoting conservation and best practices in the preparation of pelts for market.

Take a Kid Harvesting

The Federal Government renewed the Agricultural Policy Framework with ITI in 2009; the new five year agreement became Growing Forward. This is a cost shared program that aims to build capacity within the agriculture and agri-foods sector in the North. ITI successfully leveraged additional funding for the Take a Kid Trapping program by developing a sister program (Take a Kid Harvesting) that met the Growing Forward requirements of harvesting a food source. 2010/11 was the second year of accessing Growing Forward contributions. For the 2010/11 year, 25 Take a Kid Harvesting Projects qualified under Growing Forward.

Take a Kid Trapping/Harvesting Projects 2010/11

	SAHTU	DEHCHO	INUVIK	SOUTH SLAVE	NORTH SLAVE	TOTAL
Take a Kid Trapping	5	6	3	5	5	24
Take a Kid Harvesting	2	7	5	6	5	25
Regional Total	7	13	8	11	10	49



Sahtu Region

Chief Albert Wright School – TULITA

Program	Take a Kid Trapping
Date	May 2010
Region	Sahtu
Participants	50
Contribution	\$15,000

Chief Albert Wright School – TULITA

The moose skin boat project, which took place May 2010 in Tulita, proved to be a very educational and memorable experience for all that were involved. Elders, community leaders and youth came together to share their knowledge and experiences to successfully complete the building of a traditional moose skin boat. The first part of the project required several men to head out on to the land to track down the proper trees to use for the frame of the boat. The next step in building the boat required community members including the youth to scrape and clean the moose skins with traditional tools and prepare the sinew that would be used for sewing the hides together. Once the boat was complete, the community celebrated by having a feast where they shared commemorative words, and finally took the boat out on the waters of Plane Lake. Several groups were able to try the boat out which was very exciting to watch. CBC News aired the launch of the boat at a later date. The boat is now on display at Chief Albert Wright School.



Sahtu Region

SDEC – Colville Lake School Trapping Program – COLVILLE LAKE

Program	Take a Kid Trapping
Date	October – December 2010
Region	Sahtu
Participants	10
Contribution	\$8,000

The Take a Kid Trapping Program that took place at Colville Lake School involved 10 students from grades 5–12. The program ran on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays, and during these days the students were fully involved in checking skidoos, preparing traps and bait for the trap lines, as well as packing the sleds. Once the students were out on the trap line, their day consisted of making and maintaining trails for their line, harvesting fur, setting various traps, and collecting fish from the set nets for bait. The students set around 70 traps and were given the responsibility of maintaining them for two days, and once 10 marten were harvested the trappers would come to the school to show the kids how to skin and stretch the pelt. Overall, the students successfully harvested 34 marten, two foxes, many rabbits, and one timber wolf. The Take a Kid Trapping Program was

very successful in bringing together the community, the elders, and the Colville Lake School to expand the cultural education available to its youth within the community.





Sahtu Region

Chief Albert Wright School - TULITA

Program	Take a Kid Trapping/ Take a Kid Harvesting
Date	January 24 – June 17, 2011
Region	Sahtu
Participants	16
Contribution	\$16,000

Through the support of the Take a Kid Trapping/Take a Kid Harvesting Program, Chief Albert Wright School was able to provide 16 students with the opportunity to receive invaluable instruction in traditional knowledge. In order for the youth to get the most out of the program, Chief Albert Wright School hired elders and experienced community landmen to instruct in the areas of basic winter bush survival skills, the crafting of snowshoes and mukluks, trapping, moose hide tanning, traditional medicine and traditional foods harvesting. Instruction took place over a five day trip to Tate Lake where the students could actively engage in activities that required them to apply their acquired skills. The trip also allowed the students to further develop their experience of traditional knowledge, trapping and harvesting. The program was successful in meeting its outcomes through active participation by the students in the various activities and by incorporation of the North Slavey language throughout the five day excursion.



Chief Albert Wright School - TULITA

Sahtu Region

Colville School – COLVILLE LAKE

Program	Take a Kid Trapping
Date	December 2010 – March 2011
Region	Sahtu
Participants	10
Contribution	\$8,000

The Colville Lake Take a Kid Trapping Program allowed students from grades 5–12 to get involved in all aspects of traditional trapping. The students worked with elders and other community members to learn how to set an ice net, skin wolves and wolverines, and skin and stretch marten. The youth began their camp days with checking skidoos, preparing traps and bait for the trap line, and packing the sleds. Once out on the trap line, the students were given the responsibility of maintaining trails for their line, harvesting fur, setting various traps, and getting fish from the nets for bait. The students and their guides set about 70 traps and made

sure they maintained them every two days. Once ten marten had been harvested, the trappers would return to school to take part in the skinning and stretching process. The Take a Kid Trapping Program was successful in bringing together the community, local elders, and the school to enhance the cultural education for the students at Colville Lake School. Due in part to the success of the program, western marten received the top lot award from Fur Harvesters Auction in recognition of the exceptional handling and quality of one or more skins.





Sahtu Region

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Program	Take a Kid Harvesting
Date	December 2010 – March 2011
Region	Sahtu
Participants	6
Contribution	\$8,000

Six students from ᑭᑦᑲᑦᑲᑦ ᐃᑦᑲᐱ ᑭᑦᑲᑦᑲᑦ located in Deline had the opportunity to travel to Beaver Lake, approximately 25 kilometres outside of the hamlet to participate in the Take a Kid Trapping and Take a Kid Harvesting programs. Participants, by utilizing the knowledge and experience of the local elders and ENR officers, were able to enhance and develop their skills in areas such as snowshoeing techniques, proper axe handling, tent set up, stove and lantern preparation, and how to travel safely in spring conditions. The administrators of the Take a Kid Trapping and Take a Kid Harvesting programs in Deline look to improve the delivery of the programs in the future by developing a pool of interested community members that can share their skills with the participants in order to make the program an even more successful and informative experience for the students of ᑭᑦᑲᑦᑲᑦ ᐃᑦᑲᐱ ᑭᑦᑲᑦᑲᑦ.



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South Slave Region

École Boréale School – HAY RIVER

Program	Take a Kid Trapping
Date	February – March 2011
Region	South Slave
Participants	60
Contribution	\$9,000

This year, the Take a Kid Trapping camp for École Boréale School took place at a camp coordinator’s cabin approximately 20 kilometres north of the NWT border. Activities and excursions were planned according to grade level so that each student could participate in the planned activities. The younger students participated in half day presentations that took place either in the classroom or the school yard, as a general introduction to the harvest camps. Middle school students were given the opportunity to participate in day camps and shorter excursions that didn’t require overnight stays. A full day of the Take a Kid Harvesting camp

allowed the students to get out on the land to learn about traditional practices from local elders and experts who participate in seasonal harvest. Finally, overnight trips and multi-day camps were planned for the educational experience and enjoyment of a smaller group of older students. This type of excursion provided a rich and diverse learning experience, but required students to demonstrate maturity, team work and leadership qualities that allowed them to understand the importance of participation and cooperation within camp life.



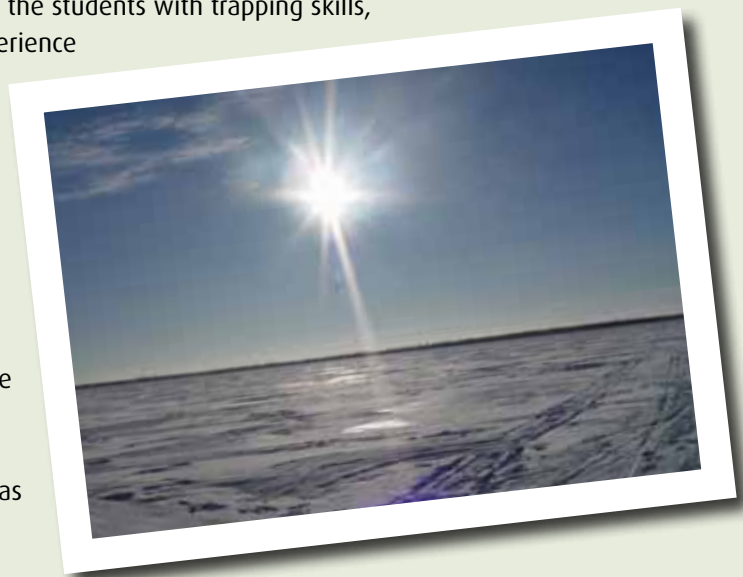


South Slave Region

Deninu School – FORT RESOLUTION

Program	Take a Kid Trapping
Date	November 2010 – March 2011
Region	South Slave
Participants	12
Contribution	\$5,000

The Deninu School in Fort Resolution has developed a Community Culture Awareness Program for its students. The school arranged a camp where students could work together with local trappers as they prepared traps and snares and processed fur for market sale while improving their on-the-land skills. Areas of focus included preparing the camp, harvesting fish for food and bait use, looking at current wildlife regulations, and finally, exploring humane trapping practices. During the actual processing of the fur and fish, students learned about the traditional techniques of skinning the fur, placing them on stretchers and preparing various meats for consumption. In addition to providing the students with trapping skills, the camp allowed the students a hands-on experience in setting up and maintaining a facility, essentially allowing them to experience a more traditional way of living. The trapping camp provided a wide range of activities for students, including a number of different areas associated with traditional trapping and harvesting. Based on the Deninu School Culture Program Initiative, organizers felt that the Take a Kid Trapping Program was a complete success. Along with fulfilling the needs of the program, the camp promoted community and school support and elder-youth interaction. It was an opportunity to emphasize traditional values and the importance of maintaining a prized fur industry.



Deninu School – FORT RESOLUTION

South Slave Region

Western Arctic Leadership Program – FORT SMITH

Program	Take a Kid Trapping
Date	September 2010 – March 2011
Region	South Slave
Participants	11
Contribution	\$10,000

The Western Arctic Leadership Program began their Take a Kid Trapping Program with a five day camping trip at Piers Lake in September of 2010. Throughout the camping trip the students worked on honing basic bush skills as well as working on camp infrastructure and doing equipment maintenance. The students also received instruction on chainsaw safety operation and maintenance to ensure they had the opportunity to use power tools while still remaining safe. The next camping trip that took place was in February, where a presentation was given on the history of the trapping industry as well as a course on basic first aid and CPR. The final camp to be held was the winter camp which took place in March, and was especially successful due to the unusually warm weather that allowed many different activities. The students were able to learn and participate in wilderness survival training, shelter making, orienteering and GPS use, and snowshoeing. The students also learned about the different types of beaver sets and traps and how to skin a beaver. Overall, the project was a success and met its objectives. The students showed an increase in leadership skills as well as a new respect for the land and animals that live there.





South Slave Region

P.W. Kaeser High School – FORT SMITH

Program	Take a Kid Trapping
Date	March
Region	South Slave
Participants	10
Contribution	\$8,000

This year, the P.W. Kaeser High School Culture Committee successfully planned two camps for students to engage in traditional trapping and harvesting techniques. The students received instruction in a variety of activities such as setting of fish nets through the ice, setting of beaver traps for fur, how to build fires, construction of proper shelters for winter survival, harvesting, cleaning, and stretching of fur and meat and also a course on how to use a GPS. The PWK Culture Committee recognizes the importance of the instructors who were involved in the Take a Kid Trapping camps; acknowledging that they are role models to the participants and act as a critical link between traditional and scientific knowledge, as well as in the practical applications of both. The PWK Culture Committee is looking to improve their program and have a higher enrolment in next year's camps by lowering the age limit for participants, as well as running separate camps for junior and senior students.



P.W. Kaeser High School – FORT SMITH

South Slave Region

Deh Gah Elementary and Secondary School – FORT PROVIDENCE

Program	Take a Kid Trapping /Take a Kid Harvesting
Date	February – March , 2011
Region	South Slave
Participants	100
Contribution	\$8,000/\$10,000

From February 23 to March 2, 2011, Deh Gah Elementary School put together five different camps in which 100 students were able to take part in. Under the Take a Kid Trapping and Take a Kid Harvesting programs, nine youths participated in a spring hunt, 65 students were involved in the Elementary Program, two youths were a part of the Students at Risk Program, 16 students participated in the Rites-of-Passage Camps and finally, eight students were divided up into two camps for the beaver spring hunt. The students that took part in the spring hunt began by taking a First Aid course. Then they travelled out to Horn River where they were instructed on how to set various traps. The Elementary Program was a co-operative effort. On Tuesdays and Thursdays, the kindergarten through grade five classes took turns spending the day at T’elemia, a traditional healing camp. Fur harvested by the two youths in the Students at Risk camp were left at the camp so that instructors could spend time with the other students showing them how to prepare hides and set up snares around the camp. The Students at Risk camp gave the youth skills to help succeed in a non-academic area and re-engaged them in productive activities. The students were responsible for setting and checking traps and over the course of the program were successful in trapping beaver, wolf, lynx, marten, and wolverine. This year, the participants from Deh Gah Elementary were joined by young men from other communities to take part in the Rite-of-Passage camp which, this year, functioned as a moose hunt. Finally, the Beaver Spring Hunt was made up of two groups of young men who were sent into the Mackenzie Bison Sanctuary to set beaver traps. The group was successful in trapping nine beaver, thus the Beaver Spring Hunt will be an area of focus next year.





South Slave Region

Princess Alexandra School – HAY RIVER

Program	Take a Kid Harvesting
Date	May 2010
Region	South Slave
Participants	
Contribution	\$680.00

The object of Nature’s Harvest Outdoor Education Class was to allow students of Princess Alexandra School to become more aware and knowledgeable about their environment and the natural food products that may be harvested from it. They learned about birch trees including their anatomy, distribution, seasonal attributes and physical changes that occur with the tree.

Two field trips to the Oxbow Trail near West Channel in Hay River were completed on May 7th, 2010 and May 13th, 2010. On the first site visit the students were introduced to the techniques used to tap birch trees before tapping the trees themselves. On the second site visit the students returned to harvest the sap and instructors gave a demonstration of how a commercial evaporator worked. Everybody sampled some of the final product which was quite tasty.



South Slave Region

École Boréale School – HAY RIVER

Program	Take a Kid Harvesting
Date	April – May, 2011
Region	South Slave
Participants	40
Contribution	\$8,000

Forty École Boréale School students from grades 5 and 6 participated in a traditional birch syrup production project. The majority of the birch syrup harvest took place at Vale Island, where approximately 100 trees were tapped. An additional 20 trees were also tapped along Riverview Drive to facilitate the participation of younger and larger school groups. The students were involved in many aspects of the birch syrup production, from tapping trees to the collection of sap to the boiling and reduction process and then taste testing the final product. While most of the participants were from the grade 5 and 6 classes, students from all grades had the opportunity to see the production of birch syrup and were eager to help out when they could.



South Slave Region

École Boréale School – HAY RIVER

Program	Take A Kid Harvesting
Date	May 3 -14, 2011
Region	South Slave
Participants	40
Contribution	\$3,820

The beaver harvest camp was designed to give students a hands-on experience by allowing them to spend time with instructors and positive role models in smaller groups. An important objective of the beaver harvest camp was to give students the opportunity to achieve in a non-traditional classroom setting, in order to develop self-esteem and positive learning associations for students who don't necessarily enjoy the classroom. The beaver hunt was broken up into grade specific activities; grade 3 and 4 students were given the opportunity to see and touch beaver pelts and beaver fur products. They were also given a brief presentation on the history of the fur trade and the importance of beaver in the region along with the basics of a spring beaver hunt. The grade 4 students were able to participate in an overnight stay at the beaver camp. During the overnight stay the students were able to witness and assist in the beaver hunt. They also assisted in the first steps of pelt preparation. École Boréale's Northern Studies class participated in a two day camp for their Take a Kid Harvesting experience, where they learned about the history of trapping, the fur industry, trapping regulations and the Genuine Mackenzie Valley Fur Program. They also had the opportunity to witness the steps involved in pelt preparation. The students on the two day camp also participated in a study of water quality, hydro graphic basins and the effects of river break up. The final days of the camp were reserved for the Life Skills and Leadership program. This Program consisted of smaller groups of students making trips to the beaver camp. Each group spent two and a half days at the camp where they were given the opportunity to see and touch furs, pelts, and tools, as well as learn about beaver, beaver pelts and the proper steps in meat preparation.



South Slave Region

Deninu School – FORT RESOLUTION

Program	Take a Kid Harvesting
Date	December 2010 – March 2011
Region	South Slave
Participants	12
Contribution	\$8,500

The Deninu School, under its Culture Awareness Program, arranged and initiated a moose hunt and traditional camps for their K-12 students. Prior to being able to participate in the moose hunt, students had to earn their Firearm Acquisition and Safety Certificate, which was made available to all students that showed an interest in participating in this year’s activities. Once this was complete, the three-day moose hunt began. Students were expected to listen and learn the importance of conservation while harvesting. Organizers also touched on how to identify animal migration patterns. During the hunt, students were taught food preparation for

moose, beaver, and fish along with camp set-up and take down procedures. At the end of the moose hunt the students participated in storytelling and in-depth discussions about practices associated with hunting and sustainable living. The Take a Kid Harvesting program was a complete success, meeting its program initiatives and giving students a better understanding of the North and the need for sustainable hunting.





South Slave Region

Joseph Burr Tyrell School – FORT SMITH

Program	Take a Kid Trapping
Date	March 17 – 28, 2011
Region	South Slave
Participants	24
Contribution	\$9,000

Through a current partnership with the Departments of Environment and Natural Resources and Industry, Tourism and Investment, the students of JBT Elementary School were given the opportunity to further develop their on-the-land skills by participating in a hands-on trapping camp. During the course of the camp it was expected that the students would progress through all stages of harvesting fur – from preparing the camp to the processing of fur for market. Students were informed of the NWT Wildlife Act and NWT Trapping Regulations as part of the many things required in the harvesting of fur. Emphasis was also placed on the importance of humane trapping practices as well as the importance of managing your harvest in order to help sustain this natural resource. The students travelled by snowmobile to the trapping camp for three separate sessions, each designed to accommodate eight students for a four day period. The students were able to practice trapping of muskrats and beaver and set fish nets. To further enhance the camp experience, students were taught outdoor survival skills and general bush skills. The trapping camp was successful in integrating culture and tradition, which included some instruction in the local Cree language. The camp was also successful in demonstrating to the students that traditional occupations can provide viable future career options. The Take a Kid Trapping program has been such a success at JBT Elementary School over the years that the school has begun the process of ensuring the programs longevity through the building of a more permanent structure to hold traditional trapping camp activities.



Joseph Burr Tyrell School – FORT SMITH

North Slave Region

K'alemi Dene School – N'DILO

Program	Take a Kid Harvesting
Date	May 3 – 7, 2010
Region	North Slave
Participants	102
Contribution	\$8,000

K'alemi Dene School's Traditional Harvesting Education Camp provided 102 students with the opportunity to learn how to tap birch trees to make birch syrup. Under the instruction of Mike Mitchell, students tapped birch tree sap and took part in the process of turning sap into syrup. They were given some general knowledge about birch trees and finally got to have a taste of the final syrup. Mike was accommodating to all the various age groups; making instructions simple for the younger students and more scientifically-oriented for the high school students. Students were divided into four groups to ensure that they could participate in each activity without being too crowded. The main activities were the duck plucking station, Dene games station, a moose hide tanning station and a fish filleting station.

The duck plucking station consisted of students learning the appropriate way to pluck and prepare a duck for cooking. In the Dene games station, students participated in traditional games that helped develop a variety of skill sets. The moose hide tanning centre allowed students to remove the hair and scrape the flesh off the hide. Students then kept the moose hair to use in various school craft projects. The fish station focused on teaching the students the different ways of preparing fish for consumption while learning about the various parts of a fish. K'alemi Dene School's Take a Kid Harvesting camp was a big success with all of the project objectives being met. The program provided various traditional harvesting experiences

for the students, as well as increasing their on-the-land skills. School credit was given to participants who participated in the program.



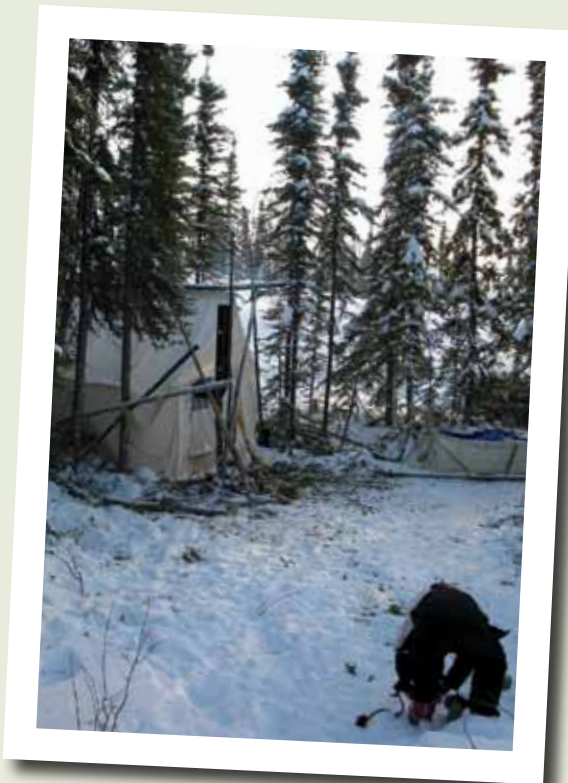


North Slave Region

Chief Jimmy Bruneau School – BEHCHOKÒ

Program	Take a Kid Harvesting
Date	February 7 – 23, 2011 March 14 – April 1, 2011
Region	North Slave
Participants	230
Contribution	\$8,000

With the support of the Take a Kid Trapping contribution, Chief Jimmy Bruneau School was able to take students from kindergarten to grade 12 out on the land to experience cultural education. The objective of the Take a Kid Trapping Traditional Skills Program was to teach the children how to survive on the land during the winter and spring seasons. The elementary students from grades K-6 spent day trips out on the land learning about a variety of things such as observing and checking traps and fish nets, how to identify different animal tracks, observing how to clean and prepare small game and fish, how to maintain camp, and finally, proper winter safety. The students in grades 7-9 were able to take part in overnight trips, where they participated in the above mentioned activities along with assisting in the skinning, cleaning, preparing of small game and fish, learning how to start a fire using different materials from the land, learning the proper use of snow shoes and assisting in the preparation of camp meals. Students in grades 10-12 were able to spend a full three days out on the land, where their focus was more hands-on when it came to cleaning and preparing fish and caribou. All students were instructed by the CJBS culture instructors and Tłı̄ch̄ò elders and camp workers. The staff worked together to assist the students in becoming more aware and to experience the Tłı̄ch̄ò history by living on the land.



North Slave Region

Jean Wetrade Gameti School – GAMETI

Program	Take a Kid Harvesting
Date	April 2011
Region	North Slave
Participants	50
Contribution	\$4,000

Through the support of the Take a Kid Harvesting Program, Jean Wetrade Gameti School was able to run a four day ice fishing excursion for K-10 students. Each class participated in a one day ice fishing trip that had the students learning traditional on-the-land hunting skills, setting and checking fish nets and cleaning and cooking the fish. The students were accompanied by two guides and two elders from

Gameti so that they could gain as much experience as possible. The program allowed students to develop a better appreciation and understanding of on-the-land activities and traditional hunting skills, as well as build a stronger relationship between themselves, the school and the community.





North Slave Region

Yellowknife Catholic Schools – YELLOWKNIFE

Program	Take a Kid Harvesting
Date	March 2011
Region	North Slave
Participants	180
Contribution	\$8,000

As a part of the Yellowknife Catholic Schools Aboriginal Language and Culture Programming, 180 students had the opportunity to take part in a spring harvesting camp. The camp was spread out over five weeks of activities to make sure that all students had the opportunity to actively participate. Camp participants included students from grades five, seven and eight, along with the high school students who participated and acted as mentors to the younger students. Along with experienced local Aboriginal resource staff, the students travelled by snowmobile to the trapping area that was set up on Great Slave Lake. The students learned to set traps and snares for muskrats, beaver, rabbits, and squirrels. They also had the opportunity to learn how to prepare the animals for consumption, as well as prepare the fur for sale. The objective of the program was to expose students to the spring time harvesting practices of the local Aboriginal people. The Take a Kid Harvesting program gave students and staff alike the opportunity to participate in the local cultural activities and meet with local Aboriginal hunters and trappers. Emphasis was placed on making sure that students would learn the importance of harvesting natural resources, resource management, and the relationship that the Aboriginal people have with the land and animals.



North Slave Region

Elizabeth Mackenzie School - BEHCHOKÒ

Program	Take a Kid Harvesting
Date	March 14 – 31, 2011
Region	North Slave
Participants	230
Contribution	\$8,000

Throughout the second half of March 2011, 230 pre-school to grade six students from Elizabeth Mackenzie School participated in a winter trapping camp that was funded in part by the Take a Kid Trapping program. The main activities at the camp were designed to teach students how to trap muskrats and how to set a fish net under the ice. In addition to the students being responsible for maintaining and checking their muskrat traps and fishnets, they also had to set up and maintain a winter campsite, practice making a fire and learn how to cook traditional foods.





North Slave Region

YK Education District #1 – YELLOWKNIFE

Program	Take a Kid Trapping
Date	November - March
Region	North Slave
Participants	270
Contribution	\$8,000

The Take a Kid Trapping funds were used to offset costs in the facilitation of the grade 4 trapping camp, the Bliss Lake trapping camp and the grade 9 winter camp. Yellowknives Dene First Nation resource people taught students using their knowledge of living on the land as it pertains to trapping. Environment and Natural Resources facilitated the Bliss Lake trapping camp which was very successful. Beck’s camp on Grace Lake trail was also used for some of the camps. In total, YK Education District 1 had 270 students who learned about trapping and other on-the-land skills through the many camps provided. The intention is to provide a series of on the land experiences that will impact the greatest number of students possible throughout the school district and to continue promoting leadership opportunities for Aboriginal students in particular, to develop their traditional Dene knowledge and skills.



North Slave Region

Lutsel K'e Dene School – LUTSEL K'E

Program	Take a Kid Trapping
Date	March 20 – 31, 2011
Region	North Slave
Participants	15
Contribution	\$8,000

Over the course of a week, 15 students travelled by ski-doo to the north shore of Great Slave Lake, several miles from Timber Bay. The students stayed anywhere from 5–10 days at the camp and had the opportunity to take part in various traditional activities. All students participated in several hunting trips, and during these trips they were able to observe the process of cleaning a caribou, tanning the hides, preparing the meat for storage, making dry meat, setting the meat up to smoke and preparing other edible parts of the caribou. The students also received a demonstration on how to prepare furs such as wolf, fox, and wolverine for sale. Students also had to collect wood for the tents, learn how to use snowshoes properly, learn about the safe operation and management of camp equipment,

set and check traps, learn the importance of cooperation, respect, and most importantly, they had the opportunity to learn more about their traditional language and culture from their elders. The program objectives were all met, as by the end of the camp, the students exhibited proficient camping skills, traveling and navigational safety skills, hunting and trapping knowledge, and finally an increase in traditional language and cultural knowledge. Lutsel K'e Dene School's spring hunt was very successful this year due to several partnerships that came together to make it possible.





North Slave Region

Mezi Community School – WHATI

Program	Take a Kid Trapping
Date	November - March
Region	North Slave
Participants	153
Contribution	\$8,000

With the support of the Take a Kid Trapping grant, MCS was able to hire seven local Dene to co-ordinate, assist and instruct on the land programming for 153 students from kindergarten to grade 12. Through this, the students participated in a variety of hunting and trapping excursions from day trips to three day trips around the lake.

Projected outcomes were achieved and MCS gained a stronger relationship with the community while also providing short-term employment opportunities that allowed locals to share their traditional knowledge and expertise in the field. While stressing the importance of environmental conservation, students learned about trapping and fishing and how it connects to their culture from the elders.



North Slave Region

Alexis Arrowmaker School – WEKWEETI

Program	Take a Kid Trapping
Date	March 28 – April 1, 2011
Region	North Slave
Participants	4
Contribution	\$8,000

With help from the Take a Kid Trapping program, Alexis Arrowmaker School was able to facilitate a trapping camp for students in grades 6–9 from March 28 – April 1, 2011. The older students travelled by ski-doo on Snare Lake (Portage 57) on the Wekweeti to Yellowknife ice road to receive instruction in various traditional-living aspects. The students spent time with local elders who taught them about trapping, setting and checking the trap line, drilling and maintaining fishing holes, and how to properly maintain a camp site. The younger students were also given the opportunity to travel along the ice road to the trapping camp so that they could experience camp life and observe the trap lines. The camp was a positive experience for all the students involved, and because it was held in March while the ice road was still in, all students at Alexis Arrowmaker School could participate. However, next year the school hopes to improve the program by holding it in November when there is a greater possibility to harvest animals.





North Slave Region

K'alemi Dene School – N'DILO

Program	Take a Kid Trapping
Date	February 21 – April 12, 2011
Region	North Slave
Participants	88
Contribution	\$8,000

Students from K'alemi Dene School were given the opportunity to participate in a traditional Take a Kid Trapping camp – 88 students in all. Students were transported from K'alemi Dene School to the Kam Lake area by bus, where they were met by the Camp Coordinator, Frank King. The students attended a safety demonstration before they departed to Octopus Lake where the main camp was set up. Throughout their trip to Octopus Lake, the students stopped and set traps for marten, mink, muskrat, and beaver. At the camp, the focus was to teach students about trapping and safe winter camp set-up. Throughout the camp the students participated in harvesting beaver, marten, and setting their own rabbit snares. Before heading back to school, the students had the opportunity to return to their previously set traps to see if they had been successful in catching any animals. Once back in the classroom the students were able to participate in the skinning and preparation of the pelts. The Take a Kid Trapping program was overall a well-rounded experience for the students, encouraging them to continue traditional trapping practices, and building their confidence and on-the-land skills. The program also promoted the students pride in their heritage as well as boosted their self esteem. It allowed students who struggle in the classroom to see the leadership qualities in themselves when put on-the-land, and showed them that they could still be very successful in on-the-land careers.



K'alemi Dene School – N'DILO

Inuvik Region

Tuktoyaktuk Community Corporation – Canoe Trip

Program	Take a Kid Harvesting
Date	August
Region	Inuvik
Participants	11
Contribution	\$8,000

The objective of the 2010 Take a Kid Harvesting Program was to enhance youth’s outdoor survival and big game harvesting skills. A total of 11 students took part in the program, which touched on areas such as bear safety, boat and water navigation, firearm safety, career development, and overall traditional knowledge. The participants were split up into two separate trips; the first trip took place in Siglialuk and started off with educating the students about bear safety and the importance of keeping a clean camp. The students participated in tasks that required them to accurately read maps, as well as use a GPS to test their navigational skills. They spent a significant portion of the trip engaged in conversation with local guides and elders about land and water travel, subsistence harvesting, and the importance of respecting the wildlife. The second group of

youths travelled to McKinley Bay where the primary interest of their trip was to harvest caribou. The youth first observed how to field dress a caribou and then were given the opportunity to practice for themselves. Over several days the students were shown how to properly cut and preserve meat. In addition to the traditional activities of the program, the students also received training in firearm safety and direction in career development. The program proved to be very successful as the youth acquired many valuable life-skills.





Inuvik Region

Moose Kerr School – Youth on the Land – AKLAVIK

Moose Kerr School – AKLAVIK

Program	Take a Kid Harvesting
Date	February
Region	Inuvik
Participants	24
Contribution	\$5,760

Moose Kerr School’s Youth on the Land Program used the Take a Kid Trapping Program in a way that provided a cultural experience for not only the youth of Aklavik, but also for visiting youth from Ottawa who participated in the project. Over two days, the whole group of youth participated in setting and checking traps and snares, skinning and preparing pelts for market and hunting and butchering wild meat. They had daily responsibilities that included cutting wood, making fire, and practicing their cooking skills. They also had various discussions and presentations with elders, trappers and renewable resource officers about the people, culture, and history of fur and trapping in the Delta. This interaction provided both an educational and cultural learning experience for all involved. The project turned out to be a truly unforgettable on-the-land experience for both local and visiting exchange students.



Inuvik Region

Tuktoyaktuk Community Corporation – TUKTOYAKTUK

Program	Take a Kid Harvesting
Date	March 2 – 6, 2011
Region	Inuvik
Participants	7
Contribution	\$8,000

Funded by the Take a Kid Harvesting Program and administered by the Tuktoyaktuk Community Corporation, the 2011 Big Game Harvesting Program was designed to introduce youth to winter wilderness survival and travel, firearm safety, navigational skills, traditional knowledge, and traditional harvesting techniques. Seven high school students between the ages of 15–17 were given the opportunity to travel to Nallok, NWT for five days. Due to the excessive cold weather, it was a little difficult to use GPS systems, but the youth were successful in harvesting a moose. For many this was the first moose harvest they had ever taken part in. On the second day of the program, the guides set up a simple GPS exercise for the youth so they could learn how to properly plot a way point. Each student was required to practice their new skill by going out and navigating to another

student’s way point. Once educated in the safe handling of firearms and shown the importance of firearm safety, students were allowed to fire a rifle at a target under close supervision. The 2011 Big Game Harvesting Program was an overall success. The students were very eager to learn and were able to return to their community with a whole new skill set thanks to the opportunity provided by this program and the Tuktoyaktuk Community Corporation.





Inuvik Region

Paulatuk Hunters and Trappers Committee – PAULATUK

Program	Take a Kid Trapping
Date	March 26 , 2011
Region	Inuvik
Participants	3
Contribution	\$10,000

On March 26, 2011, three youth from Paulatuk travelled to a stationary camp to take part in the Take a Kid Trapping program, which was coordinated by the Paulatuk Hunters and Trappers Committee. The coordinators set up a number of activities for the youth such as: teaching them how to set traps, use a GPS, and how to assemble and disassemble a camp safely. They were taught specifically how to trap, skin, and pelt a fox. Daily journals were kept to track what they learned, as well as what they hope to learn in future Take a Kid Trapping camp experiences. A highlight for the youth was during the evening, when they heard stories from the days of their ancestors. Although the weather was unfavourable, participants were able to complete their daily travels and activities.



Paulatuk Hunters and Trappers Committee – PAULATUK

Inuvik Region

Moose Kerr School – AKLAVIK

Program	Take a Kid Harvesting
Date	February 7 – 14, 2011
Region	Inuvik
Participants	12
Contribution	\$6,000

Ten students from the Moose Kerr School in Aklavik participated in a one week harvesting program where they were introduced to winter harvesting activities including hunting, trapping, winter travel and on the land survival. The first day of the program had the students travelling by snowmobile to Black Mountain Creek via the Husky channel. This allowed them to get a feel for the trails and get familiar with their surroundings. While travelling and checking traps they encountered three muskoxen, which they helped to harvest. Once harvested, the rest of the day was spent teaching the students how to properly skin the muskoxen. Students had the

opportunity to learn from Gwich'in elders about the different uses of forestry products as well as how to build a dead fall trap for marten and wolverine.

The students continue to show great enthusiasm for the program and each year the Department of Environment and Natural Resources in Aklavik works to improve the program by providing youth with more traditional knowledge and additional culture experiences.





Inuvik Region

Helen Kalvak School – ULUKHAKTOK

Program	Take a Kid Trapping
Date	February
Region	Inuvik
Participants	6
Contribution	\$8,000

The students from Helen Kalvak School in Ulukhaktok that took part in the Take a Kid Trapping Program this year made 14 trips to check the trap lines they had set. The students first participated in eight classroom sessions where a guide taught proper techniques on how to prepare and set traps and how to skin, flesh and board a pelt. This year's Take a Kid Trapping program was designed to increase student attendance and help them focus on their academics. Students integrated their Take a Kid Trapping experience into their English Language Arts classes as they were required to keep daily journals of their activities. The program also attracted the interest of other students at Helen Kalvak School; on any given day that foxes were trapped, students from other classes would drop in to observe the activities of preparing the furs. Helen Kalvak School succeeded in meeting its objective of integrating students into a learning environment that enables them to form a bond with their culture. The students gained other valuable lessons throughout the program including basic First Aid and gun safety. They developed an appreciation for the lifestyle once lived by the Inuit people of the Arctic Region.



Helen Kalvak School – ULUKHAKTOK

Inuvik Region

Aklavik Hunters and Trappers Committee – AKLAVIK

Program	Take a Kid Trapping
Date	March 21 – March 28, 2011
Region	Inuvik
Participants	6
Contribution	\$5,970

The Aklavik Hunters and Trappers Committee accessed funds from the Take a Kid Trapping Program in order to provide six youth with the opportunity to participate in a one week traditional trapping camp. The youth and camp coordinators travelled by ski-doo to Nellie Arey’s camp where they first set traps for muskrat and hunted for moose and later constructed and set rabbit snares and hunted for ptarmigan. Nellie Arey instructed the participants on how to skin and prepare rabbits for eating, while the camp assistant showed the youth how to clean and prepare the ptarmigan. The overall program was considered a success and even though the youth were unsuccessful in trapping any muskrat they hope to be able to take part in the program again next year.



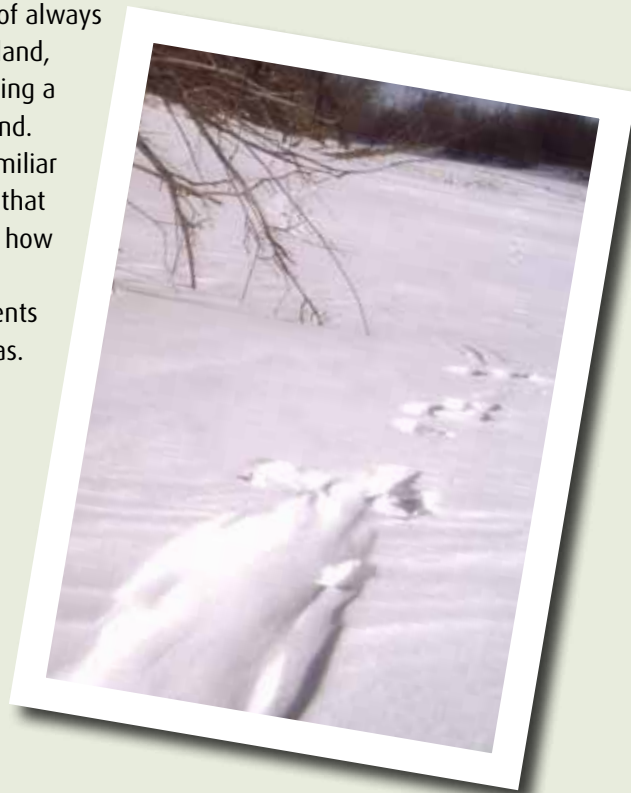


Inuvik Region

Sir Alexander Mackenzie School – INUVIK

Program	Take a Kid Trapping
Date	March 22 – 24, 2011
Region	Inuvik
Participants	25
Contribution	\$6,775

Students in grades 3–5 who were enrolled in the Gwich’in language classes at Sir Alexander Mackenzie School participated in day trips to a traditional Gwich’in camp to learn traditional on the land skills. The program allowed students to see how daily life is carried out in an everyday working camp. Some experiences at camp included setting rabbit snares, braiding yarn to lace mukluks and building a quinzee shelter. They were also taught the importance of always carrying a survival bag when travelling on the land, especially in winter, and the importance of having a proper shelter when trying to survive on the land. Instructors stressed the importance of being familiar with the different plants and trees on the land that could be used for medicine and food purposes, how to make a fire, and finally, the types of wildlife that one could encounter in the area. The students enjoyed the trip and showed interest in all areas. Overall the program was considered a great success.



Sir Alexander Mackenzie School – INUVIK

Inuvik Region

Moose Kerr School – AKLAVIK

Program	Take a Kid Trapping
Date	December 6 – 17, 2010
Region	Inuvik
Participants	10
Contribution	\$7,750

Moose Kerr School, with assistance from Aklavik ENR and Industry, Tourism and Investment, provided an opportunity for 10 students to take part in a traditional winter camp. Experiences at the camp included ice fishing, hunting, trapping, and winter travel and survival skills. The first week of the trip had the students travelling by snowmobile up the Aklavik Channel to ice fish and to set beaver, lynx and wolverine traps. A local elder taught students about traditional wolverine pelt preparation and stretching. The second week of the program had the students returning to check their previously set traps, making tools, learning how to do small engine maintenance, and carving fur stretcher boards. The Aklavik Take a Kid Trapping program has been ongoing for several years and continues to

strengthen and be a success. Students continue to show great enthusiasm for the program and each year the program facilitators work to improve the program by providing new opportunities to learn about the trapping industry, traditional knowledge and their heritage.





Dehcho Region

Sambaa K'e Dene Band – TROUT LAKE

Program	Take a Kid Trapping
Date	December 6 – 15, 2010
Region	Dehcho
Participants	6
Contribution	\$8,000

Cooperation between the Sambaa K'e Dene Band and the Take a Kid Trapping Program allowed opportunities for the youth in Trout Lake to learn various harvesting skills. Active harvesters took the youth to their outpost cabins and spent 10 days teaching the youth traditional trapping techniques. Here, they had the opportunity to set conibear traps for wolverine, marten, lynx, squirrel, beaver and muskrat. They also learned how to set snares for beavers and rabbits. The youth were responsible for checking their traps, and, if they were successful, they then had to flesh and dry whatever they caught. The Take a Kid Trapping program was very successful as it motivated the youth of Trout Lake to go out on the land and practice their new trapping skills.



Sambaa K'e Dene Band – TROUT LAKE

Dehcho Region

Charles Yohin School – NAHANNI BUTTE

Program	Take a Kid Trapping
	Take a Kid Harvesting
Date	November - February
Region	Dehcho
Participants	6
Contribution	\$8,000
	\$8,000

Six students from Charles Yohin School had the opportunity to participate in a merged Take a Kid Trapping/Take a Kid Harvesting workshop. The combined workshop was made up of two parts; one had the students outdoors participating in trapping activities and the other involved students in the classroom reflecting on their experiences in a written journal. Over a period of several days, the students checked and set traps and snares and were involved in demonstrations of traditional pelt handling. In addition to focusing on traditional trapping and harvesting techniques, the workshop also placed emphasis on the need for respect of the land, nature and animals. Instructors also taught the students traditional ways of preservation and preparation of wild meat, vegetation and medicinal plants.





Dehcho Region

Louis Norwegian School – JEAN MARIE RIVER

Program	Take a Kid Trapping
	Take a Kid Harvesting
Date	March, 2010 – March, 2011
Region	Dehcho
Participants	8
Contribution	\$5,300
	\$8,000

Over the course of six months, eight students from Louis Norwegian School had the opportunity to participate in the Take a Kid Trapping workshop as well as the Take a Kid Harvesting workshop. The focus of the workshops was on harvesting local wildlife and vegetation. The students participated in specific activities such as learning how to identify edible berries on the land, snaring rabbits and preparing them for cooking, as well as netting fish, ice fishing and harvesting beaver and moose and preparing them for consumption. The students also had the opportunity to use bows and pellet rifles under the supervision of their teachers and guides. The workshops were informative not only for the students, but also for the teachers, instructors and guides that were a part of this exercise. The main outcomes of the workshops were met: the students successfully learned how to set nets, ice fish, track, hunt traditionally and prepare traditional foods.



Louis Norwegian School – JEAN MARIE RIVER

Dehcho Region

Thomas Simpson School – FORT SIMPSON

Program	Take a Kid Trapping
Date	January - June 2011
Region	Dehcho
Participants	9
Contribution	\$8,000

From January to June, the students of Thomas Simpson School had the opportunity to take five Career and Technology Studies (CTS) courses on wildlife through the Take a Kid Trapping Program. The students enjoyed a variety of on-the-land experiences and specific training until the end of March, and then entered into the classroom phase of the program and finally ended with spring fishing and camp cooking. In February and March the group of students and their instructors set out to trap marten. The goal of this part of the course was to take the students step by step through the process of trapping. Students first got familiar with the different kinds of traps that could be used, and how to use them safely. Once the students felt comfortable, they were instructed on how to set traps and where to place them on the trails. The second part of the process was to teach the students to skin and prepare the pelts for auction. Although the students were unsuccessful in catching marten, they were still able to practice skinning and pelt handling on a donated beaver. The students also took part in a gun safety course, outdoor cooking classes, talks on the ecosystem and wildlife species, conservation and preservation. The students greatly benefited from the opportunity to learn traditional hunting and trapping techniques, and with guidance from their instructors, they were able to gain a strong foundation in teamwork and an understanding of the preparation required by hunters and trappers before embarking on the land.





Dehcho Region

Echo Dene School – FORT LIARD

Echo Dene School – FORT LIARD

Program	Take a Kid Trapping
Date	March 2011
Region	Dehcho
Participants	8
Contribution	\$2,900

The instructor for the Echo Dene School Take a Kid Trapping program was the grade 6/7 teacher, Mr. Phil Meaney. The program involved taking a variety of students out for snaring experiences. These outings took place in the vicinity of Fort Liard and included eating healthy food. The entire Program included seven outings that took place over the months of March and April 2011. A total of 10 students were involved in at least one of the outings. Though most outings tended to have only a few students – three or four, a couple of the outings had eight students.

During the initial classroom sessions, Mr. Meaney talked about the animals that they would be snaring and the safety practices that were necessary. This was followed with a discussion of where the animals (mainly rabbits) would be found. Once students were outside and at the first snaring site Mr. Meaney demonstrated how to set a snare. This first outing involved eight students.

The following outings involved students learning more about the behavior of rabbits, checking the snares, fixing rabbit stew if rabbits were caught, or having a healthy snack.



Dehcho Region

Bompas Elementary School – FORT SIMPSON

Program	Take a Kid Harvesting
Date	June 1 – June 9, 2010
Region	Dehcho
Participants	114
Contribution	\$8,000

From June 1 – June 9, 2010, all the students from Bompas Elementary School participated in the outdoor Take a Kid Harvesting workshop. The students and staff travelled by boat to Fort Simpson where they were taught how to harvest local vegetation and wildlife, including how to identify edible foods from the bush, and how to properly prepare harvested meat and medicinal plants. To begin each day, the students did chores such as going into the bush to gather firewood for the day, and collecting water that would be used for washing dishes and hands. The students were then separated into groups and rotated activities throughout the day such as fishing, setting and checking rabbit snares, and learning how to

prepare and cook whatever is harvested. Students also harvested plants and sap, helped prepare traditional meals from the foods harvested, prepared dry meat and fish and set fish nets. The students hunted for rabbits, chicken, beaver, ducks, geese, and moose. The program was deemed a success, thanks to the school, community members and resource people that were able to assist throughout the week and provide knowledge and instruction for this worthwhile education program.





Dehcho Region

Thomas Simpson School – FORT SIMPSON

Thomas Simpson School – FORT SIMPSON

Program	Take a Kid Harvesting
Date	January - June 2011
Region	Dehcho
Participants	10
Contribution	\$8,000

From January to June, students from Thomas Simpson School had the opportunity to earn school credit by participating in the Take a Kid Harvesting Program. It was set up so that students could enjoy a variety of on the land experiences and specific training for a full afternoon every other school day for the second semester. In February and March the participants went out to trap marten. The goal of this part of the course was to take the students step by step through the process of trapping. The students were instructed on setting traps, the skinning of animals, and the sale of the pelts. There was also a special emphasis placed on informing the students of the responsibilities of the trapper to trap humanely, respect traditions, and respect the rights and properties of other people. Also, as a part of the Take a Kid Harvesting program, the students received instruction on gun safety and the responsibilities one holds if they are handling a weapon. This part of the course was intended for the students to get an introduction into the key components of firearm awareness; eventually leading into the completion of a General Hunting Licence. By the end of the hands-on portion of the camp, the students had made tremendous strides in understand the process of harvesting and the great amount of work involved in these endeavours. Finally, from April to June the students turned their focus to the completion of the classroom portion of the course as well as lessons on outdoor cooking.



Dehcho Region

Dehcho First Nations – FORT SIMPSON

Program	Take a Kid Harvesting
Date	August 10 – 15, 2010
Region	Dehcho
Participants	8
Contribution	\$8,000

On August 10, 2010, eight youth from various communities in the Dehcho region travelled to Ekali Lake to take part in the Dehcho First Nations Youth Ecology Camp. The first day of the camp began with a demonstration for the youth on caribou collaring, bear safety, talks on the various plants in the region and gun safety to prepare them for the upcoming week. Next, the youth checked the fish nets that they had previously set and found that they had caught several whitefish and pickerel. One of the camp's guides then did a demonstration on the fish, explaining all the parts both inside and out and showing the various uses of fish when on the land. The rest of the week had the youth participating in various other activities such as a boating safety certification course, setting snares, hunting, and designing ecology t-shirts to depict their time at the camp. The last day included a presentation for participants where they were given certificates and other items. The ecology camp was a success, with a great turnout from the community and plenty of participation for the youth involved.





Dehcho Region

Chief Julian Yendo School – WRIGLEY

Program	Take a Kid Harvesting Take a Kid Trapping
Date	February 21 – 25, 2011
Region	Dehcho
Participants	2
Contribution	\$8,000

On this combined Take a Kid Harvesting/Take a Kid Trapping camp, two students began their experience by travelling down already established trap lines via ski-doo. They were successful in trapping 26 marten and one mink on these trap lines between Wrigley and the surrounding lakes. The students then learned how to skin and stretch a marten and a mink, as well as how to bait, set and find suitable locations for future marten traps. In addition to learning traditional trapping and harvesting techniques, the students were also responsible for helping with camp chores. They collected wood, started camp fires and helped cook a variety of the wild foods available in the area. As there were only two students who were able to participate in the joint trapping-harvesting camp over the five days, there were a multitude of opportunities for the two students to get hands on experience. The Take a Kid Trapping/Take a Kid Harvesting program proved to be a very positive experience for the two students who took part, as they hope to soon start their own trap lines near Wrigley and become full-fledged trappers.



Chief Julian Yendo School – WRIGLEY

Dehcho Region

Sambaa K'e Dene Band - TROUT LAKE

Program	Take a Kid Harvesting
Date	September 11 - 27, 2010
Region	Dehcho
Participants	6
Contribution Made	\$8,000

The Samba K'e Dene Band, in conjunction with the Take a Kid Harvesting Program, provided the opportunity for six students to learn traditional harvesting skills from active harvesters in the community of Trout Lake. The guides took the youth out on the land for two weeks to teach them how to harvest country food in the fall season so they would understand how important it is to be prepared for the harsher winter season and how to identify moose and caribou tracks. They were also taught the traditional way to hunt and butcher moose and caribou. The youth,

along with the guides, harvested fish by setting nets and checking them daily. They caught many fish and prepared them for winter by drying them in the traditional way. The program motivated the youth to go out on the land and gain harvesting skills by hands-on learning.



