

# Take a Kid

## Trapping & Harvesting



Report 2009-2010





# Table of Contents

Introduction.....	iv
<b>Inuvik Region.....</b>	<b>1</b>
Samuel Hearne Secondary School – Inuvik .....	1
Samuel Hearne Secondary School – Inuvik .....	2
Chief Julius School – Fort McPherson .....	3
Aklavik Hunters and Trappers Committee – Aklavik.....	4
Aklavik Community Corporation – Aklavik .....	5
Moose Kerr School – Aklavik .....	6
Samuel Hearne Secondary School – Inuvik .....	7
<b>South Slave Region .....</b>	<b>8</b>
École Boréale – Hay River.....	8
PWK High School – Fort Smith.....	9
Deh Gah Elementary & Secondary School – Fort Providence .....	10
Princess Alexandra School – Hay River .....	11
JBT Elementary School – Fort Smith .....	12
Diamond Jenness Secondary School – Hay River .....	13
Diamond Jenness Secondary School – Hay River .....	14
Western Arctic Leadership Program – Fort Smith.....	15
Deh Gah Elementary & Secondary School – Fort Providence .....	16
<b>Sahtu Region.....</b>	<b>17</b>
Chief T’Selehye School – Fort Good Hope .....	17
Out on the Land Program – Fort Good Hope School .....	18
Colville Lake School – Colville Lake.....	19
Behdzi Ahda First Nation – Colville Lake .....	20
Behdzi Ahda First Nation – Colville Lake .....	21
Sahtu Renewable Resource Board – Déljne .....	22
<b>Dehcho Region .....</b>	<b>23</b>
Sambaa K’e Dene Band – Trout Lake .....	23
Sambaa K’e Dene Band – Trout Lake .....	24
Charles Yohen School – Nahanni Butte.....	25
Jean Marie River First Nation .....	26
Chief Julian Yendo School – Wrigley .....	27
Chief Julian Yendo School – Wrigley .....	28
Louie Norwegian School – Jean Marie River .....	29
Liidlil Kue First Nation – Fort Simpson .....	30
<b>North Slave Region .....</b>	<b>31</b>
K’alemi Dene School – Ndilo .....	31
Yellowknife Catholic Schools – Yellowknife.....	32
Lutselk’e Dene School – Lutselk’e .....	33
Mezi Community School – Whati .....	34
Chief Jimmy Bruno School – Behchokø.....	35
Jean Wetrade Gameti School – Gameti.....	36
Elizabeth Mackenzie Elementary School – Behchokø.....	37
Yellowknives Dene First Nation – Yellowknife .....	38
Yellowknife Education District 1 – Yellowknife .....	39

## Inuvik Region

---

### Take a Kid Harvesting – 7 projects

Samuel Hearne Secondary School .....	Inuvik
Samuel Hearne Secondary School .....	Inuvik
Chief Julius School.....	Fort Macpherson
Aklavik Hunter and Trappers Committee .....	Aklavik
Aklavik Community Corporation .....	Aklavik
Moose Kerr School.....	Aklavik
Samuel Hearne Secondary School .....	Inuvik

## South Slave Region

---

### Take a Kid Trapping – 5 projects

École Boréale .....	Hay River
PWK High School .....	Fort Smith
Deh Gah Elementary & Secondary School .....	Fort Providence
Princess Alexandra School.....	Hay River
Diamond Jenness Secondary School.....	Hay River

### Take a Kid Harvesting – 4 projects

Diamond Jenness Secondary School .....	Hay River
JBT Elementary School.....	Fort Smith
Western Arctic Leadership Program .....	Fort Smith
Deh Gah Elementary & Secondary School .....	Fort Providence

## Sahtu Region

---

### Take a Kid Trapping – 2 projects

Behdzi Ahda First Nation .....	Colville Lake
Sahtu Renewable Resource Board .....	Déline

### Take a Kid Harvesting – 4 projects

Chief T'Selehye School.....	Fort Good Hope
Chief T'Selehye School .....	Fort Good Hope
Colville Lake School.....	Colville Lake
Behdzi Ahda First Nation .....	Colville Lake



## Dehcho Region

### Take a Kid Trapping – 5 projects

Sambaa K'e Dene Band .....	Trout Lake
Charles Yohin School .....	Nahanni Butte
Jean Marie River First Nation .....	Jean Marie River
Chief Julian Yendo School .....	Wrigley
Liidli Kue First Nation .....	Fort Simpson

### Take a Kid Harvesting – 3 projects

Chief Julian Yendo School .....	Wrigley
Louie Norwegian School .....	Jean Marie River
Sambaa K'e Dene Band .....	Trout Lake

## North Slave Region

### Take a Kid Trapping – 4 projects

K'alemi Dene School .....	Yellowknife
Yellowknife Catholic Schools .....	Yellowknife
Lutselk'e Dene School .....	Lutselk'e
Mezi Community School .....	Whati

### Take a Kid Harvesting – 5 projects

Chief Jimmy Bruno Regional High School .....	Behchokq
Jean Wetrade Gameti School .....	Gameti
Elizabeth Mackenzie School .....	Behchokq
Yellowknives Dene First Nation .....	Dettah
Yellowknife Education District 1 .....	Yellowknife



# Introduction

## Take a Kid Trapping/Harvesting

For 2009/10, the Take a Kid Trapping/Harvesting program supported 39 projects involving 1,726 participants at a total cost of \$305,000.

### 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 were not 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. 2009/10 was the first year of accessing Growing Forward contributions. For the 2009/10 year 23 Take a Kid Harvesting Projects qualified under Growing Forward.

## Take a Kid Trapping/Harvesting Projects 2009/10

	SAHTU	DEHCHO	INUVIK	SOUTH SLAVE	NORTH SLAVE	TOTAL
Take a Kid Trapping	2	5		5	4	16
Take a Kid Harvesting	4	3	7	4	5	23
Regional Total	6	8	7	9	9	39

## Inuvik Region

Samuel Hearne Secondary School – Inuvik

Program	Take a Kid Harvesting
Date	March 2010
Region	Inuvik
Participants	10
Contribution	\$8,625

On March 8<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup>, 10 students from Samuel Hearne Secondary School in Inuvik were taken out to Carmichael Lake to enhance their skills and knowledge in traditional learning. The trip was broken down into three main focal points: outdoor education, traditional foods, and media training. Trip organizers were diligent in making sure that aspects of traditional culture and language were integrated into each of these components. By the end of the trip students had participated in various activities such as: skinning marten, tracking moose and caribou, setting snares for rabbits, setting traps for muskrats, as well as traditional healing methods, and the preparation of traditional foods. Students also had the opportunity to get some media experience by filming their activities, as well as conducting interviews on their thoughts about the camp.



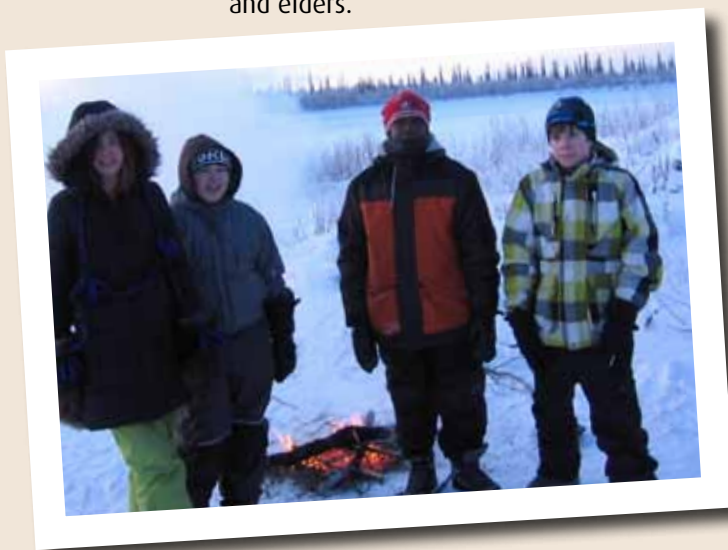
## Inuvik Region

Samuel Hearne Secondary School - Inuvik

Program	Take a Kid Harvesting
Date	Spring 2010
Region	Inuvik
Participants	6
Contribution	\$7,100

Students performed activities such as setting up a McPherson tent, travelling by snowmobile, tracking caribou, enjoying traditional cooking and discussions and illustrations on the importance of being prepared for on the land trips. Preparing a list of objectives such as having a good winter sleeping bag and wearing warm clothes (hat, face mask, gloves, ski pants, and a warm jacket) was encouraged. Discussions were also had on how to properly tie down equipment and supplies.

While traveling on overnights the students were responsible for the own gear as well as communal items such as the fuel, food, hunting equipment and cooking equipment. Other responsibilities included getting sufficient firewood to keep the fire going all night and for getting enough water to drink and cook with. The students took these responsibilities with little direction given by the teachers and elders.



The team was very cohesive and effective, which provided a positive and successful environment for all.



# Inuvik Region

Chief Julius School – Fort McPherson

Program	Take a Kid Harvesting
Date	October 2009
Region	Inuvik
Participants	6
Contribution	\$5,500

From October 6<sup>th</sup> to 9<sup>th</sup>, six students travelled to Midway Lake to take part in a caribou hunt and learn about caribou ecology. Students also learned about proper government legislation concerning caribou hunting. The main objectives of the camp were divided into hunting skills, field dressing caribou, firearm safety, cultural and traditional knowledge, and the government legislation that has recently been implemented. Students were shown how to identify hunting practices to minimize wounded caribou, as well as survival skills, bear safety skills and the importance of respect for all land and animals. They were also educated in the processes of skinning, gutting, butchering, and transporting the hunted caribou.

The firearm safety portion of the camp included teaching the students how to properly carry and shoot the firearm and marksmanship. In regards to the government legislation portion of the camp, the youth were educated about hunting safely along the highway, as well the importance of consultation with the Aboriginal people. Students were required to participate in all activities in the program as well as assist with the cooking and proper clean up of the camp when finished.



## Inuvik Region

Aklavik Hunters and Trappers Committee – Aklavik

Program	Take a Kid Harvesting
Date	March – April 2010
Region	Inuvik
Participants	5
Contribution	\$6,606

On March 23<sup>rd</sup>, five students from Aklavik set out to Taylor Channel to take part in a nine day on-the-land camp under the Take a Kid Harvesting Program. The main objective of the camp was for the youth to learn how to properly set and check their own muskrat traps, then later see how the muskrats were dried on stretchers and skinned.

All together nine muskrats were caught. Students actively participated in all aspects of the camp and were responsible for helping with putting tools away and keeping the camp tidy.



## Inuvik Region

Aklavik Community Corporation – Aklavik

Program	Take a Kid Harvesting
Date	2009 – 2010
Region	Inuvik
Participants	5
Contribution	\$6,800

This camp was held in two separate segments: For the first segment the youth spent six days at a camp in West Channel, and the second segment was held in Aklavik. The youth took part in various activities such as hunting geese and rabbits, setting fish nets and picking wild berries. They also learned how to properly identify which berries were safe to eat.

The students were also responsible for helping out with camp chores, such as the cleaning and cooking, and were asked to gather and bring back firewood.



## Inuvik Region

Moose Kerr School – Aklavik

Program	Take a Kid Harvesting
Date	November – December 2009
Region	Inuvik
Participants	14
Contribution	\$10,000

From November 31<sup>st</sup> to December 18<sup>th</sup> groups of students from Moose Kerr School were lead out to First Creek to take part in various traditional harvesting and trapping activities. Students were given the opportunity to take part in tool making. There were various materials available for making hunting knives, ulus and fish hooks. The introduction to the trapping portion of the camp consisted of teaching the students proper trapping practices and showing them what type of trap to set for each animal. Students managed to successfully trap two lynx, a mink, and a cross fox.



The youth travelled out to Marten’s Creek to get some ice fishing experience, and each student chiseled their own holes. The total number of fish caught that day was 42. Several students also participated in learning how to properly cut wood, and they were instructed on proper tree selection and proper chainsaw safety. Students also had an opportunity to learn a little bit about small engines and fire arm safety. As well there was instruction about maintenance and minor repairs to snowmobiles, and safe operation of a rifle.

## Inuvik Region

Samuel Hearne Secondary School – Inuvik

Program	Take a Kid Harvesting
Date	January 2009
Region	Inuvik
Participants	8
Contribution	\$3,775

From January 11<sup>th</sup> to 15<sup>th</sup>, 2009, eight students from Samuel Hearne Secondary School travelled to Fred Carmichaels Camp to learn practices of living on the land. The main purpose of this camp was to teach students proper trapping practices. Students had the opportunity to properly set and check traps, how to clean and skin animals, and to learn about NWT *Trapping Regulations*.

With a focus on humane trapping practices, the youth set traps for lynx, marten, muskrat, wolverine, and snares for rabbits. Students had the chance to learn more about Aboriginal culture, as well as the importance of outdoor survival, fire building skills, and skidoo maintenance.



## South Slave Region

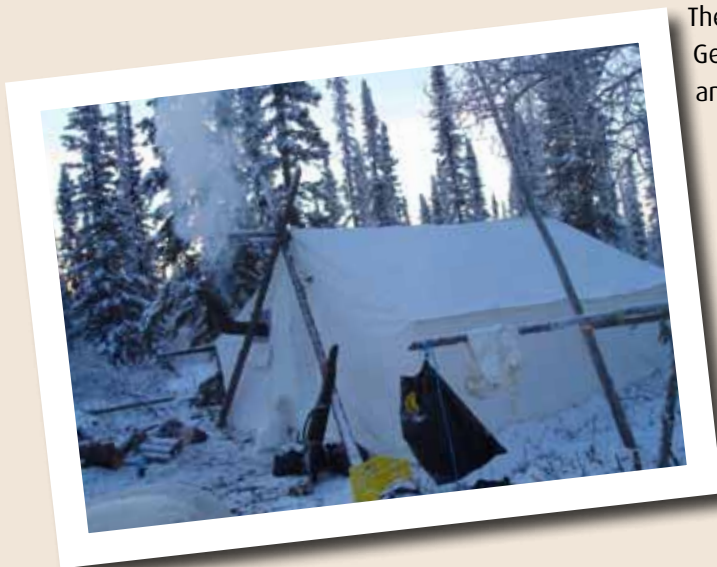
École Boréale – Hay River

Program	Take a Kid Trapping
Date	2009 – 2010
Region	South Slave
Participants	38
Contribution	\$8,000

École Boréale students from grades three through eight were split up into groups, and each group had two days to participate in the trapping camp. Students were given the opportunity to see various types of pelts, furs, trapping tools, and also were educated about proper trapping methods and pelt preparation.

They were also involved with helping set and check traps and given the option to participate in the first few steps of pelt preparation.

The students also received information about the Genuine Mackenzie Valley Fur Program (GMVF) and most NWT *Trapping Regulations*.



# South Slave Region

PWK High School – Fort Smith

Program	Take a Kid Trapping
Date	2009 – 2010
Region	South Slave
Participants	4
Contribution	\$5,000

This year four students took part in PWK High School’s Winter Camp that was held at Piers Lake. Since there were a small number of students participating this year, the students were able to receive more one on one time with the instructors, and were able to accomplish more tasks in a shorter period of time.

Students participated in various activities such as: learning how to build fires and construct shelters, setting fish nets, hunting caribou, learning how to harvest, clean, and prepare caribou and fish, and learning bush construction techniques for outdoor survival.

The youth were able to hone their bush skills and also had extra time to help work on the new kitchen and classroom facilities at Piers Lake.



## South Slave Region

Deh Gah Elementary and Secondary School – Fort Providence

Program	Take a Kid Trapping
Date	November 2009 – March 2010
Region	South Slave
Participants	82
Contribution	\$12,000

Deh Gah Elementary and Secondary School decided to divide their students up into three separate groups, each with different activities to take part in their hunting and trapping program. Students were broken up into a “students at risk” group which consisted of two students, a “spring hunt” group which had eight youth participants, and finally a “day program” portion which was made up of 18 groups

of four students. The student at risk group received the most support; the two young men were sent out on the land to spend three days a week setting traps and nets. The spring hunt group consisted of eight junior high students travelling to Willow Lake for five days to hunt a buffalo.



The majority of the youth that participated in this camp were in primary and elementary grades. Their main camp activity was learning how to set snares close to the community. Those involved with the hunting and trapping program this year feel that they met all of the main program objectives. The objectives included encouraging supportive behavior amongst each other and trappers in the community, engaging the youth in experiences that will teach them responsibility, and finally to have the established hunters and trappers in the community get involved with counseling the youth on a number of different subjects.



# South Slave Region

Princess Alexandra School – Hay River

Program	Take a Kid Trapping
Date	January 2009 – March 2010
Region	South Slave
Participants	10
Contribution	\$345.00

Over the course of several months, 10 students from Princess Alexandra School participated in five trapping activity sessions that were one hour long. Session one included information about dressing properly for cold weather, as well as snowshoeing techniques. In session two, the students were able to take part in a nature walk using their snowshoes. While on the walk, the students learned how to identify different animal tracks and certain shrubs and trees, as well as sources of food for animals. Students were also taught how to identify a potential site for setting a snare.

Session three was dedicated to students practicing how to making snares and set them on rabbit runs.

In session four, the students had a guest speaker, Orlanda Carlson, who did a presentation on the commercial value of trapping fur-bearing animals. In this presentation the students got to see a variety of pelts and several different types of traps that are used in the industry. Finally, in the fifth session, students were shown how to skin a rabbit and prepare the meat for cooking.



## South Slave Region

JBT Elementary School – Fort Smith

Program	Take a Kid Harvesting
Date	March – April 2010
Region	South Slave
Participants	22
Contribution	\$9,000

This year, 22 students took part in JBT Elementary School’s Winter Trapping and Fishing Camp held at Hanging Ice River. A total of three separate camps were held, each lasting three days and two nights for an all inclusive cultural experience. For the course of each camp session students were involved in setting and checking traps, travelling by boat to harvest muskrat and beaver furs, and taking part in the preparation of those furs. Some other activities that the students were able to take part in were skinning, fleshing, and stretching the pelts, as well as preparing meat and fish for smoking. There were also lessons in bush skills such as making a fire and how to build proper shelter.



The camp was once again a success and met all of the objectives. Activities and experiences focused on the integration of culture and tradition, and demonstrated to the students that traditional occupations can still provide viable career options.

# South Slave Region

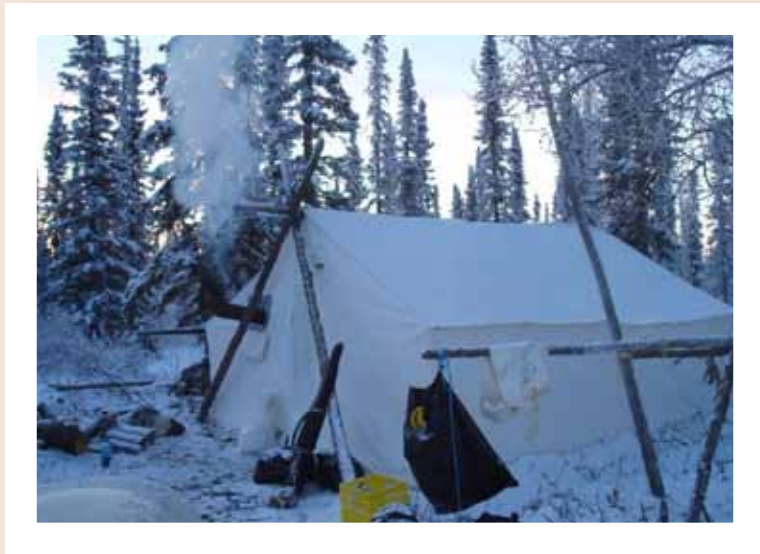
Diamond Jenness Secondary School – Hay River

Program	Take A Kid Harvesting
Date	March 2010
Region	South Slave
Participants	13
Contribution	\$8,000

From March 1<sup>st</sup> to 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2010, 13 students set out for Buffalo Lake to take part in the Take a Kid Harvesting Program hosted by Diamond Jenesse Secondary School. The main objectives of the camp were met in a variety of ways. After instruction, the students were asked to perform the tasks of setting, checking, and disengaging snares, they were educated in moose hunting, how to identify tracks, how to safely use firearms, how to maintain a snowmobile, and how to prepare and plan all meals.

Students were given opportunity to apply the practical skills they had been learning throughout the camp. For example, they were responsible for keeping the fire going through the night, so they needed to ensure they had enough wood and kindling in case the fire was to go out.

Overall, the camp was a success and there were many positive outcomes.



## South Slave Region

Diamond Jenness Secondary School – Hay River

Program	Take a Kid Trapping
Date	2009/10
Region	South Slave
Participants	30
Contribution	\$10,000

This year four different groups of students, a total of 30 participants, travelled 100 km south of Hay River to a cabin to take part in a trapping camp. The first group, made up of about eight students, fulfilled camp duties such as hauling and stacking wood and assisting with the cleaning and cooking. The students watched and learned how to handle the different traps and how to use different kinds of bait. The students acquired first hand knowledge in how to set rabbit snares, and also had the opportunity to observe the skinning and boarding of lynx and marten according to proper regulations.



The second group of students set and checked snares and helped haul wood for the woodstoves. This also gave them the chance to learn how to operate a chainsaw safely. As there were two wolves hanging around when the second group went out, it was possible for the students to help set up feeding stations with several snares and traps.

The final two groups of students were senior and actively participated in the various trapping activities. In the end, the four groups managed to harvest two lynx, one mink, three martens, four rabbits, and three grouse.

# South Slave Region

Western Arctic Leadership Program – Fort Smith

Program	Take a Kid Harvesting
Date	March 2010
Region	South Slave
Participants	17
Contribution	\$10,000

The Western Arctic Leadership Program consisted of 17 students attending a weekend camp at the Thebacha campsite. The camp focused on teaching the kids basic bush skills. They learned how to safely use and operate both a chainsaw and a snowmobile. The winter portion of the camp was five days long and held at Piers Lake. The students participated in various activities including lessons about wilderness survival, shelter making, GPS use, and snow shoeing. There was also the chance to set a net under the ice, set beaver traps, and to brush up on basic camping skills.

The camp was considered to be an overall success with the students showing significant improvement in their skills from the start of the program.

They demonstrated a better understanding of the land and the animals that live there.



## South Slave Region

Deh Gah Elementary and Secondary School – Fort Providence

Program	Take a Kid Harvesting
Date	March 2010
Region	South Slave
Participants	6
Contribution	\$5,000

Under the Take a Kid Trapping program, Deh Gah Elementary and Secondary School organized a caribou hunt in which six students participated. The students were first required to spend the two days prior to the hunt taking a firearm safety course before they were allowed to participate in the hunt. The group was successful and shot five caribou, and from this the meat was evenly distributed and skin used to make several Dene drums.

The main objectives of the project were to encourage supportive behavior among the young men from Fort Providence and Fort Smith, and to engage the youth in experiences that would teach them responsibility and team work through land based activities.



These objectives were met through the nature and activities of the program and the program was believed to be a success overall.

# Sahtu Region

Chief T'Selehye School – Fort Good Hope

Program	Take a Kid Harvesting
Date	June – July 2009
Region	Sahtu
Participants	6
Contribution	\$9,000

This year six students from Chief T'Selehye School travelled by boat to Hume River to participate in their Take a Kid Harvesting Camp. The kids helped with various things such as cleaning, hauling water, and setting nets for fish and snares for rabbits. The students managed to catch several fish and rabbits and later assisted in preparing and cooking the meat.

The students were taken out daily to hunt. Some days were successful, some days were not, and each day the students participated in some sort of cookout with the food they either caught or brought along.



## Sahtu Region

Out on the Land Program – Fort Good Hope School

Program	Take a Kid Harvesting
Date	June 2009
Region	Sahtu
Participants	4
Contribution	\$9,000

From June 9<sup>th</sup> to 21<sup>st</sup>, 2009, four students made several trips to different locations to take part in various hunting and trapping activities. The students travelled to locations such as Loon River, Grandview, Pierrot Creek, Hume River, and Fossil Lake. The students were successful in hunting ducks and beaver while learning how to pluck and prepare them to be cooked.



The kids also had a chance to experience skinning a beaver. While the students and instructors were camping out at Little Chicago for three nights, the students assisted in setting up camp, helping with lunch, cutting wood, and learning how to set fish nets.



# Sahtu Region

Colville Lake School – Colville Lake

Program	Take a Kid Harvesting
Date	2009 – 2010
Region	Sahtu
Participants	32
Contribution	\$3,800

This year, 32 students ranging in age from kindergarten to grade four from Colville Lake school were able to get out on the land to participate in the Take a Kid Harvesting Program. This year the program was held in Colville Lake and it gave the kids an opportunity to go out with their teachers and a community elder to participate in various activities.

The students were able to get out on the land usually twice a week, and learned how to set snares for rabbits, and set up a traditional ice and ptarmigan net.



## Sahtu Region

Behdzi Ahda First Nation – Colville Lake

Program	Take a Kid Trapping
Date	May 2009
Region	Sahtu
Participants	8
Contribution	\$7,564

From May 20<sup>th</sup> to 27<sup>th</sup>, 2009, eight students travelled to the north end of Colville Lake to take part in the Take a Kid Trapping program hosted by the Behdzi Ahda First Nation. The students received instruction on various subjects; things such as how to clean fish and make dryfish, how to skin beaver and otter, and also how to prepare the hunted ducks for cooking.

The students also helped set nets, and helped out around the camp with daily chores.



## Sahtu Region

Behdzi Ahda First Nation – Colville Lake

Program	Take a Kid Harvesting
Date	September 2009
Region	Sahtu
Participants	10
Contribution	\$7,125

This year 10 students participated in the annual community hunt that was held on Horton Lake from September 5<sup>th</sup> to 15<sup>th</sup>, 2009. Each youth that participated in the trip was given the chance to actively hunt under the supervision of an adult. They were taught how to properly harvest caribou and how to cut and package the meat for storage and so it could be transported home.

Along with the hunting trips, all of the youth participated in other daily activities such as hauling firewood, setting up the camp, and a basic introduction to survival skills on the barren land.



## Sahtu Region

### Sahtu Renewable Resource Board – Délı̄ne

Program	Take a Kid Trapping
Date	September 2009 – April 2010
Region	Sahtu
Participants	20
Contribution	\$16,000

The Sahtu Renewable Resource Board was able to take 20 youth on 14 excursions this year under the Take a Kid Trapping Program. The students travelled approximately 25 km outside of Délı̄ne to have an on-the-land experience. They were able to set and check fish nets, learn how to prepare and set rabbit snares, and they were given lessons in setting up and taking down a traditional campsite.

There was also instruction on setting up and maintaining a trap line, along with snowmobile maintenance, winter safety, and other survival skills.

This program allowed the students to gain credits towards graduation and learn skills from local experts.



# Dehcho Region

Sambaa K'e Dene Band – Trout Lake

Program	Take a Kid Harvesting
Date	September 2009
Region	Dehcho
Participants	5
Contribution	\$8,000

Five youth had the chance to go out on the land for two weeks with active harvesters in the community to learn harvesting skills. The youth were able to gain hands on experience in identifying moose and caribou tracks, how to hunt the animals in the traditional way, and also participate in preparing the meat they caught not only for cooking but also for winter storage.

The youth also participated in a community hunt project with the active harvesters. They were taught the traditional way of hunting geese, how to pluck and clean them, and a variety of cooking techniques.



## Dehcho Region

Sambaa K'e Dene Band - Trout Lake

Program	Take a Kid Trapping
Date	December 2009 - March 2010
Region	Dehcho
Participants	5
Contribution	\$8,000

In this program each youth spent 10 days at a cabin with an active harvester to learn trapper training. During the 10 days each participant had hands on experience identifying fur bearing tracks and where to look for different animals such as lynx or marten. First, the harvesters demonstrated the safety rules of setting conibear traps, then the youth had a chance to set a trap of their own for beavers and muskrats.

There was also instruction on how to set snares for beaver and rabbits. The students were able to check their traps regularly and also learned how to skin, flush and dry the beaver and muskrats they managed to catch.



# Dehcho Region

Charles Yohen School – Nahanni Butte

Program	Take a Kid Trapping
Date	2009 – 2010
Region	Dehcho
Participants	7
Contribution	\$8,000

This year seven students from grades seven and nine were able to take part in the Take a Kid Trapping excursion that was held at Bluefish Lake. The students were able to take part in many different trapping activities such as setting traps and snares for lynx and rabbits, building snow shelters, and cooking for the camp.

There were also lessons in firearm safety, snowmobile safety, and an opportunity to play traditional games. The students were taught how to face various different challenges that come along with winter camping and survival on the land, including gathering and splitting firewood, setting up and dismantling camp, and proper clean up.

This program is highly valued in the community, as it gives students the opportunity to learn a more traditional lifestyle and also allows them to gain confidence in themselves and their abilities to learn.



## Dehcho Region

Jean Marie River First Nation

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

The Jean Marie River First Nation Recreation Department organized a one week trip held at Ekali Lake for six youth under the Take a Kid Trapping Program. Students were taught how and where to set traps and rabbit snares, and how to set a fish net. They were also given the opportunity to do some hunting.

Students were taught humane methods of trapping. In the end the youth were successful in catching two rabbits and some fish but no fur bearers.



There were also several presentations made by ENR wildlife officers during the trip. There was a presentation on NWT *Trapping Regulations*, the GMFV program, a history of trapping and the fur industry, and finally a presentation of fur and trapping that promoted conversation education.



# Dehcho Region

Chief Julian Yendo School – Wrigley

Program	Take a Kid Trapping
Date	March 2010
Region	Dehcho
Participants	10
Contribution	\$4,000

Ten students from Chief Julian Yendo School participated in Take a Kid Trapping at Fish Lake. The workshop focused mainly on trapping activities such as setting rabbit snares and beaver, marten and muskrat traps. The students managed to trap 10 marten, two mink, and two muskrats.

There were also presentations made by ENR wildlife officers on fur and trapping history, *NWT Trapping Regulations*, and the GMVF program. Instructors provided knowledge on a variety of subjects including outdoor survival skills, cutting firewood and making fires, how to cook outdoors, and how to skin the animals and prepare the pelts properly.



## Dehcho Region

Chief Julian Yendo School – Wrigley

Program	Take a Kid Harvesting
Date	March 2010
Region	Dehcho
Participants	10
Contribution	\$6,000



Chief Julian Yendo School's Take a Kid Harvesting workshop was held jointly with the Take a Kid Trapping workshop at Fish Lake.

This workshop focused on harvesting land food such as meat and vegetation. Two groups of students travelled down the established trap lines by snowmobiles for a four day trip of various activities. Students collected wood, started fires and were able to cook a variety of wild foods including caribou, fish, fish eggs, and muskrat.

They also learned to set up beaver and muskrat traps along with rabbit and marten snares. The students were successful in trapping some muskrats and were shown how to prepare and cook the meat in a traditional way.

# Dehcho Region

Louie Norwegian School – Jean Marie River

Program	Take a Kid Harvesting
Date	October 2009 – March 2010
Region	Dehcho
Participants	7
Contribution	\$8,000

Louie Norwegian School conducted a Take a Kid Harvesting workshop for a period of 21 days between October 2009 to March 2010. The location of trapping and harvesting for the meat and vegetation was in various areas in Jean Marie River.

As the workshop focused on harvesting food on the land naturally, some of the daily activities included gathering edible berries to be used in traditional cooking, grouse hunting, snaring rabbits and preparing the meat for stew, and gathering rat root for medicinal purposes.

The students also went on four separate hunting trips for moose and any harvested moose meat was prepared for stew. The youth learned how to gather sap to make birch syrup, and also harvested beavers for food. In the end, students learned proper fishing, tracking, hunting and snaring practices, a variety of methods for preparing food, and finally the safe use of bows and pellet rifles when hunting.



## Dehcho Region

Liidlii Kue First Nation – Fort Simpson

Program	Take a Kid Trapping
Date	June – July 2009
Region	Dehcho
Participants	7
Contribution	\$15,000

This birch bark canoe building project took place in Fort Simpson and was a unique experience for the participants involved. Seven Fort Simpson youth were able to help build a traditional Slavey style 16 foot birch bark canoe using raw materials from the bush.

Instructor, Mr. Aaron York, taught the students how to use raw materials such as birch bark, pine tree poles, tamarack, spruce roots and pine sap from the forest to construct the canoe. The project was a huge success and attracted a lot of attention and interest from the local media and surrounding regions.

After almost two full weeks of construction, each student got a chance to paddle the newly built birch bark canoe when it was launched from the shores of the Mackenzie River on July 17<sup>th</sup>, 2009.



# North Slave Region

K'alemi Dene School – Ndilo

Program	Take a Kid Trapping
Date	February – March 2010
Region	North Slave
Participants	78
Contribution	\$7,800

The students from K'alemi Dene School set out to Octopus Lake to take part in a culture-based camp. During the trip, the students stopped to set up traps for marten, mink, lynx and muskrats. At the camp, students received instruction about trapping and safe winter camp set up.

Students also had the chance to make and set their own snares for rabbits. Once the camp had finished and it was time to go back, the students were able to check the traps they had previously set and were successful in harvesting marten, muskrat and rabbits.



## North Slave Region

Yellowknife Catholic Schools – Yellowknife

Program	Take a Kid Trapping
Date	February – March 2010
Region	North Slave
Participants	280
Contribution	\$7,800

During the 2009/10 school year approximately 156 high school students and 124 grade four students took part in this program. The high school students participated in the Bliss Lake Trapper Training Program sponsored in part by ENR. In addition, 140 high school students had the opportunity to visit a working trapline over the course of five days.



Students participated in the setting, checking and maintenance of the trapline and some assisted with the preparation of fur that was harvested over the five days. The grade four students took part in a five day spring trapping program and learned the basics of muskrat and beaver trapping, animal habitat, basic camp skills, preparing pelts and cooking their catch over a fire.

Both the grade four and high school programs were done in cooperation with the local band council and employed local Aboriginal residents and used locally purchased supplies.

# North Slave Region

Lutselk'e Dene School - Lutselk'e

Program	Take a Kid Trapping
Date	February - March 2010
Region	North Slave
Participants	24
Contribution	\$7,800

In February 2010, 13 students and nine chaperones made a four day trip to the Barrens. The group hunted caribou and saw small herds near Artillery Lake.

The students learned all about packing and traveling from community instructors and were responsible for setting up camp, getting wood and water, cooking and going on daily hunting and trapping trips to observe how to pick caribou, how to cut and prepare the meat and transport it back to camp. Community resource people demonstrated how to set and bait traps, and how to clean the animals to prepare them for auction.

Students had a workshop on December 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> with local ENR and community resource people. This workshop dealt with trapping rules, safety considerations, how to set traps, what traps and bait to use and how to prepare the fur and dispose of carcasses.



## North Slave Region

Mezi Community School – Whati

Program	Take a Kid Trapping
Date	February – March 2010
Region	North Slave
Participants	153
Contribution	\$7,800

With the support of the Take a Kid Trapping contribution, Mezi Community School (MCS) was able to take students from Kindergarten to Grade 12. The students did a variety of trapping and hunting excursions from day trips to three day trips around the lake.

These excursions took 153 students on the land.

### Projected Outcomes That Were Achieved

- MCS gained a stronger relationship with the community.
- Locals gained employment opportunities by sharing their knowledge and expertise in the field.
- Students learned about the recreation of trapping and fishing and the connection it has to their culture.
- The importance of environmental conservation was taught and promoted to the youth.
- Students learned traditional fishing and trapping skills passed on from their elders.





# North Slave Region

Chief Jimmy Bruno School - Behchokq

Program	Take a Kid Harvesting
Date	November 2009 - March 2010
Region	North Slave
Participants	230
Contribution	\$7,800

The elementary students at Chief Jimmy Bruno School (CJBS) participated in a number of cultural activities throughout the 2009/10 school year. The Take a Kid Trapping program provided the school with flexibility and funding for a variety of cultural experiences, such as fish camps, listening to elders tell stories about the past, learning to snare, making traditional drums, and even dog sledding! Each on-the-land-experience was linked to classroom activities where the students learned about important topics, such as dressing properly for the weather, safety in the bush and on the skidoo, paying respect to the land and animals, and listening to interesting stories about the camp area. The students were actively involved throughout each activity and participated by helping to set fish lines and traps, cleaning fish and rabbits, collecting and hopping wood, as well as cleaning up the camp site.

The junior high students had many exciting opportunities to learn about their culture through on the land trips with CJBS. Students were involved in the skinning of rabbits, the filleting of fish and also in the cooking of these animals. Many students took pride in the fact that they were able to assist the others. With each new task, students would learn the Tłıchq name for whatever they were doing. Junior high students at CJBS take great pride in their land and cherish each learning day they get to show off their skills and acquire new ones. This funding has allowed students to expand their knowledge of themselves, the land, and the Tłıchq culture.



## North Slave Region

Jean Wetrade Gameti School – Gameti

Program	Take a Kid Harvesting
Date	February – March 2010
Region	North Slave
Participants	50
Contribution	\$3,150

Approximately 50 students took part in the project which included a caribou hunt in November and ice fishing with fish nets in April. Caribou were found but the hunters were not satisfied with their condition so none were taken. About 20 fish were harvested, a mixture of northern pike, trout and white fish.

All events occurred as planned and students learned useful traditional hunting skills on these trips.



# North Slave Region

Elizabeth Mackenzie Elementary School – Behchokǫ

Program	Take a Kid Harvesting
Date	February – March 2010
Region	North Slave
Participants	250
Contribution	\$7,800

The camp provided the students of Elizabeth Mackenzie Elementary School (EMES) exposure to traditional cultural skills, such as snowshoeing, setting fishnets, setting snares and collecting firewood. The primary students participated in a day camp and the intermediate students from grade four to grade six participated in an overnight camp.

The students were instructed by Tłıchǫ staff and experienced Tłıchǫ camp workers. They taught the students in the traditional Tłıchǫ style, and helped the students to become more aware and learn about Tłıchǫ history and skills of living on the land.



## North Slave Region

Yellowknives Dene First Nation – Yellowknife

Program	Take a Kid Harvesting
Date	September 2009
Region	North Slave
Participants	10
Contribution	\$6,000

The objective of this camp was to teach the Yellowknife Dene First Nation (YKDFN) youth that they are the future stewards of the land and caribou and to provide an opportunity for the youth to learn about the Mackay Lake area and how to survive traditionally. The camp took place over five days from September 26<sup>th</sup> to 30<sup>th</sup>, 2009 at the Yellowknives Dene First Nation camp at MacKay Lake. Within the camp there was an emphasis on teaching our youth about who they are as a people and to introduce them to their future role as stewards.



The group also had a discussion on hunting caribou and the traditions that must be followed when hunting. The intention was to accomplish these things in a positive environment on the land and to create an enjoyable experience for all participants.

# North Slave Region

Yellowknife Education District 1 – Yellowknife

Program	Take a Kid Harvesting
Date	February – March 2010
Region	North Slave
Participants	430
Contribution	\$7,800

Approximately 11 YK1 on the land camps were enhanced by the Take a Kid Trapping/Harvesting contribution. This included 430 students and eight YK1 schools. Becks Kennels was hired to facilitate trapping and fish camps for students in grade four and seven, and students in grade nine went to the Bliss Lake trapping camp with ENR.

The grade four trapping camp had 120 students, the grade seven fish camp had 130 students, the grade nine winter camp had 160 students and the Bliss Lake trapper training camp had 16 students. Teachers also attended these camps as supervisors and leaders. The Sir John Franklin High School cultural resource person attended all high school camps to add support from the district and school level.

Students were quoted saying that they loved it, that they learned a lot and they want to go back.



