

THE FORT TIMES

Safety Courses with Aurora College



Adam Yeadon and Isadore Lomen participating in the Chainsaw safety course that was held March 2 to 4; 12 people took part. There were so many people interested that we held it again April 18-20. Then Predator Defense and Shotgun Handling April 21-22.

Submitted by Chistine Abela, Community Adult Educator, Aurora College.

APRIL 2016 Xah Sa

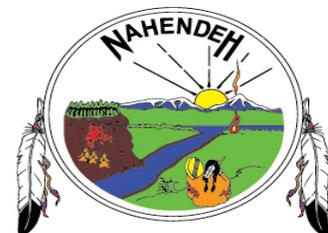
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NWT DRIVERS



Starting May 1st, tougher distracted driving penalties will come into place in the NWT. Fines will also be doubled for those distracted driving in school and construction zones.

Fines can apply to driver's operating, holding, and even touching a restricted device, such as a cellphone.



Acho Dene Koe
FIRST NATION

ADK'S ANNUAL Ice Fishing Derby

Participants made the trek out to Fisherman Lake for the Annual Ice Fishing Derby that was held March 4-6 and March 25-28. The Jackfish were a popular catch among the 2016 derby anglers. In the Adult category, Louie Betthale hooked a 22.13 pound jackfish and took home 1st place – a well deserved canvas tent! In the Kids category Damien Klondike hooked a 20.13 jackfish and took home a tablet. Good job Damien!

Community Members also took the opportunity to haul supplies and equipment during the first leg of the derby using Spectra's access road that was installed as part of their Pointed Mountain Remediation Project. Locals used the access road until the deactivation took place on March 18th.

The event was an overall success with good food, shared laughter and some hungry fish! It is events like this that remind us of the importance of ice fishing as a traditional event among the Acho Dene Koe First Nation.

We would like to thank the businesses, organizations and companies that generously donated towards our Annual Derby and of course the Event Coordinator, Janna Deneron. Your donations and hard work contributed to a memorable community gathering and a sense of pride in our traditional practices.



Photos by Hilary Deneron and Lindsey Berreault



2 Top to bottom – Louie Betthale with his 22 pound jackfish. Event Coordinator Janna Deneron with group of youth during the 2nd Fishing Derby.



Left to right - Derwin Kotchea assisting his son Damien Kotchea in holding up his catch of the day, while daughter Summer smiles on for the camera! Anthony Duntra with his 1st place prize – a brand new chainsaw that was donated by ADK Corporate.

A SPECIAL SHOUT OUT TO ALL THOSE WHO CONTRIBUTED

- Cooper Barging
- Liard Valley General Store
- TransCanada
- Quicksilver
- The Hamlet of Fort Liard
- Beaver Enterprises Ltd.
- Liard River Contracting
- Northern
- Hope's Ventures
- Timberland Wood Service
- Macro
- Spectra
- Tetra Tech
- Triton Environmental Consultants
- Apache
- Curran & Associates
- R Bramhill Consulting

CONGRATULATIONS! Winners!

Adult Jack

- 1st – Louie Betthale 22.13 lbs.
- 2nd – Yvonne Nande 21.1 lbs.
- 3rd – Steven Klondike 18.3 lbs.
- 4th – Molly Duntra 16.1 lbs.

Adult Pickerel

- 1st – Anthony Duntra 5.2 lbs.
- 2nd – Manny Vital 2.13 lbs.
- 3rd – Sharon Duntra 2.5 lbs.
- 4th – Julie Capot Blanc 2.3 lbs.

Youth Jack

- 1st – Tyler Bertrand 14.7 lbs.
- 2nd – Ethan McLeod 8 lbs.
- 3rd – Nezoia Duntra 5.9 lbs.
- 4th – Abby Duntra 4.4 lbs.

Youth Pickerel

- 1st – Scott Kotchea 4.2 lbs.
- ** No other entries

Child Jack

- 1st – Damien Kotchea 20.13 lbs.
- 2nd – Shaniel Duntra 12.5 lbs.
- 3rd – Hunter Klondike 9.5 lbs.
- 4th – Dakota Lomen 7.5 lbs.

Children's Pickerel

- 1st – Summer Klondike 1.4 lbs.
- 2nd – Madison Capot Blanc
- ** No other entries



Acho Dene Koe
FIRST NATION

1st Annual Aurora College CHILI COOK-OFF & Bake Sale



The event was attended by 80 people. It was meant to be a fun community event, but also to promote Aurora College programs and fund raise; proceeds going to student coffee fund. Huge thanks to everyone from the community who came out, entered a chili, and donated prizes (ADK Holdings and Acho Dene Native Crafts).

Photos – top clockwise 8 out of the 15 chilies entered. RCMP Kyle Hammond and Bernie Bonnetrouge make their chili rounds. Ian Berreault, Kali Norn, Derek Kotchea; missing team members Micheal Bertrand and Keith Nelson made the winning chili. Rebecca Grossetete and Robin Westlake in charge of the Bake Sale.



TREATY TALK

On April 14th Lands Consultant Rob Diaz, Lawyer Bob Reiter and Lands Coordinator Alex Fanni provided the Acho Dene Koe First Nation and Metis Membership with an update on ADK's Final Agreement as well as engagement they have had with Yukon and BC. Currently, ADK's Land Selection covers three jurisdictions; the Northwest Territories, where many reside in the Hamlet of Fort Liard, Northern British Columbia, and the South-eastern Yukon Territory. It is what makes the Comprehensive Land Claim so unique and difficult to negotiate.

Similar to what was done with Nahanni Butte and Trout Lake's overlapping traditional boundaries, the ADK is committed to working with neighboring governments and Nations in order to resolve all boundary disputes. Due to the persistence of the Negotiations Team, ADK has arranged a meeting in Whitehorse with Yukon officials next month in May. With fingers crossed, ADK leadership is hopeful that this meeting will be the first step towards formally initiating ADK's claim in this territory. For those families who have interests and maintain a presence in the Yukon territory, ADK leadership is encouraging individuals to stop by the Band office if they would like a more detailed update on the Yukon negotiations process. With regard to BC, the Negotiations Team continues to aggressively pursue ADK's claim in this jurisdiction, but has still not been able to engage the BC government in direct discussions concerning ADK rights and title in that province.

Along with the community meeting on April 14, ADK leadership also met with Premier Bob McLeod and other Territorial officials to highlight some key concerns that the ADK are facing in finalizing its treaty in the NWT. During this meeting ADK leadership expressed community concerns over property taxes, social remediation, and land selection. Chief Deneron, along with Councilmen Steve Kotchea and Métis President McLeod were adamant that community support for treaty ratification is dependent on an agreement between ADK and the NWT regarding the issue of outstanding property taxes owed by ADK members living in Ft. Liard. As mentioned in our previous newsletter, these sensitive issues require more time to resolve and remain at the forefront of ADK's main table discussions.

If there are any other concerns regarding treaty negotiations, ADK leadership encourages Band members to come to the Band office or contact the Negotiations Team via email.



Treaty Meeting in Edmonton – April 25 to April 29

- **Who:** Chief Harry Deneron, Métis President Ernie McLeod, Councilor Steve Kotchea, Lands Consultant Rob Diaz, Lawyer Bob Reiter, Federal and Territorial Negotiators.
- **What:** Outstanding Final Agreement Provisions, Implementation, and Lands Selection.

A detailed article of the Edmonton maintainable meeting will be published in the next edition of *The Fort Times*.

COMMUNITY QUESTIONS

Recently, community members have been asking about what happens to their status as Indians after the Final Agreement is concluded between ADK, Canada, and GNWT. Some community members have expressed apprehension that they are going to lose their status cards, as well as their Aboriginal rights.

To answer this question, ADK legal council Bob Reiter passed on to ADK leadership that the Final Agreement being negotiated provides that ADK Band members will retain their Indian Status under the *Indian Act*, along with all services provided from the Crown. This means, all hunting and trapping rights will remain, along with services such as health and education. Furthermore, there will be no change to Employment Insurance, old age pension, and the right to vote in all elections. In short, the new treaty will make ADK beneficiaries citizens of Canada, with all the treaty rights to hunt, fish, and practice cultural activities as provided under the Final Agreement.



If there are any other concerns regarding treaty negotiations, ADK leadership encourages Band members to come to the Band office or contact the Negotiations Team via email.

RESPECT YOUR HARVEST. TAKE ONLY WHAT YOU NEED AND USE ALL YOU TAKE.

Moose are important for a healthy ecosystem and for people who maintain a traditional lifestyle.

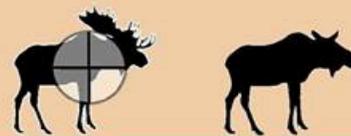


Choose Today For A Choice Tomorrow

Results of shooting adult cow



Results of shooting adult bull



1st year



3rd year



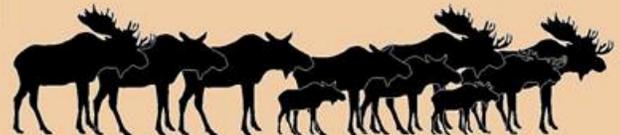
5th year



7th year



10th year



PREMIER MCLEOD AND MLA SHANE THOMPSON VISIT FORT LIARD

Premier Bob McLeod, MLA Shane Thompson and other members of the 18th Legislative Assembly were in the community on April 7th to talk with the ADK Leadership on Treaty related issues and held a dinner, followed by a public meeting, where community members had the opportunity to directly ask questions and voice their concerns.

Mahsi cho to cooks Gracie Berreault, Natasha McLeod and volunteers Leona Berreault, Arlene Wright and Naomi McLeod.



The Echo Dene School would like to thank the following for their generous donations for our School Community feast.

ADK Corporate – Liard Fuel Centre
DEA
Northern Store
Liard Valley General Store
Overwaitea



The community would like to thank the RCMP Detachment for all of their hard work in keeping Fort Liard a safe environment for its members.

The community appreciates your work and ongoing efforts!

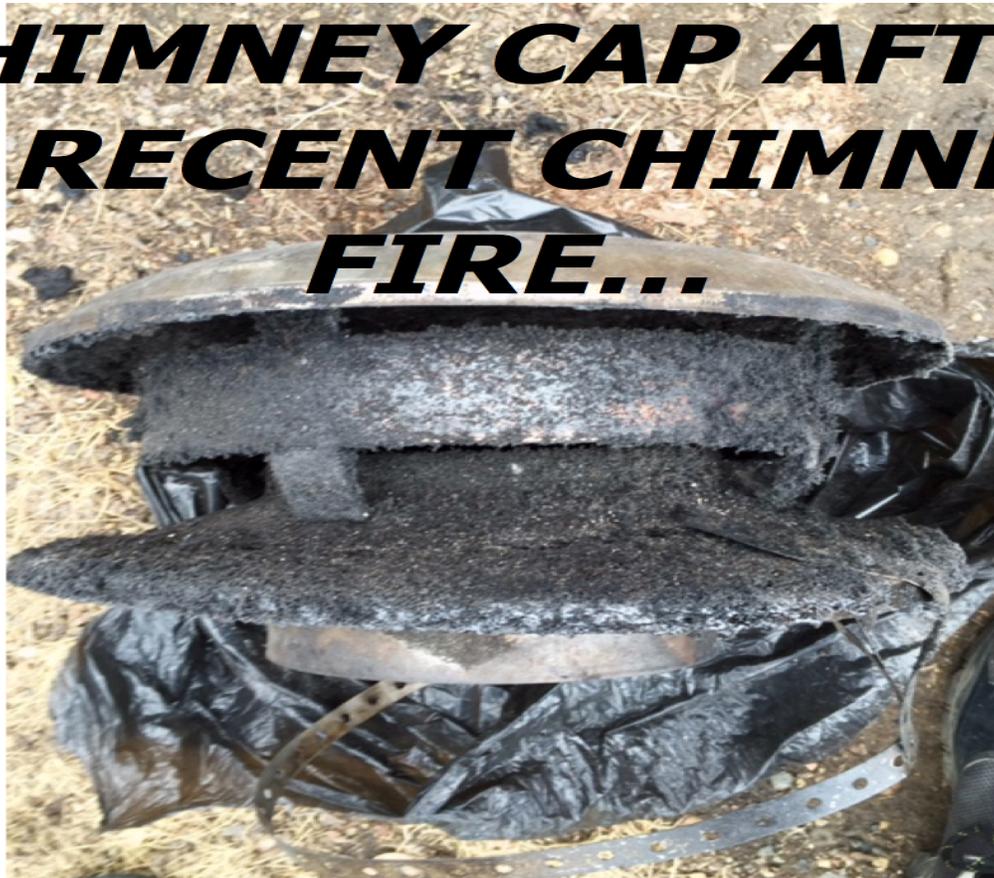


Spring is officially in Fort Liard

With the Petitot River rapidly making its way to the Liard River mid morning on April 27th, Community Members watched attentively as the Petitot flowed into the mouth of both rivers. The Liard went on April 28th.

Thank you to the Hamlet Fire Department for taking preventative measures and keeping a watchful eye on the river

CHIMNEY CAP AFTER A RECENT CHIMNEY FIRE...



**CHECK, CLEAN, OR REPLACE YOUR
STOVE PIPES IF THEY ARE DIRTY OR
RUSTY.**

Fort Liard Fire 770 2222

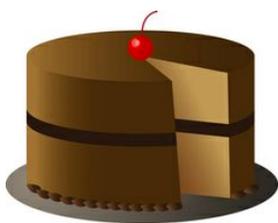
MOTHER'S DAY BAZAAR

Date: Saturday May 7th

Time: 1 – 4pm

Location: Community Hall

- **Sell your yard sale items, sewing crafts and of course baked goodies!**



\$10 per table

***Table sales
will be going
towards the
2017 Echo
Dene School
Spain Trip.***

**Call Janna
Deneron to
book your table!**

(867) 770 -4441

The Acho Dene Koe First Nation’s Office will be closed on Monday, May 23 for Victoria’s Day.

Office will reopen on Tuesday, May 24 at 9am.

Have a safe long weekend!

Would you like to receive “The Fort Times” as soon as it’s released? Add your email to our distribution list!



It’s easy – just send an email to communications@adkfirstnation.ca requesting to be added.

If you have any content that you would like included in next month’s edition, whether it be an interesting photo, a birthday greeting or a short blurb on something you think the community would enjoy reading, please contact the Acho Dene Koe Band Office by Friday May 20th.

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STEVE KOTCHEA
CATHY KOTCHEA
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SONIA TIMBRE
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