

# GMVF TRAPPERS NEWSLETTER

Winter 2008/2009

Pelthandling Workshop at Hay River January 20<sup>th</sup> 2009

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Kalvin Sangris of Ndilo receives the Youth Trapper NWT Award 2007 - 2008 from ITI, Minister Bob McLeod



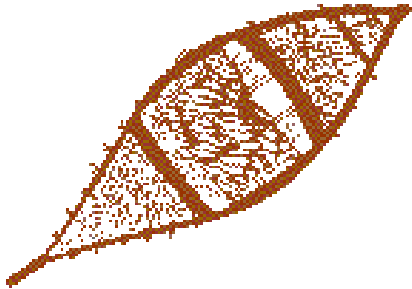
# Trapper Recognition

The GMVF Program continues to offer awards in recognition of trapper's efforts and high achievements.

Awards include a GMVF jacket along with a certificate of achievement. Trappers who achieve more than one award will be given a drum of gas along with a certificate. The Top Youth Trapper NWT receives an additional \$500 for spending on trap supplies.

## ***Award Categories:***

1. Top Youth Trapper NWT
2. Youth Trapper (Regional)
3. Senior Trapper (Regional)
4. Top Producer (highest # pelts Regional)
5. Top Producer (highest sales value Regional)



## GMVF Jacket



Kalvin Sangris (centre) of Ndilo receives the **Youth Trapper NWT Award** from ITI, Minister Bob McLeod (right). MLA Weledeh, Bob Bromley joins the celebration in support of Calvin.



ITI, Minister Bob McLeod presents Hank Rogers (left) with the **Highest Number of Pelts Award Inuvik Region 2007-2008**.



ITI, Minister Bob McLeod presents Bradley Firth (left) with the **Highest Sales Award Inuvik Region 2007-2008**.



Charlie Tale (centre) receives **High Sales and Highest Number of Pelts Award Dehcho Region 2007-2008**. Charlie received a drum of gas from Superintendent ITI Gerd Fricke (right) and ENR Renewable Resource Officer George Tsetso.



Alphonse Takazo (centre) proudly displays the GMVF jacket he received for the **Senior Trapper Award Sahtu 2006-2007**. A friend (right) closely admires Alphonse's certificate of Achievement.



Johnny Kay (right), on behalf of his son David William Kay of Fort McPherson, receives the **Youth Trapper Award Inuvik Region 2007-2008** from ITI, Superintendent Inuvik Region Don Craik.



Isaac Lennie of Inuvik receives a **Fur Harvesters Auction Award** from Officer Liz Gordon. Isaac's fur sold in a top lot at Fur Harvesters Auction 2006-2007.



Mary Firth receives a GMVF jacket and a certificate of achievement for the **Senior Trapper Award Inuvik Region 2007-2008**. ENR Superintendent Ron Morrison (right), and ITI Superintendent Don Craik (left) present the award to Mary.



Mary displays her new GMVF jacket while her son Wilbert holds her certificate of achievement.



# Pelthandling Workshops January 2009



## Fort Providence January 19<sup>th</sup>

There were 10 participants at the workshop. Trappers were impressed with the tips on pelthandling and they appreciated the forming boards that the GMVF Program was giving out to participants. All of the boards were marked for relevant sizes and species (S/M/L/XL/XXL).



## Hay River January 20<sup>th</sup>

I have been hearing nothing but good comments from trappers. I personally picked up some very helpful tips in skinning lynx, which save time and produce a better looking pelt.

### Jerry Hordal

Renewable Resource Officer



## Fort Smith January 21<sup>st</sup>

Jim Gibb gave an outstanding workshop in Fort Smith and he was well received by the participants, his knowledge as a trapper and as a fur grader was greatly appreciated.

### Sholto Douglas

Renewable Resource Officer



## Fort Resolution January 22<sup>nd</sup>

I received very good reviews from trappers. The techniques taught for skinning and preparing fur has been well received by trappers – evident in fur arriving after the workshop.

### Gord Beaulieu

Renewable Resource Officer



## Fort Liard January 23<sup>rd</sup>

There were 12 people in attendance at the ENR warehouse for the workshop, including a few students. Participants were very interested in the methods Jim showed in pelthandling and the benefits of marking the forming boards for size and species.

The GMVF Program, in partnership with Fur Harvesters Auction (FHA) provides assistance to NWT trappers in pelthandling and fur marketing techniques so that trappers can get top dollar for their fur. Workshop presenter Jim Gibb from FHA along with GNWT staff Guy Erasmus and Francois Rossouw toured 5 communities in January including Fort Providence, Hay River, Fort Smith, Fort Resolution and Fort Liard presenting pelthandling tips and market information to trappers.

The workshops dealt with proper presentation of fur when sending it off to market. Jim stressed that, many pelts come to auction poorly handled and that if trappers took the time to prepare them better they can get their averages up by a couple of dollars on each pelt. Many trappers could potentially make more money.

One of the things Jim shared was that the Industry is now looking at standard sized drying boards for all wild fur species just as they do in the ranched fur industry.

**For example;** in the ranch fur industry you could find thousands of mink pelts that are the exact same size because they use a standard board, however, trappers tend to make their own boards almost any size, therefore wild mink pelts have a great deal of variance in shapes and sizes. A standard size makes it much easier for graders and buyers.

While the trappers who showed up at the workshops were pleased with the tips that Jim had to offer, the meetings also gave opportunity for trappers to share their knowledge.

## CONTACT US

We want to hear from you. If you have any news, pictures or comments for the GMVF Newsletter, please direct your enquiries to Traditional Economy 867- 920 - 6406 or email [gmvfurs@gov.nt.ca](mailto:gmvfurs@gov.nt.ca).

For further information on Genuine Mackenzie Valley Fur related issues see our website at [www.iti.gov.nt.ca/fursagriculturefisheries/genuinefurs.shtml](http://www.iti.gov.nt.ca/fursagriculturefisheries/genuinefurs.shtml)