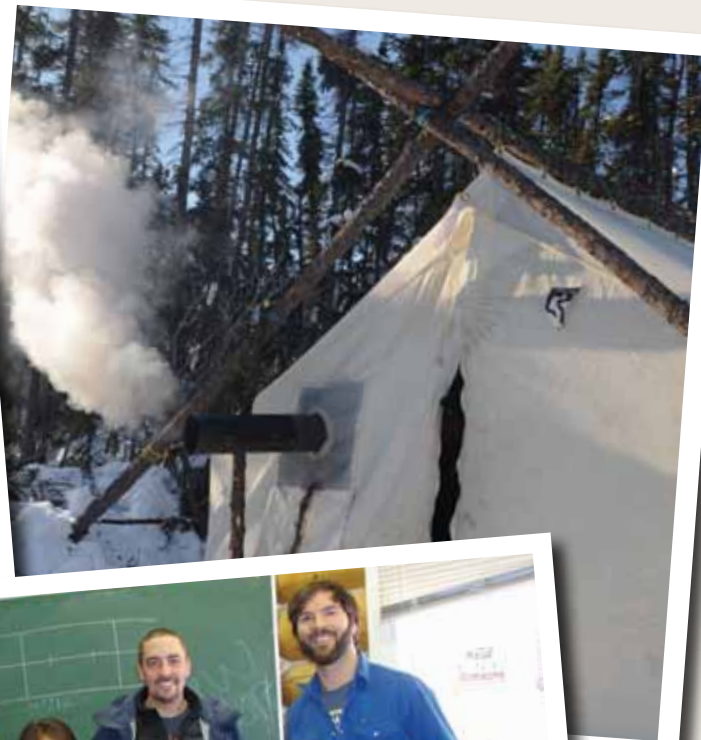




# Take a Kid

## Trapping & Harvesting

Report 2012-2013





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This publication is a compilation of program reports received from schools, community groups and associations who participated in a Take a Kid Trapping and/or Take a Kid Harvesting Program in 2012 – 2013. Aside from minor edits, reports in this publication have been reproduced verbatim.

## Introduction

For 2012 / 2013, the Take a Kid Trapping / Harvesting Program supported 53 projects involving 3,030 youth participants at a total cost of \$405,600.

### 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 means 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. Program delivery is done through schools and Aboriginal organizations in co-operation with ITI, MACA and ENR. Interested groups 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 applicants 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 the GNWT in 2013; the new five year agreement is ***Growing Forward II***. 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. 2012/13 was the third year of accessing Growing Forward contributions. **For the 2012/2013 year, 26 Take a Kid Harvesting projects qualified under Growing Forward II.**

### Take a Kid Trapping/Harvesting Projects 2012 / 2013

|                       | SAHTU | DEHCHO | INUVIK | SOUTH SLAVE | NORTH SLAVE | TOTAL |
|-----------------------|-------|--------|--------|-------------|-------------|-------|
| Take a Kid Trapping   | 4     | 6      | 4      | 6           | 7           | 27    |
| Take a Kid Harvesting | 6     | 6      | 6      | 5           | 3           | 26    |
| Regional Total        | 10    | 12     | 10     | 11          | 10          | 53    |



### Colville Lake School – Colville Lake

|              |                                               |
|--------------|-----------------------------------------------|
| Program      | Take a Kid Trapping/<br>Take a Kid Harvesting |
| Date         | January – March 2013                          |
| Region       | Sahtu                                         |
| Participants | 9                                             |
| Contribution | \$8,000/\$8000                                |

From January to March of 2013, nine students from Colville Lake School were able to participate in the Take a Kid Trapping program. The teachers and elders from the community were of great help in assisting the instructors with the program. As many as three additional community members helped out with various events that included setting an ice net as well as skinning and stretching marten pelts. The program was run on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays and began at 1pm with the students checking the snowmobiles, preparing traps and bait for the trapline, and packing the sleds. Unfortunately, due to strong weather conditions, they were unable to get out on the trapline as often as anticipated. Once out on the line, students were responsible for making and maintaining trails, harvesting animals, resetting traps and gathering fish from the nets as bait. About 30 traps were set and maintained as conditions allowed. As enough marten were harvested, the trappers would return to the school to skin and stretch the pelts. The money generated from the fur sales went towards giving each student trapper everything they would need to start and maintain their own trapline.

The program allowed the elders, students and community to come together and participate in the education of northern cultural practices. It is for these reasons that the program was regarded as a success.

### Colville Lake School – Colville Lake

|              |                                               |
|--------------|-----------------------------------------------|
| Program      | Take a Kid Harvesting/<br>Take a Kid Trapping |
| Date         | December 2012 – March 2013                    |
| Region       | Sahtu                                         |
| Participants | 42                                            |
| Contribution | \$8,000/\$8,000                               |

Through the Take a Kid Trapping and Harvesting program, a total of 42 students were able to go out on the land and collect fish and check snares. The school had one of its most successful years in collecting fish. Whitefish, lake trout, pike and burbot (loche) were all caught this year. Additionally, the students were lucky enough to net a record 45 lb. trout! Unfortunately, no animals were snared, but many tracks were seen.

Students really enjoyed their experiences out on the land and loved getting to handle the fish. They also appreciated the opportunity of eating the dry fish that they had processed themselves.



## Mackenzie Mountain School – Norman Wells

|              |                                                |
|--------------|------------------------------------------------|
| Program      | Take a Kid Trapping /<br>Take a Kid Harvesting |
| Date         | November 2012 - March 2013                     |
| Region       | Sahtu                                          |
| Participants | 7                                              |
| Contribution | \$8,000/\$8,000                                |

From November 2012 to March 2013 students from Mackenzie Mountain School in Norman Wells partook in their own “On the Land Program” thanks to the Take a Kid Trapping and Harvesting programs. The students learned a variety of different skills from basic navigation to setting snares for rabbits. This experience was also used for the in-class curriculum. Using community, oral, written and on-line resources, including the stories told by local elders, students prepared a presentation with maps, charts, tables, pictures and diagrams. Visual and/or audio tools were also used to show how the first people lived during pre-contact times in a Northern community or region of their choice.

Students seemed to enjoy their on the land experience.

## Chief Albert Wright School – Tulita

|              |                     |
|--------------|---------------------|
| Program      | Take a Kid Trapping |
| Date         | February 2013       |
| Region       | Sahtu               |
| Participants | 20                  |
| Contribution | \$8,000             |

In February 2013, twenty students, elders and community members travelled by skidoo to participate in a highly successful trip to Twelve Mile Point and Tate Lake. The female students were taught about harvesting, camp set-up and traditional cooking skills. Chief Frank Andrew was able to accompany the students on this excursion and spoke very highly of the learning experience for the adolescents. The activities included hunting, fishing and trapping. Students also practised the skills required for surviving on the land during winter.





## Chief Albert Wright School (Moose Harvest) – Tulita

| Program      | Take a Kid Harvesting |
|--------------|-----------------------|
| Date         | March 2013            |
| Region       | Sahtu                 |
| Participants | 6                     |
| Contribution | \$8,000               |

## Chief Albert Wright School – Tulita

| Program      | Take a Kid Harvesting      |
|--------------|----------------------------|
| Date         | June 2012 - September 2012 |
| Region       | Sahtu                      |
| Participants | 30                         |
| Contribution | \$8,000                    |

Sahtu Region

Chief Albert Wright School has enjoyed its most active year in on the land and traditional knowledge programming. Naia?era 15 and 25 is a CTS 3 or 5 credit course that allows students in grades 8 and 9 and in senior high to achieve school credits for hands on experiential learning of language and culture. The on-going support offered through the Take a Kid Trapping and Harvesting programs is greatly appreciated and fundamental to the continuation of on the land programming.

In late March, six students participated in harvesting four moose for their meat and for their hides which would be used in a community moosehide boat project in August. Some of the moose meat was shared in a community picnic.

From June to September 2012, students for Chief Albert Wright School in Tulita participated in a course which allowed for daily excursions taught in the Slavey language. Students learned survival and bush skills in both summer and fall conditions. Activities students participated in were: duck and goose hunting, beaver trapping and learning to make traditional medicine.



## Chief T'Selehye School – Fort Good Hope

|              |                       |
|--------------|-----------------------|
| Program      | Take a Kid Harvesting |
| Date         | June 2012             |
| Region       | Sahtu                 |
| Participants | 6                     |
| Contribution | \$8,000               |

At Fort Good Hope, six students from Chief T'Selehye School and two instructors Wilfred and Rayuka Jackson took part in the Take a Kid Harvesting project from June 24 to June 30, 2012. A daily journal was kept and is part of the overall report that resides with the school. All program objectives were met. Although the temperatures were hot on the first few days, comments from the students were that they had learned a lot from this experience. The camp experience included preparation and packing, travel by boat on the Mackenzie River, setting and checking fish nets, setting and checking rabbit snares, harvesting spruce gum and poplar bark to make juice, preparing dryfish, hunting and preparing ducks, making food caches in the ground and old time story telling by Instructor Wilfred Jackson.

## Joseph Burr Tyrell Elementary School – Fort Smith

|              |                     |
|--------------|---------------------|
| Program      | Take a Kid Trapping |
| Date         | 2012-2013           |
| Region       | South Slave         |
| Participants | 24                  |
| Contribution | \$11,000            |

Twenty-four students from the Joseph Burr Tyrell School took part in a three day/two night culture camp. At each camp session the students were actively involved in setting and checking traps. Again this year the elders and former trappers of the area provided students with historical knowledge and traditional stories of the area. They provided the students with ample information that they could not find from other source.

Unfortunately, their record of holding the camp for nine years without incidents was broken. A skidoo throttle was accidentally bumped causing the machine to jump forward and injured two students. Fortunately, the injuries were minor and dealt with quickly.





## P.W. Kaeser High School – Fort Smith

|              |                                                |
|--------------|------------------------------------------------|
| Program      | Take a Kid Trapping /<br>Take a Kid Harvesting |
| Date         | February-March 2012                            |
| Region       | South Slave                                    |
| Participants | 14                                             |
| Contribution | \$4000/\$8,000                                 |

Thanks to the continued support of the Take a Kid Trapping / Harvesting program, P.W. Kaeser High School was able to put on two winter camps which focused on building shelters and fires and harvesting and cleaning meat, fish and fur. The first camp, which had six senior high students participate, ran from February 16-23. A local elder and three ENR officers assisted the students in a caribou hunt and taught about GPS tracking in winter conditions.

The junior high camp ran from March 14-18 and involved eight students. They were given a map and compass course, and were also instructed on traditional trapping and harvesting techniques, as well as receiving Cree language instruction.

## Deninu School – Fort Resolution

|              |                     |
|--------------|---------------------|
| Program      | Take a Kid Trapping |
| Date         | 2012-2013           |
| Region       | South Slave         |
| Participants | 20                  |
| Contribution | \$4,100             |

As one of the longest standing communities in the NWT, Fort Resolution has a proud tradition of harvesting sustainably, and the Take a Kid Harvesting Program allows the older generation to pass down their cultural practices to the younger generation.

Grades K-5 took snowshoes and made their way into the bush to set rabbit snares and build simple shelters. The fish net program, however, included grades 4-12. Fish that were harvested through the program were smoked in the traditional fashion and were then used to supplement the Deninu Breakfast Program. Finally, grades 10-12 (who had taken the Firearm Safety course) were taken out on a hunt.

The result of this was that all students were able to acknowledge a better understanding of the north. The event was once again a highpoint in the Deninu School Culture Awareness Program.



## Deninu School – Fort Resolution

|              |                       |
|--------------|-----------------------|
| Program      | Take a Kid Harvesting |
| Date         | 2012-2013             |
| Region       | South Slave           |
| Participants | 20                    |
| Contribution | \$8,000               |

As one of the longest standing communities in the NWT, Fort Resolution has a proud tradition of a sustainable harvest and the Take a Kid Harvesting Program allows the older generation to pass down their cultural practices to the younger generation. Students from grades 4-12 helped in the setting of nets and harvesting of the fish. The students from grades 10-12 were given the opportunity to participate in a hunt, provided they had their firearm safety course.

The result was that all students acknowledged a better understanding of the north, the reasons and needs for sustainable harvesting and the skills needed to initiate a plan. This event was once again a highpoint in the Deninu School 2012-2013 academic year.

## Deh Gáh Elementary School – Fort Providence

|              |                                                |
|--------------|------------------------------------------------|
| Program      | Take a Kid Trapping /<br>Take a Kid Harvesting |
| Date         | 2012-2013                                      |
| Region       | South Slave                                    |
| Participants | 116                                            |
| Contribution | \$10,000/\$8,000                               |

The Take a Kid Harvesting Program at Deh Gah School included a Winter Hunt, with an Elementary and Primary program, and a Junior High Program. The programs emphasized how to prepare skins and hides from animals that were recovered from traps along the Horn River.

The goals of Take a Kid Trapping Program with the Deh Gah School were to encourage supportive behaviour, to engage youth and teach responsibility, to have youth experience the challenges of the past and finally to engage in traditional Dene activities, to build on past successes.

Those who participated were lucky enough to catch 19 beaver, one wolf and numerous marten. This program was successful and seemed beneficial to all who participated.





## Diamond Jenness Secondary School – Hay River

|              |                     |
|--------------|---------------------|
| Program      | Take a Kid Trapping |
| Date         | February 2013       |
| Region       | South Slave         |
| Participants | 15                  |
| Contribution | \$10,000            |

## École Boréale – Hay River

|              |                                               |
|--------------|-----------------------------------------------|
| Program      | Take a Kid Harvesting/<br>Take a Kid Trapping |
| Date         | February 2013-March 2013                      |
| Region       | South Slave                                   |
| Participants | 60                                            |
| Contribution | \$6,200/\$8000                                |

## South Slave Region

In order to take full advantage of the fur bearing season, students from Diamond Jenness Secondary School in Hay River went out on the land in late February for the Take a Kid Trapping Program. The first group (the Junior High School) cleared the lines and set all the traps. This took longer than originally anticipated since the snow was very deep and took extensive efforts to clear it. However, the group was rewarded for their hard work, as they witnessed the shooting of a moose and were able to skin and butcher it under the guidance of the leaders.

All in all the majority of the project outcomes were completed. The only outcome that was unmet was learning about dogsledding, although despite this the camp was thought of as a success.

This year École Boréale Take A Kid Trapping and Harvesting programs included a winter trapping camp, fishing excursions on Great Slave Lake and classroom presentations with a focus on peak harvest periods and seasonal conditions. In this way, students had the opportunity to learn while assisting local harvesters and experts as they took part in traditional harvesting seasons that have defined Dene culture for generations.

The activities were made available to all grade levels, but it should be noted that the activities are planned to accommodate the needs and interests of different grade levels – participation increased with age, maturity and prior experience.



## Chief Sunrise Education Centre

|              |                       |
|--------------|-----------------------|
| Program      | Take a Kid Harvesting |
| Date         | March 2013            |
| Region       | South Slave           |
| Participants | 9                     |
| Contribution | \$8,000               |

This year, Chief Sunrise Education Center partnered with École Boréale and Princess Alexandra School as well as local trappers and harvesters Shawn Buckley (Great Slave Lake Tours) and Steve Beck (Aboriginal Community Constable for the local RCMP detachment). Programming included a winter trapping camp, fishing excursions on Great Slave Lake and classroom presentations to coincide with peak harvest periods and seasonal conditions.

It should also be noted that the programming and participation of class groups is based on GNWT curriculum documents. Specific learning outcomes and expectations have been identified from social studies, science and Dene Kede curriculums to ensure that the camps are relevant to programs. The goal is to help teachers supplement and diversify their teaching methods in order to enrich the learning experience for kids. Though there were no textbooks, no worksheets and no essays or tests, there were plenty of curriculum-specific lessons taught by local experts and elders. Students received hands on experiences which enrich classroom lessons.

## Elizabeth Mackenzie Elementary School – Behchokò

|              |                                                |
|--------------|------------------------------------------------|
| Program      | Take a Kid Harvesting /<br>Take a Kid Trapping |
| Date         | March 2013                                     |
| Region       | North Slave                                    |
| Participants | 230                                            |
| Contribution | \$8,000/\$8000                                 |

In March 2012, 230 pre-school to grade six students from Elizabeth Mackenzie School participated in a winter camp that was partly funded by the Take a Kid Harvesting program. The activities at the camp consisted of teaching the students how to trap muskrat as well as setting a fishnet under the ice. Under the supervision of a camp elder, daily activities involved students checking muskrat traps and a fishnet. Students were also exposed to setting up and maintaining a winter campsite, making fire and cooking traditional foods such as muskrat and fish.





### Chief Jimmy Bruneau School – Behchokò

|              |                                                |
|--------------|------------------------------------------------|
| Program      | Take a Kid Harvesting /<br>Take a Kid Trapping |
| Date         | March 2013                                     |
| Region       | North Slave                                    |
| Participants | 270                                            |
| Contribution | \$8,000/\$8000                                 |

With the continued support of the Take a Kid Harvesting program, Chief Jimmy Bruneau School was able to take students from Kindergarten to Grade 12 on the land and experience cultural education for half the month of March.

The students were broken up into three groups based on age. The younger group (grades K-6) spend day trips observing and learning about safety and maintaining traps. The middle group (grades 7-9) had overnight trips while assisting and learning how to skin and clean animals from the harvest, as well as how to start a fire. The eldest group (grades 10-12) spend three days on the land while focusing on a more hands-on approach to cleaning and preparing fur bearing animals, fish and caribou.

Students, teachers and cultural workers all experienced great success on the land seeing and harvesting fish, rabbits, ptarmigan, and grouse. Elders taught students about the traditional way of life on the land. The elders discussed the history of the campsites around the region and the tales they have experienced over the many years of being on the land. Many students thought that camp was great; they loved being there and wanted to stay longer.

### Jean Wetrade Gamètì School – Gamètì

|              |                       |
|--------------|-----------------------|
| Program      | Take a Kid Harvesting |
| Date         | April 2012            |
| Region       | North Slave           |
| Participants | 50                    |
| Contribution | \$8,000               |

During the month of April, 50 students from grades kindergarten through grade 11 participated in the Take a Kid Trapping Program in Gamètì. With the help of two Elders and local outdoorsmen, the students learned how to build a shelter and other traditional and on-the-land hunting skills. They also set snares and nets, assisted in pulling out the nets and fish, and learned how to clean and cook the fish that they had caught. In total, 18 fish were harvested – a mixture of northern pike, trout, and whitefish.

Thanks to the trip, the students developed a better appreciation and understanding of traditional activities and hunting. The overnight trip fostered relationships among the students and the community.



## Lutsel K'e Dene School – Lutsel K'e

|              |                                                 |
|--------------|-------------------------------------------------|
| Program      | Take a Kid Trapping                             |
| Date         | March 13 <sup>th</sup> -22 <sup>nd</sup> , 2013 |
| Region       | North Slave                                     |
| Participants | 24                                              |
| Contribution | \$8,000                                         |

In March, twenty-four Lutsel K'e students, accompanied by their parents, elders, and hunters spent one week out at Timber Bay on Artillery Lake. The camp was scheduled to be from March 13<sup>th</sup> to March 20<sup>th</sup>, but because of violent weather conditions they were unable to leave until March 22<sup>nd</sup>. The students had the chance to go hunting and gather resources essential for camp life. They documented their experiences with video interviews, photos and journal entries.

The learning objectives of the camp were: setting traps and snares, preparing furs for market, outdoor survival skills and techniques, hunting safety and finally expanding on traditional language and culture. Much of the camp was focused exclusively on caribou hunting because the caribou were very close and plentiful this year. All students learned to prepare hides and meat for transport.

Despite some inconveniences that were experienced, the camp was regarded as highly successful since everyone felt the students had a great learning experience while on the land.

## Mezi Community School – Whati

|              |                     |
|--------------|---------------------|
| Program      | Take a Kid Trapping |
| Date         | February-March 2012 |
| Region       | North Slave         |
| Participants | 100                 |
| Contribution | \$8,000             |

This year, Mezi Community School focused on improving Dene cultural programs in the school. We devoted two one week lessons to teach the students about the traditional ways of fishing and trapping in the Tlicho region. The program was aimed at youth from grades 1-8, which are approximately 100 students.

During the week of February 20<sup>th</sup> to 24<sup>th</sup> 2012, we did trapping and from March 26<sup>th</sup> to 30<sup>th</sup> 2012 we had a fish camp. We focused on the importance of fishing and trapping in Wha Ti and the cultural ties the Dene people have towards these activities. We also set up lessons and in-school activities for the students to learn about fishing and trapping before and after their trips on the land.





## K'alemi Dene School – Ndilo

|              |                                                     |
|--------------|-----------------------------------------------------|
| Program      | Take a Kid Trapping                                 |
| Date         | May 11 <sup>th</sup> 2012-May 19 <sup>th</sup> 2012 |
| Region       | North Slave                                         |
| Participants | 108                                                 |
| Contribution | \$8,000                                             |

All K'alemi Dene students from Kindergarten to Grade 12 had the opportunity to attend trapping camps. Once the base camp was setup, there were 4 sets of camps that were run: rabbit snaring, marten trapping, beaver trapping and muskrat trapping. Each class rotated through the camps.

Each camp followed a similar routine. After a safety talk, students departed the school by snowmobile and travelled to the trap line. Students watched demonstrations, set traps and retrieved any captured animals before returning to the tent to warm up. There, they participated in lessons about important aspects of trapping and traditional trapping knowledge. Whenever possible, Wiilideh Yatii was incorporated into the lessons.

Once the trapping camps were finished, the class focus was on improving the understanding of trapping and relevant vocabulary by handling furs, preparing meat and tasting different animals. Additionally, the teachers incorporated trapping experiences into a variety of writing and science activities integrated with the appropriate grade-level curriculum.

## Yellowknife Catholic Schools – Yellowknife

|              |                     |
|--------------|---------------------|
| Program      | Take a Kid Trapping |
| Date         | December 2012       |
| Region       | North Slave         |
| Participants | 16                  |
| Contribution | \$8,000             |

Through the continued support of the Take a Kid Trapping program, 16 students from grades 8-12 were able to learn traditional trapping practices first hand. The students travelled 45 kilometres to Bliss Lake where they were able to develop a deeper appreciation for the land and environment, while being taught the basic workings of life on the trap line. This program also assisted students in becoming better role models for their peers, increased their social skills and made them more aware of the rich culture that surrounds them.



## Yellowknife Education District No.1 – Yellowknife

|              |                     |
|--------------|---------------------|
| Program      | Take a Kid Trapping |
| Date         | February-March 2013 |
| Region       | North Slave         |
| Participants | 130                 |
| Contribution | \$8,000             |

With the continued support from the Take a Kid Trapping program, a total of 130 high school students from Yellowknife Education District No.1 were able to participate in two winter trapping camps. Some students participated in a grade 9 winter camp, while others travelled to Bliss Lake for trapper training. All students at these grade levels had the opportunity to learn about winter activities, such as setting and checking a fish net under the ice, setting beaver and muskrat traps, skinning and stretching beaver, along with doing everyday activities in a camp setting. The students who travelled to Bliss Lake also learned about pelts and the fur industry and how to make a quinzhee.

## Angik School – Paulatuk

|              |                     |
|--------------|---------------------|
| Program      | Take a Kid Trapping |
| Date         | February-March 2013 |
| Region       | Inuvik              |
| Participants | 18                  |
| Contribution | \$10,000            |

Thanks to the continued support of the Take a Kid Trapping program, 18 students from Angik School engaged in 5 day trips on the land around the Hornoday River. The goals of these trips were to include trapping and fish net setting components. However, due to weather conditions and ice thickness, the under ice fish netting could not be accomplished. Each day the students were supervised in the setting up and dismantling of tents and were instructed in finding suitable sites for pitching the tents. Additionally, the students set fox traps each day. Unfortunately, no animals were caught likely due to the weather conditions (most days wind chills were mid -30C).

Given the difficulties that were encountered, the trips through this program were still considered a success as the students were enthusiastic and enjoyed their experience on the land.





## Mangilaluk School – Tuktoyaktuk

|              |                                                |
|--------------|------------------------------------------------|
| Program      | Take a Kid Harvesting                          |
| Date         | May 7 <sup>th</sup> -May 11 <sup>th</sup> 2012 |
| Region       | Inuvik                                         |
| Participants | 29                                             |
| Contribution | \$7,300                                        |

From May 7<sup>th</sup> to May 11<sup>th</sup>, a total of 29 students along with their classroom teachers from Mangilaluk School in Tuktoyaktuk had the opportunity to go on day-long trips above the fishing camp of Kiniksik. The students were shown what to look for when searching for muskrat push-ups as well as how to set, check and reset traps. Furthermore, the students were guided on how to skin and stretch muskrat on a stretcher and watched how muskrat meat is cleaned and prepared for cooking.

Emphasis was put on the traditional knowledge being passed down from the older to the younger generation.

## East Three Elementary School – Inuvik

|              |                                                     |
|--------------|-----------------------------------------------------|
| Program      | Take a Kid Trapping                                 |
| Date         | September 17 <sup>th</sup> -22 <sup>nd</sup> , 2012 |
| Region       | Inuvik                                              |
| Participants | 15                                                  |
| Contribution | \$4,550                                             |

On September 17<sup>th</sup> 2012, a group of 15 students left Inuvik in four boats and arrived at Yaya Lake at approximately 1pm. During the four days spent at the lake, the students participated in various activities including berry picking, nature walks and fishing. They also had discussions about the environment and natural resources in and around the surrounding area. The students also learned how to make cranberry sauce, bannock, clean a fish and which plants are edible on-the-land. Finally, the students were taught about gun safety with emphasis on the importance of sighting in your rifle. They were also lucky enough to see some reindeer/ caribou as well as do some fishing for trout and inconnu.

Students enjoyed the longer timeline of 5 days instead of the usual 2, since it enabled them to do more activities such as hiking and increased their chances in seeing the wildlife of the area. The program at Yaya Lake was regarded as a complete success.



## East Three Elementary School – Inuvik

|              |                                                     |
|--------------|-----------------------------------------------------|
| Program      | Take a Kid Trapping                                 |
| Date         | September 24 <sup>th</sup> -28 <sup>th</sup> , 2012 |
| Region       | Inuvik                                              |
| Participants | 12                                                  |
| Contribution | \$5,300                                             |

On September 24<sup>th</sup>, 12 students left Inuvik in 2 boats and headed out to the school cabin. Once they arrived the students were briefed on the rules of safety that would apply throughout the week. The week's events included scouting lakes and surrounding areas for moose, fishing, identifying animal tracks, duck/geese hunting and visiting Shallow Bay. Students learned about how to start a fire, how to use the radio between boats, and other survival skills. The students were lucky enough to see, shoot and harvest a moose. Because they were able to shoot a moose and did not want the meat to spoil, they returned to the school on Thursday. On Friday they all ate moose and brought some home.

This program was found to be successful and a very enjoyable experience for the students.

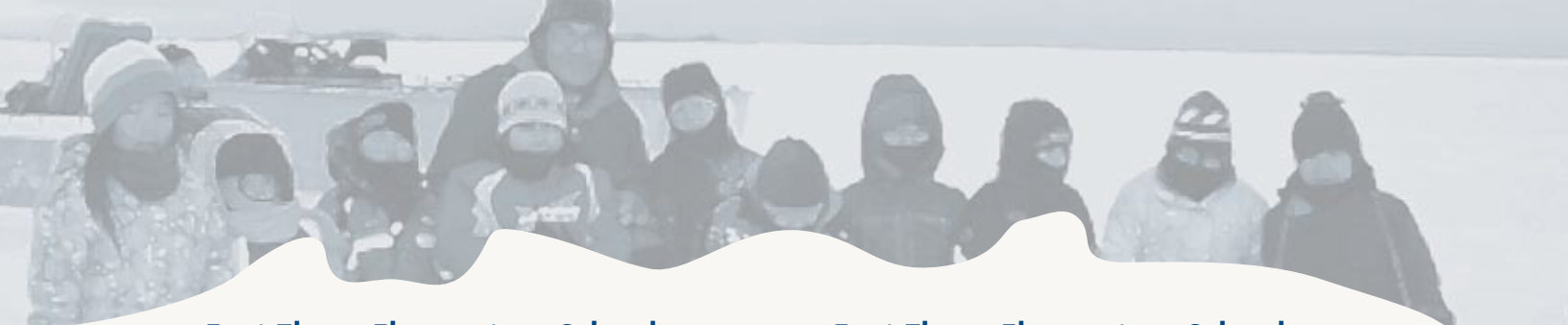
## East Three Elementary School – Inuvik

|              |                                                |
|--------------|------------------------------------------------|
| Program      | Take a Kid Harvesting                          |
| Date         | October 1 <sup>s</sup> -5 <sup>th</sup> , 2012 |
| Region       | Inuvik                                         |
| Participants | 14                                             |
| Contribution | \$5,700                                        |

On October 1<sup>st</sup>, students packed up the vehicles to leave for a caribou hunt down the Dempster Highway and along the way identified different landmarks. Once they arrived at their destination students learned about and participated in: gun safety, sighting a rifle in, food preparation, hiking, listening to stories, cooking over an open fire, how to start a fire, identifying animals and their tracks, preparing fire wood, camp life and hunting for caribou.

The students had a great time even though no animals were harvested. They did spot two caribou off in the distance, three grizzly bears on the Yukon side of the border, one moose and numerous ptarmigan.





## East Three Elementary School – Inuvik

|              |                                                    |
|--------------|----------------------------------------------------|
| Program      | Take a Kid Harvesting                              |
| Date         | November 19 <sup>th</sup> -23 <sup>rd</sup> , 2012 |
| Region       | Inuvik                                             |
| Participants | 325                                                |
| Contribution | \$3,200                                            |

During the week of November 19<sup>th</sup>-23<sup>rd</sup> all classes from the school went down to Boot Lake for a program that focused on rabbit snaring and fish net setting. Instructions were given in the languages of Gwich'in, Inuvialuktun, French and English. The students watched as the guides showed them how to pull under the ice nets up for fish, as well as how to set and check and reset rabbit snares. They harvested a total of 94 fish and three rabbits over the five day program.

## East Three Elementary School Nunami Camp – Inuvik

|              |                       |
|--------------|-----------------------|
| Program      | Take a Kid Harvesting |
| Date         | March 2013            |
| Region       | Inuvik                |
| Participants | 325                   |
| Contribution | \$3,900               |

In March 2013 a total of 62 students (broken into 3 groups) traveled from the school by snowmobiles and toboggans to the trapping site. As they travelled, they were introduced to the many landmarks that showed the way. Once the students arrived, they were presented to camp life and were taught about the camp safety rules. Instructors taught them how to start a fire and as the students gathered wood, they identified animal tracks surrounding the camp. Students were then taught how to set snares and traps for specific animals. They also had the chance to hold a lynx and otter that had been previously trapped.



## Chief Julius School – Fort McPherson

|              |                                                      |
|--------------|------------------------------------------------------|
| Program      | Take a Kid Harvesting                                |
| Date         | September 17 <sup>th</sup> - 21 <sup>st</sup> , 2012 |
| Region       | Inuvik                                               |
| Participants | 205                                                  |
| Contribution | \$6,350                                              |

Through the Take a Kid Harvesting program, students from Chief Julius School participated in an on-the-Land Project at Midway Lake and 8 Mile. The main goals were to develop leadership, problem solving skills, awareness of the future of the land and Gwich'in culture. The project, which took place in September, taught the students traditional hunting, trapping and northern harvesting methods. Additionally, students learned about traditional medicines and the healing properties of northern plants. High school students were given the opportunity to harvest a large bull moose and were taught how to cut and preserve its meat. They were also shown the traditional uses for fats and other organs.

The camps at Midway Lake and 8 Mile were deemed highly successful as they integrated hands on experiential learning under highly skilled elders with a vast wealth of traditional knowledge.

## Helen Kalvak School – Ulukhaktok

|              |                     |
|--------------|---------------------|
| Program      | Take a Kid Trapping |
| Date         | 2012-2013           |
| Region       | Inuvik              |
| Participants | 12                  |
| Contribution | \$10,000            |

During our weeks of trapping, 12 students were taken out on the land to learn the proper method of setting traps. Students were shown how to identify the trapline using both traditional landmarks and by a GPS. When checking the traps, the instructors took the opportunity to share their knowledge by telling stories. On several occasions students attended an in-school session to learn about the proper pelt handling methods for fox. When the traps were brought back to the school, students were shown how to care for the traps and store them for the following season.

Overall, this program was a success and feedback was very positive. Both the staff and the community believed that the tradition and culture this program brought into the school was great. It had a noticeable impact in the increase of attendance and academics; as well as the overall improvement in positive behaviour.





## Tetlit Gwich'in Renewable Resource Council – Fort McPherson

|              |                       |
|--------------|-----------------------|
| Program      | Take a Kid Harvesting |
| Date         | March 2013            |
| Region       | Inuvik                |
| Participants | 205                   |
| Contribution | \$8,000               |

Tetlit Gwich'in Renewable Resource Council worked with Chief Julius School in this Take a Kid Harvesting project which took place in March 2013. The camps included traditional knowledge teaching, tent setting, wood cutting, caribou and moose hunting, snowshoeing, cutting and preparing moose meat and checking snares. Getting the moose was a bonus! Grades 7-12 worked on the meat, while the younger grades observed and learned how to do it.

Each class took part in different on the land activities daily. Overall the week was a great success with the students going away with new and traditional knowledge.

## Echo Dene School – Fort Liard

|              |                                                          |
|--------------|----------------------------------------------------------|
| Program      | Take a Kid Trapping                                      |
| Date         | February 25 <sup>th</sup> - March 1 <sup>st</sup> , 2013 |
| Region       | Dehcho                                                   |
| Participants | 7                                                        |
| Contribution | \$8,000                                                  |

Seven students from the Echo Dene School were given the opportunity to participate in an on the land initiative put on through the Take a Kid Trapping program. Eligibility to participate in this program was based on attendance and academic standing in the school. There was lots of community involvement with the program and the students as they learned skills and techniques essential for living off the land. The students participated in ice fishing, fur pricing and processing, trap safety and maintenance and track identification among other things.

The experience was seen as a huge success and the youth that participated learned a great deal about the trapping industry. All students involved indicated that they would happily participate in the camp again.



## Louie Norwegian School – Jean Marie River

|              |                                                          |
|--------------|----------------------------------------------------------|
| Program      | Take a Kid Trapping/<br>Take a Kid Trapping              |
| Date         | February 25 <sup>th</sup> – March 1 <sup>st</sup> , 2013 |
| Region       | Dehcho                                                   |
| Participants | 5                                                        |
| Contribution | \$8,000/\$8,000                                          |

During the week of February 25 to March 1, 2013 Louie Norwegian School students went out on trap lines near Jean Marie River and learned about trapping, harvesting, outdoor skills and making clothing from the land. Students travelled down trap lines, checking and resetting traps with bait as they went. In addition, the students learned numerous outdoor survival skills including fire building, cooking over a fire and how to set up a canvas tent.

The projected objectives were met and experience was thought to be successful.



## Thomas Simpson School – Fort Simpson

|              |                            |
|--------------|----------------------------|
| Program      | Take a Kid Trapping        |
| Date         | September 2012 - June 2013 |
| Region       | Dehcho                     |
| Participants | 20                         |
| Contribution | \$8,000                    |

Through continued funding of the Take a Kid Trapping program, the second annual youth culture camp held in partnership with Thomas Simpson Junior High School was put into effect. During the camp, youth were given daily chores such as hauling water, hauling wood and washing dishes. This gave the youth an understanding of the importance of maintaining traditional Dene camp life and highlighted the importance of teamwork which is essential to survive on the land. The male youth participated in a Rights of Passage hunting trip, to show them the importance of providing for yourself as well as your family and community. The female youth were presented with responsibilities of caring for one self hygienically, physically, mentally, emotionally and spiritually.

The Youth Culture Camp had more participants than it did in its first year; this displays the youth's desire for knowledge about life on the land. The culture camp was a success and next year an increase in participants is anticipated.



## Thomas Simpson School – Fort Simpson

|              |                       |
|--------------|-----------------------|
| Program      | Take a Kid Harvesting |
| Date         | June 2012             |
| Region       | Dehcho                |
| Participants | 16                    |
| Contribution | \$8,000               |

In June of 2012, two groups of students from Thomas Simpson High School had the opportunity to participate in the Take a Kid Harvesting program. The course ran every other afternoon for three hours where the students learned a multitude of skills for surviving on the land. Students were given the opportunity to utilize these skills as they went hunting.

Ultimately, the skills and experiences the students gained from this on the land program were extremely helpful in building a foundation for future development. It helps them connect with their grandparents and elders as well as the land that surrounds them.

## Liidlíi Kue First Nation – Fort Simpson

|              |                                               |
|--------------|-----------------------------------------------|
| Program      | Take a Kid Harvesting/<br>Take a Kid Trapping |
| Date         | 2012                                          |
| Region       | Dehcho                                        |
| Participants | 18                                            |
| Contribution | \$8,000/\$8,000                               |

This was the second annual youth culture camp held in partnership with Thomas Simpson Secondary School. The youth were given daily chores such as hauling water and wood as well as kitchen duties. This supported the importance of maintaining traditional Dene camp life, and how teamwork takes a part in living on the land. There were structured activities including a day and a half of learning about the biodiversity of fish in the surrounding lakes and rivers.

This was the second year for the Youth Culture Camp and participation is growing. The camp was a real success!



## Bompas Elementary School – Fort Simpson

|              |                                                                                          |
|--------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Program      | Take a Kid Trapping                                                                      |
| Date         | September 5 <sup>th</sup> , 6 <sup>th</sup> ,<br>10 <sup>th</sup> -14 <sup>th</sup> 2012 |
| Region       | Dehcho                                                                                   |
| Participants | 97                                                                                       |
| Contribution | \$8,000                                                                                  |

Throughout September a total of 97 students from the Bompas Elementary School had the opportunity to participate in a fall culture camp through the support of the Take a Kid Trapping program. The camp was put on so that they could learn about the traditional Dene way of life. Students were taught basic camping and survival skills which are essential in becoming a good hunter or trapper. The day started with the students organizing their belongings, completing camp chores and reviewing camp rules. Afterwards they would start with the activities which included fishing, learning how to use bows and arrows, setting snares, setting nets, harvesting plants and learning about firearm safety.

Through the Take a Kid Trapping Program, students expanded on their on the land skills and knowledge. These are important in preserving the Dene culture and way of life.

## Bompas Elementary School – Fort Simpson

|              |                                                  |
|--------------|--------------------------------------------------|
| Program      | Take a Kid Harvesting                            |
| Date         | May 28 <sup>th</sup> - June 6 <sup>th</sup> 2012 |
| Region       | Dehcho                                           |
| Participants | 119                                              |
| Contribution | \$8,000                                          |

From May 28<sup>th</sup> to June 6<sup>th</sup> 2012, students from Bompas Elementary School in Fort Simpson were given an opportunity to participate in a spring culture camp enabling them to learn skills and to be respectful of the land. Before starting the activities for the day, students organized their belongings, completed camp chores and reviewed the safety camp rules. Afterwards they would start with the activities which included fishing, learning about and how to use bows and arrows, setting fish nets, setting snares, harvesting plants, making bannock and learning how to cook fish and dry meat in the traditional fashion.

Through the Take a Kid Harvesting program, students expanded their on the land knowledge and survival skills which is important in preserving the Dene way of life.





## Charles Yohin School – Nahanni Butte

|              |                                                     |
|--------------|-----------------------------------------------------|
| Program      | Take a Kid Harvesting                               |
| Date         | September 10 <sup>th</sup> -14 <sup>th</sup> , 2012 |
| Region       | Dehcho                                              |
| Participants | 8                                                   |
| Contribution | \$8,000                                             |

From September 10<sup>th</sup> to the 14<sup>th</sup>, eight students from Charles Yohin School in Nahanni Butte were involved in the Take a Kid Trapping/Harvesting program to gain an awareness of traditions, language and food. Students enjoyed learning about the proper wood to use in the fire when cooking and drying meat, and were introduced to the skill of harvesting spruce boughs for the purpose of creating bedding both in the winter and summer.

Staff went out with the students to several locations by motorboat in search of moose. They identified a variety of plants, berries, and other edible foods from nature. In this way, they learned hands-on about the geography of the area. The students were also able to set snares. Unfortunately the students were unable to catch anything, but nevertheless they enjoyed the experience.

## Sambaa K'e Dene Band – Trout Lake

|              |                            |
|--------------|----------------------------|
| Program      | Take a Kid Trapping        |
| Date         | November 2012 - March 2013 |
| Region       | Dehcho                     |
| Participants | 4                          |
| Contribution | \$8,000                    |

The Sambaa K'e Dene Band was able to take youth out on the land thanks to the support of the Take a Kid Trapping program. Active trappers and harvesters took the youth out to their outpost cabin and spent 10 days teaching them about trapping. During this period, the youth learned how to identify multiple animal tracks as well how to set traps for specific animals. They checked the traps regularly and learned how to skin, flesh and dry marten, lynx, beaver and wolverine.

Through this program the youth learned many valuable skills which motivated them to go out on the land and practice them for themselves. The program was regarded as a great success.



## Sambaa K'e Dene Band – Trout Lake

|              |                                                     |
|--------------|-----------------------------------------------------|
| Program      | Take a Kid Harvesting                               |
| Date         | September 12 <sup>th</sup> -24 <sup>th</sup> , 2012 |
| Region       | Dehcho                                              |
| Participants | 21                                                  |
| Contribution | \$8,000                                             |

From September 12<sup>th</sup> to 24<sup>th</sup>, the Sambaa K'e Dene Band took youth out on the land for the Take a Kid Harvesting program. The purpose of spending that much time on the land was to teach the youth how to harvest traditional foods during the fall season. The youth learned many skills, including how to track and hunt for moose and caribou. They were given the opportunity to butcher moose and caribou parts and to dry the meat in order to store it for the winter. In addition, they learned how to set and check fish nets and how to dry the fish for the winter.

The youth were very motivated to go out on the land and practice their new found harvesting skills gained from the hands-on experience of the program.





