

# VOICES OF THE NORTH

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## HATS OFF TO BEAUFORT DELTA EDUCATION COUNCIL

### BDDEC ACHIEVED RECORD-BREAKING SUCCESS WITH THE CANADIAN ACHIEVEMENT TEST (CAT 4) RESULTS

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## DEAR FRIENDS

I hope that you will enjoy this copy of the Dehcho newsletter.

In this print, we will highlight the outstanding achievement of the Beaufort Delta Education Council and I really encourage you to go over their article and statistics.

The academic performance of their students is amazing, and it speaks to the quality of their leadership team, the guidance of their DEC and DEAs and the dedication of their staff.

BDDEC is setting the bar high and gives us a good example of what can be achieved in the North when we all work together for our kids. Hats off to BDDEC.

P. Brulot  
Superintendent, DDEC



**SUPERINTENDENT**

**P. Brulot**

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**Benjamin Adams**  
**Doyle Manuel**

**PARTICIPATING SCHOOLS**

**Charles Tetcho School**  
**Charles Yohin School**  
**Deh Gáh School**  
**Echo Dene School**  
**Kakisa Lake School**  
**Łíídlıı Kúé Elementary School**  
**Łíídlıı Kúé Regional High School**  
**Louie Norwegian School**

# BDDEC ACHIEVED RECORD-BREAKING SUCCESS WITH THE CANADIAN ACHIEVEMENT TEST (CAT 4) RESULTS

*BY: DEVIN ROBERTS, SUPERINTENDENT*

The CAT (Canadian Achievement Test) is a standardized multi-level literacy and numeracy assessment designed to help identify areas of learning in which students may be struggling or excelling. Educators use the CAT 4's as a mechanism to help target areas where students may need extra help.

The Beaufort Delta Divisional Education has been participating in the CAT 4 testing since 2013. There was an increase of twenty percent all the way up to fifty percent improvement in some schools and grade levels this summer.

Grade 5 students met the national average (Canadian Norm) in reading (82%) and spelling (78%). Grade 8 students exceeded the national average (Canadian Norm) in reading (87%), vocabulary (84%), spelling (82%) and mathematics (81%). Grade 9 students met the national average (Canadian Norm) in spelling (77%). This is the first time in the district's history that

many students met, approached and exceeded the national average on the Canadian Achievement Tests (CAT 4's).

Students in grades 4-9 were approaching the national average in multiple sub-tests of the CAT 4. Students not just blew past expectations on the CAT 4s, they also are approaching national averages in Stanine 4 ratings. Stanine is a score from 1 to 9, with 4 being the average. In grade four, 66 per cent of students are approaching the national average in vocabulary, 69 per cent in spelling and 72 per cent in mathematics. Fifth graders are now 76 per cent approaching the national average in their writing conventions, 70 per cent approaching the norm in vocabulary and 70 per cent in mathematics. In grade six, 67 per cent are approaching the national average in reading, 69 per cent in spelling and 59 per cent in math.

Grade 7 students in the Beaufort Delta

are now 70 per cent approaching the national average in computation, estimation and spelling. They are now 68 per cent in math. Eighth graders scored 68 per cent in writing conventions and 70 per cent in computation and estimation against the average and grade nine students scored 65 per cent in reading, 62 per cent in computation and estimation and 63 per cent in mathematics.

Congratulations to the students of the Beaufort Delta region for this incredible academic achievement. Thank you to teachers, support workers and leadership teams that helped make this possible. Big thank you to the parents, guardians and elders of the communities for their continued support of education.

This is very exciting news and proof that the new initiatives with literacy and numeracy as part of the larger BDDEC Strategic Plan is making a difference in the district.



# Data Celebration 2021

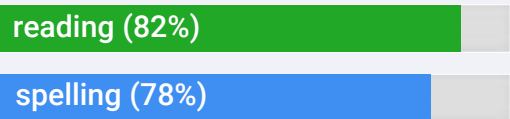
## Canadian Achievement Tests (CAT 4's)



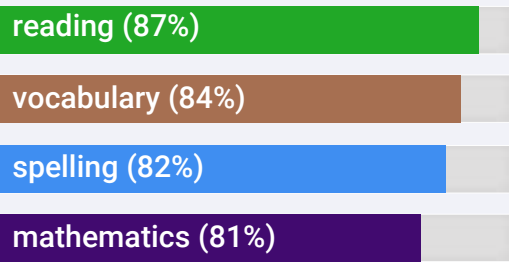
Congratulations are in order as we (BDDEC) have record-breaking success with the Canadian Achievement Tests (CAT 4) results.

We (BDDEC) have met the national average (Canadian Norm) in percent of students at Stanine 4 and above in multiple grades.

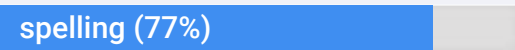
Grade 5 students met the national average (Canadian Norm)



Grade 8 students exceeded the (Canadian Norm)

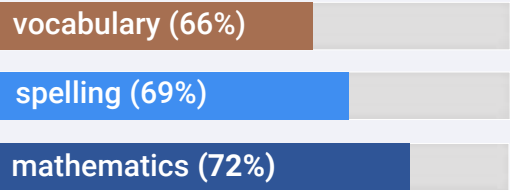


Grade 9 students met the national average (Canadian Norm)

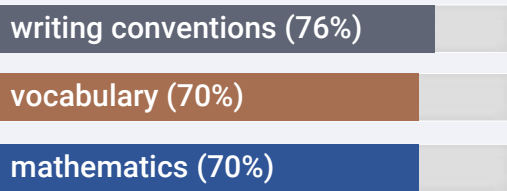


We (BDDEC) are also approaching the national averages (Canadian Norm) in percent of students at Stanine 4 or above in multiple grades.

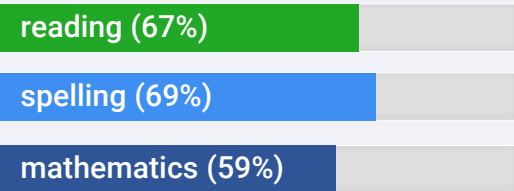
Grade 4 students approaching the national average (Canadian Norm)



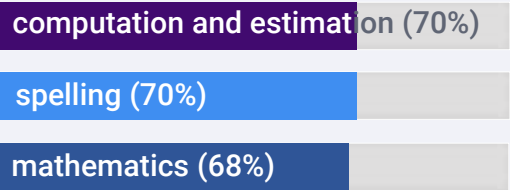
Grade 5 students approaching the national average (Canadian Norm)



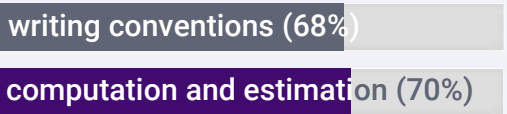
Grade 6 students approaching the national average (Canadian Norm)



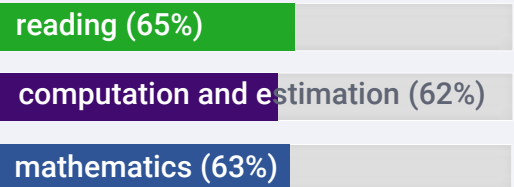
Grade 7 students approaching the national average (Canadian Norm)



Grade 8 students approaching the national average (Canadian Norm)



Grade 9 students approaching the national average (Canadian Norm)



### Visitors inside schools will be strictly limited.

This means there will be some protocols in place for pick up and drop off times. Connect with your child's school for additional information.



### We are reopening schools safely.

Hand washing, disinfecting and monitoring for symptoms are still important to keep schools safe.



# WRITING IS EXCITING IN DEHCHO SCHOOLS

BY: MS. PAULINE GILMOUR, LITERACY COORDINATOR

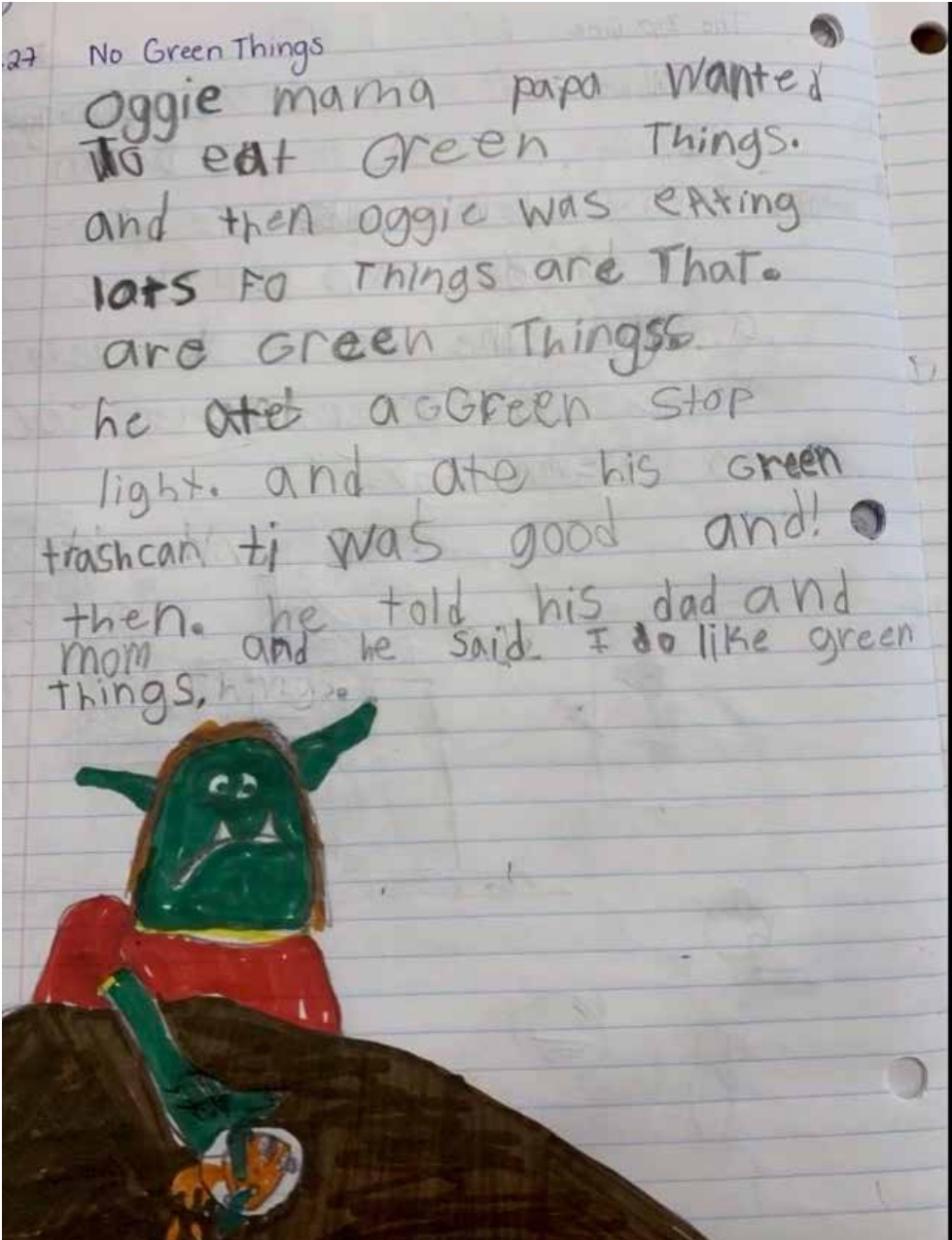
Students in Dehcho schools are becoming writers. Last year at Charles Tetcho school students wrote about their reading following their guided reading lesson each day. At first, it was hard. Their teacher noticed the children would ask for a lot of breaks. But, with daily practice the students soon started to get the hang of it and even enjoy it! When asked how she learned to write, 9-year-old Nah'ehlee said, "I used my word list, and I looked in the book, but not that much. I just listened to the sounds to make the words".

After 3 months of daily writing practice, Nah'ehlee's teacher noticed how much her students loved to write. "They are so excited and they love their writing time!" Nah'ehlee's teacher attributed this progress to having a structured,

daily writing program. It begins with talk. The talk and the reading provide needed support for beginning writers.

This fall, all Dehcho teachers and principals will plan and work together to support our students with daily writing instruction. Over the summer, three Dehcho teachers attended a week-long summer institute on teaching writing. These teachers will mentor colleagues as we work towards our goal of improving students' writing skills.

When asked how learning to write has made her feel, Nah'ehlee says, "I feel happy... and proud". We are very proud of you, too, Nah'ehlee. We can't wait to read the stories you will write next.



Government of  
Northwest Territories

## Reopening schools safely for the 2021-22 school year

The Delta variant can spread quickly, and children under 12 are not yet able to be vaccinated. We all need to do our part to keep schools safe.

- Daily monitoring for symptoms of COVID-19 is vital and students and staff must stay home if they feel unwell.
- For JK-Gr 12 students and school staff, masking is mandatory in all school settings and on school buses.
- Visitors inside our schools will be strictly limited for now.
- School assemblies, tournaments and concerts aren't permitted indoors, but outdoor activities are encouraged.
- Indoor drama classes, choir and high-contact sports are on hold, and it is recommended to have physical education outdoors.
- Hand washing and disinfecting are still important.
- Physical distancing for students in grades 7 to 12 is no longer required, and students 19 and over can return to in-person learning.



For more information about keeping schools safe during COVID-19 visit:  
[www.gov.nt.ca/covid-19/backtoschool](http://www.gov.nt.ca/covid-19/backtoschool)

## PEOPLE MAKING A DIFFERENCE



Lorna Cooper

They say that it takes a whole community to raise a child.

Truth to be told, there are many local businesses and people in the Dehcho, who regularly offer support to our schools.

Cooper barging Service is one of these businesses that is truly a part of our school community.

They very often waive the fees, and deliver school materials at no expense.

As Lorna Cooper says: 'We are happy to help the students.'

A big thank you to you Lorna, and to the Cooper Barging Service team!

The money that we save will be spent in our schools, on our kids!



# DEH GÁH SCHOOL'S GRADUATING CLASS OF 2021



**Luke Bonnetrouge**

*Luke has been working as a recreation leader in Fort Providence. After graduation, he plans on continuing to work in the community.*



**Danea Constant**

*Danea is a skilled artist. She plans on taking a year to work and develop her art portfolio before applying to art school for Fall 2022.*



**Joretta Elleze**

*After graduation, Joretta plans on working for a year, then applying to college. One of the areas she is interested in is early childhood education.*



**Autumn Gargan**

*Autumn has been working at the Friendship Centre. After graduation, she plans on taking a year to continue working, before applying to a college program.*



**Bailey Gargan**

*Bailey Gargan successfully completed her grade 12, while having to work remotely as a mature student. Her plan now that she has graduated is to apply for work at one of the mines.*



**Dawson Landry**

*Dawson is experienced with working on the land. After graduation, Dawson plans on continuing to work for a year in Kakisa, then applying to Grand Prairie Regional College.*



**Shanita Landry**

*After graduation, Shanita plans on taking a gap year, then taking courses in cosmetics. Her goal is to one day start her own business.*



**Rogan Youngpine**

*In his final term of high school, Rogan has been doing an internship with a local electrician. After graduating, Rogan will continue as an electrical apprentice.*

## DEH GÁH STUDENTS REALLY CLEAN UP WELL

Deh Gáh students pitched in to clean up the hamlet on May 17th to help pay for the 2020-21 graduation. Older students teamed up with younger students to pick up trash from around the community. The school cleaned up two zones and earned for this year grads \$300. Great job, Deh Gáh! You clean up nice!



*Avery Krutko, Zoey Landry and Isaiah Anderson*



*Ethan Canadien and Riley McKay*



*Graduates Danea Constant and Autumn Gargan*



*Secondary teacher Nimisha Bastedo*

## FORT PROVIDENCE

# DGESS STAFF OPENED THE 2021-22 SCHOOL YEAR IMMERSSED IN CULTURE AND TRADITION

BY: ANGELA GRIFFIN

Deh Gáh Elementary and Secondary School staff enjoyed two Cultural Awareness Days on the land on August 25th and August 26th. We collected berries and herbs and set fishnets. Staff brought back dried fish for the elders.

On Friday, August 27th, staff erected the school tipi at the front of the school by the school's sign. This was a long project that finally came to fruition.

Staff and students began the year with a Feeding of the Fire ceremony on August 31st, 2021 led by Chief Bonnetrouge, Sam Gargan, Michael Nadli, and Jim Thom.

DGESS's new school cabin has been completed and is ready for the children. The staff has planned cultural camps beginning September 13th, 2021 for all students.



Left to right: DEA Chair, Alphonsine Gargan, and Band Councillor, Sam Gargan. Drummers: Tyrell Nadli, Sheldon Minoza, Walter Landry, Jim Thom and Chief Joachim Bonnetrouge. Student: Kole Landry



## DEH GAH FEEDS THE FIRE IN MARCH

Prior to March break, Deh Gah staff and students met with community leaders to Feed the Fire. We gave thanks to the Creator for keeping us safe during Covid. We listened to the drummers

play and sing, and did the drum dance as a community. Afterwards, students were served hot dogs and hot chocolate at school.



Feeling unwell?  
Stay home.

This is the single most important thing you can do to protect your child's classmates and keep students at school.



# DEH GÁH ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOL WELCOMES YOU IN DENE ZHATIE

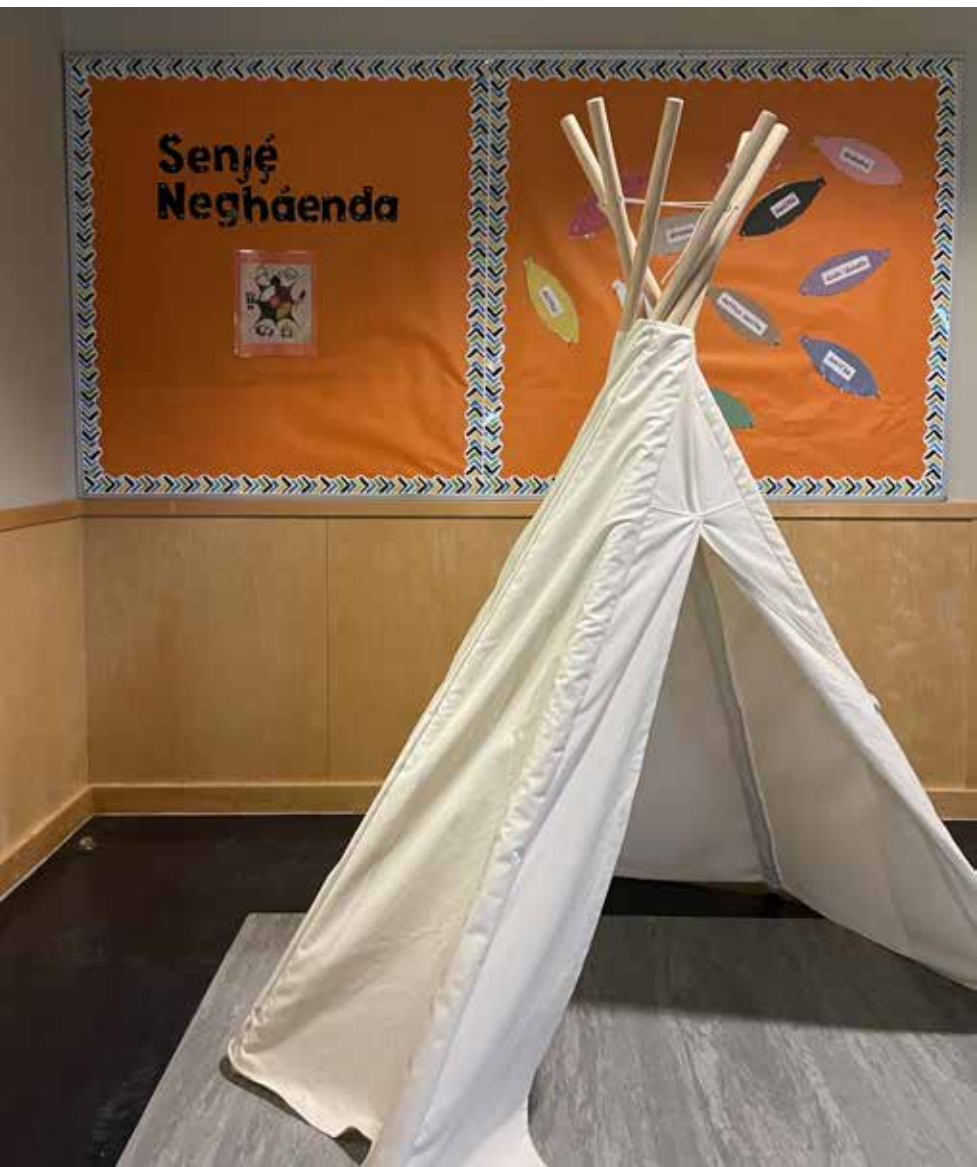
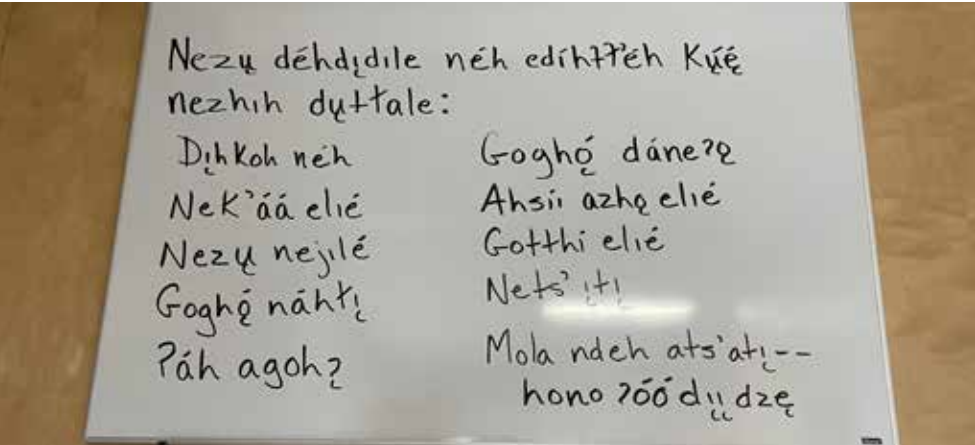
BY: ANGELA GRIFFIN

Deh Gáh Elementary and Secondary School installed cameras in August 2021 to secure the school and its students.

The school opened to children on August 30th, 2021 and staff were ready to greet them. Central bulletin boards and signs throughout the school

reflected the language and culture of the Deh Gáh Got'ie Dene people.

The children began reading and writing initiatives during the first week of September. Rooted in their culture, the children are ready to soar in a new year of learning.



# DGESS JK-GRADE 3 PICK BERRIES, FISH, GO ON NATURE WALKS AND TELL STORIES ON THE LAND

BY: DIANA GARGAN

From September 14th to October 1st, 2021, DGESS students from Kindergarten to Grade 3 were out on the land at their new school camp. While out on the land, students had an abundance of opportunities to explore, appreciate, understand, recognize and respect their relationship with the land, others and themselves. Furthermore, students participated in various

activities including picking berries, checking nets and fixing fish, enjoying nature walks, collecting spruce gum, listening to stories, and doing daily read aloud and guided reading on the land. Students enjoyed themselves out on the land and have demonstrated appreciation and respect for the land, and a sense of pride in being who they are.



Phoenix Krutko



Edith Squirrel and Dahtu Landry



Phoenix Krutko, Dahtu Landry, River Bonnetrouge



Dahtu Landry, Laura Sabourin, Phoenix Krutko

# LOVING MOTHER EARTH ON EARTH DAY AND EVERY DAY

BY: DIANA GARGAN

Deh Gáh Students in Grades 2 and 3 created some amazing robots for Earth Day on April 22nd, 2021. Students collected and brought to school various items from home such as empty pop cans, milk and juice containers, laundry soap caps, water bottle caps, plastic utensils, Powerade caps, buttons and other recyclable items to create

their robots. After students put their robots together with glue and with help, they spray painted their robots' silver. During this process students learned about the importance of keeping Mother Earth clean so that she may exist eternally. Students said that Earth Day should be every day.



Hailey Bonnetrouge & Karissa Sadowick



Gitta Causa/Landry, Calin Landry, Hailey Bonnetrouge, Karissa Sadowick, Phoenix Krutko



Calin Landry



Phoenix Krutko

# LOVE AND APPRECIATION FOR OUR ELDERS

BY: TERM-PRINCIPAL DAN SUMMERS

The true origin of when Valentines Day came to be is not clear. However, it is agreed that Valentines first appeared annually back in the 1500s (www.Britannica.com), and gathered momentum in the 1700s when the first commercially printed Valentine Card was offered. Throughout this period, Valentines Day began adopting its synonymous symbols of devotion and compassion; including Cupid and her/his hearted arrows, the bouquets of roses, the color red, sweet candy, and the ever-endearing emotion of love. Today, of course, Valentines Day can often be associated with one's first love, a devotion to marriage, and/or showing

affection for someone that you respect and brings happiness.

It was with this in mind that the students of Louie Norwegian School, from Jean Marie River, went to task of performing their culinary talents in hopes the end-product would express the respect and love they had for their community elders. Armed with their bowls, rolling pins, and baking pans, the school quickly filled with aromas of candy, dough canvases of color, and outbursts of happiness. After the flour had settled and the ovens turned off, the students sat back and knew they had something to be proud of.

Though it was a cold winter day, the students, now armed with their homemade cupcakes, delicious cookies made to impress (confirmed by LOTS of prior taste testing), packages of tea, and Valentine Day Cards expressing love and admiration, set out to deliver their offerings. And though 'Jack Frost' did his/her very best to dampen the mood, the students walked from elder-to-elder/home-to-home depositing their bounties with happiness and laughter. In return, at each stop, as though it had been rehearsed, the elder(s) greeted the students with open arms and a deep smile of love that only history can form.

In the end, most packages made their way while the remaining 'goodies' were dropped off at the Band Office just in time for a community meeting. From all accounts, the people of the community were most appreciative of the students' thoughtfulness. In return, students arrived back at the school with warm hearts and memories that would last a lifetime. As important, no matter the age, it was clear that upon reflection each student understood that it is the simplest gesture, the smallest moment, and the easiest thing to do to make someone happy. As one student expressed, 'I love our elders. I am happy I was able to do this.'



Lucinda Summers (Volunteer Teacher, Aurora Norwegian, Ideza Clille, Gunde Clille, Rhonda Grossetete (School Assistant)



Martin Antoine, Dan Summers (Term Principal), Zayden Kraus



(Back row - Left to Right) Rhonda Grossetete (School Assistant), Zayden Kraus, Shaylyn Hope, Lucinda Summers (Volunteer Teacher), Dan Summers (Term Principal),

(Front row - Left to Right) Aurora Norwegian, Martin Antoine, Gunde Clille, Ideza Clille, Kierstyn Hope

# LOUIE NORWEGIAN SCHOOL CELEBRATING FALL OUTSIDE!

BY: PRINCIPAL ELISSA GARRETT

The students of Louie Norwegian School have been enjoying spending time outside celebrating nature. They have been busy collecting leaves, twigs, and other items for the school's nature

display. Bringing nature inside the school creates a calm and regulated environment, reminding the students of the importance of celebrating the land and the beautiful Dehcho fall.



Junior Kindergarten student, Sechie Clille



Grade four student, Kierstyn Hope



Junior Kindergarten student Edward Sanguez and Grade 8 student Martin Antoine



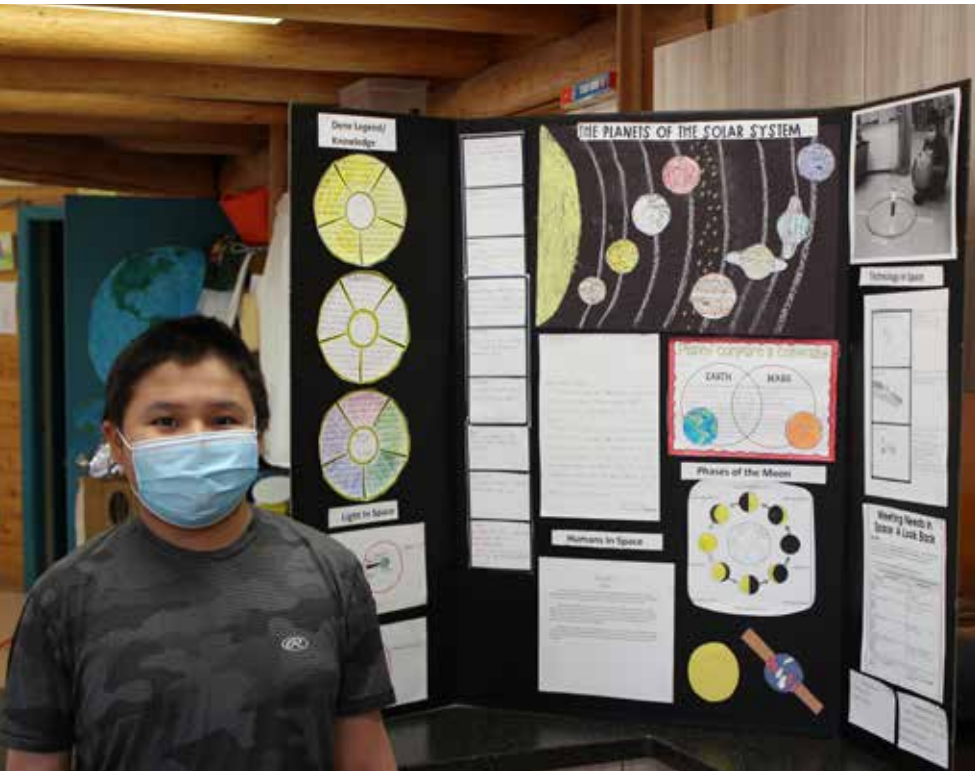
Junior Kindergarten student, Sechie Clille



Front Elissa Garrett, second row from left to right: Aurora Norwegian, Ideza Clille, Felix Garrett, Kierstyn Hope, back row from left to right: Elsie Garrett, Shaylyn Hope, Martin Antoine, Rhonda Grossetete, and Gundea Clille



# SNAPSHOT OF STUDENT LIFE IN NAHANNI BUTE



Brayden Matou proudly displays his project on “space”.



Drake Matou-Yendo and Bradyen Matou display drawings they did for family gifts.



Brayden Matou and Ciara Konisenta-Vital creating a simple circuit.



Making soap for a community gift basket.



Discovering the properties of primary and secondary colors when making soap for a community gift basket.

## NEWS FROM CHARLES YOHIN SCHOOL

Charles Yohin School in Nahanni Butte has a new principal, Mr. Bryan Strong. He brings a strong passion for aiding our students in preparing for the 21st century and a world of unknown careers. Some of the plans are: improving the technology, using robots, coding, and implementing various research-based practices. Some of the changes are already on the way. The school now has Wi-fi and Chromebooks to replace the older technology. Some other changes that may come are implementing digital boards where learning becomes more student-

centered and hands-on!

As the students arrived in school, they were surprised to see some of the changes already made compared to last year. The introduction of Chromebooks and other new items has brought a wow factor and a buzz of curiosity for further learning. Staff and students are excited for the learning journey this year as we implement some 21st-century learning while continuing to grow and enhance our student's knowledge with a world of possibilities.

# 2021 GRADUATION AT ECHO DENE SCHOOL

We are proud to showcase our students as they move on to the next stage of their lives.

These young men and women are the future of our communities.

We look forward to the day they come back with diplomas and help us build better communities.

The world of tomorrow belongs to them.

We wish them all the very best and trust they are up to the challenge.



Wyatt McLeod/ Hailey Sassie/ Nezioa Duntra/ Jolene Kotchea/ Makala McLeod/ Brianne Nelson



Makala McLeod with Grand-Parents



Brianne Nelson with dad



Jolene Kotchea and girlfriend



Nezioa Duntra with mom and dad



Wyatt McLeod with mom



Hailey Sassie with mom and dad

## INTRODUCING OUR STAFF



My name is Yvette Jean-Jacques I have been dedicated to the field of education for many years. I am a graduate of the University of Alberta (BEd & GCSL) and Gonzaga University (Master’s Degree in Leadership and Administration). I have taught in various grades and in several different schools in Alberta. For the past three years, I have been in administration. I am excited to work with the teachers, staff, board and parents and eager to bring my skills as an educational leader to Echo Dene School and work with you as a partner in education to ensure your child's success.



Ms. Kathie Mcleod- Secretary

Ms. Nadine Downey Chaulk—Program Support Teacher

Diana Pellisey—Junior Kindergarten- Kindergarten

Miss Gillian Quinn- Grade 1/2

Miss Paula Chin- Grade 3/4/5

Miss Bailey Weber- Grade 6/7 -& Literacy Intervention Specialist

Miss Robin Westlake- Grade 8/9

Mr. Cedar Wechlin- High School

Shayla McLeod – Support Aid

Lucy Sanspariel—Support Aid

Naomi Beaulieu- Support Aid

Kali Norn- Support Aid

Kori Wechlin- E-monitor

James Bughghins- Custodian

Tyson Mcleod- Custodian



On August 27, the staff and administrative staff started the day with making Dream Catchers. Later in the afternoon we had a picnic at the Hay Lake the land, the origin of Echo Dene School and hearing and learning about significant story of the Sleeping Giant Mountain from Elder.



For the 2021-2021 school our focus is on Literacy for 21st-Century Skill Building.

We had two challenges to address: first, increase rigor for our students, and second, change our teachers’ mindsets to focus on literacy throughout the whole day, as opposed to isolating reading and writing in a single class period. To meet these goals, in addition to our Language Art Class, teachers will focus daily on: Guided Reading, Read Aloud. The teachers will help students to sound out words or practice sentence structure, but to help them learn to demonstrate their understanding by citing evidence, creating an argument using research, and self-reflecting on what they read. To us, that’s literacy. We will fully invest in our Literature Intervention class (LLI) in order to provide more support and resources to teachers, as it impacts every teacher and every student in our schools. Our DSW Writing Assessment of the students will take place from September 9-24.

# SUICIDE PREVENTION, WHAT THE YOUTH MUST KNOW IN CULTURAL CONTEXT

BY: PRINCIPAL SYLVESTER BOADI

Warm greetings from Chief Julian Yendo School (CJYS), Wrigley, to all schools in the Dehcho district and beyond as you start this year's suicide prevention week. In CJYS, the staff decided to infuse culture into the celebration through relevant activities that will educate the youth about the need for suicide prevention.

With the help of the band, Pehdzeh Ki First Nation (PKFN), we set a bonfire in the arbor near the school premises right after lunch. The helpers laid down Spruce bough leaves around the fire as a Dene rag. Earlier in the day, staff and students were asked to bring pieces of their lunch from home that would be fed to the fire. The significance of this will be discussed later in this write up. The students and staff in one file walked around the fire several times, while singing dirges, especially to remember those who committed

suicide. After that, the foods brought from home were put in one bowl. Each person in the circle took turn to feed the fire by fetching portion of the food and carefully put it in the flame. The indigenous language teacher then offered a powerful prayer, invoking the spirits and calling on the ancestors to grant everyone present long life and prosperity as well as blessings for the entire community. Teachers advised the students to resist the temptation of



taking their own life and encouraged them to speak to somebody whenever they have problems.

The significance of feeding the fire, according to the indigenous language teacher, is based purely on tradition and custom. She explained that the fire will take the prayer to the ancestors. Not only that! She also mentioned that traditional belief holds that those who committed suicide are in the darkest part of the netherworld and



that feeding the fire will bring them to light. The symbolic activity among others, ignites the spirit of the living, she added. We ended the activity with another prayer, but this time, offering hopes and good health for the youth as they progress along their educational journey. For me, this is a great enlightenment. Culture can teach us so many things and this, indeed, is a clear example.



## SAMBAA K'E

# READING AND WRITING IN SAMBAA K'E

BY: PRINCIPAL FINLAY

At Charles Tetcho School in beautiful Sambaa K'e, we started the 2020-21 school year focused on reading and writing. To support students' writing abilities we used a wide range of resources for the fall term. For the spring term we piloted the Lucy Calkins *Units of Study*. During our spring term, students engaged in realistic fiction writing based on one of Lucy Calkins' *Units of Study*.

Students at Charles Tetcho School engaged in mini lessons throughout

the term to support creating and developing stories and characters that feel real. Additionally, they engaged in the drafting and revising process with an eye towards believability. Finally, they prepared for publication with their audience in mind. These completed works were on average three typed pages long. A lot of work went into the creation of these stories!

Out of all the completed works, Sheldon Jeanbo-Ekenale completed piece was the most impressive!

Sheldon was inspired to write his realistic fiction piece by the many situations in North America of colloquially called 'Karens' who revealed their racism and entitled status in small and large exchanges with others in a wide range of places. Sheldon was touched by what he read and heard about. Choosing such a topical situation to write about reveals Sheldon's keen awareness of the world around him and his desire to effect change.

Due to his academic prowess and his incredible growth as a learner during the 2020-21 school year, Sheldon improved his writing abilities by two grade levels over the course of the academic year. Congratulations Sheldon on your many accomplishments and we all look forward to seeing how you will continue to inspire and grow as a learner and a thinker this coming year!

## STORY BY SHELDON JEANBO-EKENALE



As Debra stepped out of the open-door bathroom at a 24/7 gas station, her slacker of a taxi driver leaves as cashier goes to the next costumer, but

really he's going to the McDonald's parking lot. Thinking she is stuck, she calls another cab company called "Fast Cab" but they usually get there in 5 minutes or less.

When it arrives, she hops in slowly and in agonizing pain from standing there for minutes. He picks her up in a sad yellow cab, she says "take me to 34 West Blvd Street". They arrive to a nice neighbourhood with green grass, 2 story houses and friendly neighbors who have cookouts on the weekend.

She jumps out throws \$ 11.50 at the cab driver, jogs to her mother's doorstep, opening the door only to smell that her 57-year-old mother ate McDonalds without her.

The next day she goes to the local town grocery store to buy her chicken nuggets. As she walks into the store she is demanded to wear a mask and yells at them saying "I'm putting it on" then she walks away desperately trying to find her chicken nuggets. She struggles to find them and sees a guy in his 20s, working a minimum wage job, she screams at him and demanding that he look for the chicken Nuggets then demands to see the manager.

A middle-age manager asked Debra to get out of there before he calls the cops. Debra walks out in a snobby mood, crying on the inside, as her heart falls into an empty void killing her slowly

on the way home as rain starts to fall from the sky like Debra's tears hit the ground. She makes it home jumping on her bed in a sad mood, almost breaking its springs like the chicken nuggets that hold her, broke her. Just the thought of it makes Debra want to burst out crying like that time she dropped her happy meal, just when she got home. Seeing the rain fall like her tears fills her with courage to go back and demand for her chicken nuggets. She rushes to the kitchen table for 25.99\$ specifically for her chicken nuggets

and her only money for chicken nuggets.

She gets outside where her mother is driving a run down 2011 Toyota FJ Cruiser and jumps in making the SUV bounce up and down. Making it to the supermarket in sweat, because the AC in the SUV is broken, she jogs to the

store like that time she jogged to the bathroom because she ate too much Taco Bell.

She makes it to the store while breathing heavy like a dog after running 10 miles. She walks inside with a sweat drenched sweater letting in a sour odor, grabbing her nuggets buying it at checkout and leaving with a serious face and once she got home she cooked it right away. Savouring every single bite, she took, filling her with satisfactory and joy, crying at how beautiful it tasted, every bite tasted like hot bannock with the butter melting in it, every bite was like smelling the rain in the morning, like going swimming when the water is the right temperature, she loved it even though she could have got it delivered from McDonald's or something, she is happy with what she got moral of the story, be happy with what you get.

# LKES FIRE FEEDING CEREMONY

BY: PRINCIPAL LEACH

On Tuesday, September 7th, Liidlii Kue Elementary School (LKES) started the year with a Feeding the Fire Ceremony. Staff members, Bernice Gargan and Jessie Horesay, talked to the students about the importance of feeding the fire and why it is done. Bernice went on to explain the importance of holding this ceremony every year in this way:

Fire is considered a living force which enables the Dene to survive. The students learn to respect the fire for its’ spiritual meaning as well as for the practical uses and for fire safety. Dene understand animals gift themselves as food to hunters, who in return demonstrate respect to the animal by sharing the meat within the human community and by offering the meat

to ancestors through ceremonies such as feeding the fire. Thus, maintaining social relationships with animals and ancestors through respectful reciprocity.

Staff and students were then asked to reflect on their own individual goals and hopes for the new school year. Bernice and Jessie went around and gave every student and staff a small pinch of tobacco to offer these hopes and goals to the fire during the ceremony so that they would become reality for this school year.

Bernice then said a prayer in each of the four directions and offered the tobacco to the fire to close the ceremony.



# NEW COMPUTER ROOM FOR LKES STUDENTS

BY: PRINCIPAL LEACH



LKES has moved their computers from their old room (behind the Library) to their new room in the Green Wing. On Friday, September 10th, Berni Leader and Raymond Horassi moved the computer desks and computers to their new home. The reason for the move was two-fold:

Firstly, it will bring the computers to a more centralized location in the school where more of the students will be able to use them and into a room that is better suited as a computer lab. The computers will now be more readily

accessible for the younger students in the school and teachers will be better able to better monitor students as they work.

Secondly, the old computer room will now be re-purposed as a music room. Up until now we have not had a dedicated room for our music program. This room is ideally located away from the rest of the classes so as not to disturb them. This new space will not only allow our music program to grow but also to flourish.

# PICTURES TELL A STORY

BY: JACYNDA BONNETROUGE, ETHAN CANADIEN, CHARLOTTE LANDRY, DEAN SQUIRREL, RILEY MCKAY AND TYRELL NADLI

In April, two journalists from Cabin Radio visited our ELA 10 class. Ollie Williams and Sarah Sibley worked with our class for four days to produce a 30-second advertisement for a product that is locally available to consumers.

Ollie and Sarah began by taking us on a film scavenger hunt. Using our phones we filmed various scenes like

a dog walking across the street or a raven flying in the air.

The second day of their stay was spent in the classroom. We watched advertisements that were 30 seconds in length. We chose an ad that we liked and watched each of them as a class. We had to explain what we liked about our ad.

We then created storyboards of our

advertisements in collaboration with our group.

The third day we spent completing the storyboards and scouting locations. On their final day with our class, we filmed the ads. One group went to the band office where they filmed Chief Joachim Bonnetrouge who had agreed to assist them.

We learned that journalism is more

than just writing articles. Journalism today is a visual medium more than at any other time in history. We liked telling stories through the camera lens.

Mahsicho, Ollie Williams and Sarah Sibley. Thank you for coming to Fort Providence and working with us.



Left to Right: Tyrell Nadli, Dean Squirrel, Conrad Landry, Cabin Radio's Ollie Williams & Sarah Sibley and student, Charlotte Landry.

Dean Squirrel, Conrad Landry, Riley Mckay, Cabin Radio's Sarah Sibley & Ollie Williams and student, Charlotte Landry

Left to Right: Tyrell Nadli, Ethan Canadien, Dean Squirrel, Conrad Landry, Riley McKay, Cabin Radio's Ollie Williams.

Tyrell Nadli, Conrad Landry, Cabin Radio's Ollie Williams & Sarah Sibley and student, Charlotte Landry

# LÍIDLÍ KÚĚ REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL

BY: PRINCIPAL ADAMS



Good day valued community members of our LKRHS students. I should first introduce myself before going into depth of our school successes and direction.

My name is Benjamin Adams and I am the new principal at LKRHS. I come to you from Newfoundland, the place where I was born and raised -where my roots are deeply embedded. I have taught in Newfoundland, Manitoba, Nunavut, and now beautiful Northwest Territories. To be honest, I find the trees, tall grass, and waterways here quite similar to those of Newfoundland, which reminds me of my home. That being said, I still miss my family, feeling the sea breeze and hearing the ocean roar behind my house. I come to LKRHS with one goal in mind: To actively participate in the educational process and be openly accepted into

your communities and culture, so that I can learn and share educational practices to foster your child's educational growth. Staff and student safety is paramount within my goal.

In my professional opinion, LKRHS is off to a great start. We first spent our staff and administrative days getting to know each other, the programming offered at LKRHS, and learning students (before meeting them) through conversation and portfolios. We have a well-driven team here at LKRHS and they are all determined to reach the educational goals of each student.

On Tuesday, September 7, we had our annual Corn Boil while following COVID restrictions and guidelines. We were quite doubtful at first if the event would go ahead but it worked out in the end. The turnout was a huge success and I finally got to meet community members, as we cannot assemble in the gymnasium like other years, unfortunately. The serving was

hamburgers, hot dogs, and some fresh corn from Fort Simpson and Hay River. I would like to thank our staff and students for helping to prepare the feast and for picking up additional corn in Hay River. Teamwork at its best!

Friday, September 10, was our scheduled Suicide Prevention & Awareness Walk but, due to COVID restrictions, the Fort Simpson band office decided to cancel the event in the best interest of all. Staff and students still participated in in-class Suicide Prevention and Awareness conversations and lessons.

Friday, Sept. 17, LKRHS staff and students participated in our annual Terry Fox run. Banners were made by students, our local By-Law Enforcement Officer and an RCMP member led us through town, and during the walk we had a chance to reflect on the importance of cancer awareness.

During our last DEA meeting we proposed a new Corridor Pass Directive

to promote less congregating in our hallways, especially with current OCPHO COVID restrictions in place. As an LKRHS staff effort, we also reinstated the current 4.5 Cellphone and Personal Electronic Device Usage policy. Both the directive and policy are working wonders since being implemented. Student safety and learning opportunities are our number one concern at LKRHS, so rest assured that we will continue to see positive gains.

Upcoming event: Orange Shirt Day. Wednesday, September 29.

As always, please continue sending your child to school and stay actively connected with us on our LKRHS Facebook page, through local radio updates, and reading memos sent home. At this time we are still advising against school visits but always welcome a phone call. Please stay safe, watch for LKRHS updates, and let's continue working together to build a positive learning community for all.



Corn Boil



Corn Boil



Terry Fox Run



Terry Fox Run

L-R: Tristan Isaiah (Gr. 7), Ms. Cheryl Cli (SA), and Ms. Morrison (Gr. 7/8)

## DENE ZHATIE IS ALIVE AND WELL AT ECHO DENE SCHOOL

BY: CORRINE SASSIE

We are proud to showcase students who are engaged and proud to use their language. Good work!



Grade 6/7 are showing off what they had made in Dene Yatié classroom (fall time posters)



Fall Weather lessons



Grade 5 Charlene Sassie and Grade 3 Benjamin Woehl, showing off what they have made in Dene Yatie class.



Cooper Wilson Gr 2 worked on conversation.



Conrad Sassie and Silas Timbre Grade 10 holding up the Nathi's'e eleghá nadéthijá

# BUGS, BATS AND MUSHROOMS

BY: PRINCIPAL MANUEL

Students in Kakisa Lake took their school to Lady Evelyn Falls Park last Friday afternoon. This was the perfect setting for studying and writing about insects, because there were lots of them, both flying and crawling. Everyone had fun having school in the park office, visiting the falls, studying the bat display, collecting mushrooms, having a fire and cook out and of course studying about insects. Mrs M. made a great lunch of goulash and garlic toast. “When can we go again?” and “Can we go again this week?”



# TOMATOES, TOMATO SAUCE, LETTUCE AND LASAGNA

BY: PRINCIPAL MANUEL

All of these ingredients make a delicious lunch and that is just what the students of Kakisa did this week with the freshly grown vegetables from the community greenhouse. The students with Mr. & Mrs. M. harvested the vegetables, made and delivered a delicious lunch of lasagna, garden salad, and garlic toast with a fresh peach for dessert, for the whole community on Monday.

On Tuesday, again using the fresh garden vegetables, the students made and delivered a BLT sandwich and a fruit cup, at lunchtime, for everyone in Kakisa. There were compliments and many thanks for the delicious meals.

We are continuing with the harvest.





# DEH GÁH SEES RED ON MAY 5TH TO REMEMBER MISSING AND MURDERED INDIGENOUS WOMEN AND GIRLS

On May 5th, Deh Gáh staff and students saw red and lowered our flag to half-mast with a red sash tied to the flag pole beneath our Canadian flag to remember Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls (MMIWG).

Ms. Machina’s Grade 8/9 class changed the bulletin board outside their classroom

*Creator,  
Remember your beloved children.  
Remember the hundreds of missing  
and murdered Indigenous women.  
Remember your beloved children as we  
remember you.*

*Remember us, Creator,  
when we come to you in the hopeful  
season of spring, seeking love, support,  
and protection for Indigenous children.  
We know that all children have the right  
to a  
home that will love them,  
a community that will support their  
needs,  
and a society that will protect and  
nurture them.*

*And so we pray for these children, God.  
Remember us, Creator,*

*when we come to you in the passion of  
summer,  
seeking guidance in how to address this  
national tragedy.  
Help us to better understand the root  
causes of violence against Indigenous  
women;  
and ensure that our actions do not  
add to the further marginalization of  
Indigenous women.*

*Remember us, Creator,  
when we come to you in the mysterious  
bustle of autumn,  
seeking comfort and healing for those  
most affected.  
Nurture and care for the women who  
are still missing;  
may they be sustained by love.  
Gather the women who have been*

to commemorate MMIWG. They hung a red dress to remember.

Below is the prayer we prayed as a school to remember these proud, beautiful women and girls lost to us.

*murdered;  
may they find peace despite the  
violence that has bound them.  
Comfort the families and communities  
of the missing women;  
may they find joy in the memories of  
their loved ones  
despite the sadness in their hearts.*

*Remember us, Creator,  
when we come to you in the stillness of  
winter,  
seeking wisdom and peace.  
Share with us stories from both past and  
present,  
so that we can better affect the future  
with our thoughts, words, and  
actions.  
Restore for us the stories of those women  
who are missing and who have been*

*murdered,  
so that their memory and legacy will  
continue.*

*Remember your beloved children,  
Creator;  
remember the grandmas, mothers,  
sisters, aunts, partners, and friends  
who have been viciously taken from  
their communities.  
Remember the loved ones who miss  
them;  
remember the faithful who have  
continually prayed to you  
throughout the seasons and throughout  
the years,  
and join our prayers with them. Amen.*

## Dehcho Mental Health and Community Wellness Supports


**Mental Health and Community Wellness Supports**  
Flexible same day and scheduled appointments are available each day from 8:30am to 5:00pm.

Fort Providence	Fort Simpson	Fort Liard
<b>Community Counsellor</b> (867) 699-3421	<b>Community Counselling Office</b>	<b>Community Counsellor</b> (867) 770-4770
<b>Child and Youth Care Counsellor</b> (867) 695-6356	(867) 695-2293	<b>Child and Youth Care Counsellor</b> (867) 695-1789

Individuals located in Nahanni Butte, Kakisa, Jean Marie River, Wrigley, Sambaa K’e and K’atlodeeche First Nation can call any of the numbers above for telephone services.

### 24/7 Crisis Supports

<b>Hope For Wellness</b> 1-855-242-3310	<b>NWT Help Line</b> 1-800-661-0844
<b>YWCA NWT</b> 1-866-223-7775	<b>Canada Suicide Prevention Service</b> 1-867-456-4566
<b>Kids Help Phone</b> 1-800-668-6868	<b>Wellness Together Canada</b> Adults : 1-866-585-0445 Youth : 1-888-668-6810
<b>Kamatsiaqtut Nunavut Helpline</b> 1-800-265-3333	

 If you or someone you know is experiencing an emergency please call 911

## eMental Health and Addictions Supports

### Mental Health Supports

<b>Wellness Together Canada</b> Offers a variety of mental health services including an optional brief assessment to identify resources and tools. <a href="https://ca.portal.gs">ca.portal.gs</a>	<b>Stronger Minds</b> Offers coping resources to all Canadians with anxiety and depression associated to COVID-19 <a href="https://www.mindbeacon.com/strongerminds">www.mindbeacon.com/strongerminds</a>
<b>7 Cups</b> 7 Cups is an app based in peer-support and self-help and is available to youth (13-17) and adults of all ages. <a href="https://www.7cups.com">www.7cups.com</a>	<b>Strongest Families Institute</b> The Strongest Families Institute (SFI) delivers distance services to families primarily via telephone. Contact your local community counsellor for a referral.
<b>Breathing Room</b> Supports youth and young adults learn new ways to manage stress, depression and anxiety. Download the app using this code: XXQTGPUE	<b>Root’d</b> An app to understanding and managing panic attacks and anxiety. This includes interactive tools for in the moment panic attacks. Most features are free. <a href="https://www.rootd.io">www.rootd.io</a>

### Addictions Recovery Supports

<b>All People, All Pathways</b> Support groups (via Zoom) facilitated by Community Addictions Peer Support Association <a href="https://ca.portal.gs">ca.portal.gs</a>	<b>Breaking Free</b> Assists in understanding your cravings and urges, you can also download the app. <a href="https://www.wellness.breakingfreeonline.ca">www.wellness.breakingfreeonline.ca</a>
<b>Alcoholics Anonymous</b> Online meetings are available across Canada. <a href="https://www.area78aaa.org">www.area78aaa.org</a>	<b>Addiction Program Support</b> Phone counselling is available for former clients of:
<b>24/7 NWT Quitline</b> Confidential helpline for smokers who want to quit. <b>1 (866) 286-5099</b>	<b>Poundmakers 1 (866) 458-1884</b> <b>Aventa 1 (403) 245-9050</b> <b>Edgewood 1 (866) 947-5911</b> <b>Fresh Start 1 (844) 768-6266</b>

 If you or someone you know is experiencing an emergency please call 911