

# TULITA AUGUST NEWS

Vol. 2 Issue 6: August 19th, 2024



## TULITA NEWSLETTER WOULD LIKE YOU TO HAVE A GREAT DAY.

Most of the information in the newsletter is taken from Wikipedia, and/or books mentioned.

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**PLEASE CALL ECC  
FOR BEAR SIGHTING  
OR FIRE: (867) 588-  
3441 or 374-0505.**

## New to Tulita or Just Bored?

We have news for you! This newsletter is out for the people of Tulita and its newcomers who just want to know what is going on in the community or need something to read to pass the time. Have vital information that you want in the next newsletter? Want a correction? Call us at the office at (867) 588 3734 or email [tlfc.2018@hotmail.com](mailto:tlfc.2018@hotmail.com). Check out our website at [www.tulitalandcorp.ca](http://www.tulitalandcorp.ca).

## Events and Announcements:

**August 6th-21st, 2024:** Kids Summer Camp. 7 to 12 years old. Registration at [recreation@hamletoftulita.ca](mailto:recreation@hamletoftulita.ca) and cost is \$6.00 per day.

**August 16-21st, 2024:** TLC's Teresa is coming in for Mental Health and Wellness and is able to have one-on-ones or meetings in the evenings. Call or text (780) 377-1989 to set up a one-on-one.

**August 19-29th, 2024:** Drum Lake Trip by IPCA. If interested, call 588-3053. Check inside for more info.

**August 22nd, 2024:** CAWS School starts!

**August 30th-September 2nd, 2024:** Tulita's 25th Handgames Celebration. Contact Tulita Dene Band to register.

**Every Tuesdays Evening, 7pm:** Alcohol Anonymous at the Preschool.



## COMMUNITY HOURS:

**Fire: 588-2222**

**Health Centre: 588:4251**

**RCMP: 588-1111**

**Arena:** Mon-Sat. 1pm-9pm.

**Aurora College (588-4313):** Mon.-Fri. 8:30am-5pm.

**BJs Market & Take Out (subject to change):**

Check Tulita Buy, Sell, Trade on FB.

**Chief Albert Wright School (588-4361):** Mon-Fri. 8am-4pm. Closed for summer months.

**Cornerstone Oilfield Services Inc. (588-3001):**

Mon-Fri. 9am-5pm.

**ECC (588-3441):** Mon.-Fri. 8:30am-5pm.

**Fort Norman Metis Land Corp (588-3201):** Mon-Fri. 9am-5pm.

**Gas Station (588-3044):** Mon-Fri. 11am-12pm, 2pm-4pm. Sat. 11am-12pm. 1pm-2pm (For call outs, 867-688-7934 or 867-374-0371)

**Government Service Office (588-3002):** Mon-Fri. 1pm-5pm.

**Hamlet of Tulita (588-4471):** Mon-Fri. 9am-5pm.

**Harriet Gladue Health Centre (588-4251, or after hours, 374-0004):** Mon-Fri. 9am-5pm.

**Income Support (588-3211):** Mon-Fri. 9am-5pm.

**IPCA (588-3053):** Mon-Fri. 9am-5pm.

**Mackay Range (588-3051):** Mon.-Fri. 9am-5pm.

**MYB (588-3048):** Mon-Sat. 8am-5pm.

**Northern Store (588-4331):** Mon-Sat. 10am-6pm.

**NWT Power Corp (588-4291):** Mon-Fri. 9am-5pm.

**Parks Canada (588-4884):** Mon-Fri. 9am-5pm.

**Pentecostal Mission (374-0451):** Sun. at 11am at the Cultural Centre.

**Post Office (588-4331):** Mon-Fri. 1:30-5:30pm.

**Preschool (588-3401):** Mon-Fri. 1pm-3:45pm. Closed for summer months.

**Radio Station (588-3233).**

**RCMP (588-1111):** Mon-Fri. 9am-5pm.

**RRC (588-4724):** Mon-Fri. 9am-5pm.

**SRRB (374-4040):** Mon-Fri. 9am-5pm.

**St. Therese of Avila Church (588-4241):** Sunday at 11am.

**Two Rivers Hotel (588-3320):** Mon-Fri. 9am-5pm.

**Tulita Airport (588-4555):** Mon-Fri. 8:30am-10:30am, 4pm-5:30pm.

**Tulita CARS Station (588-3191):** Mon-Fri. 9am-5pm.

**Tulita Dene Band (588-3341):** Mon-Fri. 9am-5pm.

**Tulita District Lands (588-4894):** Mon-Fri. 9am-5pm.

**Tulita Housing (588-4111):** Mon-Fri. 9am-5pm.

**Tulita Land Corp (588-3734):** Mon-Fri. 9am-5pm.

**Wellness Center (588-4271):** Mon-Fri. 9am-5pm.

**Wright's Convenience (588-4927):** 7pm-11pm or check Tulita Buy, Sell, Trade on FB.

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## **RECREATIONAL TIMES (SUBJECT TO CHANGE)**


**Fitness Hours:** Mon. to Fri. from 1pm to 9pm at the arena. Sat. from 3pm to 9pm.

**Crib and card games:** Mon. and Wed. at 7pm at the Arena. In the summer, casual card games are at the arbor on clear weather days.



**Bingos** are usually Tuesday, Friday, and Saturday, depending on organization and funds needed. It would be posted at the Northern Store or on-line on Facebook's Tulita Buy, Sell, Trade.


## **Birthday/Anniversary Messages (1st-31st)**


 Evelyn Peter would like to say Happy Birthday to **Addison** for August 1st. Wish many more bdays to come, love mom n dad n brothers n sisters.


 Kristianna Andrew would like to say Happy Birthday to her bff **Tamara** for August 1st. We love you and forever thankful for you. Love Ash n I.




 Zaida Stewart would like to say Happy Birthday


to her bbf **Tam**   for August 1st. Wish you alllll the love in the world. You one of a kind human being, I love you lots.


 Seanna Menacho would like to say Happy Birthday to her bff **Tam** for August 1st. Hope you enjoyed ur special day, we love you always. Levi, Paisley, Keziah, and I.






 Kristianna would like to say Happy Anniversary to her **auntie Vicky and uncle Roy** for August 1st. Many more beautiful years to come.


 Tamara would like to say Happy Anniversary to **Vicky and Roy** for August 1st. I'm glad we share this special day together. Love you both so much.

 Shyla Bayha would like to say Happy 1st Birthday going out to her special little man **Zerryn** for August 4th.   We love you sooo much little peanut! Love mom, dad, and the whoooooole family.


 Seanna Menacho would like to say Happy Birthday to her nephew **Cohen** for August 5th. We miss and love you. Love always Levi, Paisley, Keziah, and aunty Seanna.


 Seanna Menacho would like to say Happy Anniversary to **Jason and Michelle** for August 5th. Here's to many more years of happiness, blessings, and memories. Love Levi, Paisley, Keziah, and I.


 Kerri McPherson would like to say Happy Birthday to her beautiful mother **Cecile** for August 6th.    


 Judy Menacho would like to Happy Birthday to her mom **Cecile** for August 6th. Love you everyday.



 Kim Stewart would like to say Happy Birthday to her mother **Cecile** for August 6th.



 Cheryl McPherson would like to say Happy Birthday to her mom **Cecile** for August 6th. Love from your grandbabies.



 Rena Chapple would like to say Happy Birthday to her brother **Jimmy** for August 6th. Love from your family.


 Evelyn Peter would like to say Happy Birthday to **Mandy** for August 8th. Wish many more bdays to come. Love mom n dad n brothers n sisters.


 Nicole Andrew would like to say Happy Birthday to her sister **Mandy** for August 8th.


 Tamara would like to say Happy Birthday to brothher **Troy** for August 8th. Cheers to another year around the sun. Love you 



 Zaida Stewart would like to say Happy Birthday to her brownest cousin Troy for August 8th. Hope the rest of the year treats you well. Love Zaid 

 Felicia Bavard would like to say Happy Birthday to her **Grandma Nellie** for August 9th. And many more to come  from everyone.

 Jeannie Bavard would like to say Happy Birthday to her mom **Nellie** for August 9th.

 Charmaine Bavard would like to say Happy Birthday to **Grandma Nellie** for August 9th.

 Laura Krutko would like to say Happy Birthday to **Heidi** for August 10th. Hope you enjoy your day and many more to come. Love mom, dad, and Lylah.

 Darlene Etchinelle would like to say Happy Birthday to her mum **Theresa** for August 11th. Much love 

🎂 Micheal Etchinelle would like to say Happy Birthday to his mom **Theresa** for August 11th. From Micheal and family.

🎂 Tamara would like to say Happy Birthday to **Ian** for August 13th

🎂 Marlene Menacho would like to say Happy Birthday to her Grandson **Haiden** for August 16th. Grandma loves you babies! ❤️

🎂 Susie Silastiak would like to say Happy Birthday to her son **Donald** for August 17th.

👩👧 Tamara would like to say Happy Anniversary to **Richard and Helen** for August 17th.

🎂 Marlene Menacho would like to say Happy Birthday to her Grandson **Lennox** for August 18th. Grandma loves you babies! ❤️

👩👧 Tamara would like to say Happy Anniversary to **Calvin and Lynda** for August 18th.

🎂 Jeannie Bavard would like to say Happy Birthday to her sister **Margaret** for August 20th.

🎂 Felix Boulanger would like to say Happy Birthday to **Margaret** for August 20th. Momma Bear.

🎂 Judy Menacho would like to say Happy Birthday to her first baby **Shaelyn** for August 21st. Hope you have a wonderful day, you deserve it! ❤️

🎂 Lawrence Menacho would like to say Happy Birthday to their daughter **Shaelyn** for August 21st. May your day be filled with happiness and joy. Love u. Enjoy your special day ❤️ Dad, Mom, Hope, Daws, Jules, & kids.

🎂 Kerri McPherson would like to say Happy Birthday to **Shae Shae** for August 21st. Love you!

🎂 Cecile McPherson would like to say Happy Birthday to her first granddaughter **Shaeyln** for August 21st. Love you little monkey. ❤️

🎂 Marlene Menacho would like to say Happy Birthday to her niece **Shaelyn** for August 21st. I love

you baby. Auntie love you ❤️ Enjoy with lots of love auntie Marlene.

🎂 Judy Menacho would like to say Happy Birthday to **Lawrence** for August 21st. ❤️

🎂 Rena Chapple would like to say Happy Birthday to her bby brother **Lawrence** for August 21st. We love you and enjoy your day.

🎂 Evelyn Peter would like to say Happy Birthday to their **Pierre Bear Bear** for August 22nd. Love Granny n Grandpa. ❤️ 🎂 😊 ❤️

🎂 Tamara Tatti would like to say Happy Birthday to her niece **Naomi** for August 27nd. Aunties sending lots of love, I hope you get spoiled rotten.

❤️ ❤️

🎂 Jeannie Bavard would like to say Happy Birthday to her grandson **Issac** for August 28th. Love always grandma Jeannie and family.

🎂 Charmine Bavard would like to say Happy Birthday to her son **Issac** for August 28th.

🎂 Bernette Horassi would like to say Happy Birthday to **Vanessa** for August 29th.

🎂 Marlene Menacho would like to say Happy Birthday to nephew **Carter** for August 31st. Auntie love you ❤️ Enjoy with lots of love auntie Marlene.

🎂 Allan Menacho would like to say Happy Birthday to his son **Carter** for August 31st. ❤️ 🎂 😊 ❤️ And many more to come. Wishing you the best day ever. Love Dad, Carrie, and baby Nash.

🎂 Tina Etchinelle and Mike Etchinelle would like to say Happy Birthday going out to **Andrew** for August 4th, **Mackenzie** for August 13th, **Lyle** for August 20th. Many more to come, love always Mom, Dad, and Family.



# Map of Tulita for newcomers!



**There is many places to walk or visit to talk to people. You can walk along the Two Rivers Trail located past the Parks Canada Trailer Building. You can walk through the town, as well as towards Plane Lake Dr to the airport and from Water Intake to the Gas Station. You can walk along the shore, all the way to the bank where the boats load off and where the Barge stops**



# Funny Stories

## **Uncle's Bad Memory**

My husband's uncle thought he had conquered his problem of trying to remember his wife's birthday and also, their anniversary. He opened an account with a florist, provided that florist with the dates and instructions to send flowers to his wife on those dates along with an appropriate note signed, "Your loving husband." His wife was thrilled by this new display of attention. This worked perfectly, for a while at least. Then one day he came home, saw a bouquet, kissed his wife and asked offhandedly, "Nice flowers, honey. Where did you get them?"

## **Aging**

Oliver Wendell Holmes, the eminent Supreme Court justice, was on a train reading his paper when the conductor came by punching tickets. The justice searched his coat pockets for his ticket. Then he searched his vest pockets. Each time he came up empty. Finally, the conductor, recognizing him, said, "Mr. Justice Holmes, don't worry. I'm sure the great Pennsylvania Railroad won't mind if you send your ticket to us when you find it." With this the distinguished jurist looked up at the conductor and said, "My dear young man, the problem is not where is my ticket? The problem is, where am I going? I need that ticket to remember."

## **Johnstown Flood**

The story is told about an old minister who survived the great Johnstown Flood. He loved to

tell the story over and over in great detail.

Everywhere he went he would spend all his time talking about the great historic event in his life. One day he died and went to heaven. There in a meeting in heaven all the saints had gathered together to share their life experiences. The old minister got all excited and ran to St. Peter (who, naturally was in charge) and asked if he might tell the exciting story of his survival from the Johnstown Flood. St. Peter hesitated for a moment and then said, "Yes, you may share, but just a reminder that in our audience tonight will be brother Noah."

## **Babysitter**

My wife and I had the best babysitter. She would wash, dry, and put away all the dishes; clean the house; and even help with the laundry after putting the kids into bed. Once, we were getting ready to go out for the evening, and my wife was embarrassed because she had let the dirty laundry pile up. Before we left, she threw all our dirty clothes into the dryer so the babysitter wouldn't see it. You can imagine our surprise and embarrassment when we returned to find all our dirty clothes folded neatly in the laundry room!

## **Shingles**

A man walked into a doctor's office. "What do you have?" The receptionist asked. "Shingles," he replied. She told him to sit down. Soon a nurse called him and asked, "What do you have?" "Shingles," he replied. She took his

blood pressure, weight, and complete medical history. Then she took him to a room and told him to remove all of his clothes. After a few minutes the doctor came in and asked, “What do you have?” “Shingles,” the man told him. The doctor looked him up and down and said, “Where?” “Out in the truck. Where do you want me to unload them?”

## **Illness**

I had the toughest time of my life! First, I got angina pectoris and then arteriosclerosis. Just as I was recovering from these, I got tuberculosis, double pneumonia and phthisis. Then they gave me hypodermics. Appendicitis was followed by tonsillectomy. These gave way to aphasia and hypertrophic cirrhosis. I completely lost my memory for a while. I know I had diabetes and acute ingestion, besides gastritis, rheumatism, lumbago and neuritis. I don't know how I pulled through it. It was the hardest spelling test I've ever had.

## **Pork Trial**

There was a rabbi in a small town, and he was really curious about why so many people ate pork. He really wanted to try some, but there was nowhere in town he could go and not be seen. One weekend, he made an excuse and traveled to a distant town, and went into a restaurant, and ordered the first pork item on the menu. While he was waiting for his order of pork, the president of his congregation walked in. He sees the rabbi and asks if he could join him for dinner, and the rabbi has no choice but to agree. A while later, the waiter returns with the rabbi's meal. He takes the cover off the

large platter, and there was a whole roast pig, with an apple in its mouth. The congregation president is more than a little shocked. “What a fancy place,” explains the rabbi quickly. “Just look at how they serve the apple I ordered.”

## **Parachuting**

On our first day of training for a charity parachute jump, the instructor made an important point. “Start preparing for landing when you're at 300 feet.” One nervous student asked, “How do you know when you're at 300 feet?” “A good question. At 300 feet, you can recognize the faces of people on the ground.” The nervous student thought about this for a moment before saying, “What happens if there's no one there I know?”

## **Car Accident**

A man gets into a car accident and goes to the doctor. When he gets home his wife asks him, “What did the doctor say?” He responds, “The doctor says I got a flukie.” Not knowing what a flukie is, she goes and asks her neighbor what she should do to treat it. Her neighbor tells her, “I don't remember exactly what that is, but I think that you have to do a hot compress on it.” Not liking this answer, she asks her other neighbor if she knows what a flukie is. That neighbor responds, “Oh, I remember it's serious but I can't remember what exactly that is. But you have to keep it cold.” Now she is totally confused and decides to call the doctor. “Doctor, my husband came and saw you today after his accident, can you tell me what his prognosis was? She asks. The doctor responds, “I told him he got off lucky.”

**Slavey Words to Learn for Kids or Beginners (as taken from A Grammar of Slave by Keren Rice) (Hr-Hare, Bl-Bearlake, Sl-Slavey, Mt-Mountain)**

**Stress:** is not a distinctive feature Slave. In the Hare dialect, there are stress-like properties which are predictable. What might be called stress generally falls on the vowel immediately preceding the stem of a verb and on the stem vowel of a noun. A stressed vowel is generally acoustically more intense than an unstressed vowel, and intensity is in fact the primary phonetic correlate of stress. In prefixes in all dialects, a high tone may fall on a vowel with lexical high tone. That vowel then has extra stress, or is more intense. In the example below, indicates that the following vowel is stressed and ' indicates high tone.

ʔónédehʔá	[ʔónédéhʔa]	“I give away.” (Hr)
ʔónédéʔo	[ʔónédéʔo]	“S/he gave it away.” (Hr)
ʔónédeʔo	[ʔónédéʔo]	“I gave away.” (Hr)

In the perfective, the first- and third-person singular forms differ only by tone placement. Where the high tone falls on a vowel already bearing a high tone, as in the first person singular perfective form, this vowel retains its tone and receives prominent stress.







# Chief Albert Wright School News



The Chief Albert Wright School would like to introduce *Judy Menacho* as their new principal! Congratulations to our teacher turned principal who was with us for over 22 years teaching the youth of Tulita!

The Tulita Land Corporation would also like to congratulate Judy Menacho as well, and we know that many other Tulita families as well. We bet the students are as excited as we are! School starts on August 22nd, 2024!



Judy Menacho with her granddaughter, Elizabeth (a future student of Chief Albert Wright).

# Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada

## (CIRNAC)<sup>1</sup>

The CIRNAC is the department of the Government of Canada responsible for Canada's northern lands and territories, and one of the two departments with responsibility for policies relating to Indigenous peoples in Canada (the other being the Department of Indigenous Services, or ISC).

CIRNAC, along with ISC, were established to replace the Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development (DIAND).

The department is overseen by two cabinet ministers, the Minister of Crown-Indigenous relations (whose portfolio includes treaty rights and land negotiations) and the Minister of Northern Affairs. Its headquarters is in Terrasses de la Chaudière, in downtown Gatineau, Quebec.

“First Nation” has been used since the 1970s instead of the word *Indian*, which some people found offensive. The term *Indian* is used for legal and historical documents such as Status Indians as defined by the *Indian Act*. For example, the term “Indian” continues to be used in the historical and legal document, the Canadian Constitution and federal statutes. The then-Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada used the term Inuit in referring to “an Aboriginal people in Northern Canada, who live in Nunavut, Northwest Territories, Northern Quebec and Northern Labrador. The word means ‘people’ in the Inuit language – Inuktitut. The singular of Inuit is Inuk.

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<sup>1</sup> As taken from Wikipedia.

*Eskimo* is found in historical documents about Canadian Inuit. The term *Aboriginal* is commonly used when referring to the three groups of indigenous peoples (First Nations, Inuit, and Metis) as a whole. It is also used by Aboriginal people who live within Canada who claim rights of sovereignty or Aboriginal title to lands.

CIRNAC is one of the federal government departments responsible for meeting the Government of Canada's obligations and commitments to First Nations, Inuit and Metis, and for fulfilling the federal government's constitutional responsibilities in the North. The department's responsibilities are largely determined by numerous statutes, negotiated agreements and relevant legal decisions. Most of the department's programs, representing a majority of its spending – are delivered through partnerships with Aboriginal communities and federal-provincial or federal-territorial agreements. CIRNAC also works with urban Indigenous people, Metis and Non-Status Indians (many of whom live in rural areas).

CIRNAC supports indigenous people (First Nations, Inuit and Metis) and Northerners in their efforts to:

- improve social well-being and economic prosperity;
- develop healthier, more sustainable communities; and
- participate more fully in Canada's political, social and economic development to the benefit of all Canadians.

CIRNAC also works with urban First Nations, Metis and Non-Status Indians through the Office of the Federal Interlocutor. CIRNAC also manages the resources of federal lands, including land and subsurface leases and resource royalties.

In 1755, the British Crown established the Indian Department. The Governor General of Canada held control of Indian affairs, but usually delegated much of their responsibility to subordinate civil secretaries. In 1860, the responsibility for Indian affairs was transferred from the British government to the Province of Canada; the responsibility for Indian affairs was then delegated to the Crown Lands Department Commissions Responsible for Indian Affairs.

The federal government's legislative responsibilities for First Nations and the Inuit derive from section 91 (24) of the Constitution Act, 1867 and responsibility was given to the Secretary of State for the Provinces Responsible for Indian Affairs. In 1876, the *Indian Act*, which remains the major expression of federal jurisdiction in this area, was passed and a series of treaties were concluded between Canada and the various Indian bands across the country.

The responsibility for Indian Affairs and Northern Development rested with various government departments between 1873 and 1966. The Minister of the Interior also held the position of Superintendent-General of Indian Affairs after the Indian Affairs Department was established in 1880. In 1939, federal jurisdiction for Indian peoples was interpreted by the courts to apply to the Inuit. A revised Indian Act was passed in 1951.

From 1950 to 1965, the Indian Affairs portfolio was carried by the Minister of Citizenship and Immigration. On October 1, 1966, the Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development was created as a result of the Government Organization Act, 1966. Effective June 13, 2011, the department began using the applied

Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada in addition to the legal name of the department.

## Chronology of CIRNAC

1755-1860 British Indian Department

1830-1860 Divided between Upper Canada (Lieutenant Governor) and Lower Canada (Military Secretary to the Governor General)

1860-1880 Crown Lands Department Commissions Responsible for Indian Affairs

1868-1869 Under the Department of the Secretary of State of Canada (Superintendent General of Indian Affairs)

1869-1873 Under the Department of the Secretary of State for the Provinces (Superintendent General of Indian Affairs)

1873-1880 Under the Department of the Interior (Superintendent General of Indian Affairs)

1880-1936 The Department of Indian Affairs (Minister of the Interior/Superintendent General of Indian Affairs)

1936-1950 Under the Department of Mines and Resources

1950-1965 Under the Department of Citizenship and Immigration

1966 Under the Department of Northern Affairs and National Resources

1966-2011 Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development

1968-1978 Subsection: Indian and Eskimo Affairs

1978-2011 Subsection: Indian and Inuit Affairs in 1978

2011-2015 Publicly known as Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada

2015-2017 Publicly known as Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada

2019-Present Split into Department of Indigenous Services, the Department of Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada

# TULITA'S 25TH ANNUAL TRADITIONAL MEN'S HANDGAMES \$70,000



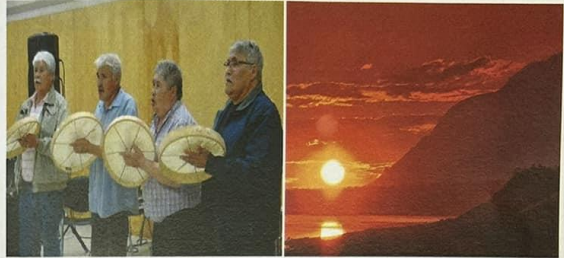
## TULITA'S 25<sup>TH</sup> HANDGAMES CELEBRATION

August 30th – September 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2024

Tulita celebrates the 25<sup>th</sup> Annual Men's Traditional Handgames! Contact the Tulita Dene Band to register. \$1,800 per team. Registration Forms available.

August 30th –  
September 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2024

Tulita, Northwest Territories



AGE 14-UP

Alcohol & Drugs Prohibited.  
Anyone under the influence will be  
disqualified.

Events to be Announced

## *Mental Health and You – My Journal Program*

*2024*

The TLC is hosting a workshop with Teresa that involves Women's Wellness and Mental Health from August 16th to August 20th, 2024.

**It may be hosted at the Hamlet's Cultural Centre from August 17th to the 20th, 2024 from 6pm-9pm.**

**Phone Number: (780) 377-1989**

While Teresa hosts the workshop in the evening, she is available during the day to talk one-to-one and meet people. There will be sharing circles, wellness programs, and mental health help with different topics such as sobriety, the effects of violence, drug awareness, and learning to heal. There will be snacks, coffee, tea, and water.



# Drum Lake Trip

**August 19 – 29, 2024**

IPCA Steering Committee in partnership with Blyth and Bathe  
Inc.

- Learn from Shutao'tine Knowledge Holders
  - Remediation Coordination Training
  - Introductory Search and Rescue

**\*\* Limited spots available \*\***

If you are interested, please contact Angela at the IPCA Office at

**867 588 3053**



## Tulita History Corner

**These passageways came from the book, “Son of the North,” by Charles Camsell.**

One of the interesting features about Fort Norman is what was known to the old-timers and the Indians as “the Smoke.” A few miles above the Post is a small coal basin containing beds of low grade coal. These beds are exposed on the banks of the river and from time immemorial they have been on fire. Alexander Mackenzie noted the smoke that rises from these burning coal seams when he descended the river on his discovery expedition in 1789. They were burning one hundred years later when I lived at Fort Norman, and they are still burning. The burnt-out beds can be seen as a dull red band at several points along the river. They may have been ignited originally by a stroke of lightning, but the Indians have a different story. They say that the coal was fired by a giant long, long ago, in the days when men and animals of immense size roamed the land.

Associated with the Indian story of “the Smoke” are two other features, one the stumps of some huge dead heads whose tops stick out of the water in the great eddy at the junction of the Mackenzie and Great Bear Rivers, the other, two great scars of broken rock outlined by a fringe of trees on the slope of the 1,100-foot Bear Rock, and clearly visible from Fort Norman.

The dead heads represent the arrows of the giant who in travelling down the river killed two beaver with them. He lit a fire on the bank to cook his beaver, but his fire got away from him and set the coal beds alight. After skinning the two beaver, one large and one small, he set the skins to dry on the slope of Bear Rock using some spruce trees to hold them down. All these features are still there, the fire, the dead heads and the scars on Bear Rock, representing an important event in the mythology of the Indians of Fort Norman.

This is one of many stories told me by the Indians to account for some of the outstanding physical features of the region or to explain the characteristics of the animals. Usually these stories were only told in the winter time and only to white men, when the teller felt that he was not likely to be ridiculed for telling them.

Another interesting and very welcome event at Fort Norman was the arrival in September of the Mountain Indians, who after spending the summer hunting moose, caribou and sheep in the Mackenzie mountains would descend the Gravel River in mooseskin boats loaded with dried meat. Most of our meat supply at the Post came from this source.

These Indians, who were the most intelligent and resourceful of all the Indians trading at Fort Norman, always came in to the Post early in July to meet the steamer *Wrigley* on her first trip north. After obtaining what supplies their credit was good for, mainly tea, tobacco and ammunition, they set out westward on foot with their dogs packed to hunt in the mountains through which the Canol pipe line now runs. The country was then entirely unexplored, and as far as I know no white man had ever entered it. Game was plentiful and as they hunted along the course of Gravel River they dried their meat and cached it along the river course to be picked up later as they descended the stream in their skin boats. I had always hoped to spend a summer with these Indians in this interesting country but the opportunity never arose. J. Keele, of the Geological Survey, was the first to explore Gravel River, when he came across from the Yukon in 1907, after spending the winter on the divide.

In the early part of the winter of 1895-1896, an occurrence of much scientific interest caused much excitement among the residents of Fort Norman and a considerable amount of apprehension on the part of the natives. It was believed that the end of the world was approaching. This was due to a great meteor which passed low over the southern sky from the east and appeared to fall in the Mackenzie Mountains to the west. I happened to be down on the river in the early part of the evening and was drawing a pail of water from a hole that I had cut in the ice. Suddenly the whole of our neighbourhood was flooded with a bright light and a body which appeared to me about the size of the moon passed rapidly across the sky from east to west and disappeared below the horizon in the Mackenzie Mountains. The passage of the meteor was accompanied by a roaring sound and followed by a noticeable tremor of the earth which, along with the light, brought everybody out of their houses in a state of great excitement. The meteor probably hit the earth somewhere in the high country near the head of Keele river, perhaps in the treeless country through which the Canol pipe line now runs and where some day it may be discovered. This would be important from a scientific point of view because the time of its fall could then be fixed as of November, 1895. There was no evidence of any forest fires at the time, so it is more than likely the meteor fell in the mountains above the timber line.

At the end of the summer the Indians descended the river in boats made of raw moosehide. Eight or ten skins sewn together, with the seams sealed with hard grease, were stretched over a framework of green pliable poles to make a serviceable boat twenty or twenty-five feet in length with perhaps a five-foot beam. It was the most suitable craft possible for Gravel River, a roaring mountain stream, because if it hit a rock it slid over easily without being punctured. These were the only Indians I ever knew who used that type of boat. They were never used for up stream travel and they were always abandoned on the beach at Norman and were soon devoured by the dogs.

One more incident, of major interest to the outside world, but of little importance to us in the far North, because like all world events it affected us very little and was over and done with by the time we heard of it, was Andree's attempt to float across the north polar regions in a balloon.

In the summer of 1895 circulars were sent to all northern trading Posts advising of Andree's plans and instructing all residents to look out for the balloon and to report it if seen. Accompanying the circular was a drawing of the balloon for the benefit of those who could not read, particularly the Indians.

When these circulars and drawings arrived at Fort Norman they were distributed to all the Indians, whether from the mountains or from Great Bear Lake, and rewards were offered by the Hudson's Bay Company to anyone sighting the balloon and reporting it. The balloon was supposed to take off from Spitzbergen and therefore we were advised to look for it coming from the north over the Pole.

During the following winter word came to us at Fort Norman that a woman had seen the balloon drifting southward across Great Bear Lake at a high altitude. The story was so specific and detailed and the teller so positive that it appeared to be worth investigating. So when I went to Great Bear Lake a little later in the winter I made further inquiries. The only thing I

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found wrong with the story was that the woman who had seen the balloon was quite blind. Another difficulty about the story only appeared a year or more later when we learned that Andree did not leave Spitzbergen at the time planned but was delayed until July, 1897, about a year and a half after it was supposed to have been seen by the old blind woman at Great Bear Lake.

# Old Photos of Fort Norman

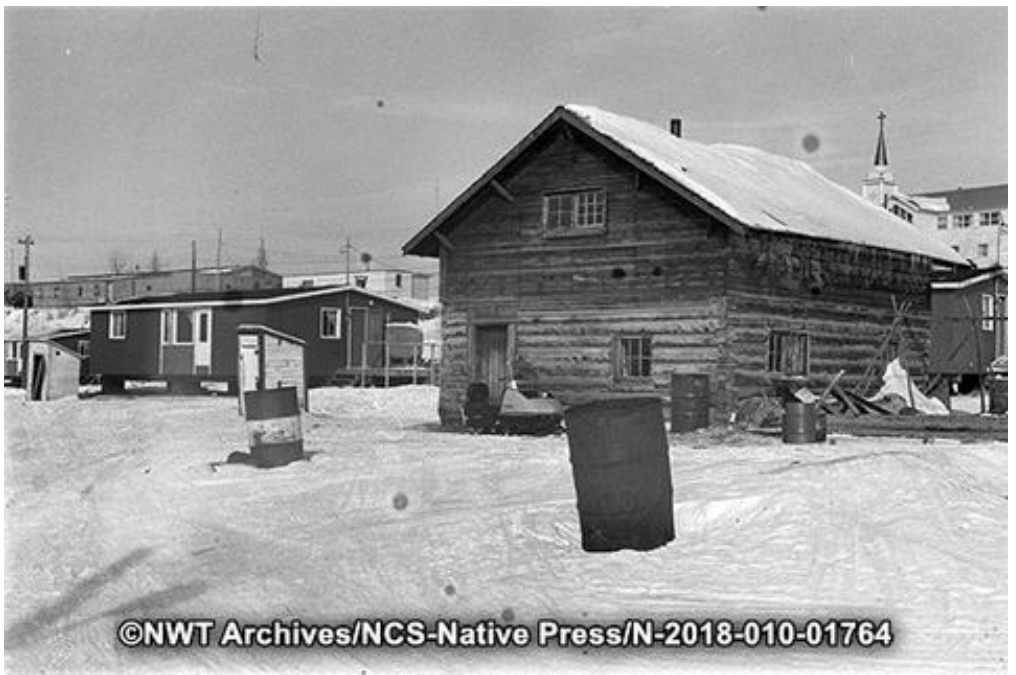


Fort Norman, 1966.  
People waiting for  
barge. Photo by Bart  
Hawkins.



Fort Noman, 1971.  
Elizabeth Yakeleya.  
Photo by Native  
Communication  
Society.





Fort Norman, March 17-29, 1974. Photo by Native Communications Society. (both photos)



# Hidden Pictures®

## Crocodile Rock

By Rebecca Valentine

Can you find these  
**Hidden Pictures®**



In this big picture, find the bow tie, baseball, mitten, balloon, flag, bird, paintbrush, eyeglasses, drinking glass, rocket ship, fish, crown, cherry, sailboat, mushroom, feather, slice of pizza and candle.

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**Words:** Airport, **Arena**, Aurora College, **BJs Market and Takeout**, Chief Albert Wright, **Cornerstone**, Environment and Climate Change, **Fort Norman Metis Land Corp**, Cornerstone, **Government Service Office**, Hamlet of Tulita, **Harriet Gladue Health Centre**, Income Support, **IPCA**, Mackay Range, **MYB**, Northern Store, **NWT Power Corp**, Parks Canada, **Pentecostal Mission**, Post Office, **Preschool**, Radio Station, **RCMP**, Sahtu Renewable Resources Board, **St Therese of Avila Church**, Tulita Dene Band, **Tulita Districts Lands**, Tulita Housing, **Tulita Land Corp**, Two Rivers Hotel, **Wellness Centre**.



## *Dene Laws*

*~Share what you have~*

*~Help each other~*

*~Love each other as much as possible~*

*~Be respectful of elders and everything around you~*

*~Pass on the teachings~*

*~Be happy at all times~*

*~Sleep at night and work during the day~*

*~Be polite and don't argue with anyone~*

*~Young boys and girls should behave respectfully~*



**Thank you for reading!  
Tulita Land Corporation**