

# TULITA DECEMBER NEWS

Vol. 3 Issue 12: December 18th, 2025



## 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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## 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 [tfc.2018@hotmail.com](mailto:tfc.2018@hotmail.com). Check out our website at [www.tulitalandcorp.ca](http://www.tulitalandcorp.ca) for all the new and past issues.



## Events and Announcements:

**December 18<sup>th</sup>, 2025:** CAWS Christmas Feast at 12pm and Christmas Concert at 6pm at the school.

**December 19<sup>th</sup>, 2025:** Salt-Dough Christmas Ornament Decorating Workshop. Please join us at the Arena for a fun evening of ornament decorating and pizza! All ages are welcome! From 6-8pm.

**December 19<sup>th</sup>, 2025:** Last day of school and most businesses (northern store is still open).

**December 20<sup>th</sup>, 2025:** Tulita Christmas Parade. Departure at 1pm from the Arena. Decorate your vehicles and join us! Best decorated vehicles get CASH PRIZES.

**December 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2025:** Tulita Christmas House/Yard Decorating Contest. Total Prize Fund: \$3000 (5 Prizes). Judging will be at 5:30pm.

**December 25<sup>th</sup>, 2025:** MERRY CHRISTMAS!

**December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2025:** New Year's Eve.

**January 6<sup>th</sup>, 2025:** School and businesses start back up.

**Every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday: Elder's Lunch at the Preschool at 2:30pm.**



**PLEASE CALL ECC FOR BEAR SIGHTING OR FIRE: (867) 588-3441 or 374-0505. Call 811 or (844) 259-1793 for non-emergencies and talk to a registered nurse that are available 24/7 to provide you with confidential advice and support.**



## 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.

**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 Sat. from 1pm to 9pm at the arena.

**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.

# 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**





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




**(We only add first names for bdays to avoid too much info)**


 Happiest birthday to my beautiful granddaughter **Jada** for Dec. 1<sup>st</sup>.


 Happy Birthday to **Otis** for Dec. 3<sup>rd</sup>. From the MacCauley's. ❤️

 Happy Birthday to Grandpa **Robert** for Dec. 4<sup>th</sup>. From Tina's Clan.

 Happy Birthday to my dad **Robert** on Dec. 4<sup>th</sup>. Love Stacey.

 Happy Birthday to **Robert** for Dec. 4<sup>th</sup>. From Debbie.


 Happy Birthday to uncle **Richard** for Dec. 6<sup>th</sup>. From the MacCauley's. ❤️

 Happiest Birthday to our "Triitrii" **Trinity** for Dec. 6<sup>th</sup>. Mom and dad, and your brother Albert loves you very much, wishing you many more to come, you are a blessing.


 Happy Birthday to **Eric** for Dec. 6<sup>th</sup>. From Tina and Family.

 Happy Birthday to **Eric** for Dec. 6<sup>th</sup>. From Stacey.


 Happy Birthday to **Eric** for Dec. 6<sup>th</sup>. From Debbie.


 Happy Birthday to my sister **Brenda** for Dec. 7<sup>th</sup>. Thank you for always being there for me. Love ya sis. ❤️🎂❤️🎂 From Allan.


 Happy Birthday to **Zoey** for Dec. 7<sup>th</sup>. From the MacCauley's. ❤️

 To my amazing daughter **Zoey**, happy 6th birthday for Dec. 7th I'm so grateful for every moment with you. Your smile lights up my world, and I can't wait to see all the wonderful


adventures you'll have this year. I love you more than words can say!

 Happy Birthday to my beautiful mom **Jeannie** for Dec. 7<sup>th</sup>. Wishing you nothing but the best for your special day 🎂🎉🥳 and more wondering blessing year's to come... love the kids and Char.


 Happy Birthday to my beautiful sister **Jeannie** for Dec. 7<sup>th</sup>. ❤️❤️❤️ Love Rose Gambler.


 Happy Birthday to son **Mason** for Dec. 8<sup>th</sup>. Love Janet n family.


 Happy Birthday to **Mason** for Dec. 8<sup>th</sup>. From the MacCauley's. ❤️


 Happy Birthday to **Reanna** for Dec. 8<sup>th</sup>. I love you all have the best day 🎂 also merry Christmas everyone. From Shannon.

 Happy Birthday to **David** for Dec. 9<sup>th</sup>. Happy Birthday to a great guy.

 Happy Birthday going out to my brother **Ivan** for Dec. 10<sup>th</sup>. Thankful for you for being who you are today. Wishing you nothing but the best for you, many more to come, so much love and appreciation for you. Coming from Keesha and kids.

 Happy Birthday going out to our son/brother **Ivan** for Dec. 10<sup>th</sup>. Wishing u an amazing/blessing day. Lots of love mom, dad n ur sisters.



 Happy Birthday to **Heather** for Dec. 10<sup>th</sup>. From the MacCauley's. ❤️



 Happy Birthday going out to **Kerri** for Dec. 12<sup>th</sup>. Love Cheryl n family.



 Happy Birthday to **Kerri** for Dec. 12<sup>th</sup>. Love Kim, Dean and family.


 Happy Birthday to **Kerri** for Dec. 12<sup>th</sup>. From Stacey.


 Happy Birthday to **Kerri** for Dec. 12<sup>th</sup>. From the TLC Staff.




 Happy Birthday to **Crystal** for Dec. 13<sup>th</sup>. I love you all have the best day  also merry Christmas everyone. From Shannon.


 Happy Birthday to **Xavier** for Dec. 14<sup>th</sup>. From the MacCauley's. 

 Happy Birthday to **Gavin** for Dec. 14<sup>th</sup>. From the MacCauley's. 


 Happy Birthday to our babygirl **Hailey** for Dec. 15<sup>th</sup>. Love Grandma, Grandpa and the family.

 Happiest Happy Birthday to my niece **Miss Hailey** for Dec. 15<sup>th</sup>. We love ya too much coming from Laim, Alexis and fav auntie Meg.


  Happy Birthday to **HaileyBop** for Dec. 15<sup>th</sup>. From the MacCauley's. 


 Happy Birthday to **Hailey** for Dec. 15<sup>th</sup>. From Ethan and Veah.


 Happy Birthday to **Brian** for Dec. 16. From Donna Anderson.

 Birthday Greetings going out to **Darlene** for Dec. 17<sup>th</sup>. Lots of love from Auntie Caroline and family.

 Happy Birthday to **SherryDean** for Dec. 17<sup>th</sup>. From the MacCauley's. 


 Happy Birthday to her sister **Sher** for Dec. 17<sup>th</sup>. Miss you always. Love Zaid.


 Happy Birthday to my daughter **Audrey** for Dec. 17<sup>th</sup>. Love Suzie.


 Happy Birthday Mommy **Adele** for Dec. 18<sup>th</sup>. I love you. Love always your favourite, Liana.


 Happy Birthday to **Adele** for Dec. 18<sup>th</sup>. Love mom, dad, and the family.

 Happy Birthday to **Adele** for Dec. 18<sup>th</sup>. Love from your favourite Auntie Caroline and family.


 Happy Birthday going out to **Connor** for Dec. 18<sup>th</sup>. Love Cheryl n family.

 Happy Birthday to my grandson **Connor** for Dec. 18<sup>th</sup>. Love grandma Cecile and family.




 Happy Birthday to our son **Connor** Dec. 18<sup>th</sup>. Love mom and dad.



 Happy Birthday to my nephew **Connor** for Dec. 18<sup>th</sup>. Love Kerri.

 Happy Birthday to **Auntie Mary** for Dec. 18<sup>th</sup>. Love Cecilia and family.





 Happy Birthday to my son **Eric** for Dec. 18<sup>th</sup>. From Wayne Anderz.


 Happy Birthday to **Tianna** for Dec. 19<sup>th</sup>. Lots of love from Grandma Caroline and family.

 Happy Birthday to **Tianna** for Dec. 19<sup>th</sup>. We love you both so much   lots of love from Auntie, Aiden, and baby Janet. 



 Happy Birthday to **Willy the 3<sup>rd</sup>** for Dec. 20<sup>th</sup>. I love you all have the best day  also merry Christmas everyone. From Shannon.


 Happy Birthday to **Preston** for Dec. 20<sup>th</sup>. Lots of love from Grandma Caroline and family.


 Happy Birthday to **Preston** for Dec. 20<sup>th</sup>. We love you both so much   lots of love from Auntie, Aiden, and baby Janet. 

 Happy Birthday to **Joe** for Dec. 20<sup>th</sup>. Happy Birthday to a great guy.



 Happy Birthday to **Rocky** for Dec. 21<sup>st</sup>.


 Happy Birthday to **Shania** for Dec. 21<sup>st</sup>. From the MacCauley's. 


 Happy Birthday to **Shauna** for Dec. 22<sup>nd</sup>, lots of love from your favourite Auntie Caroline and family.



 Happy Birthay to **Shauna** for Dec. 22<sup>nd</sup>. Lots of love and many more to come, from dad, mom and family.



 Happy Birthday auntie Shauna for Dec. 22<sup>nd</sup>. Lots of love from your niece Liana.


 Happy Birthday to **Uncle Rick** for Dec. 23<sup>rd</sup>. I love you all have the best day  also merry Christmas everyone. From Shannon.


 Happy Birthday to **uncle Ricky** for Dec. 23<sup>rd</sup>. Ash n I love you all. Merry Christmas and happy holidays everyone.

 Happy Birthday to her best friend **Kristianna** for Dec. 24<sup>th</sup>. Forever blessed to be by your side in this life. LOVE Zaid.



 Happy Birthday to **Kristianna** for Dec. 24<sup>th</sup>. I love you all have the best day  also merry Christmas everyone. From Shannon.








 Happy Birthday to **Kristen** for Dec. 25<sup>th</sup>. I love you all have the best day  also merry Christmas everyone. From Shannon.







 Happy Birthday to my sister **Kristen** for Dec. 25<sup>th</sup>. Ash n I love you all. Merry Christmas and happy holidays everyone.




 Happy Birthday to my sis **Kristen** for Dec. 25<sup>th</sup>. From the Kids and Char.


 Happy Birthday to **David Yallee Jr** for Dec. 25<sup>th</sup>. From Debbie.





 Happy Birthday to **Capri** for Dec. 25<sup>th</sup>. I love you all have the best day  also merry Christmas everyone. From Shannon.

 To our own Christmas **baby Capri** for her first birthday on Dec. 25<sup>th</sup>, wish you many more to come love you granny n grandpa uncles auntie summer      


 DECEMBER 25<sup>TH</sup> WAS SUCH A BLESSING DAY  Happiest 1<sup>st</sup> birthday to **Capri** for Dec. 25<sup>th</sup>. Out Christmas baby brought so much light into our lives at the right time and my grandma knew she had to be born early to fill our hearts with so much love.  We love you Lil one  From: mom & dad.  



 Happy 1<sup>st</sup> Birthday to auntie pretty pretty **Capriiii** we miss and love you so much, And to everyone that celebrating a birthday in Dec enjoy ur day and many more to come. Mandy, Lee and kiddos  

 Happy 1<sup>st</sup> birthday to auntie chunky. Auntie and ash loves u too much **Capri** for Dec. 25<sup>th</sup>.

 Happiest 14teen Birthday to my son **Kingston** for Dec. 27<sup>th</sup>, we love you forever & always. From: mom & dad.   

 Happy Birthday to **Kingston** for Dec. 27<sup>th</sup>. Wish you many more bd to come, love granny n grandpa n uncle n auntie   

 Happy Birthday to my **Kingston** for Dec. 27<sup>th</sup>. Auntie loves you soooo much. Ash n I love you all. Merry Christmas and happy holidays everyone.

 Happy Birthday to **king William** for Dec. 27<sup>th</sup>. I love you all have the best day  also merry Christmas everyone. From Shannon.

🍰 Happy 13<sup>th</sup> Birthday to my daughter **Kixen** for Dec. 27<sup>th</sup>. ❤️ From Rebecca.

🍰 Happy Birthday to **Kaleko** for Dec. 27<sup>th</sup>. I love you all have the best day ❤️ also merry Christmas everyone. From Shannon.

🍰 Happy Birthday to my brother **Kyle** for Dec. 27<sup>th</sup>. Ash n I love you all. Merry Christmas and happy holidays everyone.

🍰 Happy Birthday to **Quinny** for Dec. 27<sup>th</sup>. I love you all have the best day ❤️ also merry Christmas everyone. From Shannon.

🍰 Happy Birthday to **Quinny** for Dec. 27<sup>th</sup>. Ash n I love you all. Merry Christmas and happy holidays everyone.

🍰 Happy Birthday to the best auntie in every universe, **Jess** for Dec. 29<sup>th</sup>. I LOVE you loong time. ❤️ Love Zaid.

🍰 Happy Birthday to **Jessica** for Dec. 29<sup>th</sup>. From the MacCauley's. ❤️

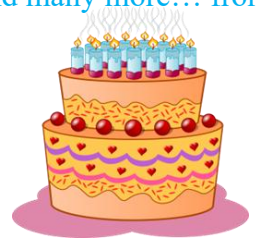
🍰 A Happy Birthday greeting going out to **Paul** for Dec. 31<sup>st</sup>. We all miss you, especially AJ, enjoy your birthday uncle Paul. Love Tum and Family.

🍰 Happy Birthday to my wife **Deanna** and our youngest daughter **Stormi**. I'm blessed to have such an amazing family, and I'm grateful that I get to spend this life with them. ❤️

🍰 Happy Birthday to **Bella**, wish you lots bd to come hope you have fun day love granny n grandpa issac summer ❤️❤️❤️

🍰 Happy Birthday 🎁🎂🎉 everyone. From Donna.

🍰 Happy Birthday to all who's birthdays is in December 🎂🎁🎉🎊🎋 and many more... from Nicole Andrew.



<b>Thu</b> <b>18 Dec</b>	<b>Fri</b> <b>19 Dec</b>	<b>Sat</b> <b>20 Dec</b>	<b>Sun</b> <b>21 Dec</b>	<b>Mon</b> <b>22 Dec</b>	<b>Tue</b> <b>23 Dec</b>	<b>Wed</b> <b>24 Dec</b>
 -17°C 30% Chance of flurries	 -19°C Partly cloudy	 -23°C Cloudy periods	 -29°C Clear	 -31°C Clear	 -29°C Clear	 -28°C Clear
<b>Tonight</b>	<b>Night</b>	<b>Night</b>	<b>Night</b>	<b>Night</b>	<b>Night</b>	
 -27°C Partly cloudy	 -25°C Cloudy periods	 -32°C Cloudy periods	 -35°C Clear	 -36°C Clear	 -36°C Clear	

# Funny Stories

## **Firehouse Training Session**

At a training session in the fire station, the team was assembled around the kitchen table.

The training officer was discussing the behavior of fire: "You pull up to a house and notice puffs of smoke coming from the eaves, blackened out windows and little or no visible flame. What does this tell you?" he asked.

Expecting to hear that the house is in a possible back draft situation, a condition very dangerous to fire fighters, he instead heard from one quick wit, "You got the right place."

## **Open House Appreciation**

To show his appreciation to the community, our base commanding officer held an open house. This included a free meal in the mess hall.

I was busing tables when I noticed a family leaving a large tip. "Excuse me. We can't accept tips," I told them.

"It's not for you," said the woman. "That's to help send your cook to culinary school."

## **What Was I Doing?**

Three sisters, ages 92, 94 and 96, live in a house together.

One night the 96-year-old draws a bath. She puts her foot in and pauses. She yells to the other sisters, "Was I getting in or out of the bath?"

The 94-year-old yells back, "I don't know. I'll come up and see." She starts up the stairs and pauses "Was I going up the stairs or down?"

The 92-year-old is sitting at the kitchen table having tea listening to her sisters, she shakes her head and says, "I sure hope I never get that forgetful, knock on wood..." She then yells, "I'll come up and help both of you as soon as I see who's at the door."

## **To Butter, or Not to Butter**

Jack Benny and George Burns met as young performers on the vaudeville circuit and remained friends for life. One day at lunch, Benny wrestled with the problem of whether or not to butter his bread.

"I like butter on my bread," he said. "But my diet strictly forbids butter. Maybe I should call Mary and ask her what to do."

"Jack," Burns said, "don't be ridiculous. You're a grown man. You should be able to decide, without your wife's help, whether or not to butter your own bread."

"You're right," Benny said. "I'll just have the butter, that's all."

When the waiter arrived with the check, Burns pointed to Benny and said, "He's paying."

"What?" Benny said. "Why should I have to pay the whole bill?"

"Because if you don't," Burns said, "I'll tell Mary about the butter."

## **Too Expensive**

When my friend and her five-year-old daughter were shopping, the little girl picked out a dress that she loved. Her mother shook her head. "That's too expensive." she said.

Her daughter dutifully put back the dress, but as she did so, she grumbled, "Well, why did you have me if you can't afford me?"

## **Stone's Throw**

A vacationer e-mailed a seaside hotel to ask its location. "It's only a stone's throw away from the beach," he was told.

"But how will I recognize it?" asked the man.

The reply came back: "It's the one with all the broken windows."

## **Scrub the Toilet**

I was in the bathroom brushing my teeth when my squad leader barged in. He was holding a toothbrush, which he proceeded to use to scrub underneath the rim of a toilet.

"What are you doing?" I asked.

"Hazing the new guy," he said.

"You do know that he could get ill from the bacteria on the toilet."

His reply was quick and to the point: "You didn't."

## **Poor Fido**

A distraught dog owner called a vet pleading for an immediate appointment. He explained that his dog

had a large growth or swelling near the corner of its mouth that had appeared to grow overnight, so I told him to bring the animal over.

When the man came in with his dog, the vet examined the animal as the man stood by, anxiously waiting the vet's opinion. At last, the doctor turned to him and asked, "Do you have any children?"

"Oh my gosh, is it contagious?" the man gasped.

"No," the doctor answered. "It's bubble gum."

## **Teething**

This is an actual conversation I over-heard while at lunch today. A young woman was talking with an older woman, apparently her mother. "I haven't slept in three days," she complained. "The baby is teething and he's up all night crying."

"Why don't you just rub a thimble-full of brandy on his gums. That will numb them up and put him right to sleep." answered mom.

"I can't give the baby alcohol! Lord knows what that will do to him."

"Well, it never hurt you any." The look on her face was priceless.

## **Mr. Aging**

As Mr. Aging was browsing through an old newspaper, he read aloud to his wife a news item about men losing their memory cells faster than women do.

"It must be true," she said. "That's the second time you've read that article to me."

**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)**



**Wolf - Díga**



**Rabbit - Gah**



**Beaver - Tsá**



**Bear - Sah**



**Caribou - Epé**

**Moose – Įts'ė**





**Chief Albert Wright School  
Dinner & Christmas Concert**



**DATE: Thursday, December 18, 2025**

**TIME: 12 p.m. dinner & 6:00 p.m. Concert**

**PLACE: C.A.W.S. Gym**



**Last day for students will be**

*Santa will be visiting*

**Friday, December 19<sup>th</sup> school will resume**

**Tuesday, January 6, 2026.**



**Merry Christmas & Happy New Year  
from C.A.W.S. Staff, Student & DEA**

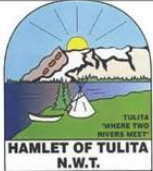


**Have a safe holiday**

# December

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday
	<p>1</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Snowman Contest Begins (Judging on Dec 19th)</li> <li>• Cribbage from 6-8pm</li> <li>• Youth Drop In Center Activities</li> </ul>	<p>2</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Christmas Swap 'n' Shop 6-8pm at the Arena</li> <li>• Youth Drop In Center Activities</li> </ul>
<p>7</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tulita Dene Band Radio Christmas Show</li> </ul>	<p>8</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cribbage from 6-8pm</li> <li>• Youth Drop In Center Activities</li> </ul>	<p>9</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Youth Drop In Center Activities</li> </ul>
<p>14</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mini Christmas Carnival</li> </ul>	<p>15</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cribbage from 6-8pm</li> <li>• Youth Drop In Center Activities</li> <li>• Rink (See Schedule)</li> </ul>	<p>16</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ginger Bread House Contest (Pretzel Sticks)</li> <li>• Youth Drop In Center Activities</li> <li>• Rink (See Schedule)</li> </ul>
<p>21</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Volleyball Tournament</li> </ul>	<p>22</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cribbage from 6-8pm</li> <li>• Christmas Ornament Craft at the Arena w/ Pizza</li> <li>• Rink (See Schedule)</li> </ul>	<p>23</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Recreation House and Yard Decorating Contest Judging</li> <li>• Arts and Crafts contest at the arena 6-8pm</li> <li>• Rink (See Schedule)</li> </ul>
<p>28</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Handgames (Tulita Dene Band)</li> </ul>	<p>29</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cribbage from 6-8pm</li> <li>• Rink (See Schedule)</li> </ul>	<p>30</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Rink (See Schedule)</li> </ul>

# ember 2025

Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>3</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Family skate night at the arena 7-9pm</li> <li>Cribbage from 6-8pm</li> <li>Youth Drop In Center Activities</li> </ul>	<p>4</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Youth Drop In Center Activities</li> </ul>	<p>5</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Elders Christmas Dinner at 1:30pm at the Arena (Rena)</li> <li>Youth Drop In Center Activities</li> </ul>	<p>6</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Hamlet Christmas Open House from 4-8pm at the Arena</li> <li>Christmas Cake Contest Judging</li> </ul>
<p>10</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Cribbage from 6-8pm</li> <li>Youth Drop In Center Activities</li> <li>Gingerbread House Decorating Contest (Rena)</li> </ul>	<p>11</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Youth Drop In Center Activities</li> <li>Rink (See Schedule)</li> <li>Candy Grams at the Arena</li> </ul>	<p>12</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>CAWS Bingo</li> <li>Youth Drop In Center Activities</li> <li>Rink (See Schedule)</li> </ul>	<p>13</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sliding party w/ hot chocolate 2-4pm at Church Hill</li> <li>Tulita Dene Band BINGO</li> <li>Recreation Scavenger Hur</li> <li>Rink (See Schedule)</li> </ul>
<p>17</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Christmas Themed Cribbage</li> <li>Youth Drop In Center Activities</li> <li>Family Skate 6-8pm</li> </ul>	<p>18</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>CAWS Christmas Concert</li> <li>CAWS Lunch</li> <li>Youth Drop In Center Activities</li> <li>Rink (See Schedule)</li> </ul>	<p>19</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Christmas Card Making Workshop at the Arena w/ Pizza</li> <li>Youth Drop In Center Activities</li> <li>Rink (See Schedule)</li> </ul>	<p>20</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Recreation Christmas Parada</li> <li>Volleyball Tournament</li> <li>Tulita Dene Band BINGO</li> <li>Rink (See Schedule)</li> </ul>
<p>24</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Christmas Mass at 10am</li> <li>Christmas Family Skate and Hot Chocolate 4-7pm</li> </ul>	<p>25</p> <p>Closed</p>	<p>26</p> <p>Closed</p>	<p>27</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Community Hockey Game 6-8pm</li> <li>Rink (See Schedule)</li> <li>Handgames (Tulita Dene Band)</li> </ul>
<p>31</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Drum Dance</li> <li>NEW YEARS EVE</li> </ul>	<p>Closed</p>		

# CHRISTMAS IN THE PAST

Here are excerpts from Journals, Diaries, and Books of how Christmas was spent in the past. Just a view into other people on how they experienced the holidays in the Northwest Territories.

These passages show how rare visits were, how far many had to travel during the holidays, how happy they could be with a few extra rations of food, and how excited they were for family and friends during the holidays.

## An Apostle of the North – Rev. William Carpenter Bompas - 1908

“You will imagine, better than I can tell, what a delight and surprise the unexpected arrival of Mr. Bompas was to us. He reached us in health and safety on Christmas morning, making the day too doubly happy by his presence and the glad tidings that he brought. He was a Christmas-box indeed, and one for which we thank God with a full heart. The entire unexpectedness of his coming caused us to see in it more of the loving-kindness of our God. Such a thing as an arrival here in winter is never thought of, nor had it ever before occurred. After the boats leave here in the fall, we have no visitors from without the district until now, when the waters are open again. Our dear brother deserves the greatest credit for the way in which he persevered in getting to us, and the accomplishment of his journey speaks much for his energy and determination. A more auspicious day, too, he could not have had for his arrival. He was just in time for morning service, so that we had, at once, the happiness of partaking of the Holy Communion together. Then followed the Indian service, in which he expressed much delight; and in the evening, like good S. Marsden of old, he began his work by preaching from St. Luke ii. 10. He remained with us until Easter, and then went on with the packet-men to Great Bear Lake, where I trust God is doubly blessing him.” Pg. 40-41.

## Mid Snow and Ice – Rev. P. Duchaussois - 1923

“Twice a year the Catholic Indians come in great numbers to the mission. In the season when the ice has broken up they come in their canoes to barter their furs at the Company’s office, and they remain for the fulfilment of their religious duties. At Christmas, though it is indeed ‘the winter wild,’ they come very joyfully over leagues of snow to honour ‘the heaven-born Child who, all meanly wrapt, in the rude manger lies.’ These are the seasons of great consolation for the missionaries, when they are able to instruct, advise, and reprove their docile disciples, and send them back to their rude homes strengthened by ‘the medicine from on high, which makes the heart good.’

But not all his flock can come to the priest. He must go to them – to the aged, the infirm, the mothers with small children. Now it is in the long winter season that it is least difficult to visit those scattered Christians who so ardently desire the presence of the Blackrobe. To form some idea of the meaning of those ‘pastoral visits’ we have to imagine ourselves on the continent of Europe before there was cities or villages or high-roads. Suppose Italy, Switzerland, Spain, France, Belgium and Holland to be the Vicariate Apostolic of one Bishop. And suppose from the Mediterranean to the North Sea a wild and unexplored land, where all the lakes and rivers are frozen, and all the scene is snow-white, under a temperature anywhere from twenty to fifty centigrade degrees of cold. There are hamlets or houses, say, at Madrid, Marseilles, Lyons, Bordeaux, Paris, Cambrai, and its very near neighbour, Brussels! But between these resting-places there is little likelihood of meeting even one living soul; there is no inn, no rest-house, no railway, no road, no visible track, no available water-course. There are simply in those widely-scattered settlements some few long-haired Gauls or Goths, Christians who long to see their priest, or pagans who may be willing this time to accept the good word from the lips of the Christ of Prayer. Our northern missionaries, marching laboriously day and night on such a quest, when they see a few stunted trees, may perhaps say to themselves: ‘The cypress! And in the cemetery of a world!’

Such are the circumstances in which live and move the Bishops and priests of Athabaska-Mackenzie. The Bishop takes years to make the ‘pastoral visitation’ of the missions under his charge. A single journey between the two missions – if the traveller

meets with no accident, and is not completely weather-bound – takes four to six days. Bishop Grandin, in a three years' absence from the central mission, was not able to go beyond the Arctic Circle nor into the Peace River district. Another Bishop in those regions, like St. Wilfrid of Ripon, 'a quick walker all his life,' especially on snow-shoes, was Mgr. Clut. (The last letter of his name is not usually sounded; but Father Tempier, the first companion of the Founder of the Oblates, always called him *Mon frère Cluthe* in the scholasticate at Marseilles.) Bishop Clut allowed himself four years for a round of the undivided Vicariate, but he was always obliged to leave some missions unvisited. The rackets or snowshoes (which he put on at Autun, for an object lesson in 1869-70) were his ordinary carriage, the dog-sled his only Pullman car. And during his journeys he ate much pemmican – at least, as much as he could – and for a true and full description of pemmican let the gentle reader be referred to the eloquent General Sir William Butler, who had bravely faced many difficulties and dangers in his day. Pemmican is pemmican, he declares, and he is not able to say more.

The Right Rev. Bishop Grouard, who has survived much pemmican and much travelling, describing the sleds, names the weight which each of them, drawn by four dogs, may carry – viz., 400 pounds – if the track be passably good. The animals, which are harnessed in single file to these sleds, look to European eyes more like wolves than dogs. Of course, horses would be useless in the Far North. They could not be fed, even if there were roads on which to drive them. The dogs are guided by a few Indian or French words, and sometimes by the whip. The driver uses no reins, which would be very much in the way both of himself and of his 'steeds,' which very often race to the jingling of their bells.

The best roads in the Far North are winding and narrow paths through the woods made by the passage of Indians or moose. Near the forts there may be some such well-beaten tracks. Elsewhere the snow quickly covers up every trail, and Bishop Charlebois warns us that it is only the experienced traveller who can sound the snow he walks on and discover underneath it the hardened path made by sleds that have passed.

It is quite the usual experience of new travellers to have to ‘blaze a trail’ – i.e., make a road for themselves – by literally hacking a way through forest and underwood and over fallen trees.

The greatest danger for men and dogs are the frozen rivers. These have no resemblance to a frozen lake or river at home. Bishop Grandin, in one of his letters of years ago, explains how the river freezes gradually, the most northerly part being first taken. As the rivers are flowing towards the Arctic, the advancing waters are thus poured over the frozen surface, and also thrown back upon themselves, and thrown wide, and frozen in their turn into all sorts of shapes and sizes – large blocks, and hillocks, and gullies, and hummocks of ice, whose corners and points and sides cut the dogs’ feet or the snow-shoe as if the edge of a sword.” Pg. 39-41.

### **Arctic Journal – Bern Will Brown - 1949**

“Soon Christmas, the big feast of the winter, was upon us. Because the mass (*Chris-mass*) is celebrated at midnight, the natives gave it the name *Tewe-yati* – ‘the night we pray.’ A few teams came from as far away as Fort Franklin on Great Bear Lake, some eighty miles east. They usually brought haunches of Barren Land caribou and large trout, food that was scarce around Fort Norman.

Others came in from the foothills of the Rockies to the west and were known as the Mountain Indians. I happened to be out on snowshoes one afternoon hunting ptarmigan along the riverbank when I ran into one of the families coming in for Christmas. They were covered with frost and moving painfully slowly when they stopped to shake my hand. Leading the procession was the father with a child on his back and a rifle in his hand, breaking trail on snowshoes. His wife was following in her traditional position about five paces back with the baby of the family wrapped in a blanket on her back. She followed by two teenage daughters on snowshoes that were trimmed on the front tips with ptarmigan feet, good luck amulets.



Fort Norman, 1949. Photo by Bern Will Brown.

Next in line was a team of four pitifully thin dogs straining in tattered harness ahead of a heavily loaded birch toboggan driven by two teenage boys. Bringing up the rear was another team of three dogs driven by the eldest son. When I asked if he had a lot of meat he pulled back the canvas cover of his sled to reveal two children in their sheepskin parkas, asleep. As we stood there trying to communicate in the few words of their language I knew, the dogs curled up and the snow started drifting over them. It took a couple of cracks of the dog whip to bring them to their feet again to resume the last mile of their five-day trek into the settlement. I stood there fascinated as they got under way again, the sleds creaking along and a fog of ice crystals enveloping them. Gradually they dissolved in the distance and the wind went to work erasing their track, as apt symbol of their unrecorded passage through time. We can only guess where they came from as the

drifting snows of a thousand cruel winters have wiped out the trails behind them. The Holy Family itself, en route to Bethlehem, couldn't have had a tougher trip than the one this family took to celebrate Christmas.



Fort Norman, 1937. Photo by Canada Dept. of the Interior.

For two days before the big feast the Brother kept a roaring fire going in the big church to thaw it out. I paced the floor of the mission's common room, memorizing a sermon in English for the Midnight Mass which traditionally attracted all the whites in town. Father Denis would deliver another in the native tongue. When that night arrived and I was on my feet speaking, some might have misconstrued a few tears in my eyes as an expression of overwhelming emotion when, in fact, my feet were slowly freezing in tight Christmas mocassins. In spite of the temperature inside, the old church was crowded to the walls and the congregational singing was enough to raise the roof.

Three days later the children's Christmas tree party was held in the mission and some seventy adults crowded into that room to watch the fun. I had some fun myself

watching an old-timer turn one of our electric lights off and on while exclaiming, ‘*Monla duye,*’ which could be loosely translated as ‘These white men are amazing.’ A few days later, at midnight on New Year’s Eve, with the temperature slipping to sixty below, the town erupted in crackling gunfire in the traditional salute to the New Year – 1949.” Pg. 33-35.

Fort Norman, 1950. Photo by Bern Will Brown



## **Narrative of a Journey – John Franklin - 1819**

“After the 20<sup>th</sup> of December the weather became cold, the thermometer constantly below zero. Christmas Day was particularly stormy; but the gale did not prevent the full enjoyment of the festivities which are annually given at Cumberland House on this day. All the men who had been dispatched to different parts in search of provision or furs returned to the fort on the occasion and were regaled with a substantial dinner and a dance in the evening.” Pg. 52.

## **My Heart Shook like a Drum – Alice Blondin-Perrin – 1952**

“Christmas was an occasion we were all anxious for. Christmas was not about gifts but about the birth of Jesus. We went to midnight mass and saw the Christmas tree all decorated in church, as well as the manger, Mother Mary, and Joseph. I was always mesmerized by the colourful lights, with baby Jesus in the manger, shepherds, animals, and beautiful lights all over the front of the church. The three kings were added on Epiphany, January 6<sup>th</sup> of each year.

At a very young age I could not figure out the timing of Christmas and Easter. It seemed to me that Jesus was born, then four months later he died on the cross. No one mentioned why, not did I ask questions because I was too afraid. I finally figured it out much later.

For many months we practiced Christmas songs as a choir. The tiny church – big for the north, as it seated 600 people – was packed at the midnight mass with people from the village. I used to watch who was receiving communion and see the town kids with their parents. Christmas was so full of excitement every year.

We never got much for Christmas in residential school, but somehow we were happy at this time of the year. Santa came and gave us candies, with one wrapped gift each. I got a double mirror once. It’s the only gift I can remember today. Those happy moments were rare, when all the boys and girls were together for one evening, although

we were kept apart from one another even then. The excitement was high while we waited for Santa.

As we were all waiting for Santa Claus to come, one of the priests would say he heard footsteps on the roof. It was suddenly quiet. We all listened for the reindeer on the roof, and we could not see anything in the darkness, through the ice frost on the window panes. Suddenly Santa walked in with a bag of gifts for all of us, laughing and chuckling on this wonderful day. Each of our names was called and we had to walk up to Santa to get our gift and candies.

The little girls' play area was decorated for Christmas with a huge tree, decorated with homemade ornaments, red and green craft paper, and icicles made from silver tinsel, cut into strips and twisted by the Oblate brothers. The twisted silver made the tree shine and sparkle with the lights, just like the trees in church. We made all kinds of decorations each year and they hung them all up to make the most beautiful Christmas tree.

We sang 'Jingle Bells,' 'Oh Christmas Tree,' and many other Christmas songs. These were happy moments for all of us, the priests, the nuns and brothers as we celebrated Christmas. We never got into trouble before Christmas. We were fitted with new clothes, all the same. We looked alike in every way, with our hair cut in bangs, back to the nape of the neck, and of course we wore the same coats. We also saw Christmas movies that day, with cartoons." Pg. 68-69.

### **Bishop of the Winds – Gabriel Breynat - 1847**

"Shortly before Christmas our Indians began to arrive in great numbers. At the Hudson's Bay Company store (the only trading post) they traded the furs they had trapped since the beginning of the snows. Tea and tobacco were the chief items in demand. Next came the cartridges, powder, shot, axes, knives and needles. They provided themselves also with a few measures of flour – about a pound – and two or three pounds of sugar for the children. If any funds remained, they bought clothes, a little flannel, calico, cotton and

similar items. Meanwhile, the women, as well as the children, came to confession. The men followed them, up to the last moment.

I shall never forget the first midnight Mass. Our hall-chapel was small. Men on one side and women on the other, kneeling or squatting on their heels, were packed in like sardines. The altar was adorned with extra candles of caribou grease. Everyone joined heartily in the singing of the *Kyrie*, *Gloria* and *Credo*. Then came the hymns in Montagnais. At the communion, the preparatory prayers were recited in chorus. Men first, followed by later by the women and children, all approached the holy table singing in Montagnais: ‘Behold, the gentle Lamb...’ And all through the three Masses they continued to sing and pray aloud.

Most of them remained with us till the New Year, or ‘Kissing Day.’ It was then that the factor gave his big feast at which everyone received gifts. These included one or two cakes of tobacco, half a pound of tea, a pound or two of flour (per family) and a few lumps of sugar.

Meanwhile, they endeavored to obtain from the common charity a little fish for themselves and their dogs. Many of them had eaten nothing but caribou for the past five or six months and they were glad to exchange for fish a few pieces of dried meat, a caribou tongue or a bladder of fat. Finally all set off happily for their respective camping grounds, undaunted by the prospect of the five or six days’ journey on foot and nights spent under the open skies.” Pg. 22-23.

### **From Barrow to Boothia – Chief Factor Peter Warren Dease - 1836**

“25 December 1837. All hands resting today & got wherewith to improve their usual fare by the addition of Some flour & fat.” Pg. 125.

# Old Photos of Fort Norman



Fort Norman, 1974.  
Photo by Native  
Communications Society.



Fort Norman,  
1981. Photo by  
Native  
Communications  
Society.





Fort Norman, May 1981. Spring melt, government houses for teachers and officials. Photo by Beryl Gillespie.

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Fort Norman, Feb. 1974. Photo by Native Communications Society.



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# Hidden Pictures®

## Decorating for the Holidays

By Sally Springer

Can you find these hidden objects?



In this big picture, find the baseball bat, bowl, mug, mitten, hockey stick, comb, slice of cake, high-heeled shoe, spoon, musical note, nail, clothespin, pencil, ring, book, banana, sailboat, flag, envelope, and hairbrush.

K P I V Q X T Z F G N X W C M U N V E I R R N J N Y O C C L  
 S A O B O S N F G V C L A Q E I P R E S E N T S A L Y S S U  
 T S B Q O V U F I R E P L A C E S M X S Q T A B T L W Y D C  
 N H S R K T T T A Q Q D E Z S K N T O R G J Y K I O N B V A  
 C G F D B V C F D N H M X M V R B B L Z I V R U V H P I E W  
 L N Y D M P R Y T U R K E Y I S H H L E S H D B I B D Y V W  
 X I L E U E A W Q T N E D O X D E Y Y C T G B R T Q W X A K  
 R K F V U Q C J V K H R E K P J H E F T P O S S Y Y L G U X  
 I C W W V L K L I E O N K R P J K O O F O R E E V U J S T H  
 B O V B Y Y E G Q D K A A B T I I K U N N J W L T A A V O S  
 B T C Z V V R D V S Q V A Z I T X A B F D A S D T N F L C U  
 O S X Z J N Q R A T S J A E H T N T R R H H C N T S I O H O  
 N D T J V O K M P E I F U B C Q H E P T C M B A T D L D I R  
 S H C N E T T D S R D M E R F Y G B V H G N C C A H D S M T  
 B N S R E S N O S A E S J O G O Z M F D N L W Y Y G G Y N Z  
 S W F C I M Y Z F B Z E B S N O I T I D A R T K N I O T E W  
 X D C R Y T A U E R E A D G D X H W W U P W E Q I E N N Y Y  
 P J H Q U J Q N Z K F R G N T D N E S A R V S W R L V K L Z  
 I C T G I N G E R B R E A D I D M Q J Z H Q W J L S Q U E T  
 J K U A X G I P R O N Z S R K E Y W G T M D A H Y K S G D Z  
 O I U B X E I A R V Z O L T F R R F I B C F K G N A E G F Q  
 U O N Y U L E T I D E I Y H I V X N U O Z E W H P V I T J C  
 I E I G J E A U U Z G T T H L V S B N M F S N A V K Q G H B  
 X M P L L L E U Y H U A E L Z E E X H R C W H S E V L E S K  
 F V O H B E Y C T M E Z Q M L L F K F V Q A E G T P W X H Z  
 O P W V T W B S M R Y H Z P Z Q X T G M Y V R S T S V T M E  
 A K U Z U S Y E W E L I G X B W T Q B A U A A O K K B C A M  
 F X X J L V E Z L U K Y T K W Y W Y Q Q O E T Z L Q J R G P  
 L A A C Q V R Q R L P I B I S L N V T I F X P P R O T L O Q  
 F P P U M C A E J G S T Q Z N I M P G R F A H Q H S D G D E

**Words:** Advent, **Candles**, Carol, **Chimney**, Christmas, **Eggnog**, Elves, **Feast**, Festive,  
**Fireplace**, Frost, **Gingerbread**, Holiday, **Holly**, Jingle Bells, **Lights**, Mistletoe, **Nativity**,  
 Nutcracker, **Ornaments**, Presents, **Reindeer**, Ribbons, **Santa Claus**, Season, **Sleigh**, Star,  
**Stocking**, Tinsel, **Traditions**, Tree, **Turkey**, Wreath, **Yuletide**.



## *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**

