

YELLOWKNIVES
DENE FIRST NATION

ANNUAL REPORT 2025-26

TABLE OF

Contents

In Loving Memory and Honour of Our Elders 5

First Nation Mission 6

Dene Laws 7

Chiefs' Message 8

Department Reports

- YKDFN Wellness 10
- Environment 15
- Dechı̨ta Nàowo Post-Secondary Education 18
- Housing 23
- Public Works and Infrastructure 27
- Economic Development 29
- Human Resources 31

Organizational Chart 34

Summary Of Financial Reports 36

Acknowledgement 38

TRIBUTE

In Loving Memory and Honour of Our Elders

With love and deep respect, we remember the Yellowknives Dene First Nation Elders who have passed on. Their lives were a precious gift to our families, our communities and future generations.

Our Elders carried our history, language, culture and teachings. Through their wisdom, kindness and strength, they helped keep our Dene identity alive. They taught us to respect the land, care for one another and pass our knowledge to our children and grandchildren.

Their passing leaves a loss felt throughout our communities. To the families mourning loved ones, may you find comfort in cherished memories and strength in the love and support of those around you.

We remain grateful for their sacrifices, their guidance and the paths they paved. We honour their memory by preserving our language, practising our traditions and carrying their teachings forward.

May they rest peacefully in the arms of our Creator, and may their families find comfort, healing and peace.

Their spirits, wisdom and love live on in our hearts and in the generations that follow.

YKDFN Chiefs and Council would like to thank Randy Freeman for his contributions to YKDFN through his extensive historical and cultural work for the First Nation.

May his soul rest in peace.

First Nation Mission

To assert our Aboriginal title, uphold our treaty rights and sovereignty, and serve our people by protecting our lands and resources, sustaining our culture and language, and advancing community well-being.

FIRST NATION VISION

Our vision is a healthy, prosperous and economically independent sovereign Nation, grounded in our culture and guided by excellent governance. We honour our responsibility to our people and our land for as long as the sun rises, the rivers flow and the grass grows.

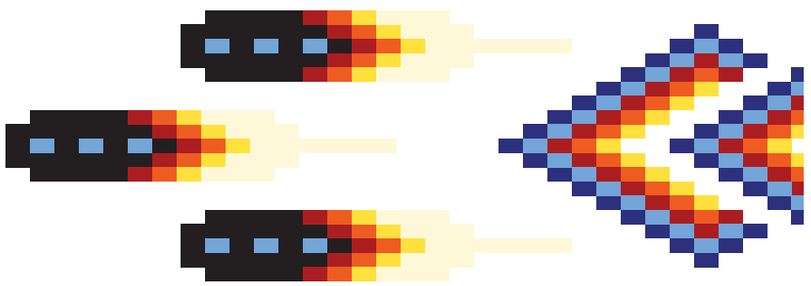
VALUE STATEMENTS

We, the YKDFN Chiefs and Council, are guided by the following values:

- Yellowknives Dene Culture: We practise and promote our traditions, culture, language and spirituality, and honour our relationship with the land.
- Integrity: We act with honesty, care and respect, honouring our responsibilities to our people and our Nation.
- Well-being: We support healthy, balanced lives and strong communities, drawing on our culture, traditional practices and connection to the land.
- Accountability: We govern responsibly and transparently, remain accountable to our members, and consider the needs of present and future generations.
- Treaty: Our Treaty is sacred. We honour and respect our past Chiefs and we uphold the treaties that they signed.

FIRST NATION SUMMARY

The Yellowknives Dene First Nation entered into an international Treaty with the British Crown at Fort Resolution in 1900 that allowed outsiders onto our ancestral lands in consideration of solemn mutual promises that were sanctified in ceremony. That Treaty, which has come to be known as Treaty 8, was a peace and friendship treaty. It did not involve any agreement to cede or surrender land and the Yellowknives continue to hold unceded Aboriginal title to all our ancestral lands North of Great Slave Lake and to retain sovereign self-governance rights over our lands and resources. Canada solemnly promised that our way of life and our sacred relationship with our lands would be unaffected by Treaty. Canada has not honoured these promises and our way of life and our lands have sustained grievous injury. The Yellowknives are resolute in holding Canada to account for this and in achieving our rightful recognition as a sovereign government with jurisdiction over our lands and resources and the right to govern in the best interests of our people both present and unborn.



Dene Laws

SHARE WHAT YOU HAVE

Share all the big games you kill; only take what you need and share with others who do not have any.

HELP EACH OTHER

Help the poor, sick and Elders, who are in need, visit them; give them food, cook, for them. Help them get firewood or whatever needs to be done around the house. When you lose someone in death, go to the family right away, help out the widow as much as possible and help take care of the orphaned children.

LOVE EACH OTHER AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE

Treat each other as brother and sisters as though you are related. Help each other and don't harm anyone.

BE RESPECTFUL OF ELDERS AND EVERYTHING AROUND YOU

Don't run around when Elders are eating; sit down until they are finished.

SLEEP AT NIGHT AND WORK DURING THE DAY

Don't run around or laugh loudly when it gets dark. Everyone should sleep when darkness falls.

BE POLITE AND DON'T ARGUE WITH ANYONE

Don't harm anyone with your voice or actions. Don't hurt anyone with your power. Don't show your anger.

YOUNG GIRLS AND BOYS SHOULD BEHAVE RESPECTFULLY

Don't make fun of each other, especially in the matter of sex. Don't make fun of older men and women. BE polite to each other.

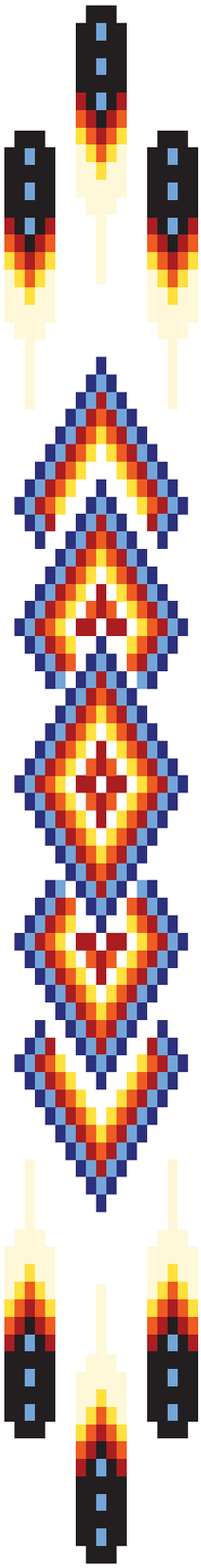
PASS ON THE TEACHINGS

Elders are to tell stories about the past every day. In this way, young people learn to dis- tinguish between good and unacceptable behaviours and when they are older, they will become the storytellers someday, who will then someday keep the circle of life going.

BE HAPPY AT ALL TIMES

The Creator have given you a great gift—Mother earth, take care of her and she will always give you food and shelter.





Chiefs' Message

TO OUR MEMBERS

In 2025-26, our work remained grounded in a clear responsibility: to help our people live well, strengthen our communities and care for our lands and territory. Safe homes, healthy families, education and the continuation of our language and culture remain central to that responsibility.

Our children and youth need encouragement to learn and pursue their goals. Our Elders need care, respect and opportunities to share their knowledge. We remain committed to the wellness, education and cultural programs that connect generations and help members through difficult times.

Caring for our people also means caring for the land and water. Continued attention to Giant Mine remediation and Diavik closure reflects responsibilities that extend far beyond the life of a mine. Our knowledge and our members' concerns must guide decisions affecting our territory.

During the year, emergency repairs were completed on nine member homes in Dettah and Ndılǫ. Winterization support was offered to help households keep their homes warmer and reduce heating costs. Planning also advanced for future residential lots, roads and community facilities. These are practical steps toward communities where families can build their lives with greater security.

Diavik's end of production in March 2026 underlined the need to support workers and families through economic change. Our partnership with the Tłı̨chǫ Government and GNWT on the proposed Arctic Economic and Security Corridor, participation in Taltson planning, and opportunities to work with the Department of National Defence must serve lasting community priorities.

We will continue building respectful relationships with neighbouring Nations and working closely with the City of Yellowknife. Following the reporting year, the June 2026 renaming of Wìlìideh Avenue brought our language and presence into greater public view.

We thank our members, Elders, Council and staff for their contributions. Our hope for the future rests in our people: in children proud of their identity, families supported at home, and a Nation able to shape its own future.

Mahsi cho.

2025-2026
Chief and Councillors

YKDFN CHIEFS


Ernest Betsina


Fred Sangris

YKDFN COUNCILLORS


Rosanna Sangris


Anastassia Judas


Cecilie Beaulieu


Liza Pieper


Lawrence Goulet


Mary Rose Sundberg


Jeffrey Rosnawski


Leroy Betsina

DEPARTMENT REPORT: 2025-26

YKDFN Wellness

The YKDFN Wellness Department provides efficient, holistic Wellness programs and services to empower members to make healthy positive choices and opportunities as long as the sun rises, river flows and grass grows.

2025-26 YKDFN WELLNESS STAFF:

Jennifer Drygeese, *Director*

Shauna Goulet, *Administrative Assistant (Ndilǫ)*

Karen Martin, *Family Wellness Programmer*

Shannon Betsina, *Family Wellness Programmer (Elder)*

Stella Martin, *Community Caregiver*

Violet Sangris, *Counsellor*

Heather Poluk, *Counsellor*

Shania Desjarlir, *Dene Wellness Administrator*

Vanessa Sangris, *Justice Coordinator/Counsellor*

Mellissa Sangris, *Health Coordinator (A/Director)*

Jocelyn Auger, *Patient Care Support*

Jennifer Charlo, *Recreation Coordinator*

Aleisha Betsina, Child and Youth Manager

Kateri Lynn, Language and Culture Coordinator

WELLNESS ADMINISTRATION:

Our Wellness Administration is responsible for the overall oversight of our Wellness Department.

2025-26 Accomplishments:

- Community Outreach
- Communication *(facebook page, monthly newsletters, calls)*
- Community Support/Advocacy
  - Regional Wellness Council *(Health)*
  - FNHMA Working Group
  - Health and Social Services Working Group - NWT COL
  - Gone Goko Society
- Employment
- Networking/Collaborations
- Wellness Calls
- Wellness caribou harvesting hunt
- Christmas Gift Card Distribution
- Wellness Hide Camp with Dene Najho (May 14-23/25)
- Wellness Vehicle Purchase – 15 passenger van & Ford Escape

Wellness Team:

- Staff Training
  - Mackenzie Training (July7-11/25)
  - Northern Leadership Training (2025/26)
  - Mental Health First Aif for Northern Peoples (Jun24-26/25)
  - Staff Meetings
  - Staff
  - Staff Retreat (Feb20/26)
  - Staff Christmas Party

CHILD AND YOUTH PROGRAM

Child and Youth team provided support to our Children and Youth with their Cultural, Educational and Social needs. Funding was cut in July 2025/26.

2025-26 Accomplishments:

- Chekoa Programs
  - Afterschool Program
  - Youth Sewing evenings
  - Handgames practice
- Relationship with schools (KTW and KDS)
- High School Transportation
- High School Support

DENE WELLNESS PROGRAM

Dene Wellness provides services to assist community members in addressing addictions and health the symptoms of unresolved trauma in a holistic manner.

2025-26 Accomplishments:

- Counselling
- Treatment Referrals
- Family Healing Sessions:
  - Supported families with attending meetings with Social Services, Community members in crisis, court diversion, BC Family Services, Albert Family Services
- Support Groups
- Men's Healing Circle
- Sewing Class (all year)
- Other
- Empowering our Spirit Workshop (June 2025)
- Reconciliation Session (June 2025)
- On the Land Healing Camp with Dene Warriors (July 13-August 9, 2025)
- Truth and Reconciliation Day (September 2025)
- March 24-28, 2025 with Violet Sangris
- NAAW Week Activities (Nov 16-22, 2025)
- Drug Awareness Sessions (Jan 2026)
- Paint Night with Constable Thomas (February 2026)
- Mental Health and mitt making sessions (Feb27-Mar1/26)

JUSTICE PROGRAM

Provided services to members who are involved with courts/law and to promote crime prevention.

2025-26 Accomplishments:

- Sending members to treatment
- Court Support
- Diversions (Youth and Adults)
- Court Docket Review
- Legal Aid Clinic
- Fire Arms Safety Course (July 2026)
- Relationship building with RCMP Constable Thomas.

ELDER WELLNESS PROGRAM

Elder Wellness provides knowledge and awareness in health, education and community living,

2025-26 Accomplishments:

- Weekly Elder Program
- Walk at Field House
- Meals on Wheels for Elders
- Elder Support (Foot care, ride for groceries, bank)
- Elder Birthday Gifts
- National Gathering of Elders Conference
- Elders On the Land
- Feb25-27/26 Caribou
- Mar30-Apr1/26 Fish
- Working relationship with Det'on Cho
- Canada Goose Jackets
- Funding Support
- Monthly visits with Det'on Cho Companies
- Elder Christmas Party (Dec9/25)
- Community Caregiver Service (Stella)

FAMILY WELLNESS PROGRAM

Family Wellness provides knowledge and awareness in health, education and community living,

2025-26 Accomplishments:

- Weekly Mama Bebia Program
- Cultural Activities
  - Feb17 – Wrap around making – Ndilǫ
  - Feb 24 – Caribou meat cut up – Dettah
  - Mar 9&10 – Handbag Making – Ndilǫ
  - Mar 17 – Fish Fillet – Dettah
  - Mar 23-24 – Quilt blanket making – Dettah
- Weekly Walks at Fieldhouse
- Learning through Language Workshop (Feb25-27/25) with Dechinta Naawo
- Celebration of Beautiful 2024 Babies (Jan25/26)
- Family Cooking Class
- Workout Challenges
- Cultural Camps
  - Sept 16-19/25
  - Oct 14-28/25
- Community/Family Supports
  - Family Fund Day (Apr/Jul/Aug)
  - Community Easter Parties – Ndilǫ/Dettah (Apr16/25)
  - Indoor Garage Sale (May24/25)
  - Craft and Bake Sale(Jun14/25)
  - Indoor Garage Sale(July12/25)
  - Indoor Garage Sale (Sept 13/25)
  - Christmas craft sale (Nov 22/25)
  - Christmas craft sale (Dec13/25)

HEALTH SUPPORT

Our Health Support lead our health efforts for the YKDFN. They offer programming, head the HEMP Research study and provide support to members who are in need of health support.

2025-26 Accomplishments:

- Health:
- Measles Information Session & Clinic (June 16-17/25)
- Covid/Flu Vaccinations Clinics (Oct 27-28/25)
- Shingle Vaccination coverage
- Cancer Care Kits Distribution
- Hospital Support/Discharge Support
- Patient Care Support
- Perimenopause & Menopause Information Session (Oct 2025)
- Girls Menstrual Distribution
- Research:
- HEMP Research project coordination (October 5-Dec 15/25)

Prevention

- Naloxone Kits Distribution
- Air Purifier Support
- Annual Health Fair (Feb 4/26)
- Wellness Calls
- Workout Challenge (May to August 2025)
- Fitness (class, swims, walks)
- Traditional Medicines/Food Sustainability
- Healthy Cooking Sessions (Monthly)
- Pancake Breakfast (Nov 2025 & Jan 2026)
- Fish Distribution
- Coordinator Wellness caribou hunt
- Traditional Medicine Distribution (orii, Spruce Gum) Making:
- Traditional Tea Making (May 2025)
- Traditional Medicine Picking (Jun 2025)

JORDAN'S PRINCIPLE

Jordan's Principle Coordinate offers supports to families that require Jordan Principle financial/resources to support their child(ren) where there is no other supports available.

Individual Applications:

90 individual application requests, and 5 group requests submitted with a total of 95 requests submitted to ISC since 2023;

6 are in Intake stage, as additional information needed meaning support letter, quotes, or intake not filled out;

There are 25 requests sent in from July - December 2023;

57 requests sent in from Jan - December 2024;

12 requests sent in between Jan - May 2025 of this year;

Since 2023 there have been 53 approvals;

36 submitted application requests are still pending for review;

12 full requested application requests have been escalated for national review;

14 partial application requests have been escalated for national review;

10 sitting in queue to be processed;

2 voided – children no longer in their care;

4 denials; (3 partial denial; One denial overturned)

23 applications submitted for members who live in Ndilǫ;

20 applications submitted for members who live in Dettah;

47 applications submitted for members who live in Yellowknife;

Other:

Jordan Principle Information Sessions (Sept 12, Dec4, Jan22, Feb25)

LANGUAGE AND CULTURE

Recreation engages families, Elders, Individuals, youth and children in fun, active, healthy traditional and cultural activities that develop positive lifelong habits and attitudes.

2025-26 Accomplishments:

- Fathers on the Land (Nov 15/25)
- On the Land Family Event (Dec23/25)
- Youth Culture Camp (March 9-13/26)
- Youth Handgames & Traditional Teachings (March 14-17/26)
- Tlicho Language Symposium (Feb 11-13/26)
- Lunch Hour Wìlìideh Language Immersion Sessions with Dene Nahjo (Feb25-Mar25/26)
- Denesuline Language Classes (Feb-Mar 2026)
- Willideh Language Classes (Feb-Mar 2026)

RECREATION HIGHLIGHTS

Recreation engages families, Elders, Individuals, youth and children in fun, active, healthy traditional and cultural activities that develop positive lifelong habits and attitudes.

2025-26 Accomplishments:

- Gym Programs
- Summer Program
- Mackenzie Youth Dene Games (Aug 11-15/25)
- Back to School Sleepover
- Traditional Game Championship
- Spring Break Program
- Dudes Club & Girl Space
- Weekend Family Outings (My World/ Gymnastics)
- Sport support
  - Sport Funding Support
  - Arctic Winter Games
  - Baseball
  - Skating (Yellowknife arena bookings)
  - Shinny Hockey
  - NHL First Shift Program
  - Hockey Gear Swap
  - Oilers Hockey Clinic
  - Shinny Soccer Tournament
  - Volleyball Challenge
- Special Events:
  - YKDFN Spring Carnival (April 2025)
  - Easter Familiy Fun Night
  - Oilers Stanley Cup Finals
  - National Indigenous Day
  - Halloween Parties
  - Christmas Events/Parties
  - Boxing Day Handgame Tournament
  - New Years Eve Celebration
  - Spring Carnival (March 2026)



DEPARTMENT REPORT: 2025-2026

Environment

DEPARTMENT OVERVIEW

Throughout 2025 – 2026 fiscal year, the Yellowknives Dene First Nation (YKDFN) Environment Department continued to advance the Nation's environmental priorities through regulatory participation, environmental monitoring, community engagement, remediation oversight, project review, sourcing for funding, and environmental information management.

The Department worked with regulatory boards, federal and territorial governments, mining companies, project proponents, consultants, and community members to ensure that YKDFN interests and perspectives were represented in decisions affecting its traditional territory.

The reporting period was particularly active with several environmental activities. The Department reviewed and responded to regulatory submissions associated with major mining, remediation, infrastructure, hydroelectric, research, and land-use projects. These included Diavik, Giant Mine, NICO, Gahcho Kué, Snap Lake, Ekati, Mon Gold, Taltson, Rayrock, Li-FT's Yellowknife Lithium Project, Courageous Lake, the Yellowknife Raw Water Supply Upgrade and other projects. For example, regulatory work during the fiscal year included reviews related to Mon Gold, Diavik, highway projects and research licences, together with three field inspections of the Li-FT Yellowknife Lithium Project. In addition, regulatory work included Diavik closure-related submissions, NICO's Type A Water Licence and Land Use Permit,

Gahcho Kué, Snap Lake, Rayrock and the Yellowknife Gold Project.

Regulatory Review and Environmental Oversight

Regulatory participation remained one of the Department's core responsibilities. Staff reviewed water licence and land use permit applications, closure and reclamation plans, aquatic effects monitoring reports, wildlife monitoring reports, waste management plans, research licence applications, spill contingency plans and other technical submissions. The objective was to ensure that potential effects on YKDFN lands, waters, wildlife, cultural values and community interests were identified and appropriately considered.

Significant attention was given to the Diavik Diamond Mine closure process. Departmental work included reviews of the Final Closure and Reclamation Plan, Cultural Use Criteria, Aquatic Effects Monitoring Program information, Special Effects Studies, wildlife monitoring, waste management and back-flooding-related information. In August, the Department reviewed Diavik's 2025 Wildlife Management and Monitoring Plan Report, Aquatic Effects Monitoring Program Annual Report and Waste Management Plan. This technical review work was complemented by meetings, mine tours and Traditional Knowledge activities to maintain YKDFN involvement as the mine advances through closure. The Department was also actively involved in the NICO Mine Type A Water Licence renewal, including regulatory interventions and review of draft licence and land use permit requirements. In April, staff prepared YKDFN's intervention and presentation materials for the NICO proceeding and also prepared a formal response regarding the proposed wind-down of the Environmental Monitoring Advisory Board associated with Diavik.

Other important files included Giant Mine remediation and perpetual care, Taltson Expansion, Mon Gold, Gahcho Kué, Snap Lake, Rayrock, Ekati and Courageous Lake. In September, for example, reviews included the Mackenzie Valley boards' Traditional Knowledge and engagement guidelines, Diavik's AEMP Fish Response Plan, Snap Lake and Gahcho Kué aquatic effects reports, Rayrock, and the Mon Gold Project. The Department also advanced YKDFN's review of the Taltson Expansion Project transmission routing study and prepared draft comments for internal consideration.

Community Engagement, Traditional Knowledge and Site Monitoring

Community participation remained central to the Department's work. Staff coordinated and participated in community engagement sessions, site visits, Traditional Knowledge initiatives and meetings with proponents and government agencies. These activities were intended to provide YKDFN members with information about projects while creating opportunities for community knowledge, concerns and priorities to inform environmental decision-making.

Key engagements included Giant Mine remediation and Perpetual Care Plan sessions, the Yellowknife Raw Water Supply Upgrade Project, GNWT abandoned mine remediation initiatives, the Slave Geological Province Corridor (SGPC) Cumulative Effects Study, and Diavik's Traditional Knowledge Monitoring Program. In May, staff participated in the Diavik TKMP planning session and coordinated YKDFN community engagements for Giant Mine and the Raw Water Supply Upgrade Project. In June, the Department continued Giant Mine engagement in Dettah and supported planning for GNWT's engagement regarding abandoned mine sites near Yellowknife.

The Department also maintained a field presence. Early in the reporting period, staff conducted repeated inspections of the Li-FT Yellowknife Lithium Project. Mine tours and field-based activities later provided further opportunities to observe environmental conditions and project activities directly. This combination of technical review, field observations and community knowledge strengthened the Department's ability to provide informed input into regulatory and environmental processes.

The SGPC work also advanced community-based information gathering. By August, interview sessions had been completed in Ndılǫ and Dettah, while Environment and Lands staff participated in three days of training related to cultural data, records and project implementation.

Remediation and Major Project Initiatives

Remediation of legacy sites continued to be an important area of departmental activity. Work progressed on Giant Mine, Dome Lake, Rayrock and other abandoned mine sites near Yellowknife. The Department participated in Giant Mine engagement and working-group processes and continued reviewing technical information related to remediation and long-term perpetual care.

The Dome Lake Mine Remediation Project advanced substantially during the reporting period. Work included discussions with CIRNAC and consultants regarding project scope, methodology and budget. A Statement of Work and budget were submitted in July. By September, discussions with CIRNAC had resulted in agreement on a final project proposal with preparations underway for a community engagement session in Dettah.

The Department also continued participating in regional and strategic initiatives, including the Taltson Expansion Project, Grays Bay Road and Port, critical minerals initiatives and cumulative-effects work. These files require sustained participation to ensure YKDFN interests are considered as major infrastructure and resource-development proposals advance.

Funding, Program Management and Capacity Building

A significant amount of work was undertaken to strengthen the Department's financial and program-management capacity. Staff prepared year-end reports, maintained program account information, supported contribution agreements, coordinated consultant contracts and invoices, and worked with Finance to reconcile project expenditures.

In June, year-end reporting was completed or advanced for SGPC, CIRNAC programs, MRAR and IRMA. The IRMA Base and Resource Pressures activity and expenditure reports were submitted following internal review, while program balances and coding continued to be monitored.

The Department also pursued new funding opportunities to strengthen YKDFN's environmental and regulatory capacity. Initiatives included the Indigenous Regulatory Readiness capacity-building proposal, Ghost Gear funding, IRMA Resource Pressures funding, Northern Regulatory Initiative, Indigenous-Led Actions and Initiatives, Northern Participant Funding, and funding related to Grays Bay Road and Port. The Indigenous Regulatory Readiness proposal was completed in June to support long-term YKDFN regulatory and environmental stewardship capacity.

GIS, Environmental Information and Departmental Capacity

The Department continued strengthening its GIS and information-management capabilities. Work included digitizing historic land and permit information, improving spatial databases, developing mapping products and supporting regulatory reviews with GIS information. A Land Allocation Suitability Map was completed, along with GIS support for the Slave Lake Fishing Restoration initiative and digitization of historical PTO records.

By September, digitization of the 2008 PTO 3000, 4000 and 7000 series had been completed, while ArcGIS Online information was updated to improve the accuracy and accessibility of YKDFN land-related information. These activities are helping establish stronger internal information systems to support environmental assessment, consultation, land management and evidence-based decision-making.

Looking Ahead

The Environment Department will continue to prioritize meaningful YKDFN participation in regulatory and environmental decision-making, with particular attention to mine closure and remediation, cumulative effects, water and environmental protection, Traditional Knowledge, community engagement and emerging major projects. Priority files include Diavik closure, Giant Mine, Dome Lake, Taltson, Mon Gold and other mining and infrastructure projects that may affect YKDFN interests.

The Department will also continue strengthening project financial management, pursuing external funding, improving environmental and spatial data systems, and expanding staff capacity. Through technical review, field monitoring, community engagement and collaboration with YKDFN leadership and members, the Department remains focused on protecting the lands, waters, wildlife and cultural values that are important to the Yellowknives Dene First Nation.

DEPARTMENT REPORT: 2025-26

Dechįta Nàowo Post-Secondary Education

1. ADULT SKILLS TRAINING TO EMPLOYMENT PROGRAMS

Job Readiness and Employability Skills

- Employability skills training
- Career researching, updating resumes and cover letters
- Job searching, submitting resumes online, mock interviews
- School life/home balance workshops

Construction Basics

- Built 2 sheds, deck, stairs, and storage unit
- Installed siding
- Built picnic tables and benches
- Students were exposed to various tools and how to safely use them
- Youth Construction (Projects) students built wall shelving units

Heavy Equipment Operator

- Hands-on experience with five types of equipment
- Excavator, Skid Steer, Rock Truck, Dozer and Loader
- Safety operating procedures, general handling, operation and maintenance of the machinery
- Separate training sessions were held for YKDFN Public Works staff to suit their schedule

Environmental Monitoring

- BEAHR Environmental Monitoring (Core)
- BEAHR Environmental Site Assessment Assistant
- Youth BEAHR Core Environmental Monitoring

Small Engine Basics

- Whipper snipper, chainsaw, generator, outboard motor and ice auger maintenance

Industrial Safety

- Fall Protection
- Confined Space
- Asbestos Awareness
- Intermediate First Aid
- WHMIS
- Class 5

- Class 7
- Food Safety I

Fish Net Setting

- Setting fishnets, checking the nets, filleting and packaging fish,
- and making dryfish

Woodworking

In partnership with Skate North and NTNEIHR we held a woodworking workshop and completed skate ramps for future skateboarding programs in Ndilǫ and Yellowknife.

Training On-the-Job and Internships

Students were placed with KBL, SLR Consulting, Ecology North, Aurora Research Institute, Det'on Cho Environmental, Sahtu Land and Water Board, KBL and YKDFN IT.

2. POST-SECONDARY EDUCATION PROGRAMS

Post-secondary Supports and Preparation

- Workshops on applying for Student Financial Assistance
- Scholarship application workshops
- Internship preparation and job coaching
- Tutoring
- Academic counselling
- Connected students to mental health and other community supports as required
- Preparatory courses held for IESS and NIAC students to be ready for their post-secondary courses
- Annual education excursion to visit universities and colleges, including fundraising
- School / Life / Work Balance Program
- Post-Secondary preparation with K'àlemì Dene School

SC-Cyber High School Courses

- High school math course delivered on-line in conjunction
- with SC-Cyber

Introduction to Office Management I and II

- Microsoft Office Suite – Word, Excel, Power Point, Outlook Email

Office etiquette, reception and client services

Hospitality and Customer Service Certificate

- In partnership with Det'on Cho and NAIT we delivered the following courses as part of NAIT's Hospitality and Customer Service Certificate:











- Custodial Safe Work Practices
- Communication
- Collaboration
- Problem Solving
- Professionalism
- Customer Service and Hospitality
- Introduction to Cooking
- Math Skills

Indigenous Media

- Animation Creation Workshop

Indigenous Environmental Studies & Sciences Diploma

- Students completed the following courses towards their two-year diploma in Indigenous Environmental Studies & Sciences in partnership with Trent University:
- IESS 2602Y - Indigenous Knowledge Systems and the Natural Environment
- GEOG 1045 - Introduction to Circumpolar Geography
- INDG 1510H - Foundations of Community Economic Development
- INDG 2100Y - Indigenous Knowledge
- ERSC 3536H – Traditional Food Systems
- INDG 3901 – Independent Reading Study: Dene Storytelling
- ERSC 2240 – Ecological Assessment for Natural Resources Management
- IDG 3631H – Issues: Indigenous Environmental Studies

Northern Indigenous Arts Certificate

In partnership with Portage College we delivered the following courses towards the one-year Northern Indigenous Arts Certificate:

- Visual Arts – Painting II
- Nature Crafts
- Sewing I
- Art Expose
- Beading

Northern Leadership Development Program

We sponsored two Wellness staff members to attend the Northern Leadership Development Program with Aurora College. Topics include Personal Development, Communication Skills, Leadership, Conflict Management, Problem Solving and Decision Making.

Community Outreach

- Student Christmas Party
- Participation in Geoscience Forum
- Participation in Career Fairs

Education Assistant

This course focused on Human Development from prenatal to age 18 and students received credit from Portage College

Theories of Child Development, presentations and assignments

Early Childhood Education

Partnered with YKDFN Wellness Bebia Program to deliver a workshop focused on teaching parents different plan and language integration techniques.

Co-Researcher Program

Dene Literacy – Key concepts in Wìlìideh Yati; practiced reading and writing using Roman orthography; wrote a short story.

Forum Theatre – engaged in a theatre arts-based research project and received Drama 10 Credit

YKDFN Graduation Celebration

A community celebration and barbeque was held for the YKDFN high school and post-secondary graduates. There were 25 graduates this year. Dechı̨ ta Nàowo provided gifts to each student as did Det'on Cho and MLA Richard Edjericon.









AECOM/YKDFN Scholarships

We administered the AECOM/YKDFN scholarships and distributed 12 scholarships to YKDFN members.

Greenhouse and Garden Training and Coordination

Two micro-credential courses were offered in conjunction with the University of the Fraser Valley:

Berry bush propagation – learned about cuttings and rooting hormones, propagation, seed biology, germination, and seeding, working with bulbs and rhizomes

Garden maintenance – mulch types and uses, current methods in nurseries and garden design

Coordination of Dettah and Ndilǫ community greenhouses and gardens

We also distributed produce to Elders and others in need

STATISTICS

2025-26 Total Clients Served: 204

Total Employed: 61

Post-Secondary Achievements:

2-year diploma – 9 students

First year university – 5 students

College certificates – 15 students

Post-secondary credits – 31 students

DEPARTMENT REPORT: 2025-26

Housing

Housing Staff

The Housing team for 2025-26 consisted of:

Rose Black, *Director*

Nora Sangris, *Administrative Assistant*

Natasha Landry, *Tenant Relations Officer/Acting Director of Housing*

Julie Jeffery, *Finance*

Dennis Sabourin, *Housing Maintainer/ Acting Foreman*

John McCormick, *Oil Burner Mechanic / Foreman*

Zachary Sangris, *Housing Maintainer Apprentice*

Nora Crookedhand, *Dettah Senior Home Custodian*

Nora Mackenzie, Ndilǫ *Senior Home Custodian*

Housing Committee

The Housing Committee served a two-year term ending July 30, 2025:

Philip Goulet, *Chair*

Berna Charlo

Jennifer Charlo

Rachel Crapeau

Eileen Liske

Melissa Mackenzie

Housing Division Overview

The Yellowknives Dene First Nation (YKDFN) Housing Division acts as an agent on behalf of Housing NWT, formerly known as the NWT Housing Corporation.

Housing Division staff are responsible for the day-to-day administration, tenant relations, financial administration, preventative maintenance, repairs, and general maintenance of 76 housing units located in the two YKDFN communities of Dettah and Ndilǫ.

Housing Units

Community	Public Housing	Market Rental	Help	Total
Ndilǫ	32	1	1	34
Dettah	38	3	1	42
Total	71	4	2	76

Tenant Communication and Engagement

The Housing Division continues to prioritize communication with tenants and providing information that supports successful tenancies.

Quarterly newsletters are distributed in January, April, July, and October. These newsletters are intended to keep tenants informed about housing-related matters, upcoming maintenance activities, tenant responsibilities, programs, and other important information.

The Housing Division views regular communication and tenant education as an important part of maintaining positive landlord-tenant relationships and supporting tenants in maintaining successful tenancies.

Summer Student Employment

During the summer, the Housing Division hired three summer students as Maintenance Helpers. The students assisted the Maintenance Department with preventative maintenance activities, including water tank cleaning, as well as other maintenance-related duties. Their assistance helped the Maintenance team keep up with seasonal maintenance requirements and ongoing work.

Rent Collection and Outstanding Receivables

During the fiscal year, Housing NWT collected a total of:

$414,335.08 in rent payments

As of March 31, 2026, the Housing Division's total outstanding overdue receivables for unpaid rent were:

Community	Outstanding Receivables
Dettah	$155,378.46
Ndilǫ	$213,671.75
Total	$369,050.21

These outstanding amounts include balances associated with both current and previous tenants.

Tenant Relations and Rent Arrears

The Tenant Relations Officer (TRO) continues to work closely with tenants to address outstanding rent balances and help tenants maintain good standing with the Housing Division.

- The TRO has been assisting tenants by:
- Establishing repayment plans;
- Working with tenants to address outstanding balances;
- Assisting clients with Income Assistance applications;
- Connecting tenants with financial assistance and other available resources; and
- Providing guidance and support to help tenants remain in good standing.

The Housing Division cannot stress enough the importance of paying monthly rent and power on time. Unpaid rent has a significant negative impact on the Housing Division's ability to operate effectively. Outstanding arrears affect the Housing Division's budget and, in turn, its ability to provide maintenance, repairs, programs, and services to tenants.

Responsibilities of a Successful Tenant

Successful tenancies require cooperation between tenants and the Housing Division. Tenants are expected to:

- Pay their monthly rent on time;
- Pay their power costs as required;
- Take reasonable care of their unit and avoid causing tenant damage; and
- Respect their neighbours by avoiding excessive noise and disturbances.

Meeting these responsibilities helps maintain safe, healthy, and respectful homes and communities.

Modernization and Improvements

The Housing Division continues to complete Modernization & Improvement (M&I) projects, in addition to regular Operations and Maintenance (O&M) work orders and health and safety requirements.

During the reporting period, M&I and related work included flooring replacements and work to prepare vacant units for new tenants.

The Housing Division continues to prioritize work based on health and safety, condition of the units, tenant needs, available funding, and operational requirements.

2025-26 M&I and Related Work

Date	Type	Description	Cost
April 2025	Minor M&I	Installation of vinyl flooring	$8,206.35
April 2025	Minor M&I	Installation of new flooring in vacant units	$6,637.05
April 2025	O&M	Patch and paint vacant units	$6000.00
April 2025	Minor M&I	Installation of new flooring	$6,637.05

Preventative Maintenance

The Maintenance Department remains very busy completing annual recurring Preventative Maintenance (PM) while responding to tenant work orders throughout the year.

Preventative maintenance is an essential part of maintaining the housing units. Regular inspections and servicing help identify issues before they become larger and more costly problems and help ensure that housing units remain safe, functional, and in good condition.

Annual preventative maintenance activities include:

- Condition Rating Inspections
- Forced Air Heating Systems
- Hot Water Heating Systems
- Domestic Water Heaters
- Heat Recovery Ventilation Systems
- Freeze Protection Systems
- Water Tanks
- Electrical Systems
- Fire Extinguishers
- Smoke Detectors and Carbon Monoxide Detectors
- Plumbing Systems
- Sewage Holding Tanks

Maintenance staff balance these scheduled preventative maintenance activities with incoming tenant work orders and emergency repairs.

Work Orders

Every work order is important to the Housing Division. However, Maintenance must prioritize work based on urgency, health and safety concerns, and the potential impact on the tenant and the housing unit.

The volume of work orders demonstrates the significant amount of ongoing maintenance required to operate and maintain the YKDFN housing portfolio.

We appreciate our tenants' patience and understanding when maintenance requests cannot be addressed immediately. Maintenance staff work to respond to the most urgent matters first while continuing to complete preventative maintenance and routine work.

Looking Ahead

The Housing Division will continue to focus on maintaining safe, healthy, and well-functioning homes for YKDFN tenants.

Key priorities moving forward include:

- Responding to health, safety, and emergency maintenance concerns;
- Completing required Modernization & Improvement projects;
- Supporting tenants in addressing outstanding rent balances;
- Assisting tenants in accessing available financial assistance and support programs;
- Improving communication and tenant education through quarterly newsletters;
- Supporting successful tenancies and positive landlord-tenant relationships; and
- Ensuring housing resources are managed responsibly and effectively.

The Housing Division recognizes that maintaining a successful housing program requires the combined efforts of staff, tenants, the Housing Committee, leadership, and our partners at Housing NWT.

We thank our tenants for their cooperation and patience, and we thank the Housing Division staff for their continued hard work and commitment throughout the year.

DEPARTMENT REPORT: 2025-26

Public Works and Infrastructure

Public Works and Infrastructure (PWI) keeps essential services running in Dettah and Ndılǫ every day of the year, and plans, funds and delivers the infrastructure our communities will rely on for generations.

Public Works and Infrastructure is responsible for:

- Water delivery and sewage pump-out services for Dettah, Dettah Road and Ndılǫ
- Shuttle bus service between Ndılǫ, Dettah and Yellowknife
- Waste management and the Dettah Landfill
- Community freezers and wildlife management Asset and fleet management
- Infrastructure development and capital projects
- Infrastructure and building maintenance
- Municipal service operations, emergency services and community safety In January 2026, Parth Kukadiya, PMP, joined the department as Project Coordinator, adding project management capacity to support capital planning, funding applications and procurement.

FISCAL 2025–2026 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Significant Projects

Home Winterization Walk-Throughs. In partnership with the Arctic Energy Alliance (AEA), PWI offered free in-home winterization support to YKDFN member homeowners in Dettah and Ndılǫ from February 23 to March 6, 2026. The program was open to 40 homes (approximately 20 in each community), with priority to low-income homeowners. Each household received a walk-through to find where heat was escaping, free materials such as door seals, foam gaskets and air-sealing products, hands-on installation training, and a Home Winterization Report with energy-saving tips.

Fleet Renewal. A new 2026 Chevrolet Silverado departmental truck was delivered in March 2026. Two new 2026 Freightliner trucks, a 108SD sewage truck with a Wabash tank and an M2 106 water truck, were procured for delivery to Dettah in April 2026. Together, these purchases represent an investment of $703,002.81 in reliable water, sewage and service vehicles.

Home Emergency Repair Program. PWI delivered a $300,000 home emergency repair program funded through the Urban, Rural and Northern Indigenous housing funding stream, supporting 24 member homes: 12 in Dettah and 12 in Ndılǫ. The program addresses urgent repairs so that families can stay safely in their homes. The program remains open.

Life Safety in YKDFN Buildings. Automated external defibrillators (AEDs) were installed in all YKDFN-owned buildings, and a departmental Safety Program Framework was prepared.

Energy Efficiency. Through AEA's no-cost desktop energy audit service, applications were submitted for the Chief Drygeese Building, the Deton'Cho Building, the Ndılǫ Gym and the Dettah Gym. AEA reviews each building's historical water and energy use to confirm whether a detailed on-site audit would be beneficial.

Planning for Better Service. PWI completed its first Strategic and Operational Plan, with standard templates for day-to-day operations, and prepared a cost analysis for a proposed three-day water delivery schedule.

Capital Projects Made Funding-Ready. Designs and cost estimates were completed so that major projects can compete for funding: the Dettah East and West Residential Subdivisions (23 lots, Class B construction estimate of $4.27 million); Dettah Community

Roads and Drainage (drawings, specifications and Class D estimate complete); the Wìlìdeh Site Arbour (geotechnical report, design and Class D estimate complete); and the Dettah Parking and Maintenance Garage (conceptual design and Class D estimate complete).

Waste Management Funding. On March 1, 2026, PWI applied to the GNWT Waste Reduction and Recycling Initiative (WRRI) for approximately $148,000, including 90 green and 90 black household waste bins similar to those used in the City of Yellowknife.

WORK IN PROGRESS

- Funding applications for the Dettah subdivisions, Dettah roads and drainage, the Wìlìdeh Site Arbour and the Dettah garage
- Tendering of repairs to the Chief Drygeese Building
- Hiring a Health and Safety Manager and establishing a Joint Occupational Health and Safety Committee, with one representative from each department
- Briefing to Chief and Council on acquiring the Diavik Mine solar farm at mine closure
- Development of YKDFN's first procurement Policy, with standing Procurement Committee, now in review

DID YOU KNOW

1. We protect the land and water. The Dettah Sewage Lagoon and Landfill operate under Water Licence MV2019L3-0009, with regular sampling to monitor our impact on the environment.

2. Small fixes save money. Sealing drafts around doors and windows is one of the cheapest ways to lower heating costs through a northern winter.

3. Give our trucks room. Water and sewage trucks make frequent stops on community roads. Please slow down and give them space, especially in winter.

4. Volunteers keep us safe. The Dettah Fire Department depends largely on volunteers. Please consider signing up.

DEPARTMENT REPORT: 2025-26

Economic Development

Economic Development works to expand employment and business opportunities for members and strengthen YKDFN's role in economic decisions affecting Yellowknives Dene Territory. In 2025-26, the department delivered career services, supported procurement oversight and advanced the studies, agreements and partnerships needed for future community benefits.

Employment Services

Career Centre: Services included job-search and resume support, employer connections, continuing case support, and scholarship letters and applications for students. The department also worked with industry, Indigenous and territorial partners on employment and training information as the diamond sector moved toward closure and reclamation. Recruitment for an Employment and Career Counsellor and a trainee began before year-end.

Career Centre activity in 2025–26	Individuals
Engaged	154
Secured employment	70
Receiving continuing support	67
Students assisted	9
Other contacts recorded as non-members or not reached	8

Labour Market Inventory (LMI): During 2025-26, the department advanced the Labour Market Inventory through contracting, funding administration, survey design, member engagement and employer interviews. The inventory was designed to address a longstanding gap in YKDFN workforce data by documenting members' skills, qualifications, employment interests and barriers to work alongside employers' needs. This evidence can help YKDFN target training, shape Career Centre services and support funding proposals. It can also strengthen discussions with employers about recruitment and local participation. As diamond mine closures change the regional economy, the LMI will help YKDFN plan for members' participation in remediation, energy, infrastructure and other sectors, with priorities informed by members themselves.

Giant Mine Procurement and Training

The department participated in the quarterly Giant Mine Socio-Economic Working Group and continued Procurement Framework Agreement implementation, review of Indigenous Opportunities Considerations and community-benefit planning. Related initiatives were supported through the Community Benefits Agreement.

GMRP results for YKDFN	2025–26
Expenditures with YKDFN suppliers	$84.5 million
Training hours for YKDFN members	282, 012 hours
Employment hours for YKDFN members	9,025 hours

Source: *Giant Mine Remediation Project (GMRP) annual snapshots.*

Ongoing Projects

Dettah gas station and convenience store: Following a May 2025 request for proposals, Dillon Consulting was engaged for feasibility and community-engagement work. The study examined access to fuel and essential goods, local employment and potential own-source revenue. Work during the year focused on feasibility and community input.

Taltson Hydro Expansion Project: YKDFN advanced its role as inclusive lead for the final approximately 60 kilometres of transmission routing into Yellowknife. Departmental work covered route options, governance and commercial participation, alongside environmental and technical planning and an Indigenous Knowledge sharing approach.

Arctic Economic and Security Corridor: YKDFN and the Tłı̨chǫ Government signed a memorandum of understanding in November 2025 to jointly lead early planning and coordination. A January 2026 agreement with GNWT established a framework for information-sharing, federal engagement and project promotion. Jeff Rosnawski led YKDFN's work; Economic Development supported funding, coordination and communications, including a March 2026 funding proposal. The proposed all-season corridor toward Grays Bay remained in planning, with community engagement and environmental work requiring continued support.

Thaidene Nene National Park: Seasonal route planning combined landing and overnight-site mapping with feasibility and business analysis. Legacy Tourism Group supported market and business work; TrailMark supported interpretation rooted in YKDFN culture and language. Guiding, transportation and campsite services remained development concepts.

Partnerships and Economic Advocacy

City cooperation: YKDFN participated with the City of Yellowknife in the November 2025 gold-mining workshop in Dettah, covering modern practices, environmental safeguards and regulatory oversight. The City released its workshop report in February 2026, and the approach was featured at PDAC in March with YKDFN representation.

The department shared proposed amendments to the City-YKDFN memorandum of understanding covering member employment and representation in City administration, housing coordination, capital infrastructure, improved transit and cultural recognition. It also supported Council's request to rename Franklin Avenue as Wìlìdeh Avenue.

Leadership and industry representation: The department supported YKDFN's participation in the NWT Council of Leaders' Ottawa meetings in October 2025, advancing infrastructure, energy and economic-reconciliation priorities with federal partners. It also attended AME Roundup and PDAC in 2026, coordinating meetings, delegation arrangements, briefings and leadership speaking materials. The January corridor agreement was signed at Roundup. Project briefings, public statements and intergovernmental coordination supported Chiefs, Council and senior management across these files.

Looking Ahead

Priorities for 2026-27 include using LMI findings to guide training and the next phase of Career Centre services, expanding cooperation with the City, and developing an airport display for YKDFN. Further work on major projects, tourism and the business development will explore opportunities for member employment and YKDFN businesses. Together, these initiatives offer practical ways to connect members' skills and aspirations with the region's changing economy.

DEPARTMENT REPORT: 2025-26

Human Resources

HUMAN RESOURCES SUMMARY

The YKDFN Human Resources Department has grown through a transitional period and has been resilient and adjusting to the North's Diamond Mine Closures and the domino effect it has brought for our membership. However, we have used our recruiting efforts to assist and obtain our members from the Diamond Mine industry for outplacement assistant and welcomed a few members to our workforce within the organization, and continuing to grow our local talent within the communities and adapting to the new changes with life after the Diamond Mines and preparing our members and workforce for the new projects for YKDFN that are on the horizon.

We at, Yellowknives Dene First Nation believe that 'people' are our most important 'asset'. YKDFN employs a total of 91 staff: 50 permanent, 41 casual term employees. All are employed within the Dettah and Ndilo administration, Public Works & Infrastructure, Economic Development, Health & Wellness, Dechita Naowo, Land Management, Environment, Housing Division, Early Learning & Child Care, and Tıch'àadìı Nàowo Departments.

The HR team consists of:

Human Resources Manager,

Human Resources Generalist

Human Resources Assistant

Senior Administrative Assistant, Dettah

Administrative Assistant, N'dilo

Update on 2025-2026 Highlights of Successes/ Accomplishments:

- YKDFN/Diavik Diamond Mine Inc. (DDMI) Education Bursary Program - 25 Members attended post-secondary and successfully completed and were assisted in the 2025/26 School Year;
- YKDFN High School Achievement Awards – 9 awarded;
- YKDFN Summer Student Program Employed – 24 student ranges ages from15-30-years of age;
- SAGE HR System Implemented and in use;
- YKDFN Administration Performance Management plan updated for 2026/2027;
- In progress of updating YKDFN's Group Benefit Provider plan for more options;
- In progress of updating the Human Resources Policies and Procedures;
- Implementing e-filing system for HR Records;
- Implementing new training software system;

Employment Stats for 2026:

YKDFN has a total of 91 positions, of which 50 are permanent positions and 41 casual positions:

- 55 YKDFN member staff, 23 Salaried, 32 Casuals
- 17 other band status employees, 12 Salaried, 5 Casuals
- 19 non-status, 15 Salaried, 4 Casuals

A collaboration with the HR department and the Economic Development has begun its efforts with securing a Workforce Development Manager to build up the Career Centre for our employees and YKDFN membership locally in the N'dilo Administration office. The resource personnel will assist with individual plan assessments for training opportunities and growth for our workforce and succession planning for each department.

Annual Summer Student Employment Program:

As mentioned through our funders that YKDFN is one of their success stories in our delivery for a unique and customized summer student employment initiatives to increase employable skills for our students to ensure our success as a First Nations, while practicing our traditions and cultural events. This initiative also brings us forward to self-governance and self-sustainability.

24 summer students were employed in various YKDFN departments during the period June – August 2026, and we look forward to the following year.

EDUCATION PROGRAM HISTORY AND UPDATES:

With the recent impacts with the Diamond Mine Closures that have occurred and the last remaining Diamond Mine soon expected to close in the following year(s), this may also impact some of our educational programs that support our students through post-secondary schooling as we have heavily relied upon during the active mining operations that financial support YKDFN's Bursaries, Scholarships, and High School Achievement Awards, we are trying to navigate new ways to support our students in the following years to come as we encourage higher education to bring their educational knowledge and experience back to our communities.

YKDFN Education Programs of the Previous Years:

YKDFN Education Program Yearly 2024-2025

1. YKDFN/DDMI Education Bursary Program - 31 Members attended post-secondary and successfully completed that were assisted in the 2024/25 School Year
2. YKDFN High School Achievement Awards – 7 awarded
3. YKDFN Summer Student Program – 25 students from the ages of 15-30 years of age

YKDFN Education Program Yearly 2023-2024

1. YKDFN/DDMI Education Bursary Program - 26 Members attended post-secondary, and successfully completed that were assisted in the 2023/24 School Year
2. YKDFN High School Achievement Awards – 7 awarded
3. YKDFN Summer Student Program – 26 students from the ages of15-30 years of age

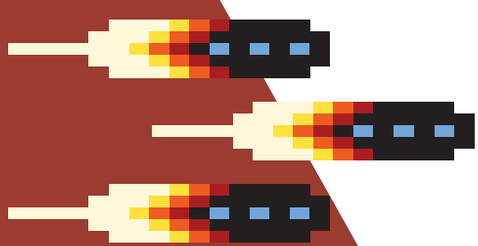
YKDFN Education Program Yearly 2022-2023

1. YKDFN/DDMI Education Bursary Program - 14 Members attended post-secondary and successfully completed that were assisted in the 2022/23 School Year
2. YKDFN High School Achievement Awards – 4 awarded
3. YKDFN Summer Student Program – 31 students from the ages of15-30 years of age

DID YOU KNOW?

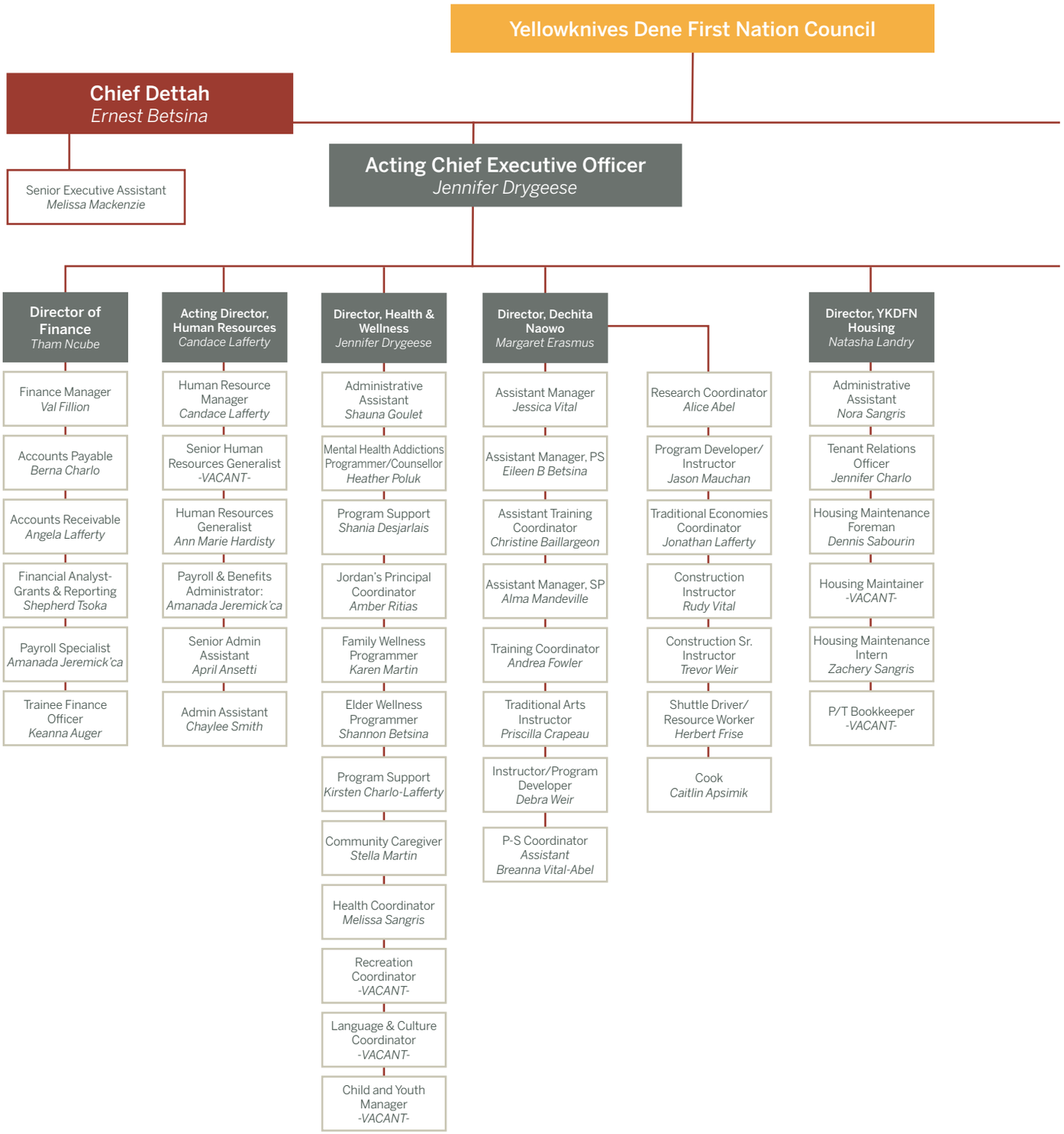
That **49%** of YKDFN employees are strong **Dene women** this year alone?

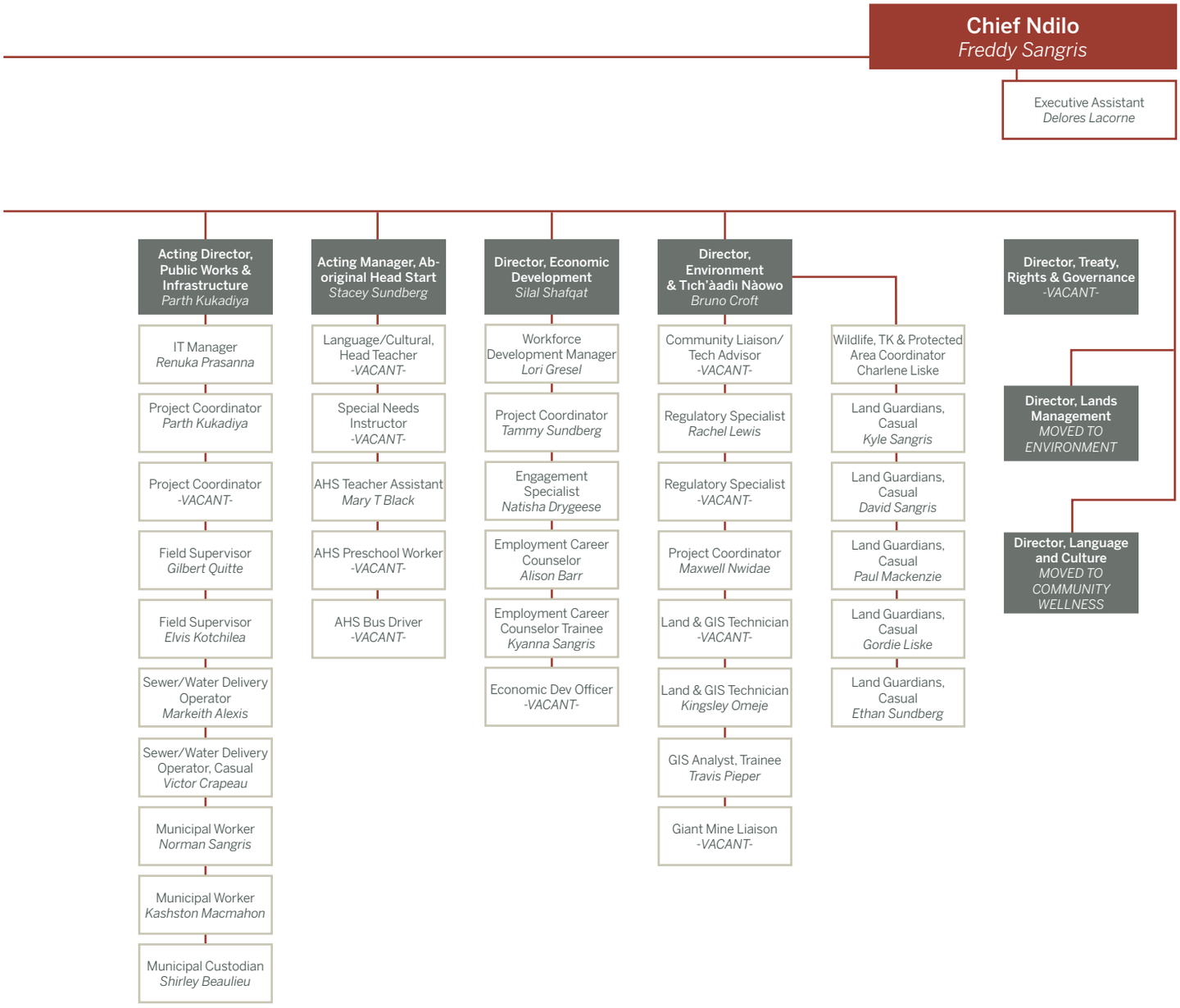
That **8 previous summer students** over a 1-year period are now **employed** as part of the YKDFN team?



YELLOWKNIVES DENE FIRST NATION

Organizational Chart




Chief Ndilo
Freddy Sangris
Executive Assistant
Delores Lacorne
Acting Director, Public Works & Infrastructure
Parth Kukadiya
IT Manager
Renuka Prasanna
Project Coordinator
Parth Kukadiya
Project Coordinator
-VACANT-
Field Supervisor
Gilbert Quitte
Field Supervisor
Elvis Kotchilea
Sewer/Water Delivery Operator
Markeith Alexis
Sewer/Water Delivery Operator, Casual
Victor Crapeau
Municipal Worker
Norman Sangris
Municipal Worker
Kashston Macmahon
Municipal Custodian
Shirley Beaulieu
Acting Manager, Aboriginal Head Start
Stacey Sundberg
Language/Cultural, Head Teacher
-VACANT-
Special Needs Instructor
-VACANT-
AHS Teacher Assistant
Mary T Black
AHS Preschool Worker
-VACANT-
AHS Bus Driver
-VACANT-
Director, Economic Development
Silal Shafqat
Workforce Development Manager
Lori Gresel
Project Coordinator
Tammy Sundberg
Engagement Specialist
Natisha Drygeese
Employment Career Counselor
Alison Barr
Employment Career Counselor Trainee
Kyanna Sangris
Economic Dev Officer
-VACANT-
Director, Environment & Tıch'àadıı Nàowo
Bruno Croft
Community Liaison/ Tech Advisor
-VACANT-
Regulatory Specialist
Rachel Lewis
Regulatory Specialist
-VACANT-
Project Coordinator
Maxwell Nwidae
Land & GIS Technician
-VACANT-
Land & GIS Technician
Kingsley Omeje
GIS Analyst, Trainee
Travis Pieper
Giant Mine Liaison
-VACANT-
Wildlife, TK & Protected Area Coordinator
Charlene Liske
Land Guardians, Casual
Kyle Sangris
Land Guardians, Casual
David Sangris
Land Guardians, Casual
Paul Mackenzie
Land Guardians, Casual
Gordie Liske
Land Guardians, Casual
Ethan Sundberg
Director, Treaty, Rights & Governance
-VACANT-
Director, Lands Management
MOVED TO ENVIRONMENT
Director, Language and Culture
MOVED TO COMMUNITY WELLNESS

Summary Of Financial Reports

2025-2026 PRELIMINARY FINANCIAL REPORT

Briefing to Chiefs & Council | Trial Balance as at March 31, 2026

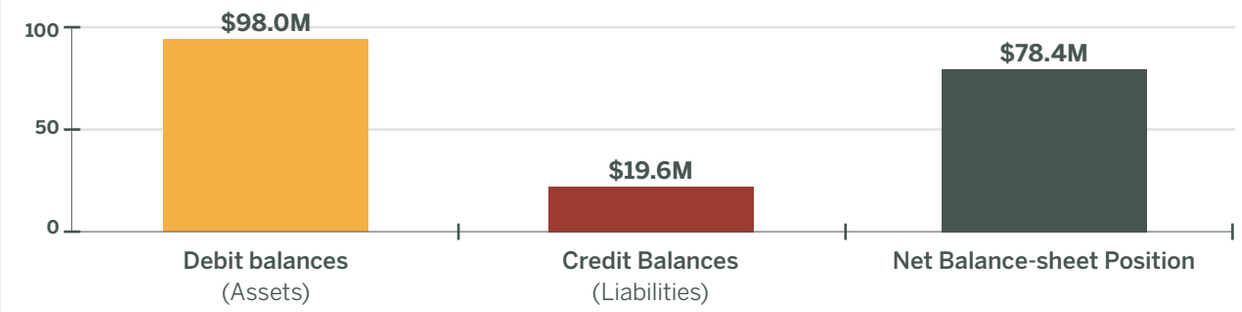
Prepared by: Thamsanga Ncube, Director of Finance | Yellowknives Dene First Nation

IMPORTANT BASIS OF PREPARATION:

This is a management report prepared directly from the March 31, 2026 Sage 300 trial balance and is not a set of audited financial statements. Accounts 1021-3020: Balance-sheet accounts (Debits = Assets, Credits = Liabilities). Accounts 4000 onward: Current-year program revenue/expense accounts (Credits = Revenue, Debits = Expenses).

FINANCIAL POSITION AT A GLANCE (TRIAL BALANCE AT MARCH 31, 2026)

$97.96M	$19.57M	$78.40M	$16.97M
ASSET / DEBIT BALANCES Accounts 1021-3020	LIABILITY / CREDIT BALANCES Accounts 1021-3020	NET BALANCE-SHEET POSITION Debit less credit balances	CURRENT-YEAR SURPLUS Revenue less expenses



Position Highlights:

Cash, term deposits, and principal bank accounts total approx. **$17.72M** on a net-balance basis. Receivable-related balances (including dividends and amounts due from related entities) total approx. **$26.29M** net. Current payable / deferred / contribution-related credit balances in 2000-series total approx. **$5.71M**.

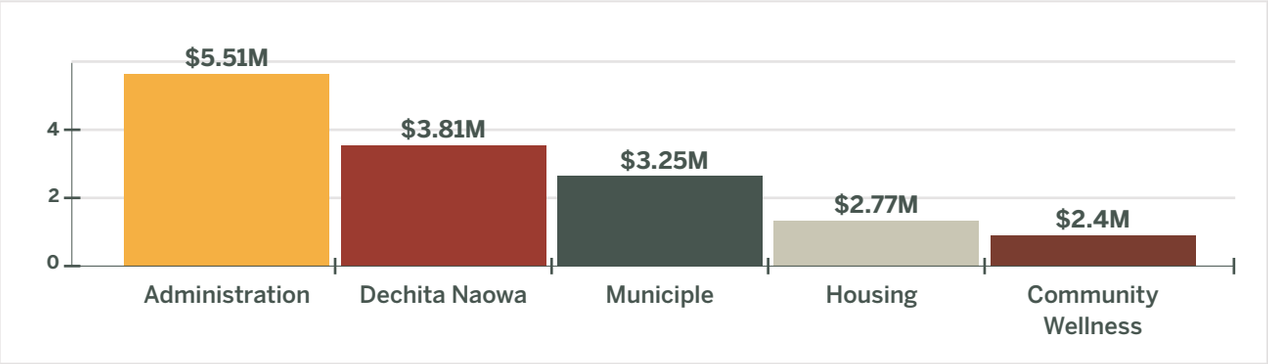
Trial Balance Control:
The Sage report itself shows total debits of $146.52M and total credits of $143.45M, leaving the printed trial balance out of balance by $3.08M. Accordingly, all 2025–26 figures in this briefing should be treated as preliminary until the year-end closing, reconciliation and audit adjustments are completed.

OPERATING RESULTS & PROGRAM-LEVEL VIEW

Current-year revenue expenditure derived from program accounts in the March 31, 2026 trail balance

$39.87M	$22.90M	$16.97M
ASSET / DEBIT BALANCES Accounts 1021-3020	LIABILITY / CREDIT BALANCES Accounts 1021-3020	NET BALANCE-SHEET POSITION Debit less credit balances

Largest Program Expense Group



Program-level Vire

Program Area	Expenses	Revenue
Municipal	$3.25M	$11.82M
Administration	$5.51M	$6.19M
Dechita Naowa	$3.81M	$4.39M
Economic Development	$1.20M	$5.15M
Housing	$2.77M	$2.60M
Community Wellness	$2.24M	$2.24M

KEY MESSAGES FOR CHIEFS & COUNCIL (2025-26)

1. **Preliminary Surplus is Significant:** Program credits ($39.87M) exceed program debits ($22.90M) by approx. $16.97M under the supplied classification.
2. **Municipal Activity is a Major Driver:** Shows approx. $11.82M of revenue against $3.25M of expenditure.
3. **Administration and Dechita Naowo are Major Expenditure Areas:** Admin records ~$5.51M expenses; Dechita Naowo records ~$3.81M.
4. **Economic Development Shows a Strong Revenue Position:** Records ~$5.15M revenue against ~$1.20M expenses.
5. **Some Programs Remain Expenditure-Heavy:** Housing and Treaty/Rights/Governance show expenses exceeding current-year credits in this trial-balance snapshot.
6. **Year-End Reconciliation Remains Essential:** The $3.08M trial-balance control difference must be resolved before these figures are treated as final or directly compared with audited statements.

Acknowledgement

CONTRIBUTORS:

Yellowknives Dene First Nation Chiefs, Chief Executive Officer & and

Directors / Managers and Staff.

DESIGN AND PRODUCTION OF ANNUAL REPORT

North Creative



YKDFN
Mailing Address
Yellowknives Dene First Nation
PO Box 2514
Yellowknife, NT, Canada
X1A 2P8

Dettah
Administration Office
Chief Drygeese Bldg.
Community of Dettah
Phone: 867-873-4307
Fax: 867-873-5969

Ndilǫ
Administration Office
901 Sikyea Tili, 2nd Floor
Det'on Cho Bldg.
Community of Ndilǫ
Phone: 867-873-8951
Fax: 867-873-8545

WWW.YKDENE.COM