

Festival Program

JUNE 29 – JULY 5 2023

adäka
Cultural Festival

Celebrate
the unity
of the northern
Dene Nations
and Yukon First
Nations!

**KWANLIN DÜN
CULTURAL CENTRE**
WHITEHORSE, YUKON



PROUDLY PRODUCED BY:
Yukon First Nations
**CULTURE &
TOURISM**
Association

PRESENTING PARTNER:



**KWANLIN DÜN
CULTURAL CENTRE**



RECONNECTION IS CLIMATE ACTION

Come join the Yukon First Nations Climate Action Fellowship, the Children of Tomorrow, as they publicly release the Yukon First Nations approach to the climate and wellbeing crisis: the Reconnection Vision.

In February 2020, Yukon First Nations Leadership declared that the YFN approach to climate action should be Youth-led as "it is their future at stake, and they will inherit the decisions made now."

The YFN Climate Action Fellowship took on this task and the Reconnection Vision is their response. This pathway for change from the Children of Tomorrow is set to transform how we live, learn and work in the Yukon through treating the root cause of climate change: DISCONNECTION.

— CELEBRATE WITH US —

On June 30th the Children of Tomorrow are publicly releasing the Reconnection Vision and launching their digital storytelling website, [Reconnection.Vision](https://reconnection.vision).

Everyone, and especially youth, are warmly invited to join for a night of celebration, music, food, and Reconnection.

FRIDAY / JUNE 30 / 6:30P / KDCC LONGHOUSE

Reconnection.vision



The YFNCT Board Welcomes You to the 2023 Adäka Cultural Festival

On behalf of the Yukon First Nations Culture and Tourism Association Board of Directors and Staff, I am honoured to welcome our guest artists and visitors from around the world for a week of artistic collaboration, exchange, and learning.

The Adäka Cultural Festival invites you to celebrate the unique culture and traditions of the Northern Dene Nations and the Yukon First Nations. We are eager to experience the rich languages, art, music, stories, and history of these Nations, while building a vibrant network of connections and friendships over the seven days of the Festival.

Gunalcheesh, mahso cho, shäw nithän, and thank you to the Kwanlin Dün First Nation and Ta'an Kwäch'än Council for allowing us to host this celebration on their beautiful traditional territories.

As a participant or visitor of the Festival, you're in store for impactful cultural learnings, beautiful performances, the knowledge and expertise of visual artists creating stunning pieces of work, traditional practices, and stories and so much more that we hope you carry with you for years to come.

We are proud extend a warm welcome for you to come back as many times as you can, stay for a while each time, and absorb the exquisite gathering of many walks of life.

Gunalcheesh,
Marilyn Jensen,
Yadultin

President, YFNCT
Carcross/Tagish
First Nation



ON BEHALF OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Teena Dickson Chipewyan

Courtney Wheelton Tahltan Nation

Jessie Stephen White River First Nation

George Bahm Teslin Tlingit Council

Joella Hogan First Nation of Nacho Nyak Dun

Elizabeth Bosely Teslin Tlingit Council

Karee Vallevand Tagish Khwaän and Kwanlin Dün First Nation

Alexis Anderson Champagne and Aishihik First Nations

GREETINGS

As the recently elected Chief of the Kwanlin Dün First Nation, I am honoured to welcome you to the 2023 Adäka Cultural Festival taking place on the Traditional Territory of the Kwanlin Dün and the Ta'an Kwäch'än Council.

I would like to send a special welcome to our neighbours and friends visiting from the Northern Dene Nations and communities across the north.

Kwanlin Dün First Nation is an ongoing proud supporter of this summer festival. Adäka is an event that I hold close to my heart because it brings us together to celebrate our culture, history, art, dance and storytelling.

Strengthening these cultural connections is important to me and to Kwanlin Dün Council. It is a solid foundation to build upon, so that future generations can thrive and reclaim their culture and identity.

I hold my hands up in thanks to all of the organizers, performers, artists, partners and sponsors that come together to make this festival happen year after year.

Chief Sean Smith
Kwanlin Dün First Nation



The Adäka Cultural Festival is a longstanding and inspiring event that is unprecedented in showcasing and celebrating Indigenous and Yukon First Nations culture. The festival is also an important venue to profile our Yukon First Nations artists and support their development.

This year's event promises to be a memorable one with a broad representation of northern Indigenous culture for audiences to enjoy along with an ever-expanding lineup of Yukon First Nations visual and performing artists.

CYFN is pleased to play a part in supporting the festival to celebrate and enjoy our rich Yukon First Nations and northern Indigenous cultures.

On behalf of the Council of Yukon First Nations, I wish all who participate a fun and rewarding festival experience.

Gunałchışh

**Grand Chief
Peter Johnston**
Council of Yukon First Nations



MARK KELLY

On behalf of the Ta'an Kwäch'än Council it is my pleasure to welcome you to our traditional territory, which we share, in part with the Kwanlin Dün First Nation. As Adäka means "coming into the light" in Southern Tutchone, this year we are incredibly happy to welcome to Whitehorse our finest Indigenous artists and performers from across Canada's North. From June 29 to July 5, the Kwanlin Dün Cultural Centre comes alive as a place everyone wants to be. Adäka has become a world class festival over the last 11 years and is a true testament to the rich diversity our First Nations arts and culture scene has to offer. As an artist myself, this festival is one of my favorite events and one that you don't want to miss. What I value most about Adäka is that it doesn't matter if you are well established, or just starting out as an artist or performer; the workshops and showcases provide an equal venue for all, allowing everyone to thrive together which is a very powerful experience.

A big thank you the organizers, volunteers, funders, artists, and performers who will shine for us in the days to come!

Shāw nithān

Chief Amanda Leas
Ta'an Kwäch'än Council



Dā nnnchāe,

On behalf of the Assembly of First Nations Yukon Region, our deepest gratitude to the organizers of the Adäka Cultural Festival, the artists and all those who have contributed to yet another exciting and enriching cultural event. This year, we are celebrating the coming together of Yukon First Nations and the Northern Dene Nations as they showcase their beautiful art, histories, languages, music, cultures, and so much more. As a Region, we are excited for the world to experience the many treasures that as Northerners, we hold close to our hearts. Thank you once again to all those whose hard work makes this wonderful festival so special year after year!

Gunałchéesh, Shawnīthan,
Mahsi Cho.

**Regional Chief
Kluane Adamek, Aagé**
AFN Yukon



On behalf of City Council, I want to welcome the Northern Dene and Yukon First Nations artists, attendees, and storytellers to another Adäka Cultural Festival. This event is unique and exposes our community to the best in Indigenous art, music, stories, language and history from across the Yukon and northern Canada. We are so fortunate to have this type of festival in our City and I encourage all residents to participate where they can. Thank you to this year's event organizers, attendees, and participants, for contributing your time and energy and sharing this space with us.

Mayor Laura Cabott
City of Whitehorse



The Canada Council for the Arts is proud to support the Adäka Cultural Festival once again. In making space for a diverse array of art and cultural experiences, the Yukon First Nations Cultural and Tourism Association and their many contributors, are a testament to the power and potential of community engagement. We are excited for the many creative spirits that will come to light and flourish through this year's festival.

Simon Brault, o.c., o.q.
Director and Chief Executive Officer
Canada Council for the Arts

Le Conseil des arts du Canada est fier d'appuyer de nouveau le festival culturel Adäka. La Yukon First Nations Cultural and Tourism Association et ses multiples collaboratrices et collaborateurs, qui créent un espace accueillant pour un riche éventail d'expériences artistiques et culturelles, témoignent de la puissance et du potentiel de l'engagement communautaire. Nous nous réjouissons de penser aux nombreux esprits créatifs qui seront mis en valeur et qui s'épanouiront cette année au festival.

Simon Brault, o.c., o.q.
Directeur et chef de la direction
Conseil des arts du Canada



CANADA COUNCIL FOR THE ARTS
CHRISTIAN LALONDE

Welcome to the 2023 Adäka Cultural Festival!

Each summer, Adäka shines light on Yukon's rich Indigenous heritage and culture through exhibitions, performances, workshops and more. Beyond its incredible showcase of art, music, stories, and language, this event also connects communities and generations, bringing tradition to life and inspiring tomorrow's artists and cultural carriers.

The Government of Yukon is proud to support the Yukon First Nations Culture and Tourism Association and the Adäka Cultural Festival. Our thanks and appreciation to each and every artist, presenter, organizer and volunteer for their contributions to this world-class and one-of-a-kind event.

I wish everyone a rewarding and unforgettable experience.

**The Honourable
John Streicker**
Minister of Tourism and Culture



ARCHIBOULDT
PHOTOGRAPHY

Welcome to the 2023 Adäka Cultural Festival!

Culture and the arts bring us together in a shared celebration of our history, traditions, and diversity. The Adäka Cultural Festival is once again lighting up the landscape of Whitehorse with this event that showcases and fosters the development of First Nations arts and culture in Yukon. This year, visitors will be able to celebrate the unity of the Northern Dene Nations and Yukon First Nations through art, music, stories, language, and more. Our government is committed to helping Canadians experience the arts within their communities, which is why we are proud to continue our support for this outstanding gathering.

As Minister of Canadian Heritage, I would like to thank all the organizers, artists, and volunteers who helped bring Adäka to life. Enjoy the festival!

**The Honourable
Pablo Rodriguez**
Minister of Canadian Heritage



HOC-CDC, 2021



Kaska Drummers at YFN 2010

Adäka History

Adäka means “Coming into the Light” in the Southern Tutchone language. Since 2011, the Adäka Cultural Festival has brought Indigenous visual and performing artists from every Yukon community and from around the world to their performance stages and world-class art gallery — shining a bright light on our vibrant cultures.

The festival is the proud legacy of the Yukon First Nations 2010 project that saw over 50 Yukon First Nations artists travel to Vancouver for the Winter Olympics to celebrate Northern Indigenous traditional and contemporary arts. Beaders, sculptors, carvers, and painters along with dancers, drummers and singers move audiences.

They ignited a flame in our hearts to continue celebrating our talented artists at home with our people and with visitors to our land. That fire burns brighter with each festival as young and emerging artists join Elders and

established artists exploring old themes and new, giving voice and vision to our northern homeland. From the beginning they have placed a high value on excellence in production values for our performers and exhibition facilities for our visual artists. The festival also serves as a cultural hub connecting all generations to preserve and pass on our languages, stories, music and artistic practices.

The festival hosts landmark gatherings of esteemed masters and younger artists who exchange knowledge on ancient techniques, contemporary methods and wide-ranging ideas for cultural continuity.

This summer the Festival is back at the Kwanlin Dün Cultural Centre for its 11th year, vibrating with energy and excitement of renewal as artists gather in Whitehorse on the banks of the Yukon River. Whether you are young or moving along in years, Indigenous or not, you are welcome within our circle.

This Year's Festival

The 2023 festival will feature storytelling, cultural presentations, workshops, and more, in a safe way. We will celebrate the unity of the Northern Dene Nations and Yukon First Nations as they come together to honour their cultures through art, music, stories, language, history, and more. Impressive performances will be held on the Main Stage in the Long House while traditional practices and teachings will be woven into the week's invigorating schedule.



Adäka's gallery will be full of jaw-dropping artwork where guests can peruse while also learning from demonstrating visual artists onsite.

Adäka embraces this moment in time as an opportunity to share stories and culture with pride and purpose to harness the spirit within and around all who are involved.



YUKON RIVER

ADÄKA
HIDE
CAMP



FIRE PIT

MILLENNIUM TRAIL

HEALING CANOE PROJECT

CABINS



PRESENTED BY
SKOOKUM JIM™
Friendship Centre



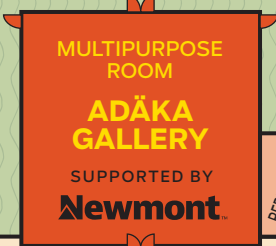
PRESENTED BY



Northern Cultural
Expressions Society



OUTHOUSES



OUTHOUSES



YUKON RIVER

DOCK

MILLENNIUM TRAIL

FIRE PIT

LONGHOUSE
MAIN STAGE

SUPPORTED BY



KDCC
GALLERY

LIBRARY
CLASSROOM

WELCOME CENTRE
ARTIST CHECK IN

VOLUNTEER &
FESTIVAL TEAM
HEADQUARTERS

MAIN ENTRANCE

First Avenue & Black Street



JUNE 29 – JULY 5 2023

Festival Site Map

Kwanlin Dün Cultural Centre

1171 1st Avenue
Whitehorse, Yukon

Festival Information

Feeling hungry?

Enjoy some fresh local food and beverages on our festival site!

Kit's Kitchen

KDCC Kitchen

Smashed YXY

Front parking lot

Grandma Treesaw's Bannock

First People's Coffee

Outside behind the KDCC

Washrooms

Indoors

Women's and men's - near library

Accessible - near entry

Men's - near Artist Studio

Women's - end of hallway past the Multipurpose Room

Outdoor

Outhouses are available outside.

Elders seating area

One tented seating area is available for Elders outside near the kitchen.

Gallery

Visit our professional retail gallery located in the Multipurpose Room! The finest multi-disciplinary Indigenous arts and crafts by over 60 artists from across Canada's North and Alaska are showcased.

SUPPORTED BY

Newmont

Social media

Get social with Adäka!

Find us on Facebook and Instagram

 **IndigenousYukon**

 **@IndigenousYukon**

Share your festival photos with us using **#Adaka2023**

Volunteer opportunities

SUPPORTED BY



Do you want to volunteer at Adäka?

We ask that volunteers be a minimum of 14 years of age and contribute a minimum of 12 hours of their time to the festival. Volunteers receive a festival t-shirt and a \$1 credit for every hour worked, which can be used towards workshop registration fees or gallery purchases. We require volunteers for hospitality, set up and take down, transportation, logistics, front of house, security, gallery sales, performance and presentation support, and more. For more information and to sign up, visit Volunteer Headquarters in the KDCC Elder's Lounge or visit adakafestival.ca/volunteer.

**ZERO
WASTE
YUKON**

We are working towards a zero waste festival.

Look for the Zero Waste Stations on the festival grounds and do your share!

Don't leave without picking up your official Adäka 2023 merchandise!

Take home beautiful design work of Shutagot'jne Dene and Kaska Dene artist, Vashti Etzel, owner of Golden Eye Designs.

Posters, t-shirts, hoodies, mugs, keychains and stickers are all available for sale in the Gallery in the Multipurpose Room at the KDCC.



About the Design

“ When I was thinking about this design, I instantly envisioned Caribou antlers, “gūdzjhdé”. The caribou is a significant part of our lifestyle which we have relied on for millennia. I wanted to tie in the importance of our relationship to the animals and to what they provide for us. The “Eyeli” (drum) has been an essential part of our lifestyle — we pray with the drum, we celebrate and have ceremony with the drum. The “Yūkā” northern lights have been a healing aspect of my journey in arts. It's a reminder that the Creator is always watching over us, our ancestors are with us and their prayers are still guiding us. I also wanted to bring awareness to the importance of storytelling, our legends and prophecies by including the “Yūkā” and the stars with our star people (són dena) in mind. Lastly, most importantly, I wanted to honour my late grandmother Eva Etzel (my inspiration) and all of our grandparents by adding my grandmothers embroidered flowers by carefully placing them in the picture as if they were stars in the sky amongst the northern lights. ”

- Vashti Etzel



Workshop Schedule

Register in-person at the Festival Welcome Centre

Pre-Register online at adakafestival.ca/workshops

Workshops have limited availability. Workshop schedule subject to change.

Check online and at the Festival Welcome Centre for up-to-date details.

Friday JUNE 30

10:00AM - 2:00PM	Moccasin Making, Part 1 of 2: Beading Vamps <i>with Samantha Fleshman-Carlick</i>	\$285
10:30AM - 3:30PM	Freehand Beaded Brooch <i>with Lucy Kay</i>	\$95
10:30AM - 5:30PM	Fishskin Tanning and Dyeing <i>with Cheryl McLean</i>	\$155
11:00AM - 4:30PM	Adäka on the Land Tour <i>with Who What Where Tours & Kwaday dun Kenji – Long Ago Peoples Place</i>	\$180
11:00AM - 5:00PM	Caribou Tufted Gemstone Studs <i>with Randi Nelson</i>	\$100
11:30AM - 3:30PM	Landscape Painting <i>with Mary Caesar</i>	\$95
12:00PM - 4:00PM	Machine-sew a Zippered Pouch <i>with Jessica Francis</i>	\$75
3:00PM - 6:00PM	Advanced Caribou Tufted Pendant <i>with Carmen Miller</i> Advanced Class: Tufting experience required	\$145

Saturday JULY 1

10:00AM - 1:00PM	Beaded Moosehide Keychain <i>with Elizabeth Kyikavichik</i>	\$85
10:00AM - 2:00PM	Intro to Quillwork onto Birchbark, Trimming with Sweetgrass or Pine Needles <i>with Faye Chamberlain</i>	\$95
10:00AM - 2:00PM	Rattle Making, Part 1 of 2 <i>with Dolores Scheffen and Allison Anderson</i>	\$110
10:00AM - 5:00PM	Small Floral Beaded Earrings <i>with Amber Baker</i>	\$140
10:30AM - 5:00PM	Traditionally Loomed Porcupine Quill Bracelet, Part 1 of 2 <i>with Arsenne Betsidea</i> Indigenous Participants Only	\$310
11:00AM - 5:00PM	Brickstitch Bead Weaving onto Hoop Earrings <i>with Janelle Hager</i>	\$105
3:00PM - 5:30PM	Galaxy Beading: Heal and Ground Yourself Through Freestyle Beading <i>with Christine Blanchard</i>	\$60
3:00PM - 6:00PM	Savage Rose Earrings <i>with Melanie Parsons</i>	\$110



Sunday JULY 2

10:00AM - 2:00PM	Rattle Making, Part 2 of 2 with Delores Scheffen and Allison Anderson	
10:00AM - 5:00PM	Duffle Mitten Making with Embroidery with Bunny Bruton	\$155
10:00AM - 5:00PM	Gwitchin-Style Toddler Canvas Boots with Christine Creyke	\$240
10:30AM - 5:00PM	Traditionally Loomed Porcupine Quill Bracelet, Part 2 of 2 with Arsenne Betsidea <i>Indigenous Participants Only</i>	
10:30AM - 4:30PM	Peyote Stitch Bezeled Cabochon Pendant with Diane Olsen	\$95
1:00PM - 5:00PM	Plant Salve Making with Amy Genier	\$105
2:30PM - 6:30PM	Tubular Peyote Stitch Earrings with Elizabeth Bosely	\$55

Monday JULY 3

10:00AM - 2:00PM	Moccasin Making, Part 2 of 2: Construction with Samantha Fleshman-Carlick	
10:30AM - 1:00PM	Beaded Sealskin Bracelet or Ornament with Catherine Cockney	\$50
10:30AM - 5:30PM	Advanced Micro Tufting on Sterling Ring Bezel with Maria Rose Sikyea <i>Advanced Class: Tufting experience required</i>	\$135
11:00AM - 4:30PM	Adäka on the Land Tour with Who What Where Tours & Kwaday dun Kenji – Long Ago Peoples Place	\$180
12:00PM - 6:00PM	Beaded Medicine Pouch with Matthew Vukson	\$140
1:00PM - 5:00PM	Acrylic Painting onto Canvas: Paint Figures Wearing Button Blanket Regalia with Jean Taylor	\$80
2:00PM - 5:00PM	YOUTH WORKSHOP Quillwork to Create an Ornament or Medallion with Alyssa Miller <i>Indigenous Participants Only Ages 12-25</i>	\$105
3:00PM - 6:00PM	Beaded Caribou Antler Pendant with Karen Wright-Fraser	\$65
3:30PM - 6:30PM	Beaded Birchbark Earrings with Tereca Bradley	\$55

Thursday JUNE 29

Gallery

12:00PM Open all day! Browse world-class artwork. Shop the retail gallery to take a piece home!
- 7:00PM

Multipurpose Room

Artists Studio Tent

12:00PM Observe and interact with visual artists as they transform raw materials into beautiful traditional and contemporary works of art!
- 5:00PM

Outside

Adäka Hide Camp

11:00AM Drin gwiinzii, ch'adhòh tr'ahshii (Good day, we are tanning hides-Vuntut Gwich'in). Join us at Adäka Hide Camp, offering hide tanning demonstrations, guest speaker talks and hands-on learning with Copper Caribou sisters, Delaney and Montana Prysnuuk. This is a welcoming space for visitors to come sit, chat and participate in the process of adhòh tr'ahshii (hide tanning).
- 5:00PM

Riverside Firepit

Firepit

12:00PM Opening prayer and lighting of the fire.

Partner Programming

9:00AM **Bringing Back the Light**

- 5:00PM Healing Canoe Project aims to illuminate and uplift our young artists while passing down knowledge of First Nation arts through carving a traditional, 30ft red cedar dugout canoe.

Behind Cabins





ALISTAIR MAITLAND PHOTOGRAPHY

Longhouse Main Stage

EVENING

Adäka Opening Ceremony

5:30PM **Doors open**

6:00PM **Welcome & Opening Prayer** with
Marilyn Jensen, Board of Directors Chair, YFNCT
John Streicker, Minister of Tourism and Culture
Chief Sean Smith, KDFN
Chief Amanda Leas, TKC

6:45PM **Adäka Returns!**

Join us for the opening of Adäka 2023, with performances
by Brian Ladue, Dena Zagi and Fort Good Hope Drummers.

SUPPORTED BY



Klaxw
Danā Shāw
LIMITED PARTNERSHIP



Friday JUNE 30

Gallery

10:00AM Open all day! Browse world-class
- 6:00PM artwork. Shop the retail gallery
to take a piece home!

Multipurpose Room

Artists Studio Tent

10:00AM Observe and interact with visual
- 5:00PM artists as they transform raw
materials into beautiful traditional
and contemporary works of art!

Outside

Partner Programming

9:00AM **Bringing Back the Light**
- 5:00PM Healing Canoe Project aims to
illuminate and uplift our young
artists while passing down
knowledge of First Nation arts
through carving a traditional,
30ft red cedar dugout canoe.

Behind Cabins

12:00PM **Keish Shack**
- 5:00PM Family activity and gathering space

Wall Tent

Adäka Hide Camp

11:00AM Drin gwiinzii, ch'adhöh tr'ahshii
- 5:00PM (Good day, we are tanning
hides-Vuntut Gwich'in). Join us
at Adäka Hide Camp, offering hide
tanning demonstrations, guest
speaker talks and hands-on
learning with Copper Caribou
sisters, Delaney and Montana
Prysnuk. This is a welcoming space
for visitors to come sit, chat and
participate in the process of
adhöh tr'ahshii (hide tanning).

Riverside Firepit

1:00PM **Guest Speaker**

Youth Activity

12:00PM *with Parks Canada*
- 2:00PM **Parks Canada Tent**

Cultural Presentation

3:00PM **My work with the Kohklux Map**
- 3:30PM *with Bessie Cooley*
Artist Tent



Longhouse Main Stage

DAYTIME

Cultural Programming

10:00AM **Unų kwā ts'ān -**
- 12:00PM **From the beginning**

Speakers of various Dené languages will share stories in their languages with English translations to describe the identity and name of their Nation, and some of the primary origin stories, worldviews, landscapes and lifestyles of their region.

Moderator: Luke Campbell

Performances

1:00PM **Kwanlin Dághātaan K'e Dancers**
1:25PM **Rising Sun Singers**
1:50PM **Selkirk Spirit Dancers**
2:15PM **Han Singers**
2:40PM **Dakwākāda Dancers**
3:10PM **Earl Darbyshire**
3:35PM **Leonard Sheldon (Sonrise Band)**
4:00PM **Bria Rose**
- 4:30PM **N' Thorns**



EVENING

Reconnection Vision Launch Party

Come celebrate the YFN Climate Action Fellowship's release of the *Reconnection Vision*, a pathway for change from the *Children of Tomorrow*. The Fellowship is inviting youth to join this evening of inspiration, dancing, and fun to celebrate their vision of Reconnection with our whole selves, each other, and the Land. Reconnection is Climate Action.

MC: Members of the fellowship

6:30PM **Doors Open**
7:00PM **Featuring performances by:**
- 10:00PM **Local Boy**
Vision Quest
Joey Stylez

PRESENTED BY  Yukon
University

Saturday JULY 1

Gallery

10:00AM Open all day! Browse world-class
- 7:00PM artwork. Shop the retail gallery
to take a piece home!

Multipurpose Room

Artists Studio Tent

10:00AM Observe and interact with visual
- 5:00PM artists as they transform raw
materials into beautiful traditional
and contemporary works of art!

Outside

Partner Programming

9:00AM **Lingit Language Yoga Class**
- 10:00PM *with Skaydu.û Jules*

The class will be a blend of language lessons, meditation and yoga practices in Tlingit language immersion. Everyone is welcome, as Ldakât kâa ya.aak áyá yáax'. [A place has been reserved here for everyone.]

Outside

9:00AM **Bringing Back the Light**
- 5:00PM Healing Canoe Project aims to
illuminate and uplift our young
artists while passing down
knowledge of First Nation arts
through carving a traditional,
30ft red cedar dugout canoe.

Behind Cabins

12:00PM **Keish Shack**
- 5:00PM Family activity and
gathering space

Wall Tent



Adäka Hide Camp

11:00AM Drin gwiinzii, ch'adhòh tr'ahshii
- 5:00PM (Good day, we are tanning
hides-Vuntut Gwich'in). Join us
at Adäka Hide Camp, offering hide
tanning demonstrations, guest
speaker talks and hands-on
learning with Copper Caribou
sisters, Delaney and Montana
Prysnuk. This is a welcoming space
for visitors to come sit, chat and
participate in the process of
adhòh tr'ahshii (hide tanning).

Riverside Firepit

1:00PM **Guest Speaker**

Cultural Presentation

3:00PM **Stories with Keiyishí**
- 4:00PM *with Mille Hall, Joe Binger,
Collyne Bunn*

Artist Tent

Longhouse Main Stage

DAYTIME

Cultural Programming

10:00AM - 12:00PM **Dän kwändür kaänätä - Looking for dän stories**

Join world renowned storyteller Louise Profeit Le-Blanc and TikTok storyteller Jocelyn Joe-Strack with Yukon's young storytellers as they learn how to share their stories with their friends, family and community as a means of creating unity, learning how to increase their understanding and respect for one another and finally to strengthen their ability to tell their story by learning to listen with both minds and hearts, to other people's stories.

Moderator: Louise Profeit-LeBlanc and Jocelyn Joe-Strack

1:00PM **Sean From The Yukon**

1:25PM **Madi Dixon**

1:50PM **Tagish Nation Dancers**

2:15PM **Remmi Elin Group**

2:40PM **Double The Trouble**

3:05PM **Fort Good Hope Drummers**

3:30PM **Dakhká Khwáan Dancers**

4:05PM - 4:35PM **Vision Quest**

SUPPORTED BY



Council of Yukon
First Nations

EVENING

SUPPORTED BY
 Northwestel

Community Dance - Adäka Style

Get your moccasins ready for some jigging! Our exciting program will feature Gwich'in, Dene and Métis fiddlers plus the quick-footed Teechik Dancers from Old Crow! This upbeat community dance, featuring old style and contemporary fiddlers, is guaranteed to put a smile on your face and a spring in your step.

Featuring performances by:
Jeanette Kotowich, Traditional Métis Jigging
Double the Trouble, Métis Fiddlers, Manitoba

Community Dance featuring:
Kevin Barr, Yukon
Josh & Jamie Tetlich
with fiddlers & guitarist, Yukon
Teechik Dancers,
Traditional Gwich'in Dance, Yukon

6:30PM **Doors Open**

7:00PM - 9:00PM **Community Dance & Performances**



Sunday JULY 2

Gallery

10:00AM Open all day! Browse world-class
- 6:00PM artwork. Shop the retail gallery
to take a piece home!

Multipurpose Room

Artists Studio Tent

10:00AM Observe and interact with visual
- 5:00PM artists as they transform raw
materials into beautiful traditional
and contemporary works of art!

Outside

Partner Programming

9:00AM **Bringing Back the Light**
- 5:00PM Healing Canoe Project aims to
illuminate and uplift our young
artists while passing down
knowledge of First Nation arts
through carving a traditional,
30ft red cedar dugout canoe.

Behind Cabins

12:00PM **Keish Shack**
- 5:00PM Family activity and gathering space

Wall Tent

Adäka Hide Camp

11:00AM Drin gwiinzii, ch'adhòh tr'ahshii
- 5:00PM (Good day, we are tanning
hides-Vuntut Gwich'in). Join us
at Adäka Hide Camp, offering hide
tanning demonstrations, guest
speaker talks and hands-on
learning with Copper Caribou
sisters, Delaney and Montana
Prysnuk. This is a welcoming space
for visitors to come sit, chat and
participate in the process of
adhòh tr'ahshii (hide tanning).

Riverside Firepit

1:00PM **Guest Speaker**

Longhouse Main Stage

MORNING

Cultural Programming

10:00AM **Dákwänje yè ts'ädäl -**
- 12:00PM **All of us are starting our
trip with our language**

Speakers will share their journeys
in reconnecting with their mother
languages – the inspiration,
challenges and rewards along
the pathway to learning and
reviving Indigenous languages.

Moderator: Luke Campbell





Longhouse Main Stage

AFTERNOON

Cultural Programming

1:00PM

Hand Games

Experience a full afternoon of hand games! This traditional game is one of guessing and deceiving, played to a chorus of drums, bringing great energy to the room. Learn the history and rules and enjoy watching a game in action. Sure to be an energetic afternoon not to be missed.

SUPPORTED BY **kobayashi**
+zedda

4:00PM

Kādzēnet'ādē nādzhūhili – All Together, We Drum

- 5:30PM

Led by Fort Good Hope Drummers

Experience the power and heartbeat of diverse drum dancing and sharing.

Monday JULY 3

Gallery

10:00AM Open all day! Browse world-class
- 6:00PM artwork. Shop the retail gallery
to take a piece home!

Multipurpose Room

Artists Studio Tent

10:00AM Observe and interact with visual
- 5:00PM artists as they transform raw
materials into beautiful traditional
and contemporary works of art!

Outside

Partner Programming

9:00AM **Bringing Back the Light**
- 5:00PM Healing Canoe Project aims to
illuminate and uplift our young
artists while passing down
knowledge of First Nation arts
through carving a traditional,
30ft red cedar dugout canoe.

Behind Cabins

12:00PM **Keish Shack**
- 5:00PM Family activity and
gathering space

Wall Tent

Adäka Hide Camp

11:00AM Drin gwiinzii, ch'adhöh tr'ahshii
- 5:00PM (Good day, we are tanning
hides-Vuntut Gwich'in). Join us
at Adäka Hide Camp, offering hide
tanning demonstrations, guest
speaker talks and hands-on
learning with Copper Caribou
sisters, Delaney and Montana
Prysnuk. This is a welcoming space
for visitors to come sit, chat and
participate in the process of
adhöh tr'ahshii (hide tanning).

Riverside Firepit

1:00PM **Guest Speaker**



Longhouse Main Stage

DAYTIME

Journeys In Reconnection

12:00PM - 2:00PM Join the YFN Climate Action Fellowship for a Q&A on the Reconnection Vision, a pathway for change from the Children of Tomorrow. We will share stories of Reconnection and explore the transformative power and potential of Reconnection with our whole selves, each other and the land.

PRESENTED BY



EVENING

imagineNATIVE

Film Screenings and Artist Talk Back featuring Eric Janvier

5:00PM Doors Open

5:30PM Dene Films

Adaygooay,
written and produced by Mary & Allan Code
The Original Original Series Ep. 1:
Ross River, produced by TSU North
Dene Drum Songs in Gahnjthah,
written and produced by Jonathan Antoine

6:00PM Films from the 2022 imagineNATIVE Film + Media Arts Festival

This program features a dynamic selection of six short films created by Indigenous filmmakers, all of which were presented at the 2022 imagineNATIVE Film + Media Arts Festival. This short film program reflects on the passing of knowledge from one generation to the next and honouring where you and your ancestors have come from.

Artists:

Ritchie Hemphill ('Nakwaxda'xw),
Siku Allooloo (Inuit/Taíno),
Roxann Karonhiarokwas Whitebean
(Kanienkeha'ka),
Sarah Houle-Lowry (Métis),
Barry Bilinsky (Métis/Cree),
Eric Janvier (Dene)

Canada | 2021-2022 | 79 min

English, Kwa'kwala, Hiwatahia, Mohawk |
Documentary, Animation, Dramatic Content
Warnings: Historical Trauma |

Audience: All Ages

7:30PM Artist talk back

-8:00PM

Eric Janvier is a multi-hyphenate filmmaker who has found space in both the narrative and documentary fields. He trained at the New York Film Academy in Los Angeles, California.



Tuesday JULY 4

Honouring Our Artists

ARTISTS ONLY DAY

Artists bring us beauty, awareness, pride and so much joy every day! Whether they make intricate Beading, sophisticated carvings, inspiring paintings, soulful songs, stirring drum beats, wise words or art in contemporary mixed media — artists reflect our Indigenous spirit inwards to ourselves and outwards to the world. We honour them at Adäka for their countless hours of devotion to learning their art practices, gathering the right materials for each piece and committing their lives to creating beauty and knowledge through, form, colour, movement, mystery and medium.

**Gunat̓ch̓ish, Mähsí' cho, Shäw níthän,
Sógá sénlá, Thank you!**

SUPPORTED BY



Artist Professional Development Workshops

FOR ADÄKA REGISTERED ARTISTS ONLY

8:40AM - 2:00PM **Adäka on the Land
Tour for Artists**
*with Who What Where
Tours & Kwaday dun Kenji –
Long Ago People Place*
Registration required.

Meet at the KDCC Lobby

10:00AM - 11:00PM **YFN Arts Brand -
Our Art | Our Stories**
An overview, update and interactive session on the YFN Arts Brand. This is an opportunity to learn how and if the brand can help you market your art, and a chance to offer feedback for artists who already use the brand. Bring your curiosity and your questions!
*with Lynn Feasey, Founder
& Principal, Points North
Creative*

Longhouse

10:00AM - 12:00PM **Deepening the Awareness for Healthy
Business Relations – Q&A Session**

This forum will be a safe and open platform for artisans seeking advice, guidance, and support for their business journey.

We will navigate the importance of developing healthy relations with self, customers, and government. Business can be an inspiring and fulfilling experience and will deliver challenges at times; it always helps to have support as you chart out this new journey.

Donna Moore from La Strada Solutions will be offer insight and options for those “nagging” business roadblocks.

Some popular discussion topics include:

- Finding the time
- Competition & “Copycats”
- Taking Criticism
- Price Challenges
- Government “Red Tape”
- Discover Value

No question left behind!

Artist Studio Tent

CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC

Deinventory Reminder

Don't forget to go to the Gallery to schedule a deinventory appointment.

11:15AM
- 12:15PM

The Art of Entrepreneurship

Explore the value of our creative practice through an Indigenous-centered business framework

*Presented by Xina Cowan,
Co-Director, EntrepreNorth*

Longhouse

12:30PM
- 1:30PM

Indigenous Fashion Arts - "get market ready"

Supports artists to enter art and fashion markets outside of the Yukon, with a focus on the fashion markets and some insight into the arts.

*with Sage Paul, Executive &
Artistic Director, Indigenous
Fashion Arts*

Longhouse

Artist BBQ

2:00PM
- 5:00PM

Artist BBQ

Registered Adäka artists are invited to enjoy some tasty beef and veggie burgers with salad options and scrumptious bannock dessert! Refreshments will be available.

Artist Studio Tent / Outside

SUPPORTED BY
**WHITEHORSE
MOTORS** 

Wednesday JULY 5



ERIK ZENNSTRIM

Yukon Arts Centre Mainstage

ADĀKA FESTIVAL FINALE

Confluence

7:00PM-9:00PM

Confluence is a dance work that weaves our perspectives, our histories and our bodies to create somatic tapestry that speaks to the resilience of Indigenous women. We embody the space between land and sky through play, prayer, grief and gratitude and are the living testament to the legacy that has been offered to us. Aligning our lives with the direction of the water in a river or geese in migration, we acknowledge we are always in process, shaping and carving through landscapes, creating rhythms and discovering our stories.

Tickets \$25

Available at yukontickets.com

PRESENTED BY



Produced by: Raven Spirit Dance

Artistic Lead: Michelle Olson

**Choreographic Visioning: Michelle Olson,
Starr Muranko and Jeanette Kotowich**

In collaboration with performers:

**Michelle Olson, Starr Muranko,
Jeanette Kotowich, Tasha Faye Evans
and Emily Solstice Tait**

**Artistic Lineage: Margaret Grenier,
Carlos Rivera, Yvette Nolan, Kristy Janvier,
Salome Neito, & Tin Gamboa**

Original Soundscore: Scott Maynard

Music: Á'sía Keyi - Dyet and the LoveSoldiers,

All My Relations - Iskew Singers

Ammalu - Russell Wallace

Lighting Designer: Kimberly Plough

Stage Manager: Kayleigh Sandormirsky

Rehearsal Director: Salome Nieto

Somatic Movement Coach: Donna Redlick

SUPPORTED BY



Khazana
Dana Shaw
LIMITED PARTNERSHIP



Performing Artists, Knowledge Keepers & Presenters

YUKON

Carcross

Dakhká Khwáan Dancers Traditional Drum/Dance

Kevin Barr Country/Folk/Roots

Champagne

Luke Campbell Moderator

Dawson City

Hän Singers Traditional Song/Dance

Faro

Brian Ladue Folk/Rock

Haines Junction

Dakwákáda Dancers.. Traditional Drum/Dance

Millie Hall Storytelling

Mayo

Remmi Elin Group Traditional Dance

Louise Profeit-LeBlanc Storytelling

Old Crow

Teechik Dancers Square Dance/Jigging

Sophia Flather

..... Vuntut Gwich'in Language Translator

Joe Tetlichí Master of Ceremonies

Pelly Crossing

Selkirk Spirit Dancers Traditional Dance

Ross River

Dena Zagi Folk/Traditional

Tagish

Tagish Nation Dancers

..... Traditional Drum/Dance

Teslin

Bessie Cooley Storytelling

Whitehorse

Angela Code Knowledge Keeper

Bria McLean (Bria Rose N' Thorns) Folk/Rock

Cameron Lindstrom Hide Tanning

Collyne Bunn Storytelling

Copper Caribou Adaka Hide Camp

Doronn Fox Knowledge Keeper

Earl Darbyshire Folk/Storytelling

Jamie & Josh Tetlichí, Harold Frost Fiddling

Jocelyn Joe-Strack Storytelling

Joe Binger Storytelling

Kwanlin Daghátaan K'e Dancers

..... Traditional Song/Dance

Local Boy Hip Hop

Leonard Sheldon (Sonrise Band) Gospel

Madi Dixon Folk

Mary Code Knowledge Keeper

Nakhela Hazel Bunbury, Ta'an Kwäch'än Elder

..... Ta'an Män dialect translation

Nathan Moore Knowledge Keeper

Nick Johnson & Yudi Mercredi (Vision Quest)

..... Hip Hop/Rap

Rising Sun Singers Drumming & Singing

Terrence Patterson-Smith Hide Tanning

ALBERTA

Morinville

Eric Janvier Filmmaker

BRITISH COLUMBIA

Atlin

Children of the Taku Society Language

Haida Gwaii

Joey Stylez Hip Hop

Vancouver

Sean From the Yukon Folk/Rock

Raven Spirit Dance (Confluence)

..... Contemporary/Traditional Dance

Jeanette Kotowich Métis Jigging

MANITOBA

Double the Trouble Métis Fiddling

NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

Fort Good Hope Drummers

..... Dene Drumming/Singing

Visual Artists

YUKON

Carcross

Guna (Megan Jensen) *Painting*
Violet Gatensby *Carving/Painting/Jewellery*

Dawson City

Allison Anderson *Beading/Traditional Arts*
Christine Blanchard Fraser *Traditional Arts*
Dolores Scheffen *Beading/Traditional Arts*
Faye Chamberlain *Beading/Jewellery*

Haines Junction

Adanchilla Pauls *Beading*

Faro

Vashti Etzel
..... *Beading/Fur & Hide Products/Traditional Arts*

Mayo

Annabelle Lattie *Traditional Arts*

Old Crow

Elizabeth Kiyikavichik *Beading*
Laura Linklater *Beading*

Pelly Crossing

Amber Baker *Beading*
Nesta Hager *Traditional Arts*

Ross River

Robyn McLeod *Fashion*

Teslin

Sam Johnston *Traditional Arts*
Skaydu.ũ Jules *Carving*

Watson Lake

Cohen Quash *Beading*
Margaret Maggie Mitchell *Beading*
Mary Caesar *Painting/Poetry*

Whitehorse

Amy Genier *Traditional Medicine/Beading*
Blake Lepine
..... *Mixed Media/Jewellery/Printed and Painted Art*
Brenda Bunny Bruton *Sewing/Beading*
Cheryl McLean *Traditional Arts*
Delaney Prysnuik (Copper Caribou)
..... *Jewellery/Beading*
Diane Olsen *Beading*
Elizabeth Bosely
..... *Beading/Fur Products/Jewellery*
Gertie Tom *Beading/Sewing*
Heather Dickson *Fashion/Beading*
Justien Senoa Wood *Painting/Earrings*
Kaylyn Baker
..... *Traditional Arts/Beading/Fashion*
Krystle Silverfox *Multi-Media/Painting*
Lucy-Ann Carrol *Traditional Arts*
Lucy Elisabeth Kay *Traditional Arts/Carving*

Maria Rose Sikyea .. *Traditional Arts/Jewellery*
Montana Prysnuik (Copper Caribou)

..... *Jewellery/Beading*

Olivia Cox *Film Photography*

Randi Nelson *Traditional Arts*

Samantha Fleshman-Carlick . *Traditional Arts*

Sarah Johnson Smith *Traditional Arts*

Tereca Bradley *Beading*

ALBERTA

Hinton

Alyssa Miller *Jewellery*

Carmen Miller *Traditional Arts*

Lethbridge

Jean Taylor *Painting*

Nisku

Tanis Simpson *Traditional Arts*

BRITISH COLUMBIA

Dease Lake

Christine Creyke *Fashion*

Miranda-Lee Lane *Beading/Painting*

Nelson

Naomi Bourque *Jewellery/Beading*

New Denver

Jaymie Campbell *Beading/Hide Work*

Nisku

Tanis Simpson *Traditional Arts*

Prince George

Janelle Hager *Beading/Jewellery*

Vancouver

Michelle Sound

..... *Unique Drums/Painting/Multi-Media*

Melanie Parsons *Beading*

NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

Deline

Arsenne Betsidea *Quillwork*

Fort Good Hope

Antoine Mountain *Painting*

Fort McPherson

Jessica Francis *Sewing/Beading*

Inuvik

Catherine Cockney *Beading*

Laska Nerysoo *Beading/Fashion*

Yellowknife

Karen Wright Fraser

..... *Beading/Jewellery/Fashion*



ONTARIO

Brantford

Matthew Vukson *Fashion/Beading*

Cornwall

Niio Perkins *Fashion/Beading*

Sioux Lookout

Kanina Terry *Traditional Arts/Beading*

Toronto

Skye Paul *Beading*

NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR

Nunatsiavut

Tegan Voisey *Jewellery*

NUNAVUT

Iqaluit

Nicole Camphaug *Seal Skin Fashion*

ALASKA

Anchororage

Caleigha Gotthardt (Salazar) *Carving*

Fairbanks

Joyce Roberts *Beading*

Presenting Organizations

Entrenorth

ImagineNATIVE

Indigenous Fashion Arts

La Strada Solutions

Northern Cultural Expressions Society

Parks Canada

Points North Creative Inc

Skookum Jim Friendship Centre

Yukon Film Society

Yukon First Nations Climate Action Fellowship

Yukon University

Festival Team

Acting Executive Director/Co-Producer

..... *Katie Johnson*

Manager of Arts/Co-Producer/Logistics

..... *Erin Symington*

Performing Arts Coordinator/Co-Producer

..... *Kasey Rae Anderson*

Administrative Assistant *Carrie Laurenson*

Visual Arts Coordinator *Alicia Harry*

Marketing Manager *Pixie Ingram*

Graphic Design *Mary Binsted Designs*

Sponsorship *Kelly Proudfoot*

Finance Manager *Mary Anne Chen*

Gallery Curator *Douma Alwarid*

Gallery Sales *Shania Noksana*

Gallery Installation *Blake Lepine*

Travel Coordinator *Samantha Burgis*

Volunteer Coordinator *Mairi Fraser*

Workshop Coordinator *Cherie Ratté*

Programming Advisor *Linda Johnson*

Stage Manager *Jordan Kaltenbruner*

Site Manager *Richard Firth*

Artist Liaison *Rhoda Merkel*

Production Assistant *Selina Pye*

Shop Coordinator *Sydney Anderson*

Hospitality Coordinator

..... *Delilah Stephen-Bailey*

Visitor/Media Services *Harmony Hunter*

Sound and Lighting *Solid Sound*

Tent & Staging *Marsh Lake Tents & Events*

Security *Commissionaires*

Shuttle Driver *Kathy Wolki*

Adäka Advisory Committee

..... *Elizabeth Bosely, Inland Tlingit*

..... *Lawrence Nayally, Dene*

..... *Vashti Etzel, Kaska/Shuta Dene*

..... *Cindy Dickson, Vuntut Gwitchin*

..... *Angela Code, Sayisi Dene*

Special thanks to our creative producers for feature shows

Skaydu.û Jules & Dustin McKenzie-Hubbard

..... *Reconnection Vision Launch Party*

Jenessa Tlen *Handgames*

A very special thanks to all the wonderful staff at the Kwanlin Dün Cultural Centre!

About the Yukon First Nations Culture and Tourism Association

The Yukon First Nations Culture and Tourism Association (YFNCT) is a non-profit organization that is committed to growing and promoting vibrant and sustainable arts/culture and tourism sectors.

What we offer

Arts development

Our programs and services include workshops and training skills, creative and professional development; branding and marketing support; an artist referral service, special events, tradeshow markets, one-on-one coaching and business support. We also connect YFN art and artists with local, national and international markets and audiences through our YFN arts brand, online store, presentations, exhibitions, artistic collaborative projects, and our flagship event — the Adäka Cultural Festival.

Marketing

Our marketing efforts focus on increasing the understanding, awareness and demand for YFN arts, culture, and tourism experiences within and beyond Yukon. We present and participate in a variety of special events, industry trade shows, conferences and forums. We work with our partners across Yukon to promote YFN arts and tourism experiences through a variety of marketing endeavours including PR, print, web, social media, and more.

Tourism development

We work closely with entrepreneurs, communities and industry partners to support the development, promotion and delivery of authentic tourism



Yukon First Nations
**CULTURE &
TOURISM**
Association

experiences. This includes training, and one-on-one coaching in market and export readiness, access to information resources and funding, linkages to the tourism trade, and more.

Networking, partnerships and advocacy

We connect and build partnerships between sector stakeholders to increase collaboration, leverage resources and create new opportunities. We work to build a unified voice that can influence and advocate, on behalf of the arts, culture and tourism industries in Yukon First Nations communities.

Walk with Us – Respectful Travel Guidelines

The Yukon is home to 14 distinct First Nations and 8 language groups. These guidelines have been shared by First Nations Knowledge Keepers to teach all people about how to show respect when travelling through the Yukon. Our land is beautiful and our water is clean. Our land is everything. We are the stewards of this land and we all have a responsibility to care for this land for future generations. We honour our ancestors who shared

their teachings with us so that we can now share them with you. We care for this land — the plants, water, air and animals — by showing it respect and treating it as an equal. As you travel through our beautiful homelands, we invite you to Nā t'sin t'ra “hold everything up in respect” - Northern Tutchone.

Read the guidelines on [IndigenousYukon.ca](https://indigenouslyukon.ca).

Events and conferences

We believe arts and culture unify and strengthen Yukon First Nations communities creating pride, renowned artists, and inspiring experiences that attract visitors from around the world. We host:

Bead, Hide & Fur Symposium

This symposium is for Indigenous fine craft artists who work with beads, hide, fur and other natural materials such as quills and fish scales. It explores a variety of topics, is a place to share information and ideas, identify challenges and opportunities within the sector, and determine ways to continue building a vibrant and viable Indigenous craft industry.

[In November 2023.](#)

Yúk'e Arts Market

The Yúk'e Arts Market showcases artwork from Indigenous artists living in the Yukon, displayed in a beautiful gallery setting which coincides with the well-established 12 Days of Christmas.

Dreaming Roots

Dreaming Roots is a spectacular, inspiring performance journey by and about Yukon First Nations people. It weaves together new work from 50+ Yukon Indigenous artists in dance, music, drumming, theatre, storytelling and more, in traditional and contemporary forms. It is directed by internationally acclaimed Indigenous artists Alejandro Ronceria and Diyet van Lieshout with a collaborative team, guided by knowledge keepers in a culturally grounded process.

ADĀKA CULTURAL FESTIVAL 2023



Meet the 14 First Nations of Yukon

A 52-page publication showcasing Yukon First Nations unique history and culture, language, community voices and top things to do in each community.

Pick up a copy at a Cultural Centre, Visitor Information Centre or onboard Air North, Yukon's Airline!

Order online or download:
travelyukon.com/en/guidebooks

For more information:

867-667-7698
information@yfnct.ca

**Indigenous
Yukon.ca**

WALK WITH US

Respectful Travel Guidelines



The Yukon is home to 14 distinct First Nations and 8 language groups. Our land is beautiful and our water is clean. Our land is everything. We are the stewards of this land and we all have a responsibility to care for this land for future generations. We honour our ancestors who shared their teachings with us so that we can now share them with you. We care for this land — the plants, water, air and animals — by showing it respect and treating it as an equal. As you travel through our beautiful homelands, we invite you to

Ná t'sin t'ra “hold everything up in respect” Northern Tutchone

When travelling in our homelands, come visit us in our communities

Our culture is rich and powerful — we are proud to share it with visitors who want to listen and learn in a respectful way. When you're in our communities, please visit our cultural centres, celebrate with us during our festivals, buy our art and crafts, listen to our stories, or go on a tour with a local First Nations guide. This helps support the well-being of our communities.

We care for our land — we expect everybody to share this responsibility

For over 10,000 years, these lands have sustained Yukon First Nations people. We continue to survive on this land through our beliefs, our respect, our honour towards all living things. We must always care for the land so that the land can care for us.

This land is our home — when visiting somebody's home we follow respectful behaviours

These are our homelands. When visitors come to the Yukon they will be visiting our home — a place that we love, rely on and feel connected to. It is important to understand the customs of the place you are travelling to. Before you visit our communities, do your best to learn about our people and our cultures. This shows respect for Yukon First Nations people.

Keep the land and water clean

Water is the best medicine in the world. Without water we cannot live. Keeping the land and water clean is essential for keeping our animals, people and environment healthy. Keep a clean camp. Please pack out what you pack in — don't throw garbage on the land or in the water. We must be diligent about caring for our environment for future generations.

Respect the land and the land will respect you

The land is deserving of the highest honour. Be mindful of your behaviour when travelling on the land. Give thanks to the land and the animals. Keep your mind clear and have good thoughts when you are out on the land. Don't make fun of animals or talk badly about them — they can hear you. The land, water, animals — everything has a spirit. We are all equal as guests on this land — once we respect that everything will be good.



INDIGENOUS YUKON.ca

Be thankful for the land and all that it offers

Our people rely on the land and all that it offers. The land is our grocery store, our pharmacy and our clothing store. We give thanks when we gather from the land. We take only what we need, we use all that we take, and we share what we have. You have to be careful — if you disturb the land, it's not going to come back again.

Learn the history of this land — it is rich with our stories

The history of this land is much older than the Gold Rush. Our language and stories are deeply intertwined with this land. It is important that visitors hear these stories. It is important that they hear these stories from us — the people who are deeply connected to this land. When given the opportunity, please listen and show respect to the Elders and First Nations people sharing their stories and knowledge.



Respect our sacred places and teachings

Respect is the highest honour we can give. Our teachings define our responsibilities to ourselves, to the land, and to our communities. Our teachings come from our ancestors who came before us. It is our obligation to pass on these teachings, but please understand not all of these teachings are for us to share. Some teachings should only be shared by Yukon First Nations peoples. We also have sacred places that are not meant for visiting. Please do not visit our spirit houses, graveyards or other sacred sites.

Respect and honour our culture – understand that our culture is not for sale

Our culture is strong, based on knowledge handed down for more than 10,000 years. Our culture is our stories. Each community has its own stories, songs, ceremonies, and ways of doing things. We welcome you to watch and listen with respect,

but visitors must understand that our culture is not for sale. Please do not copy our designs, songs or dances. They belong to our family members, clans and communities. We have been working hard to reclaim our cultures and languages for many years. We ask that you support this reclamation and revitalization.

Respect our ancestral knowledge, customs, and livelihoods

Our people continue to practice subsistence lifestyles in today's modern world. As hunters, trappers, and other land users, we are mindful of our harvesting practices and understand that animals provide sustenance for survival. We ask that visitors to Yukon First Nations lands not interrupt or interfere with our right to subsistence activities on our traditional territories.



Scan the code to learn more about the travelling respectfully through the Yukon.

Gratitude to the Elders who shared their knowledge, stories and wisdom that form the foundations of these Guidelines.

Thank You

PROUDLY PRODUCED BY:



Yukon First Nations
**CULTURE &
TOURISM**
Association



**KWANLIN DÜN
CULTURAL CENTRE**

FUNDERS:



Canada Council for the Arts
Conseil des arts
du Canada



MakeWay



Government
of Canada

Gouvernement
du Canada

Canada

Yukon

PROGRAM PARTNERS:



Northern Cultural
Expressions Society

SKOOKUM JIM™
Friendship Centre



YUKON
ARTS CENTRE



Yukon
University

**MÁŠIN CHO SHÄWNÍTHÄN SÓGÁSÉNLÁ' GÜNÈŁCHĪSH
MÄHSI'CHOO TSIN'JĪCHOH MÄHSI'CHO GUNAŁCHĪSH**

Intentional Giving Circles

ATCO Electric
YUKON

Castle Rock Enterprises
GENERAL CONTRACTORS
a subsidiary of Selkirk Development Corporation



YUKON NEWS

Community

DRIVING FORCE
Vehicle Rentals / Sales / Leasing

WHITEHORSE MOTORS



Council of Yukon
First Nations

WHITEHORSE DAILY STAR
Established 1980 - Yukon Edition



yukon energy
The power of yukon



Northwestel

Newmont

Connect



CHAMPAGNE AND AISHIHIK FIRST NATIONS

TRUENORTH
RESPIRATORY

Yukon University



ARTIST CHAMPIONS:

Arctic Star Printing / Inkspirationz
CKRW 96.1 The Rush
Colliers International
Mapping the Way
Selkirk Development Corporation

Sourdough Sodbusters
The Wish Factory
Tu-Lidlini Petroleum Corporation
Whitehorse Beverages
Whitehorse Elks Lodge 306

**MĀSIN CHO SHĀWNÍTHĀN SÓGÁSÉNLÁ' GÜNÈŁCHĪSH
MĀHSI'CHOO TSIN'JĪCHOH MĀHSI'CHO GUNĀŁCHĪSH**



Lift



Grow

Intentional Giving creates a platform for **Community** to come together in support of indigenous artists. We believe that a strong **Connection** to place and culture will **Lift** artists to realize their potential and **Grow** into mentors and knowledgeholders for future generations.

**MĀSIN CHO SHĀWNÍTHĀN SÓGÁSÉNLÁ' GÙNÈŁCHĪSH
MĀHSI'CHOO TSIN'JĪCHOH MĀHSI'CHO GUNĀŁCHĪSH**



Archbould Photography

ESTABLISH

yourself in the marketplace

Become a Registered Yukon First Nations artist

**OUR ART |
OUR STORIES**



The Kwanlin Dün Cultural Centre is so proud to be a presenting sponsor of the Adäka Cultural Festival. Every year, the Adäka team brings such imagination and excellence to their programming and audiences. This season's programming is outstanding and inspiring and celebrates acclaimed First Nation artists as it does to support the next generation of artists.

We are thrilled to host the Festival from June 29 - July 5, 2023 and work in partnership with YFNCT to support the development of the First Nations arts and cultural sector here in Yukon.

As we leap into our second decade at Kwanlin Dün Cultural Centre, we are looking to invest in First Nation youth through cultural engagement and education programs and to develop our role as a cultural knowledge keeper. This makes the collaboration with the Adäka Cultural Festival an even more beautiful one with our collective nurturing of the next generation of artists and audiences.

This festival is our premier live arts and cultural event. These artists bring the best of northern arts and culture to our doorstep, and we are honoured to provide them with a wonderful facility and production services to ensure the art is showcased to the highest standards.

Our Governance Council believes there is tremendous opportunity for healing, strengthened identity, and for reconciliation through the celebration of First Nation arts and culture. Culture to us is hope and a great source of strength. This is one of the key reasons why Kwanlin Dün First Nation chose to build this centre over a decade ago and why we are so happy to be partnering with Adäka Cultural Festival.

Adäka, here's to a meaningful and successful second decade for both our organizations, and may our collaboration continue to blossom so beautifully. Thank you once again for all that you are imagining and accomplishing.



KwanlinDunCulturalCentre
KwanlinDunCulturalCentre
kdculture

1171 1st Ave., Whitehorse, Yukon



KWANLIN DÜN
CULTURAL CENTRE

FRITZ MUELLER



Performance Highlights



Thursday JUNE 29



Opening Ceremony- Adäka returns!

Join us for the opening of Adäka 2023 as we highlight the strength of the Northern Dene Nations with some amazing performances.

JUNE 29 – JULY 5 2023

Kwanlin Dün Cultural Centre

1171 1st Avenue
Whitehorse, Yukon

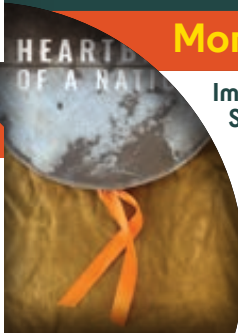
Friday JUNE 30



Reconnection Vision Launch Party

Come celebrate the YFN Climate Action Fellowship's release of the Reconnection Vision. Youth are invited to join this evening of inspiration, dancing, and fun.

Monday JULY 3



ImagineNATIVE Film Screenings and Artist Talk Back

Take in a dynamic selection of six short films created by Indigenous filmmakers, all of which were presented at the 2022 imagineNATIVE Film + Media Arts Festival.

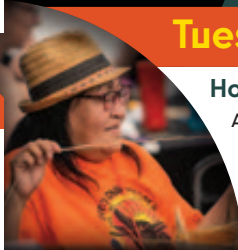
Saturday JULY 1



Community Dance – Adäka Style

Get your moccasins ready for some jigging! Our exciting program will feature Gwich'in, Dene and Métis fiddlers plus the quick-footed Teechik Dancers from Old Crow!

Tuesday JULY 4



Honouring our Artists

A full day dedicated to honouring the artists participating in the Adäka Cultural Festival, this day is closed to the public.

Sunday JULY 2



Hand Games

Experience a full afternoon of hand games! Learn the history and rules and enjoy watching a game in action.

Wednesday JULY 5



Confluence by Ravenspirit Dance

You won't want to miss this performance as it weaves perspectives, histories and bodies to create somatic tapestry that speaks to the resilience of Indigenous women.

Photos in this program by Manu Keggenhoff unless otherwise noted.