



SKILLS PARTNERSHIP FUND / FONDS POUR LES COMPÉTENCES ET LES PARTENARIATS



Canada

Gwich'in Tribal Council  
Gwich'in and culture @ connecting the future

## Taii Trigwatsii—*"Breaking Trails"* Newsletter April—June 2018

### Upcoming:

- On-The-Land
- Career Planning
- Safety Training
- Training On the Job

### Cultural Weeks

The Cultural Week in May, the students spent the week with Sarah & Alice, learning how to sew, done story telling & worked on a moose skin. They enjoyed their month with Alice & Sarah & we had a lot of positive feedback.

The Cultural Week in June, the students had the opportunity to have elder, Renie Stewart in class, teaching them how to make bannock, & work with geese & fish. They also went fishing with facilitator trainee, Dwayne Semple. The students enjoyed their week & a good break from the books.

### Great Start .....

April 3, 2018, 20 students along with facilitators Sarah Jerome & Alice Vittrekwa spent 5 days at Eddie Greenland's camp. During the week, they were able to demonstrate some Gwich'in Cultural activities such as, learning to live out on the land, set snares, worked with rabbits, set & checked traps, listened to stories & getting to know each other.

Following the on-the-land week, the students went right into Life Skills where they worked hard on themselves & learned different ways of dealing with everyday life situations. They went over topics such as, addictions, healthy parenting, building healthy relationships, respecting others, grief & loss, the impact of residential school & suicide. Although it was a tough time for most, they managed to complete Life Skills with Sarah & Alice.

### Essential Skills/Adult Basic Education

Beginning in May, the students dove right into the books of the Essential Skills. The students will cover Numeracy, Science, Reading & Document Use until the end of September. This will prepare them for an Upgrading Program or the Trades Entrance Exam. The students are on track & progressing well. Some students are at pace & then there's some who are eager to move ahead. The students are great at helping each other in this program & we even have some students who are considered "tutors". We are very proud of them, especially for all the positive changes they are making in their personal lives.

### What's Next.....

The SPF Team is currently preparing for the July Cultural Week & the On-The-Land program in August. The students are eager to get back out on the land & we are working hard to plan & prepare a good and productive week for them.

As we finish off the Essentials Skills/ ABE portion, the students will then go into 2 weeks of Career Planning, 1 week of Safety Training & then 3 weeks of Training on the job. The students are excited & are working hard to successfully complete the program.

