



Director's Update

by Deb Nagano

Drin hqzq. Good day.

What have I been up to? Let me give you a short update. I have taken training in conflict resolution workshops along with my Preservation of Traditional Knowledge course on Mondays. I've chaired a few meetings of the World Heritage Site project with staff and community members. We're proceeding very slowly with the wording of the overall value statement. There's been lots of work preparing for the Myth and Medium event the last week of February. I helped out with our great Heritage Team.

One more important update is that Coach Victor Henry has prepared the Heritage Team for the Snowshoe Baseball Tournament coming up during Spring Carnival. I would like to challenge all other TH departments and other community members, including City of Dawson, Parks Canada, RCMP, and the school teachers. This is a fun event. Let's make the best of it!



YOUR TH HERITAGE DEPARTMENT

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World Heritage Project Update

by Paula Hassard



Our Olympic Task

The final draft of our Outstanding Universal Values Statement will be done by the end of March! We're checking with advisors in Ottawa to see whether we're on the right track. We need to balance what the community thinks is important with criteria set by UNESCO.

As I explained to someone the other day, World Heritage is like the Olympics. It's an international contest you can choose to enter. First you qualify to compete, and then you have to prove you're worth a gold medal! Once the award is given there are no new restrictions.

The boundaries of a possible designation are just starting to take shape. We're trying to connect places that are already protected and managed—so people can keep on doing what they're doing!

Tr'ondëk-Klondike Extraordinaire Night

A fast-paced slideshow was held in the Oddfellows ballroom, Feb. 6, to a full and appreciative crowd. Presenters were asked, "What does Tr'ondëk-Klondike mean to you?" We wanted to get people talking about different perspectives on our shared history and how we want the world to see us. It was a fascinating potluck of ideas.

Kylie Van Every and Kim Joseph explained the meaning of the word Tr'ondëk and that the river has always been a highway for First Nations people. Lulu Keating followed with a humorous take on being a newcomer and her gradual awareness of the community beyond what the tourists see. Jen Laliberté gave us a whirlwind tour of maps, borders and boundaries

and how the First Nations are linked by family ties and the land in spite of dotted lines on a map. Karen Mackay took us off the beaten path to explore historic trails and rickety cabins, pretending she was trying to find housing! And respected Elder Peggy Kormandy and Debbie Nagano were a real hit, giving us a peek at their trapping way of life, showing pictures of beaver camp and their winter trapline, the furs, as well as finished handmade hats and mitts and footwear. Debbie explained that trapping is not for everyone. I know I learned a lot!

After a music concert that included the jazz stylings of Barnacle Bob, Molly MacDonald talked about how Klondike is viewed from Outside, showing pictures of Klondike images in popular culture from Gold Rush days up to Klondike bars and current TV shows. Veronica Verkley explored some silly misconceptions people have in "What's Really Going on Here?" and Trina Buhler made a convincing case for why we should preserve historic buildings in Dawson. Lastly, David Neufeld talked about "A Century of Conversation between Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in and locals."

The evening was thought provoking, funny and insightful, and we're getting lots of great comments. As was mentioned, the community's exploration of what's important about our place is the real prize.

Warm thanks to all the presenters, helpers and volunteers! Proceeds from the admission went toward the Moosehide Gathering.

For more information, visit our website [www.tkwhstatus.ca](http://tkwhstatus.ca) or drop by at Madame Tremblay's.

