



newsletter

Liard Aboriginal Women's Society

Liard Aboriginal Women's Society—Box 3 Watson Lake, Yukon Y0A 1C0

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Youth For Safety and Justice—Another Step for Community Safety Starting this Fall

Youth for Safety and Justice is a youth empowerment project designed to foster community safety and justice for young women and girls. The project recognizes the need for active youth participation in addressing issues of violence against young women and girls, and is designed to provide youth with the knowledge and skills needed to assume a leadership role in promoting safety and justice for young women and girls -- youth-to-youth and within the community at large.

A core group of community youth will participate in learning and applying knowledge and skills in community safety and justice for young women and girls, and is designed to provide youth with the knowledge and skills needed to assume a leadership role in promoting safety and justice for young women and girls -- youth-to-youth and within the community at large.

A core group of community youth will participate in learning and applying knowledge and skills in community safety and justice for young women and girls, youth advocacy, peer support and community social action. The project will utilize principles of Response-based Practice, already familiar to many in the community, to forward the interests of community safety and justice for young women and girls in a positive and respectful way.

The three year project funded by Status of Women Canada is currently in the final planning stages, and is scheduled to begin working with a core group of community youth, teachers at the WLSS and Together for Justice Collaborative on **NOVEMBER 19th and 20th**.

The project will utilize the facilities of the Watson Lake High School for youth knowledge and skill development sessions planned to take place five times a year over the three years. Sessions will be supported by Elders, the RCMP, Liard First Nations Justice.

The core group of youth will be selected from among interested and committed youth enrolled in Watson Lake High School and from among interested youth in the community. In addition there will be sessions outside of the school with the youth two weeks following the school workshops. It has been decided to leave the planning of the content of these workshops to the youth.

IF YOU ARE A YOUTH THAT IS NOT IN SCHOOL AND INTERESTED IN TAKING PART IN THIS SCHOOL PROJECT WE WANT HEAR FROM YOU. PLEASE SEND AN EMAIL TO: Ann at laws@northwestel.net OUTSIDE YOUTH WOULD REQUIRE A RCMP SECURITY CLEARANCE.

THE PROJECT WILL ALLOW FOR A COUPLE OF ELDERS TO BE INVOLVED IN THE PROJECT. IF YOU ARE AN ELDER AND INTERESTED IN WORKING WITH THE YOUTH THAN WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU WITH AN EMAIL OR DROP OFF A LETTER WITH YOUR INTEREST TO OUR OFFICE AT 721 FRANCES AVENUE OR EMAIL TO: laws@northwestel.net ELDERS WOULD REQUIRE A RCMP SECURITY CLEARANCE AND HAVE BASIC UNDERSTANDING OF THE PRINCIPLES OF RESPONSE BASED APPROACH AND HAVE TAKEN RESPONSE BASED WORKSHOPS IN THE PAST.

IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS ABOUT THIS PROJECT, PLEASE CALL ANN AT 536-2097.



TOGETHER FOR JUSTICE COORDINATOR



We are pleased to welcome Shelby Magun to Liard Aboriginal Women's Society as the Together for Justice Co-ordinator. Shelby will be leading the implementation of the Together for Justice Protocol Agreement with the RCMP.

team to create a healthier violence free community.

Liard Aboriginal Women's would like to thank Hammond Dick for his dedication as former Together for Justice Co-ordinator. We wish you all the best in your retirement.

We are excited to welcome Shelby to our team; being a Kaska woman she knows the issues first hand, she cares passionately about issues of Justice and plans to join the RCMP in the near future. I ask you to walk with the youngest member of our

Believe in yourself, even when no one else does.



First Nations Programs and Partnership Unit - Residential School Curriculum

The First Nations Programs and Partnership Unit was created by the Public School Branch of the Department of Education in 2006. FNPP is dedicated to these four goals: Building productive relationships with First Nations Communities; Increasing the amount of First Nations perspective in Yukon schools; improving the academic results of First Nations students in the K-12 system; and providing support to enhancing First Nations efforts in revitalize their languages.

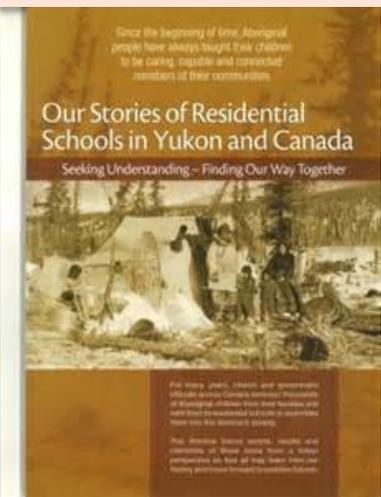
The unit has been responsible for leading the Residential School curriculum development for Grades 10-12 classes in Yukon Schools.

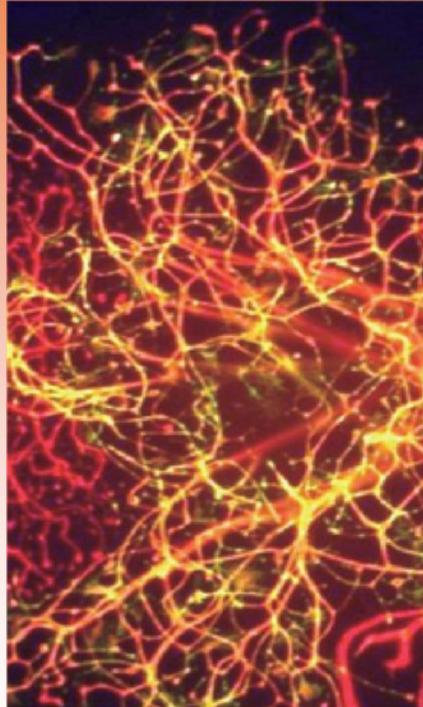
The curriculum has been successfully offered in a few schools in Whitehorse, Carmacks and Dawson City. The curriculum is a living document and is not set in stone thus can be changed accordingly.

The First Nations Programs and Partnerships Unit would like to host an informational meeting in Watson Lake to present the curriculum and answer your questions.

If you are interested in knowing more about the Residential School curriculum than we invite you to attend the meeting.

WHEN: December 2ND
WHERE: 2 MILE HALL
TIME: 10 – 4 PM





MY BRAIN IS PLASTIC— A COMMUNITY ENGAGED THEATRE PROJECT WITH YOUTH

THE PROJECT

This project is in a collaborative development phase which will be undertaken in Watson Lake with Watson Lake High School and community, and in Whitehorse with the Wood Street School MAD program. WIT hopes to tour the play with the engagement component to all Yukon communities and other northern regions. And to tour the play nationally and internationally.

THE PLAY IS ABOUT... a messed up girl from a messed up family who is engaging in addictive and self-harming behaviours. A neuroscientist assists us in understanding the brain functioning involved in addictions through storytelling and interactive media. My Brain is Plastic is about trauma, neuroplasticity and ultimately healing and hope.

THE COLLABORATION

The aim of the collaborations and workshop performances is to fully understand the context of self-harming, to engage and train youth, to further the script development, and to build engagement with community members and resource people. A powerful component of this project is that the script and artistic production will be workshopped and designed by youth for youth, with support and training from professionals.

WIT) Whitehorse Independent Theatre, is a new inter-arts performance society which seeks engagement with its audience. Arlin McFarlane is the generative force behind the company which has educators Joyce Sward, Sue Langevin, Patricia Watson and Barb Hinton among its founding members. This is WIT's first project, but by benefit of Arlin's extensive theatre work and touring experience in the Yukon, the company is well resourced. Arlin is the previous Artistic Director of Yukon Educational Theatre which toured the play "Wake and Bake" to much acclaim with youth audiences in communities across the Yukon. Barb Hinton, Producer, brings a wealth of production and school based experience. WIT is delighted to welcome Ken Cameron, director of The Damage is Done (with Gabor Maté) to this project

The workshop will be held at Watson Lake Secondary from November 2nd to November 5th. ALL COMMUNITY MEMBERS ARE ENCOURAGED TO ATTEND THE PLAY ON NOVEMBER 5TH FOLLOWED BY A FEAST AT WATSON LAKE HIGH SCHOOL FROM 5PM-8PM.

This is a very powerful play and all parents are encouraged to attend as it brings forward the seriousness of cutting. As a community, this play would also serve as a preventative measure to ensure our youth are not cutting themselves.

WE WISH TO EMPOWER YOUTH TO BELIEVE THAT THEY CAN INFLUENCE THEIR WORLD BY CREATING STORIES THAT SPEAK TO THEIR ISSUES.



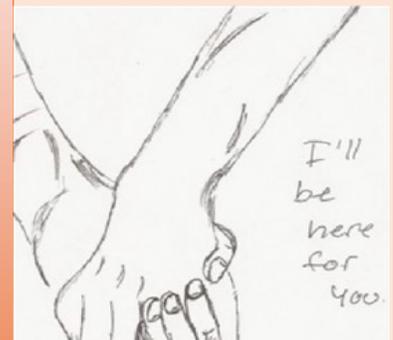
WHY CUT?

Research suggests there are four primary reasons for engaging in NSSI (non-suicidal self-harming)

- 1) to reduce negative emotions
- 2) To feel "something" besides numbness or negativity.
- 3) To avoid certain social situations.
- 4) To receive social support

Although instances of all of these reasons for NSSI occur, a common misconception is that NSSI is primarily a form of social manipulation. In reality, a number of studies have found that the primary reason for NSSI is reason number 1: to reduce negative emotions.

Nock and Prinstein (2004, 2005)



Information Session on Illegal Controlled Substances Within our Community



In partnership with RCMP Watson Lake Detachment, LFN Justice and Liard Aboriginal Women's Society, there will a workshop on illegal drugs entering our community and its deadly effects on us as individuals and as a community.

This workshop is open to anyone in the community who has any concerns with drugs, their effects and legal enforcement and is free of charge.

WHEN: DECEMBER 11TH

WHERE: 2 MILE HALL

TIME: 1 – 3 PM

Liard Aboriginal Women's Society AGM

We would like to invite everyone to attend our AGM.

WHEN: November. 21st 2015

WHERE: Wye Lake Cabin

TIME: 10am

Lunch will be provided.

Liard Aboriginal Women's Society would like to wish everyone in the community a safe and Happy Halloween and to please not drink and drive.

