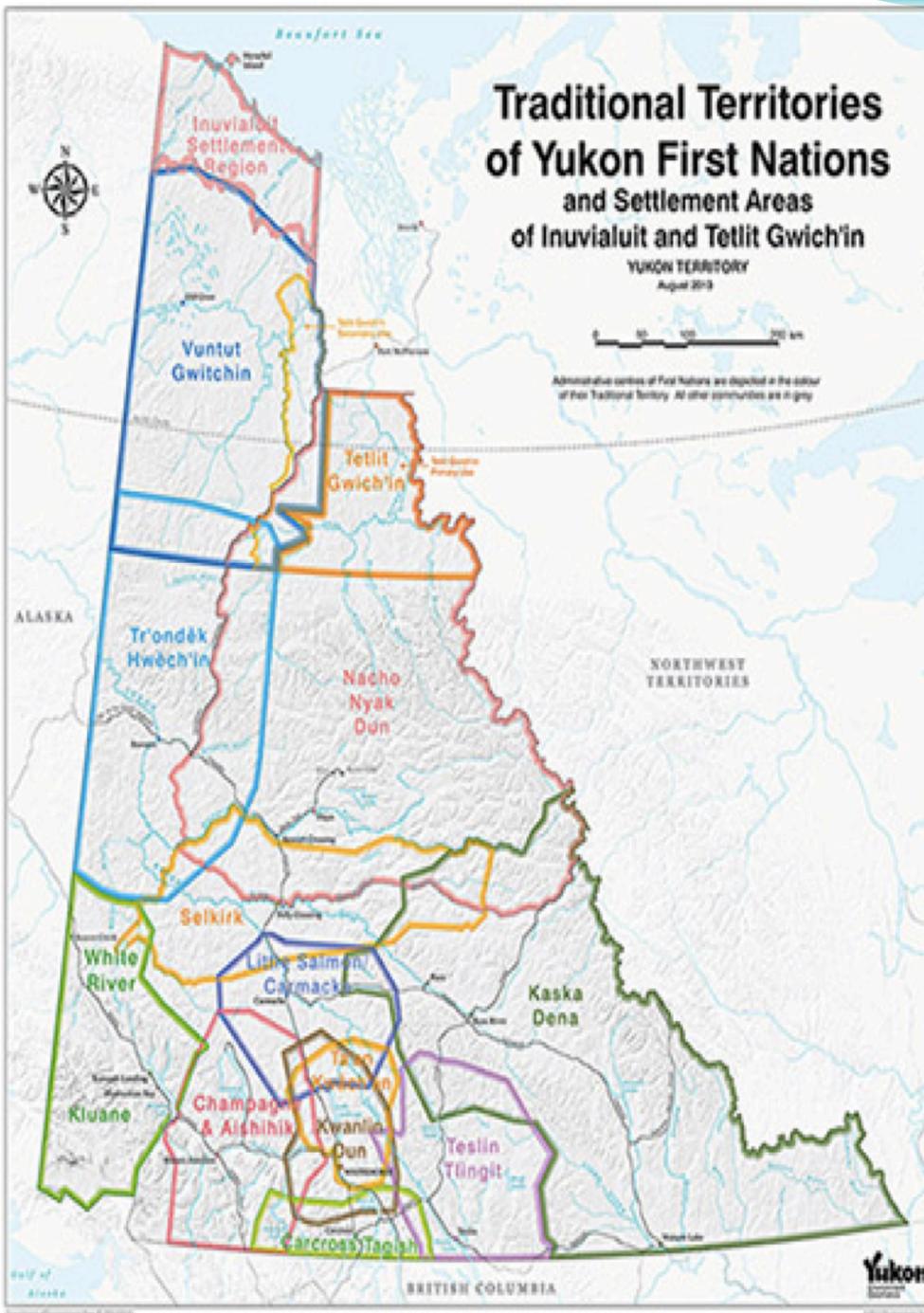


Traditional Territories of Yukon First Nations and Settlement Areas of Inuvialuit and Tettit Gwich'in

YUKON TERRITORY
August 2013

0 50 100 200 km

Administrative centres of First Nations are depicted in the colour
of their Traditional Territory. All other communities are in grey.



**Why is it important to
acknowledge traditional
territory?**

Acknowledgement shows recognition of and respect for First Nations Peoples. It is recognition of their presence both in the past and the present. Recognition and respect are essential elements of establishing healthy, reciprocal relations. These relationships are key to truth and reconciliation.

**We extend our appreciation for
the opportunity to visit this
Territory.**



Learning Network Agenda

October 21, 2019

Location: Westmark (Room 5)

- 8:30 Opening Blessing/Acknowledgement
- Why is acknowledgement important?
- 8:45 Introductions (Roots and Leaves)
- 9:45 Presentation – Storytelling
- Who can tell stories?
 - How can story be used?
 - What does story mean to you and your family?
- 10:15-10:30 **Break**
- 10:30 Storytelling
- Discussion
- 11:15 Storytelling
- Discussion
- 12:00 -12:55 **Lunch on site**
- 1:00 Booklet Activity/Presentations
- 2:30 Beaded Exercise
- 3:15 Closing – next steps



Ice Breaker

Getting To Know You

ROOTS and **LEAVES**

Draw a tree. On your tree include the following:

ROOTS – things not easily visible (where you are from, values, important life events, achievement, things you struggle with, long term goals, dreams, etc.)

LEAVES: things about you that are readily visible (hobbies, demographic information, important people in your life, distinguishable personal traits, favorite music, things you do well, etc.).

Each person shares and describe their tree to the group.



Before we begin.....

1. Moving Toward the Water? (AWARENESS)



2. Boarding the Canoe (DEVELOPING)



3. Raising your paddle (ACQUIRING)



4. Journey into Deeper Water (ACTION/ADVOCACY)



Our Objective

To increase better understanding of Yukon First Nations history, narratives, language and culture among Indigenous and non-Indigenous people. Components that are foundational to Yukon First Nations success in education include:



Yukon's story



The unique Yukon community allows opportunities for teachers and students to learn, and **demonstrate** this learning, in ways that are authentic expressions of First Nations Ways of Knowing and Doing through narratives.



Strong and wise **relationships** have been key to integrating First Nations narratives



Yukon educators are learning what it means to **move ahead with our work** "in a good way".





The Gift of Language and Narratives

- It has taken colonizing governments over a hundred years to shame and demoralize our people from speaking and passing on our precious language and narratives.
- We must all take the responsibility for our children and grandchildren to learn our language and narratives to the best of our ability.
- Time is of the essence as a number of our speakers is declining

We do have time – it is now.





Yukon First Nations Narratives

- A highly developed part of Yukon First Nations:
 - Stories are a source of healing and inner strength for both the listening and the storyteller
- Stories have been used to explain and interpret Yukon first Nations world:
 - Stories were told through voice. Some stories are just for enjoyment while others have powerful teachings
- Stories teach lessons about resources and relationships:
 - The relationships that develops is truly bonding and creates vivid imaginations for every listener
- Stories are passed down from generation to generation

“The Crow, he does everything, teaches everything.”

Elder Kitty Smith



Yukon First Nations Narratives

- Storytelling was one of the ways we taught our children and it was and still is the strongest way to transmit our epistemology.
- We viewed our world through stories, encompassing our spirituality, interconnectedness, and deep relationship with our lands, water, animals and birds.
- Narratives provide a sense of belonging. When you know your stories of your people it demonstrates the care and dedication to your upbringing.
- Our stories encompass our songs, dances and ceremonies for all stages of one's life.
- Our narratives are repeated and retold in many ways throughout one's life from infancy to adulthood, as the message and teachings that are received differs depending on your life situation, maturity and self-awareness and discovery.

Elder Annie Ned's words, "They tell stories to make your mind strong".

Yukon First Nations Narratives

- Narratives can vary from sacred to historical:
 - Narratives are humorous, spellbinding, and explain How our World Began and at a time when Giant Animals lived on earth.
- Some narratives focus on social, political, and cultural ways
- Some narratives tell of personal, family, community or an entire nations' experiences
- Some narratives are owned by certain clans
- Other narratives can be told by anyone who knows them and cares for them:
 - Need to ensure the narratives you use are sourced



Protocols when Listening to a Storyteller

- LOOK, LISTEN, LEARN
- In listening to narratives, one learns about respect, honesty, sharing, humility, caring, reciprocity, protocols, dulj laws. Leadership, self-regulation and self-conduct to name a few.
- Ensure the storyteller is comfortable: comfortable chair, a beverage, etc.
- Ensure the storyteller has finished speaking before saying anything
- When being told a narrative:
 - Please do not interrupt
 - Do not seek eye contact
 - Do not ask questions: questions can imply disbelief

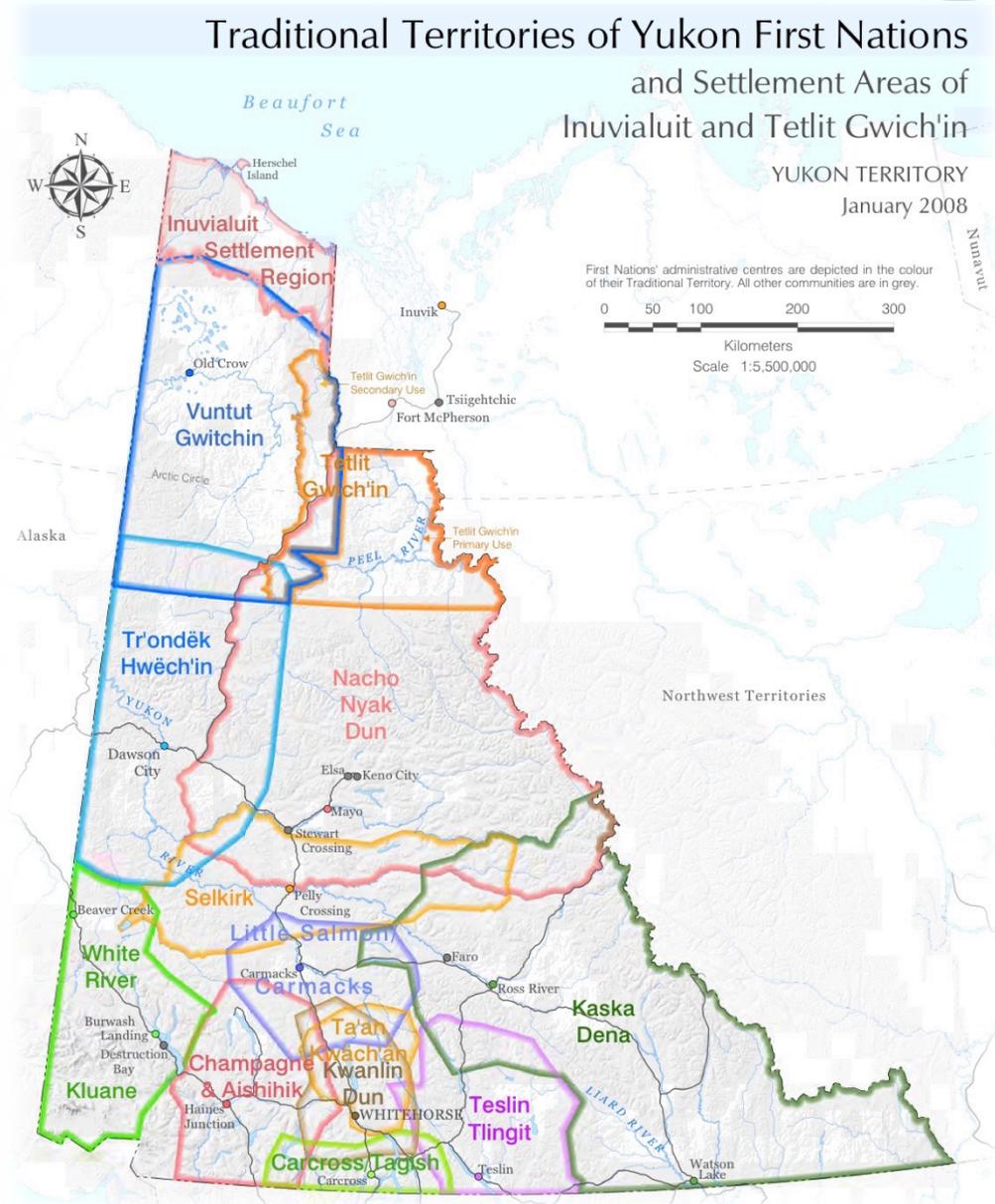


Yukon is unique!

14 Yukon First Nations

8 Language Groups

- Gwich'in
- Hän
- Kaska
- Northern Tutchone
- Southern Tutchone
- Tagish
- Tlingit
- Upper Tanana





Màhsi' choo ***(Gwich'in)***
Màhsi' cho ***(Hän)***
Máhsin cho ***(Northern Tutchone)***
Tsin'jj choh ***(Upper Tanana)***
Sógá sénlá' ***(Kaska)***
Shăw níthän ***(Southern Tutchone)***
Gunalchîsh ***(Tlingit)***
Gunalchéesh ***(Carcross)***
Shro neethun ***(Tagish)***
Thank you