# Carcross Tagish Renewable Resources Council Annual Report April 1, 2017 to March 31, 2018

#### Mandate

The CTRRC, established under the Carcross Tagish First Nation Final Agreement, is the local advisory body for fish, wildlife, forestry and land use in the Carcross Tagish First Nation Settlement area.

The Council strives to be the voice of the communities in managing local renewable resources.

The Council provides strong input into planning and regulation processes by raising public awareness of specific issues and by contributing local and traditional knowledge and information to decision processes.

The Council also plays an important advisory role to territorial, federal and First Nations governments and the Yukon Fish & Wildlife Management Board.

The CTRRC is comprised of eight council members including two alternate members, each nominated by First Nation and YTG.

# **Membership**

A list of members as of March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2017. Ken Reeder, Chair Edna Helm, Vice-Chair Randy Taylor Don Toews Jacques Jobin, Alternate

## **Highlights**

Particular successes of the Council

- The CTRRC engaged in several large projects during the 2017-2018 period.
- The Tagish Cisco Project. This study of the status of cisco populations in the Tagish and Nares Rivers was initiated to address long standing concerns of CTFN elders that cisco populations had declined significantly over the past 50 years or so and were continuing to decline. The project was in it's second year and field surveys and sampling was conducted throughout the summer months during May-Sept.
- Youth Muskrat Camp. This project was in partnership with CTFN, put on for the youth in the CTFN TT and was held at little Atlin Lake, This was a three day camp for the youth to learn muskrat trapping, beaver trapping, skinning of animals, ice fishing, talks from Conservation Officers, Biologist, First Nation elder, and RCMP. This was a very successful camp and all participants expressed interest in attending again.
- Annual Trappers Gathering. The Council held their annual Trappers Gathering in March in Carcross and it had a great turnout. This gathering focuses on collecting

- local trappers concerns and answering questions that the CTRRC will be able to address in the upcoming year.
- Meat Donation Project. The Council processed and packaged a moose donated by outfitter Mac Watson, North Curl Outfitters and distributed the meat to contacts in the communities of Carcross, Tagish, Mt Lorne and Marsh Lake.
- Telegraph Wire Recovery Project. CTRRC and CTFN have been involved in this project for a few years now. Although, this was a joint submission with CTFN with CTFN taking the lead and CTRRC providing in-kind funding and project assistance. This was the third year of this project with the intent of recovering wire and following the 5 year work plan.

# **Challenges**

Particular challenges for the Council

- The biggest challenge for the CTRRC was the council had several members' terms expire, and positions not being filled, leading to a small number of members on the council for many months.
- The CTRRC also had difficulty finding a secretariat for the majority of the year, but were able to find someone for the position in March.
- There are four very distinct communities within the CTFN Traditional Territory. It is an on-going challenge to have a presence within all the communities. CTRRC did successfully have public meetings in these communities, but there continues to be logistical challenges that Council addresses.

## Office Administration

- M. McKay and Associates was again appointed as the auditors for the company.
- The CTRRC advertised for an Executive Secretariat and had the position filled by March 31, 2018.
- Council continued to maintain an office in the centrally located Tagish Community Center.
- Council feels they followed their workplan and accomplished what they set out to do.

#### **Council Administration**

- Council had ten regular meetings and nine special meetings
- Council members attended the AGW in Teslin
- Various council members attended the several different meetings and workshops.
- Council made two submissions on YESAB projects in the CTFN TT
- Council submitted documents on the Yukon Forest Resources Regulation proposed amendments
- CTRRC continued to provide input on issues relating to land and water use proposals.
- Council continued to participate in meetings and contributed to the S.L. Forestry Management planning process.

- Council continued to participate in meetings and contributed to the Wetlands planning process.
- Council continued to participate in meetings and contributed to the Grizzly Bear Conservation Management Plan.

### **Projects**

- Council put on a trapping camp for youth in the CTFN TT in partnership with CTFN, this was a very successful project. This was the second year the trapping camp ran and it was a huge success.
- Council continued work on the Tagish cisco project, this involved field trips and collection of samples and data on the abundance, distribution and population structure of cisco in Tagish and Nares Rivers areas CTFN staff and students were involved in field studies helping with netting and biological sampling of cisco.
- Council worked jointly with CTFN on the third year of the wire recovery project with CTFN taking the lead on field activities funded by the YFWET.

# **Special Projects (Other Funding, Accumulated Surplus Funding)**

- CTRRC was awarded funding by the YFWET for the Tagish Cisco project.
- CTRRC received funding from YFWET for the Youth Trapping Camp

#### Variance

• The financial statements showed at the end of the fiscal year Council stayed within their budget.

#### Summary

The Council continued to build relationships with local area planning organizations and stakeholders to support the advancement of common areas of concern; make informed and responsible recommendations to governments and management agencies regarding fish, wildlife habitat and forestry management and engage the communities in renewable resources management.

The Council has completed all projects in their work plan within the allocated budget.