

Gwich'in Achievement Awards 2011

Description

- **The Gwich'in Tribal Council – in partnership with the Development Corporation – has established a Gwich'in Achievement Awards to encourage and recognize those people who have demonstrated excellence, leadership or exceptional dedication to service in ways that bring credit to the Gwich'in Nation.**
- **The GAA is established to build self-esteem and pride for the Gwich'in Nation and to provide role models for Gwich'in Youth. The awards will serve to honour our Elders, Youth and Leaders who share a vision of equality and human dignity and who make a difference in Gwich'in society.**

Guidelines

- **Under the guidelines, any Gwich'in or Canadian resident may nominate individuals:**
- **of Gwich'in heritage enrolled in the GCLCA**
- **Community residents that make a contribution to the Gwich'in Nation**
- **who demonstrate outstanding career achievement or personal accomplishments; and**
- **of any age**

Catagories

- **Gwich'in Culture: Language & Culture – Arts & Crafts – Education – Law & Justice – Athletics – Communications – Community & Public Service – Health & Social Service – Story Telling/ Historian**
- **Gwich'in Land: Trapping & Susistance Harvesting – Fisheries – Natural Resources**
- **Gwich'in Economy: Business & Community Development**

Gwich'in Youth – Our Future

- **The Youth awards recognize youth making a difference in the Gwich'in Nation that impact in positive ways within their peer group, community, region, territorial, nationally and internationally**
- **Contributions to language, culture, traditions, sports, hunting/fishing/trapping/harvesting, volunteering, excelling in sports, excelling in education, taking care of Elders; social, political, environmental advocates; actors/singers/dancers/song writers, writers, story tellers, and other categories**

Aklavik - Award Recipients

- **Velma Illasiak – Aklavik – Community Award**

Social worker with the Beaufort-Delta Health and Social Services, Teacher and Principal of Moose Kerr School

- **Florence Furlong – Aklavik – Community & Volunteer Award**

Years of Service at All St. Anglican Church and Community Volunteer

- **Lee Ann Nerysoo – Aklavik – Community and Volunteer Award**

Aklavik - Youth Award Recipients

- **Dustin Lee Edwards – Aklavik - Art/Personal Excellence**
Dustin is a high school graduate from Moose Kerr School – he has painted the school with artwork throughout the hallways and has travelled as a youth delegate to represent the Aklavik Indian Band – his artistic talent should be recognized, encouraged and supported – he is respectful of Elders and he is very dependable – he is beginning his career as an apprentice plumber

Inuvik - Award Recipients

- **Diane Baxter – Inuvik – Community Service Award**
Commitment – member of Sport North/NWT Curling Association, and Nihtat Gwich'in Recreation Committee
- **Bernice Furlong – Inuvik – Community Service Award**
Years of service with Ingamo Hall Board, member and President of the Nihtat Gwich'in Recreation Committee – Community Volunteer
- **Ruth Ann Blake – Inuvik Community Service Award**
Years dedicated to Social Services

Inuvik - Award Recipients

- **Julie Ann Andre – Inuvik/Tsiigehtchic – Lands and Culture**
Maintaining land and cultural traditions, transferring her knowledge to her children and other youth, shares some knowledge with other people. Acknowledgment of her participation in children’s book
- **Elizabeth Crawford-Hansen – Inuvik – Community Service Award and Life Time Achievement**
Dedication to language preservation, GSCI, 35 years teaching, culture, curriculum development, member of the NGC/RRC/GRRB

Inuvik – Award Recipient

- **Clarissa Neyando – Inuvik – Personal Excellence**

The NGC/INB recognizes Clarissa Nayando, a young women and mother.

When Clarissa started working for the NGC/INB she knew nothing about the business of the Gwich'in, three years later she is the Community Coordinator and has learned all about the DGO's/Bands/GTC – She has revived the Youth and Elders Committees – She worked as a Coordinator for the TRC – she has a professional attitude and responds promptly when requested for information.

Inuvik - Youth Award Recipients

- **Jason Baxter - Inuvik - Youth Sport Award**
Has been to the 2000, 2002, 2004, and 2008 Arctic Winter Games for Dog-Mushing
- **Won the AWG 2000 (2 individual Gold & 1 team Silver) fastest all 3 days - first NWT Musher to win the Gold medal**
- **2002 - (2) individual Gold & 1 team Gold**
- **2004 - (1) individual Silver & 1 individual Bronze & 1 team Gold**
- **2008 - (2) individual Silver & 1 team Gold**

Inuvik - Youth Recipients Award

- **Rebecca Baxter – Inuvik – Youth Sport Award**
- **Participated in the 2006 Arctic Winter Games for Dog-Mushing**
- **2006 (1) individual Gold and 1 individual Silver & 1 team gold – she tied her brother for the fastest time ever right down to the 100th of a second, until then, Jason had the fastest time**

Award Recipient Fort McPherson

- **Alice Snowshoe – Fort McPherson – Community Award**
Many years of volunteering at the St. Matthews Anglican Church
- **Richard Wilson – Fort McPherson – Community Award**
Many years working on the organization committee for the Midway Lake Music Festival
- **Ina Koe – Fort McPherson – Community Volunteer & Sport Award**
Organizing fundraising for local hockey group, supporting the Gwich'in Flames, and volunteering

Award Recipient Fort McPherson

- **Wayne Greenland – Fort McPherson – Community Volunteer & Sport Award**

Volunteering for years to keep youth active in the sport of hockey, organize fund raising, traveling to Whitehorse/Inuvik for Native Hockey and the IRC/GTC tournaments

- **James Ross – Fort McPherson – Community Volunteer & Sports Award**

Many years of service with community hockey, establishing Gwich'in Flames, organizing fund raising, traveling with youth to hockey events

Award Recipient Fort McPherson

- **Gina Neyando – Fort McPherson – Community Award**
Volunteering and supporting the community in community events
- **Elizabeth Wright – Fort McPherson – Community & Sports Volunteer Award**
Working with Youth to revive Snowshoeing and training Youth to participate in competitions & healthy living
- **Leslie Blake (LJ's Contracting) – Fort McPherson – Business Owner Award**
Young businessman, creating employment, contributing to the economy of his community and region

Award Recipient Fort McPherson

- **Neil Colin – Fort McPherson – Story Teller & Historian**
Known as the mouth of the Peel, Neil has harvesting and travelled the Peel River area all of his life. He is well known on the radio as a story teller and a historian for his traditional knowledge. People will remember his participation to in the CBQM documentary and travelled to Edmonton for one of the premiers
- **Hanna Alexie – Fort McPherson – Community & Volunteer Award**
Many years of service at St. Matthews Church and community volunteer

Award Recipient Fort McPherson

- **Louisa Kay – Fort McPherson – Community Volunteer Award**

Volunteering in community events, well known radio announcer for CBQM, coordinates fund raising to help families who have lost loved ones, helps to coordinate feasts, graduations, and any event she can help with

- **Bertha Francis – Fort McPherson – Language and Interpretation Award**

Fluent in language, oral and written – worked many years for the GSCI, and has interpreted for the GTC AGA and many other forums

Award Recipient Fort McPherson

- **Mary Teya – Fort McPherson – Language and Interpretations Award**

Fluent in Language, oral and written – has interpreted for many years to the GTC AGA and other forums

- **Mary Effie Snowshoe – Fort McPherson – Language and Interpretation Award**

Fluent in Language, oral and written – interpreted for the GTC AGA and many other forums

Award Recipient Fort McPherson

- **David Krutko – Fort McPherson – Political Leader/Advocate for Gwich'in**

Started his political career at a young age in his community, region, negotiating the GCLCA, and becoming MLA Mackenzie Delta/Speaker - has advocated for Gwich'in in the Legislature on many issues and most recently the Devolution Agreement in Principle – This year David will retire from the GNWT to take on other adventures

Happy retirement David and Hai' Choo for your dedication to our Gwich'in Nation and being a great Leader

Youth Recipient Award Fort McPherson

- **Eric Blake – Fort McPherson**

Eric is a young individual from Fort McPherson who is very instrumental in tradition and loves to dance – he recently completed his education at Chief Julius School and graduated with high honours – he is one of the many Youth who continues to keep tradition alive – Every dance Eric is on the dance floor – it was said that James Herbert called him and he was sleeping and heard James calling him, grabbed his slippers and took off on stage to start dancing for the rest of the day – didn't get a chance to eat – there are many others who are following in his footsteps – Midway Lake proved this point – Mahsi' Cho Eric for your contribution – keep our tradition strong and to encourage the young people to do the same

Youth Recipient Award Tsiigehtchic

- **Billie Veryl Clark – Tsiigehtchic – Community Service/Elder Award**

Talented cook she has worked for many meetings and events – has been taking care of her Jijii Dale Clark for a few years, selfless dedication to care for her Elder and others in her community

- **Charlene Blake – Tsiigehtchic – Community Service/Elder Award**

Has been working on the Mackenzie Jamboree – Canoe Days – Community Health Representative – Caring for Elders

Youth Award Recipient Tsiigehtchic

- **Jared Blake – Tsiigehtchic – Youth & Culture Award**

12 years old and is the son of Renie Koe and the late Dale Blake – loves learning traditional knowledge and participates in on-the-land activities – enjoys travelling on-the-land with people who will take him and retains the TK that he sees, hears and takes part in – Jared’s father wanted to make sure his children knew life on-the-land and after his passing his Jijii Dale Clark took on the responsibility of showing his grand-children traditional skills – Jared loves spending time with his Jijii and has learned valuable lessons and skills that he will pass on to his children someday – August 1st Jared shot his first Caribou – It was a proud day for his family and one that proved lessons learned are going to allow him to carry on traditional life of the Gwich’in and to become a great provider

Award Recipient – out of the GSA

- **Kevin Koe – Yellowknife – Sport – Curling**
- **Jamie Koe – Yellowknife – Sport – Curling**
- **Kerry Koe–Galusha – Sport – Curling**
- **Lois Lafferty – Fort Smith – Teacher/Volunteer**
Years of service as a teacher – has been an advocate and volunteer assisting Gwich'in residents of Fort Smith to access programs and services of the GTC/DGO's/Bands

Next year

- **The GCLCA will celebrate its 20th Anniversary**
- **Recognizing Gwich'in Negotiators and those that helped to ratify the agreement**
- **DGO/Bands please recognize Participants in your community by nominating them to the GTC for the Gwich'in Achievement Awards**
- **Help to provide a small biography to assist in telling their life story**

Congratulations! Hai' Choo! Excellent Work!