

High School Caribou Hunt Chief Julius School



October 6,7,8, 2009
Submitted by Annie Kaye
Gwich'in Language and Culture Teacher

Chief Julius High School
Fall Caribou Harvest Program
Tuesday to Thursday, October 6,7 and 8, 2009
Gwichin Language Teacher - Annie Kaye

Objectives:

This program was implemented in previous years. The harvest program is aimed at high school students to teach and improve their skills, learn about recent government legislation and the ecology of the Porcupine caribou Herd. The program would be for youths twelve years and older that harvest from the Porcupine Caribou Herd.

This hunting trip is designed to encourage marksmanship. Proper shooting techniques, develop good hunting practices and land skills. The program also focuses on the importance of the cultural and traditional awareness of the community that harvest from the herd.

Course Outline:

Hunting Skills:

- Learning to hunt safely
- Identify hunting practices to minimize wounded caribou
- Respect for land, animals, traditional harvesting and cultural values
- Survival skills
- Safety in Bear Country
- Harvest Bulls Only

Field Dressing Caribou

- Skinning
- Gutting
- Butchering
- Transporting

Firearm Safety

- Sight in Your Rifle Program
- Marksmanship
- Proper carrying techniques
- Proper shooting techniques
- 10 commandments of handling a firearm

Cultural and Traditional Knowledge

- Elders will speak about cultural and traditional knowledge
- Use of the Porcupine Caribou Herd since time immemorial

Recent Government Legislation

- Human and caribou Management
- Hunting safely along the highway
- Consultation with First Nations
- Use of Snowmobiles

Roles and Responsibilities:

Gwich'in Language Teacher and Chaperone

- Responsible for the students
- Ensure that all students have proper clothing
- Ensure that all paperwork is completed properly in regards to all workers
- Funding arrangements are completed and in the process for all workers
- Ensure that all students pay attention to the presenters
- Will assist with the logistics of the program
- Ensure that the camp has all the equipment and supplies needed
- Ensure transportation is provided for everyone
- Assist in setting up the camp and making sure there is enough firewood
- Ensure that all students are taking part in the chores
- Ensure the safety of the camp participants
- Ensure that all course outlines are completed
- Ensure that the program is successful

Youth Involvement and Requirements:

- The school will ensure that the students bring all the proper gear and clothing for the excursion
- The students must participate in all activities that pertain to the objectives of the program
- The students will all have the proper gear and clothing identified for the outing well in advance
- The students are required to assist in the setting up and dismantling of the camp
- The students will assist in the cooking and cleaning of the camp
- The students will respect the adults that are there to teach and educate the students

Hunter/Elder Person

- Responsible for providing cultural and traditional Knowledge
- Take the lead role in determining where the best spot to hunt caribou or moose
- Ensure that the youth are actively involved in the hunt
- Explain to the youths the field dressing process for caribou
- Demonstrate to the students the field dressing process
- Assist with the logistics of the program
- Assist in all camp duties
- Ensuring the safety of the camp

Government Agencies:

- Will assist with travel logistics
- Will provide presentations as required
- Ensure the safety of the camp participants
- Ensure that the program is successful

Funding Sources

- Ft. Mc Pherson District Education Authority, Aboriginal Language Funds
- Department of Industry, Tourism and Investment Take a Kid Harvesting Program
- Department of Environment and Natural Resources, Inkind Services (personnel, material and equipment)

Enclosed is my letter I submitted to the Ft. Mc Pherson District Education Authority for approval. The Caribou Hunt was approved and plans were well on their way. In the meantime I applied for funding from the Department of Industry, Tourism and Investment Take a Kid Harvesting Program. I received word two days before we were to leave on the hunting trip, my application was going to be approved.

Friday, September 18, 2009.

Chief Julius School
District Education Authority
Fort McPherson, N.W.T.

Re: 2009 Fall Caribou Harvest Program

Dear Members,

I am planning to take twenty students on a cultural caribou hunt. We plan to camp out at Midway Lake or Rock River Territorial Campground, depending on where the caribou are, from Tuesday to Thursday on October 6,7 and 8. We will be doing day trips up into the mountains to harvest several caribou.

Once we are successful with our hunt we will be cutting up and preparing the meat (making drymeat) at Midway Lake. It is our understanding that we are not allowed to bring wild game into the territorial parks. All the caribou meat will be given to the high school for our programs.

We will hire a hunter, an elder and a cook for the duration of the program. I will also have one other chaperone that will help me with the students. We will request assistance from the GNWT Department of Environment and Natural Resources to implement the program.

This is our proposed budget for the harvest:

Description:	Amounts:	Cost:
• One hunter Instructor	3 days @ 300/day	900
• One Gwich'in Elder	3 days @ 200/day	600
• One Chaperone	3 days @ 200/day	600
• One Cook	3 days @ 300/day	900
• One Vehicle Rental	3 days @ 150/day	450
• One Cord of Wood		250
• Gas		500
• Shells (for hunt and Sight in Your Rifle Program)		300
• Groceries		800
Total Cost:		\$5,550

I look forward to hearing from you at your earliest convenience so we can make final preparations for the above program.

Sincerely,

Ms. Annie Kaye
Gwich'in Language Teacher
Chief Julius School

Cc: Don Craik, ITI Regional Superintendent.
 Ron Morrison, ENR Regional Superintendent.
 Eugene Rees, ITI Economic Development Officer.
 Daryl C. English, ENR Conservation Education Officer
 Glen Alexie, ENR Renewable Resource Officer
 Grace Blake, MacKenzie Gas Project – ESSO Resources

Staff:

Annie Kaye - Gwichin Language Teacher and Chaperone
Wanda Pascal - Chaperone
Emma Kay - Elder
Joseph Kay - Hunter
Grace Martin - Cook
Darryl English - ENR Conservation Education Officer
Glen Alexie - ENR Renewable Resource Officer

Day One:

We arrived at Midway Lake and started unpacking and setting up camp. The men cut up firewood and the cook made lunch. Afterwards we packed up lunch and went for a ride up to the Richardson Mountains to scout around for caribou and get fresh spring water from James Creek. We went as far as the Arctic Circle and did not see any caribou but we saw an enormous grizzly bear.

Day Two:

We got up at the crack of dawn and had breakfast. After we cleaned up, we proceeded up to the mountains with our lunch. We went over to Horseshoe Bend and it was there we shot four caribou. Our hunter and staff skinned the caribou and loaded it up on the truck. We arrived back at camp in time for a late supper.

Day Three:

The next day we started packing our belongings and groceries. The two caribou was butchered by the hunter and workers and each person took home a piece of caribou meat. After every one was packed up and the camp was cleaned up we started loading up the trucks and everyone left for home.

Every night our elder told stories and she did a lesson on traditional medicine. The ENR workers did their lessons and our hunter demonstrated how to butcher and cut up the caribou.

The other two caribou will be brought back to the school and butchered and put in the school freezer for use by the Gwichin classes. The students will make drymeat and pemmican and the meat will be used for luncheons and feasts.

Annie Kaye, Sharon Robert, Sholene Robert, Keefer Francis, Brandon and Christal Drost would like to say, Mussi- Cho to all who took part in our Caribou Hunt and making it a reality to actually see and part take in a caribou hunt. We would especially like to Thank the ENR team who has given us considerable amount of help year after year.

Enclosed is a report with pictures submitted by Christal Drost.

My first caribou hunt



We went to midway to set up our camp



We went to James creek to get water
and saw a bear on the way.



The next day we went to Horse shoe



We shot four caribou at Horse shoe



Joe Kay showed us how to skin and cut up the caribou.



After we skinned the caribou we
had caribou stew



jju Emma showed us some medicines
before we packed up to go home.





The End

