

2023 LHÙ'ÀÀN MÂN-KLUANE LAKE RESEARCH SUMMIT

Summary report



May 26th - May 28th, 2023

Lhù'ààn Mân Keyì – Kluane Lake Country
Burwash Landing, Yukon Territory



Preface

This report summarizes the activities and dialogue from the third Lhù'ààn Mân - Kluane Lake Research Summit hosted by Kluane First Nation and held in Burwash Landing, Yukon between May 26th and 28th, 2023.

A copy of this report, as well as the 2018 & 2019 Kluane Lake Research Summit Summary Reports are available on the Kluane First Nation research website. This summary report will be accompanied by a short film produced by Jared Dulac. All resources will be available at: <https://www.kluanefirstnationresearch.ca/resources>

These documents can also be requested from the Kluane First Nation Natural Resource Manager at resource.manager@kfn.ca (867-841-4274 ext 236).



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- Katie Johnson (Bella Elite Consulting, Kluane First Nation)
- Math'ieya Alantini (GSD Strategies, Kluane First Nation)
- Sonia Wesche (Associate Professor, University of Ottawa)
- Savannah Müller (Graduate Student, University of Ottawa)

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Special thanks to our Elders, shāw níthän for guiding this journey and always offering to share your knowledge, values, and wisdom.

Executive summary

Lhù'ààn Mân Ku Dań (Kluane Lake People) have a deep relationship with and knowledge of the land, water and communities in the Lhù'ààn Mân (Kluane Lake) region. The Lhù'ààn Mân region has experienced significant research activity over the years, with limited engagement with and direction from local communities. Emerging from a shared community need to enhance Kluane First Nation's (KFN) capacity to drive and participate in research, the Lhù'ààn Mân - Kluane Lake Research Summits were hosted in an effort to improve relationships between communities and researchers, with the hopes of supporting more coordinated and mutually beneficial research with our territory.

Between May 26th and 28th 2023, Kluane First Nation hosted the third Lhù'ààn Mân-Kluane Lake Research Summit in Burwash Landing, Yukon. Framed around the theme of Reconciliation in Research, this summit brought together a range of academic and governmental researchers, KFN citizens, local community members and Indigenous scholars. This summit focused on providing a space for sharing Indigenous perspectives, knowledge, and experiences. Collaborative learning and knowledge sharing among participants was supported through workshops and discussion panels throughout the summit.

Many KFN citizens and community members, including Youths and Elders, were in attendance and sat on several panel discussions to share their knowledge, experiences, and language with summit participants. Indigenous scholars from across Canada also attended to share their experiences, knowledge and perspectives on research. Academic and government researchers, including student researchers, working in the region were also in attendance.

Ak'àn K'e shàw nàkwàtsàlè

Ayet Ket'ą dădunen dăw

Năn Kăy shăwthăn kwak'ats'anata

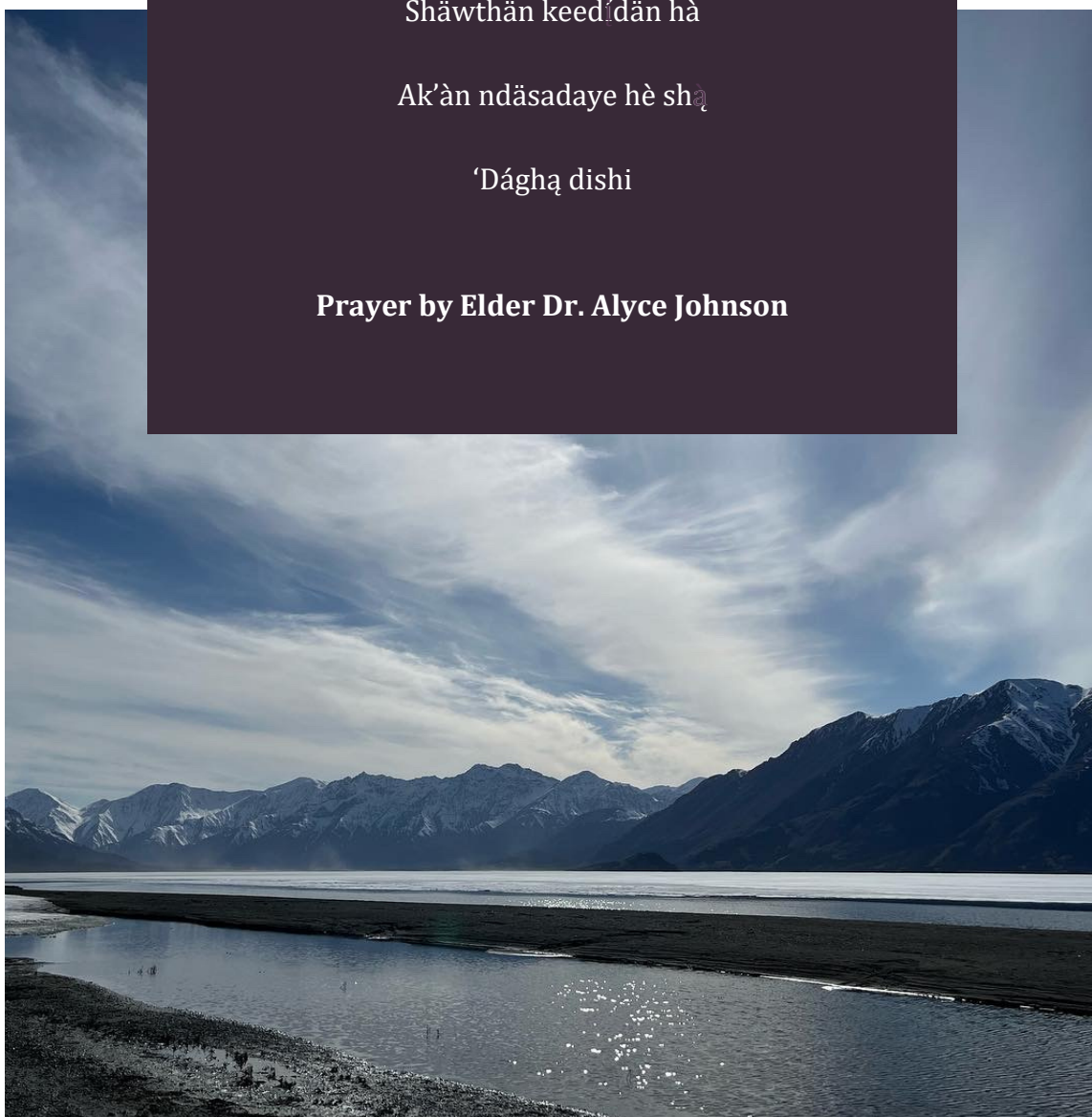
Shek'ā yàkēts'ādān k'e

Shăwthăn keedídān hà

Ak'àn ndāsadaye hē shą

'Dághą dishi

Prayer by Elder Dr. Alyce Johnson



1.0 Context/background

Kluane First Nation (KFN) partnered with the University of Ottawa and Yukon University to host the 3rd Lhù'ààn Mân - Kluane Lake Research Summit from May 26th to May 28th, 2023 in Burwash Landing, Yukon. This year's summit was framed around *Reconciliation in Research* and focused on exploring and sharing Indigenous and community perspectives and experiences with research. The Summit brought together KFN citizens, local community members, academic and government researchers, and Indigenous scholars from across Canada to participate in the 3-day event. The summit brought participants together to continue working towards bridging knowledges and building relationships for mutually beneficial research. The format and scope of the Summit was also informed by recommendations and feedback from the two previous Kluane Lake Research Summits held in 2018 and 2019.

Previous summits (2018 & 2019)

Subsequent to the 2016 Ä'äy Chù (Slims River) diversion, the Lhù'ààn Mân region experienced magnified international attention and research interest. The 2018 Lhù'ààn Mân Research Summit – hereby referred to as the 1st Kluane Research Summit (KRS1) – was hosted by KFN and Dän Keyi Renewable Resource Council (DKRRC) to support a more coordinated effort between local communities, First Nations, and researchers. Framed around Lhù'ààn Mân and the central theme of water, this summit aimed to facilitate dialogue between researchers, communities and governments and build stronger relationships for mutually beneficial research outcomes.

Several key recommendations emerged from the KRS1:

1. Both community members and researchers need to engage in cross-cultural learning.
2. It would be helpful for Kluane First Nation to develop an introductory course on the history, knowledge, and people of Kluane for researchers (e.g. KFN 101).
3. All parties should seek increased communication and support opportunities for interactions between research communities and local communities.
4. Researchers working on empirical observations of local ecologies can benefit from more time spent with First Nation community members.
5. Researchers should work towards making existing knowledge, data, information more accessible to the community.
6. All parties should aim to work on mutually beneficial research projects.
7. Kluane First Nation should develop policies and guidelines for research with traditional knowledge.
8. Research must continue to include traditional knowledge.
9. Investments into cultural revitalization projects are needed.



In 2019, KFN hosted a second research summit – the 2019 Kluane Research Summit, hereby referred to as the KRS2 – to continue to reflect and advance the KRS1 goals and recommendations. Based on the recommendations from the KRS1, the theme for the second summit was more holistic and framed around changes in the Kluane region. It included a more traditional format with fewer scientific presentations (as per recommendations from KRS1) and a broader range of speakers and panelists, including both researchers and community knowledge keepers.

Discussions and panels/presentations focused on changes being observed in the Kluane region, providing opportunities to share scientific and local observations and knowledge on changes to the water, land, and animals. These discussions also focused on how our relationships with animals and research approaches have changed and how they can continue to evolve and shift.

Several key recommendations emerged from KRS2 including:

1. The importance of Elders and Youth, as well as the involvement of community in all phases of research, cannot be overstated.
2. A 'best practices guideline for researchers' from KFN would be valuable to guide researchers on 'doing research in a good way'.
3. These types of gatherings – and simply spending time together (community and researchers)- are beneficial and key to rebuilding relationships and knowledge sharing and should happen regularly.
4. We need to support ways for more community members, including Youth and Elders to attend these events.



2.0 Summit format and objectives

After three years, the 2023 Lhù'ààn Mân-Kluane Lake Research Summit (KRS3) was hosted between May 26th and 28th in Burwash Landing, Yukon. The three-day event was hosted by Kluane First Nation with support from partners at the University of Ottawa and Yukon University, and funding from the Canadian Mountain Network.

Summit scope and format

KRS3 was intended as an opportunity to further strengthen relationships among local communities, First Nations, and researchers by providing an opportunity for exploratory dialogue and collaborative learning. It involved visits to the Kluane Lake Research Station, Outpost Research Station and the Á'äy Chù valley (in Kluane National Park and Reserve), cultural activities and workshops, and two days of presentations and knowledge sharing at Jacquot Hall (community hall in Burwash Landing). Summit outcomes were expected to advance engaged research practices in the Kluane region and continue to support collaboration between the research community, local community members and KFN citizens and government. The Summit was not intended as a forum for governments or researchers to meet consultation, communication, or engagement requirements with First Nations. We hope that participants left with a more holistic understanding of how we might engage in more effective, respectful, and ethical research relationships and processes.

Summit objectives

The Summit Planning Committee chose the theme *Reconciliation in Research* for the 2023 Lhù'ààn Mân-Kluane Lake Research Summit. As such, the summit focused on providing a platform for the sharing of Indigenous and community perspectives and experiences on research and engagement with researchers in the Lhù'ààn Mân region. Panelists and speakers included Kluane First Nation citizens, Indigenous scholars from across Canada, and several researchers working to support reconciliation through their own research.

The KRS3 objectives focused on continuing to build relationships between communities and researchers by providing opportunities to:

1. Build a collaborative and holistic understanding of reconciliation in research.
2. Provide space and opportunities for researchers and community members to come together to collaboratively learn and share knowledge.
3. Identify opportunities for researchers to support community visions for future research across the Lhù'ààn Mân region.

KRS3 was supported through the KFN-led Bringing Research Home (BRH) project, which aims to collaboratively study how KFN can enhance their ability to actively drive and participate in research in its Traditional Territory. To learn more about this project and past research summits please visit www.kluanefirstnationresearch.ca

3.0 Agenda and summary of discussions

Friday, May 26th

The Summit began on Friday at Jacquot Hall with a hot lunch for community members and invited guests. After lunch, participants headed out for field trips - (1) tour of Outpost Research Station and Kluane Lake Research Station for Kluane First Nation citizens and community members, and (2) walking tour of Thechàl Dhâl (Sheep Mountain) and Kluane National Park for invited guests and speakers.



Tour of Kluane Lake Research Station and Outpost Research Station:

After lunch, Kluane community members and Kluane First Nation citizens were invited to the south side of Lhù'ààn Mân for a tour of the two local research stations, Outpost Research Station and Kluane Lake Research Station (KLRS). Sian Williams, owner of Icefield Discovery and manager of Outpost Research Station, started off the tour with an overview of research projects being conducted out of the research station. She highlighted some of the collaborative projects happening with local communities and asked participants for their perspectives on future research in the region.

Participants were then invited to tour the facilities before heading over to the KLRS located on the other side of the airstrip. At the KLRS, community members were invited into the mess hall where Kristina Penn, KLRS manager and Brent Else, Associate Director of AINA provided an overview of the station facilities. They then opened up the discussion to provide community members with an opportunity to share their experiences with research in the region, as well as how they envision future relationships with the research station.

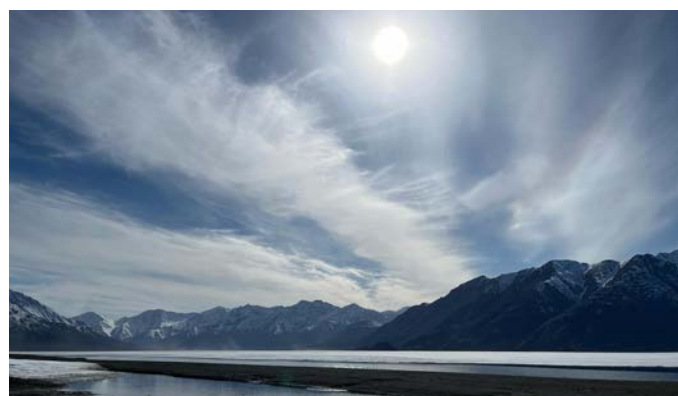
Finally, community members were invited on a tour of the containerized agriculture system (the CropBox) located on the KLRS property. The CropBox uses hydroponic technology to grow up to 18,000 lbs. of produce, which could provide local communities with fresh produce year-round. Pauly Sias, CropBox coordinator, gave an overview of plans for the CropBox moving forward and asked community members for their feedback on what produce they would like to see growing.



Walking tour of Thechàl Dhâl and Kluane National Park:

While community members toured the research stations, researchers and other invited guests were invited to convene at Thechàl Dhâl Visitor Centre for a guided walk by KFN Elder Gùdia - Mary Jane Johnson.

While leading participants, Gùdia Mary Jane Johnson recounted stories of growing up in the Kluane region. The tour led participants to an old hunting camp within Kluane National Park, where Gùdia Mary Jane explained the impact of the National Park on the community and their traditions, including losing access to the lands and traditional hunting grounds. She also recounted her experience with settlers arriving in the region and the changes that came with their arrival.



After the two field trips, participants reconvened at Jacquot Hall for dinner. After dinner participants were invited to participate in a community crib tournament or join a workshop on juniper berries - Teachings of Juniper Berries - Ts'ùk'ay nday ní'ì - I see Juniper berries (birds eye berry) facilitated by Amber Berard. Participants in the workshop learned about the significance of the juniper berry and were able to make their own juniper berry scrub to bring home with them.

Saturday, May 27th

The second day of the summit started with a hot breakfast for community members and invited guests at Jacquot Hall. After breakfast, Kluane First Nation' Elder Alyce Johnson shared an opening prayer. The prayer was followed by opening remarks from Chief Bob Dickson where he shared the community experiences with research in the region and welcomed summit participants to the Kluane region.



The summit facilitator, Math'ieya Alatini (KFN citizen and owner of GSD Strategies), began by acknowledging the planning efforts of the summit host, Kluane First Nation, and partners for their commitment to bring the summit back again for the third year. She noted the importance of building relationships between the community and researchers in a respectful manner, including the importance of sharing experiences and providing opportunities for youth in science. She spoke to the importance of getting involved and that reconciliation needs everyone to engage, *"there's a lot of water to cross and it takes all of us."*



10 Calls to Action panel and Screening of "Signal Fire" - Gùdia Mary Jane Johnson, Kate Ballegooyen, Carmen Wong, Heidi Swanson & Lawrence Ignace

The authors of the Towards reconciliation: 10 Calls to Action to natural scientists working in Canada, presented in person for the first time since its publication in 2020. Influenced by their personal experiences with research in northern Canada, the authors collaboratively wrote this article to provide key Calls to Action for natural science researchers to enable reconciliation in their work. These 10 Calls to Action challenge the scientific community to recognize that reconciliation requires a new way of conducting natural science, one that includes and respects Indigenous communities, rights, and knowledge leading to better scientific and community outcomes.

The presentation started with authors introducing each other as humans and how they were connected to the land and their communities. Each author shared their personal experience with research that motivated them to contribute to the paper. After introducing one another and discussion their motivations for writing the paper, the authors introduced "Signal Fire" – a film based on the publication.

A Q&A period followed the screening of Signal Fire. Researchers posed questions about how they can best provide services to the community. Ideas included providing clear communication and check-ins, sharing access to expensive equipment and services (e.g. helicopter use) with the community when possible, and the potential development of a directory of researchers working in the Yukon. Discussions also revolved around what researchers can do differently to make a positive impact and ensure accountability to the community. These include developing individual plans of action to hold everyone accountable.



Flash Science talks – short presentations by Klauene-based researchers

Following lunch, several students and researchers introduced themselves and presented an overview of their research to the Klauene community and summit guests.

- **Daniel Bellamy** (PhD student, University of Montreal) gave an overview of his research on the dust coming from the recently diverted Ä'äy Chù valley and potential impacts to ecosystems and local communities.
- **Bastien Charonnat** (PhD student, ETS) and **Eole Valence** (PhD student, McGill University) gave an overview of their work exploring the impacts of glacial retreat on groundwater in Shär Ta Gä' (Grizzly Creek).

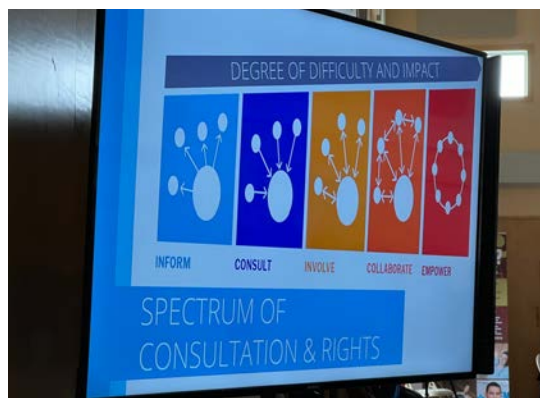
- **Fiona Chapman** (PhD student, INRS) presented her research looking at geothermal potential in Burwash Landing and implications for future community energy production.
- **Mike Loso** from Wrangell-St. Elias National Park and Reserved provided an overview of some of the Indigenous-led initiatives and programs happening in the park.
- **Andrew McAdams**, a professor from the University of Colorado Boulder, provided an overview of the monitoring research being conducted at Squirrel Camp.

Research in reconciliation - Tosh Southwick

Tosh Southwick, KFN citizen and private consultant, gave a presentation on Research and Reconciliation. She started with an explanation of the interconnectedness of reconciliation, indigenization, and decolonization and explained how reconciliation is about building, repairing, and maintaining relationships.

She explained what reconciliation looks like on the ground, which included building relationships on trust, embracing the truth and being honest about the work we are doing, the institutions we work with and their history. Trust in relationships also means listening deeply to our Indigenous partners' truths, values, and goals, and finding an intersection between Western and Indigenous knowledge. To build meaningful, authentic relationships in research also means that First Nations have to be considered as rights holders rather than stakeholders. Tosh questioned the researchers in the room where their research process fell on the spectrum of consultation - from informing First Nations of your research to having First Nations lead research projects. She explained that reconciliation requires work from both sides, but Indigenization must be done by Indigenous people and allies play a role in creating space for Indigenous people to lead that process. When engaging in reconciliation, we need to watch out for tokenism, "checking boxes" and always using the same approaches.

As she explained, reconciliation is a process not a finish line – if you don't know where to start, start somewhere. The worst thing you can do is nothing. Research has the opportunity to challenge, disrupt and make changes to systems in institutions. We all have a role to play.



Flash Science talks continued:

Following a quick health break, participants reconvened for another set of flash science presentations from researchers and students working in the Kluane region.

- **Kate Andre** (Yukon Strategy for Patient-Oriented Research (SPOR) Unit) provided an overview of SPOR's work partnering with communities to improve community-driven health research across the Yukon.
- **Katie Robinson** (Master student, Simon Fraser University) presented her research on the glacial influence on local hydrological systems on the Kaskawulsh glacier.
- **Cole Lord-May** (PhD student, UBC) presented his research on the Kaskawulsh glacier.
- **Francis Quinby** (PhD student, Trent University) presented his work on boreal vegetation and its implications on snowshoe hare foraging dynamics.
- **Kira Holland** (PhD student, University of Alberta) presented her work on the Mount Logan ice core collected last summer for the Canadian Ice Core Lab (CICL) at University of Alberta.



Indigenous perspectives on research panel - Shandin Pete, Kyle Bobiwash & Emily Missyabit McAuley

Shandin Pete, Associate Professor at the University of British Columbia, spoke about how our beliefs have changed across time, with different historical phases influencing certain beliefs and ways of being/living. He used the example of the fur trade to highlight how animals that were once viewed as sustenance were now viewed as a source of income with economic value. Early settlers also changed how people viewed land, with new concepts of land ownership being introduced to Indigenous people. He spoke to how some beliefs were accepted as a form of survival not because they aligned with Indigenous worldviews, and about transient knowledge, which is the intersection of (1) data, (2) context, and (3) Indigenous perspectives. He discussed how this knowledge belongs in institutions and highlighted the need for knowledge production that is united and regenerative rather than separate and extractive.

Kyle Bobiwash, Assistant Professor at the University of Manitoba, began his presentation by introducing himself in relation to the land and his community. He spoke about initiating change within academia, explaining that if you encounter resistance, keep going. If people resist what you are doing (even if they have good intentions), you are doing something good/in the right way. He also discussed the indicators we use to gauge success in research and how they can sometimes be misaligned with community needs; thus, there is a need to support circular knowledge in research. He explained an example of a community garden project, where the garden experienced low productivity but produced tangible benefits for youth and Elders, creating a space for them to come together and learn from each other. This project also supported another important component of research, which is the importance of knowledge transfer between people. As he explained, we need to create space for this within all types of research.

Emily Missyabit McAuley (Director, Indigenous Science Liaison Office & I-Stem) started her presentation by addressing a lack of awareness of Indigenous People and issues within government strategies. She spoke to the importance of building relationships on mutual trust and how relationship-building can be supported by being a person first and speaking with people, sharing food and learning what it means to live on the land and be fed and sheltered by it. As researchers, we don't always know the end goal, so it is important to develop an appropriate approach that is responsive to people's needs.

Within research there is a need to equitably resource and value Indigenous STEM and include non-human elements of systems, including the land, water and stars. She provided an overview of the I-Stem clusters being established within the federal government (housed by Agri-Food Canada). These clusters bring together representatives of 15 different departments to address Indigenous research priorities in a more holistic and strength-based way, leveraging both internal and community capacity and reducing consultation fatigue within Indigenous communities.



The panel was followed by an open discussion and Q&A period.



Evening events:

Before dinner, summit participants were invited to participate in a handgames demonstration and learning opportunity with the Kluane Hand Games Committee, led by Marissa Mills (KFN citizen and member of the Burwash Bandits). After the demonstration, dinner was served.



Sunday, May 28th

The third and final day of the summit started with a hot breakfast served at Jacquot Hall for summit participants.

Keeping Indigenous and Ancestral Knowledge Alive for the Future Generations – Norma Kassi (adjunct Professor, McGill University, Vuntut Gwitchin citizen)

Norma Kassi shared her experiences with working with scientists and environmentalists in her home community of Old Crow and across the Yukon. She started by explaining the importance of intergenerational knowledge transfer in keeping stories alive within communities, which involved transferring knowledge to youth and supporting them to engage in politics at all levels.

She spoke to her own experience wanting to work on research and with researchers that communities could trust, which has led to the development of Indigenous and/or community-driven research groups– including the Centre for Indigenous Peoples' Nutrition and Environment at McGill University, the Arctic Institute of Community-Based Research, and emerging Land Guardian programs across the North.

She ended her presentation by driving home the importance of empowering Youth in research and working together for a collective future. As she explained, researchers have a role to play in empowering the next generation of youth and creating a strong system of knowledge sharing and collaboration. As she quoted Grandma Lena, “We’re really concerned about our young people for the future. We know what’s going on. Only we can teach them, but we need to work with others. We need to teach them to be strong, build them up for the future, teach them survival skills. They’ve got to go to the land. We Elders pray for all of you, we pray for the land, we pray together, we need to do more of that.”



Stories from our Country – Kluane First Nation community panel (Robin Bradasch, Nathan Moore, Elder Alyce Johnson)

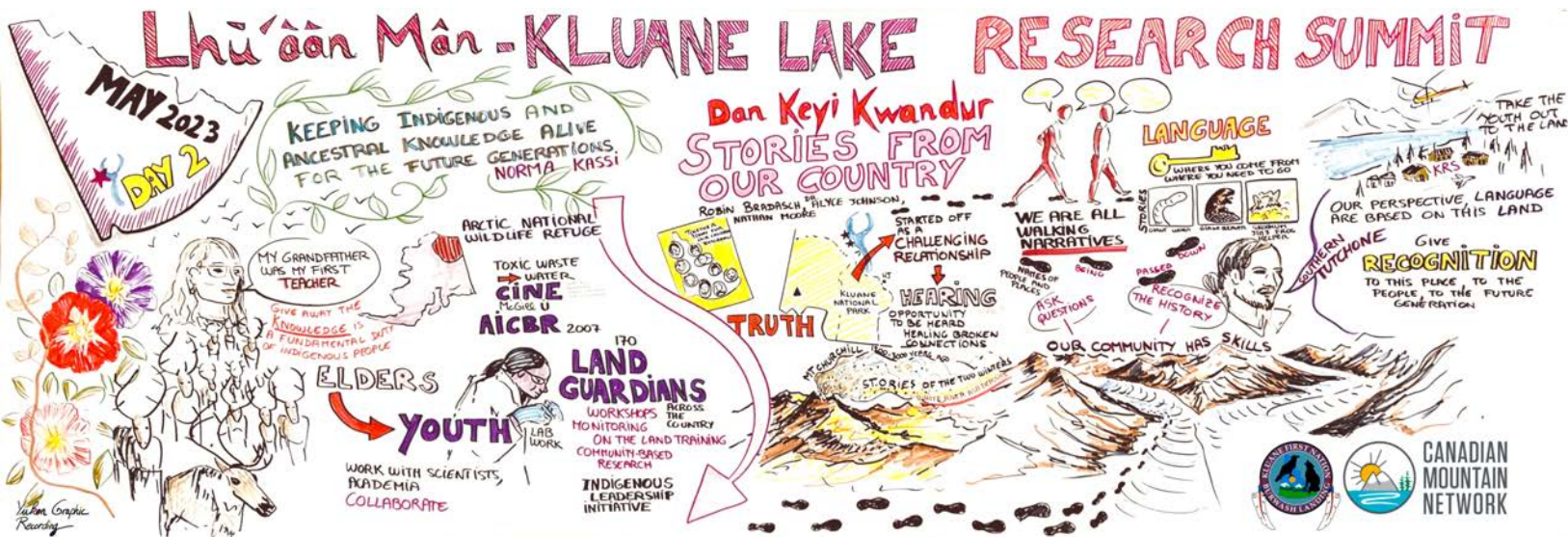
This panel, hosted by Kluane First Nation community members, started with **Robin Bradasch**, who spoke to the history of the Kluane community - from living on the land through decimation to resurgence and self-government all within 100 years. She explained that while we're moving forward, we're still healing - people need to remember this. We have fought for everything we've gained - remember that when people might get their back up. Ask questions, learn about our history.

She explained that KFN people are not just knowledge holders and skilled bush people, but hold knowledge beyond those areas. Researchers need to think outside the box on how community members can be involved in research. She noted that we need to reconsider how we acknowledge Indigenous people within academia and make sure it is valued in similar ways to western knowledge.

Elder Dr. Alyce Johnson spoke about the importance of understanding that we all come from collective narratives - we all come from different places, and all come from stories, people and places (Indigenous or not). She encouraged everyone to learn about the stories and histories here. She also spoke about the importance of language in names. She explained that people's names are passed down and are part of your identity. Place names convey important stories about the land. She highlighted the importance of using traditional place names and Southern Tutchone on research posters.

Nathan Easterson-Moore is a KFN youth and recent graduate from a Indigenous Language immersion program. Speaking in Dank'e (Southern Tutchone) and English Nathan describe how he initially felt disconnected to research occurring in the Traditional Territory, but working as a KFN guardian he worked alongside researchers and was able to access parts of the Territory he had never been to. Being out on the land he started to better understand the teachings his Elders had provided him. He encouraged researchers to engage with youth and provide similar meaningful opportunities. He further advocated for the use of local placenames and Dank'e in publications and when speaking to the community.





Update on Bringing Research Home project (Kate Ballegooyen, Kluane First Nation, Brian Horton, Yukon Government, and Savanah Müller, University of Ottawa)

The Bringing Research Home project, led by Kluane First Nation in partnership with Yukon University and the University of Ottawa, focuses on increasing KFN’s capacity to actively drive and participate in research in its Traditional Territory. The BRH team presented updates on the outputs and tools being developed to support this process. These include a set of community-developed Research Expectations aimed at guiding all types of research being conducted in the Kluane region, an online research atlas to increase community access to research outputs and publications, a story map of Kluane lands developed by KFN youth, a story map of the History of Research in Kluane region, and other website components.

Presenters walked summit participants through the website where these tools are housed and opened the floor up for questions.

The 2023 Kluane Lake Research Summit is another output of the BRH project, which was planned collaboratively with members of KFN and the University of Ottawa. For more information on the BRH project please visit the website! www.kluanefirstnationresearch.ca



Working Together: Discussion of KFN research expectations

Through the BRH project, Kluane First Nation is developing their own set of guidelines for researchers working within their Traditional Territory. Themes and expectations were established through a series of interviews and workshops with Kluane First Nation citizens facilitated by Ellorie McKnight between 2019 and 2020. These Research Expectations are framed around four central themes: (1) respect, (2) community, (3) communication, and (4) humility.

To promote collaboration and mutual learning between community members and researchers, summit participants were asked to participate in workshop discussions around each of these themes. Each discussion group consisted of 10-15 people, including researchers, community members and a group facilitator. Facilitators used a series of guiding questions but allowed conversations to flow naturally to promote dialogue between researchers and community members.

Guiding questions:

- What does each theme mean to you?
- Thinking of past and current research you have been involved in or aware of, how do these expectations apply/how have they been implemented (or not)?
- What are some challenges to implementing these expectations?
- What are some opportunities to better implement these expectations into future research?
- What is your overall impression of these expectations?
 - Are they useful in guiding research?
 - Are there any expectations that are unclear to you?
- Do these expectations help you think differently about research? How so?
- How do these expectations relate to reconciliation in research?

After the workshops, facilitators presented brief summaries of the discussions to the broader summit group. Some key comments include:

- There is a need to create space for other perspectives and community leadership within research. Approach research with the eyes of co-learning. Create space for youth mentorship and learning within research.
- Plan ahead and set aside time and resources for relationship-building. Fieldwork often takes precedence during field seasons. Researchers should plan trips to build relationships and communicate with communities and not try to cram it in at the end of their fieldwork period.
- Show respect by using Indigenous languages (Southern Tutchone) in research outputs and publications.

- Check in with the community and people first. Ask people how they are and take care of your own spirit. Be a person first, researcher second.
- There are lots of different ways to communicate, find a way that works best for the community (phone calls, texts, meetings, blogs, etc.).
- Researchers need to have patience when communicating with First Nations, there may be limited capacity to engage at that time – need to respect community capacity.
- Researchers should know the history of the First Nation and land they are working on. There are opportunities to learn this history – maybe have the YukonU First Nation 101 course as a requirement within licensing processes?
- Graduate students are often limited by time and resources. PIs need to spending time in the region and take the lead in community engagement to ensure long-term relationships.
- The Bringing Research Home project should outline examples of researchers and research projects that have done a good job at engaging with community and communicating research.
- Learn about the First Nation and history of the land you are working on. There are many resources out there – e.g. Yukon University's Yukon First Nations 101 course: <https://www.yukonu.ca/programs/courses/yfn-001>





Summit wrap-up

To wrap up the summit, participants were asked to write down one commitment they were making to help align their work with community research expectations or a commitment to support reconciliation through research.

Examples of commitments made:

- I will give youth from the community a meaningful experience on the land by recognizing and using my privilege as a researcher.
- I commit to valuing relationships above research outcomes.
- I commit to learning the Southern Tutchone place names.

The summit closed with a prayer from Kluane First Nation' Elder Alyce Johnson and community members invited guests to join in a final dance.





4.0 Conclusion

The third Lhù'ààn Mân-Kluane Lake Research Summit successfully brought over 50 community members and researchers back together to continue conversations around relationship-building and explore community and Indigenous perspectives on reconciliation in research. The theme of this year's summit – Reconciliation in Research – created space for community members to share their experiences and perspectives on research in Lhù'ààn Mân Keyi. Invited guests included Kluane First Nation community members, Indigenous scholars from across Canada, government decision-makers, representatives from research-relevant organizations, and researchers who are taking action to make a difference through their own work.

Most participants expressed appreciation for the respectful environment that was supportive of knowledge sharing between researchers and community members. As with previous summits, many outcomes of the Summit are not quantifiable – such as providing a space for researchers and community members to spend time together and strengthen relationships.

Given the theme of this year's summit, the focus was on providing a platform for Indigenous perspectives on reconciliation and experiences with research. While many participants appreciated the scope of the summit, several expressed their desire for a more collaborative format. The flash presentations allocated for researchers were well received and participants expressed interest in allocating additional time for these in future summits.

Recommendations and feedback from participants are included in the Appendix. A few key summary points include:

- Events that bring people together are key to rebuilding relationships and knowledge sharing in research. Participants were keen to see this event happen again next year.
- Opportunities to mutually share knowledge were appreciated. Many participants wished for more activities and time on the land.

- While many participants appreciated the focus on community experiences and perspectives, some participants wished for additional opportunities for collaborative discussions among summit participants.

Final words from the planning committee

Shaw níthän to all participants and invited speakers for sharing your time and thoughts at the summit. Thank you for taking time out of your schedules and for coming with an open heart and mind to create a respectful space for everyone involved. We also thank Elders Gùdia - Mary Jane Johnson and Alyce Johnson for sharing their words and stories with us.

We have received feedback requesting annual research summits. The resources needed to organize and host such a Summit are substantial – both fiscally but also in terms of capacity – and resource availability varies from year to year. This, in part, determines the frequency of such summits. If you or your organization can contribute to or lead future summits, Klwane First Nation and the Bringing Research Home project partners would love to hear from you!

Shāw níthän (thank you) and Dak'anútàjè' (I hope you look after yourself),

2023 Lhù'ààn Mân-Kluane Lake Research Summit Planning Committee



Appendix

List of speakers and panelists:

Tour of Outpost and Kluane Lake Research Station – Sian Williams (Outpost Research Station Manager & Icefield Discovery) & Kristina Miller (Kluane Lake Research Station Manager)

Tour of Thachàl Dhäl – Mary Jane Gùdia Johnson

Opening prayer – Kluane First Nation – Elder Alyce Johnson

Welcome remarks – Chief Bob Dickson, Kluane First Nation

Summit facilitator – Math'eiya Alantini (GSD Strategies, Kluane First Nation)

10 Calls to Action Panel:

- Gùdia Mary Jane Johnson (KFN Elder)
- Carmen Wong (Parks Canada)
- Kate Ballegooyen (Kluane First Nation Government, Natural Resource Manager)
- Heidi Swanson (University of Waterloo, Associate Professor)
- Lawrence Ignace (University of Victoria, Canadian Mountain Network)

Indigenous scholar panel:

- Emily Missyabit McAuley (Director, Indigenous Science Liaison Office and Interdepartmental Indigenous STEM Cluster, Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada)
- Kyle Bobiwash (Assistant Professor and Indigenous Scholar, Department of Entomology, University of Manitoba)
- Shandin Pete (Assistant Professor of Teaching, University of British Columbia)

Research in Reconciliation - Tosh Southwick (KFN citizen, IRP Consulting)

Keeping Indigenous and Ancestral Knowledge Alive for the Future Generations – Norma Kassi (Adjunct Professor, McGill Univeristy, Vuntut Gwitchin)

Stories from our Country - KFN led panel:

- Nathan Moore (KFN citizen and Youth)
- Alyce Johnson (KFN Elder)
- Robin Bradasch (KFN citizen, Regional Director General, Yukon Region CIRNAC)

Bringing Research Home:

- Kate Ballegooyen (Kluane First Nation government, Natural Resource Manager)
- Brian Horton (Yukon University)
- Savanah Müller (University of Ottawa)

Flash science presentations:

- Kira Holland (PhD student, University of Alberta)
- Daniel Bellamy (PhD student, University of Montreal)
- Cole Lord-May (PhD student, University of British Columbia)
- Fiona Chapman (PhD student, INRS)
- Kate Andre (SPOR Yukon Unit, Yukon Research Centre)
- Francis Quinby (PhD student, Trent University)
- Katherine Robinson (MSc student, Simon Frasier University)
- Eole Valence (MSc student, McGill University)
- Bastien Charonnat (PhD student, ETS)
- Michael Loso (St. Elias Wrangell National Park, U.S. National Park Service)
- Andrew McAdams (Squirrel Camp PI, University of Colorado Boulder)

List of participants by affiliation:

Kluane First Nation

Chief Bob Dickson
Logan Moore
Nathan Easterson Moore
Jared Dulac
Marissa Mills
Mary Jane Johnson
Robin Bradasch
Jenessa Tlen
Sharon Kabanak
Alyce Johnson
Tosh Southwick (IRP Consulting)
Jade Groves
Juniper Groves
Kathleen Johnson
Heather Johnson
Jenna Mills
Amber Berard-Althouse
Ron Bouvier
Louise Bouvier
Pascale Doubois
Grace Southwick
Savannah Scott

Kluane First Nation staff

Geraldine Pope
Kristy Kennedy
Kate Ballegooyen
Jamie Roddick
Doug Danroth
Gerald Dickson
Nathan Cross

Champagne and Aishihik First Nations

Brian Leiva
Ray Guinness

Silver City

Jean-Paul Pinard
Sally Wright

Canadian Mountain Network/University of British Columbia

Lawrence Ignace

Dan Keyi Renewable Resource Council

Sian Williams (Icefield Discovery)
Joe Bruneau
Sandy Johnson

École de Technologie Supérieure

Michel Baraer
Eole Valence
Bastien Charonnat
Janie Masse-Dufresne

Government of Canada

Greg Bickerton
Lisa Mahon

INRS

Fiona Chapman
Jasmin Raymond

Kluane Lake Research Station (Arctic Institute of North America)

Kristina Penn
Brent Else

Parks Canada

Linaya Workman
Carmen Wong
Gilles Seutin
Chantel LaRiviere
Sarah Chisholm
Sonny Parker

Polar Knowledge Canada

Aynslie Ogden

Simon Fraser University

Katie Robinson
Gwenn Flowers

Trent University

Francis Quinby
Alexandra Everett

University of Alberta

Kira Holland
Nicole Humeniuk

University of British Columbia

Shandin Pete
Cole Lord-May
Christian Schoof

University of Colorado Boulder

Andrew McAdams

University of Guelph

Colin Bonner

University of Montreal

Daniel Bellamy
James King

University of Ottawa

Sonia Wesche
Savanah Müller

University of Waterloo

Heidi Swanson

US National Park Service

Michael Loso

Yukon University

Alison Perrin
Kate Andre
Michael Ross

Participant feedback from comment cards:

What part of the summit did you like the most?

- The walk with Mary Jane
- The panel discussions - especially with the KFN members. Really enjoyed the field trip to KLRS & Sian's business. Also liked that a youth was involved & speaking his language.
- The presentations were interesting - Research in reconciliation, Norma Kassi - interesting presentation. Overall, the summit was interesting.
- It is very hard to say because it was all very good.
- History panel - Robin, Alyce & Suganita
- Posters and the illustrator; listening to the stories of Kluane First Nation and all the different research that goes on in the Kluane region.
- Was only here for Sunday - loved Norma's talk especially her message from Lena about the youth and importance of time on the land.
- Visitors with community-based interests
- Walking together out on the land. Through stories with Southern Tutchone place names.
- I actually enjoyed all of it. The Elders, the youth, the food, the facility, the beautiful land, mountains, lake are bonus. Love it forever.
- Enjoyed it all + found it informative.
- Break time mingling allowed for natural time to meet 1 on 1 with many folks - starting and furthering relationships; Jared and Norma's film - excellent work
- The sharing of who we are and where we're from and where we want to go.
- The storytelling. The sharing of expectations of researchers. The food was amazing too! Thank you.
- Everything was incredibly powerful - the stories, the actual advice for researchers. I'm coming away moved, inspired, and ready to be a better ally. I promise to do better! Shāw níthän
- 10 calls to action panel; Norma Kassi talk
- Hearing for the community members
- Loved every part of it - talks, activities, food, films, etc.
- Excellent speakers - so incredible to learn from KFN + indigenous experts in the community.
- Hearing presentations from community members
- Meeting local folks.
- All talks and panels by the community members. Liked the fact that this was a community-focused gathering, the community way.
- Hearing stories from the community; the food! :)
- Hearing from KFN citizens + networking with all participants

- Hearing Nathan discuss the connect between language & place. Feeling welcome.
- Friday - (?)
- The many presentations on reconciliation through research, discussions that needed to be had.
- Great food! So welcoming community!!
- Meeting researchers and community members.
- I thoroughly enjoyed all of the panels, games, and activities. However, I think that getting the space to interact with the community members was the most valuable to me.
- The sharing of experience of Sunday morning.
- Stories and walk with Gùdia at Tachäl Dhäl AND panel presentation by '10 Calls to Action' authors.
- The removed focus on research projects -> this didn't allow researchers to take up too much space.
- The opportunity to hear from the community how they would like to see research done in the region.
- The elders sharing (walks with Mary Jane Gudia) the opportunity to play/learn games and connect informally.
- Talks by community members.
- KFN speakers; 10 Calls to Action; Getting to know people better.
- Direct interaction with community members in an open environment.
- Hearing ancestral story & learning how researchers should collaborate in a manner that best serves the community. Incredible guest speakers I was really moved by what I have learnt.
- I really enjoyed the good mixture of format and content - panel discussions, films, round table sessions. I thought it was amazing to have so much time to hear from Elders and knowledge holders, and that their contributions were prioritized.
- I really enjoyed the whole summit program. My favourite portions were the discussion groups at the end, the film screening, and Tosh's presentation about reconciliation. Thank you to all the presenters and organizers!
- Helping me understand what respect looks like.
- Stories from our country, research engaging speeches, emotive, shows real progress, not just reconciliation lectured.
- Panels were for the most part excellent. Much better formula than multiple 10 minutes talks. However, there were too few questions being asked.
- Having the time to listen to community members (Mary Jane's walk on Friday) and panel Sunday morning, and learning hand games but also to talk to Liz and Sharon during health and lunch breaks.
- The invited speakers

- The indigenous perspectives on the researchers doing work in Kluane. The TV screens and loudspeakers improved the projection of the presenters. The posters were great! The food!
- The speakers: Tosh, 10 Calls team, Norma, KFN citizens
- Presentations by indigenous people; KFN citizens led the whole process - incredible <3
- Hearing Indigenous perspectives and expectations regarding researchers
- 10 Calls to Action, but honestly hard to choose, loved all the panels.
- Stories about the land; Hand Games.
- All of it! So much good discussions, great connecting with new people. Stick gambling. Food.
- Great speakers, good discussions. Nice way to meet people and create connections.
- Face to face interactions, transfer of knowledge.
- Presentations on second day.
- Appreciated fun cultural events to mix with local community members.

What part of the summit could have been improved?

- Nothing :)
- More outside activity or learning.
- Would have been nice to have had more live presentations.
- Have more people who were raised here to tell about the history of Burwash.
- Discussions were good but maybe throughout rather than at end.
- More ceremony; more hand games.
- Really hoping we can have another one within 2 years.
- Elders' involvement and presentations.
- Have a community dance at nighttime. Invite Yukon Jack to play. Maybe
- Nothing comes to mind.
- Perhaps an extra day to allow for more group activities.
- maybe a few unstructured conversations (not break or food) but just time to reflect and chat between sessions.
- More flash talks. More information on the variety of research on the TT.
- Roundtables earlier in the day
- It was honestly pretty great. Maybe an opportunity to do something outside in days 2 & 3?
- nothing - it was totally excellent!
- Interspersed opportunities to go outside in each day - allow for O2, change of energy, etc.
- More opportunities for unstructured time to chat directly w/community members.
- longer debrief sessions @ the end
- Too big of tables for "Respect" theme on day 3 afternoon - I couldn't hear the discussion
- Encouraging more chances for community to express research priorities.
- More time for breakout groups to generate new ideas + approaches on how to incorporate community needs into Research proposal objectives

- More opportunities for informally meet, chat & get to know community members. Some more people to people time.
- Maybe too many presentations. One way communication. Not enough time for exchanges.
- The flash science talks were great, but could have been a minute or two longer.
- I would have appreciated slightly more time to discuss (the last activity)
- The presentations appear to me as unilateral, people presenting was "for"
- I'm not sure I would change anything, but it would have been nice to have more time in smaller discussion groups that mix community members and researchers
- Having a talk focusing on graduate students - a lot of topics discussed were aimed towards PIs and the grad students (often) have limited agency/funds/time/support! What can we do that's feasible?
- Opportunities to participate in community activities (crib, hand games, etc.) was a great way to build community. More of these activities would be great!
- More discussions/facilitated actioning! The very last session was rich in learning from others + connecting dots ourselves. Perhaps an additional "workshopping" piece each day.
- Overall, very good. Not really much that I thought could be improved.
- I would have like a break-out session following the 10 calls to action; More opportunities for small discussions rather than a Q&A
- More roundtable discussions in small groups. It would be nice to do this each day.
- I believe the small discussion groups are important for researchers & community members to be able to communicate & understand one another - more time built around that.
- It would have been nice to have a little longer on breaks to have more time for informal conversations with each other.
- More group discussions with a mix of community members & invited guests would be valuable.
- Examples of beneficial projects; examples of what has worked.
- Quantity of science presentations (I know) but there were lots more results that could be shared & this feels like a missed opportunity.
- There could have been a few more people presenting in the Flash Talk sessions.
- It would have been to have more roundtable discussions after presentations and the chance to connect/reflect with others.
- I think more time on the breakout groups. More opportunities for researchers' perspectives (esp. junior researchers). Might have been more questions after talks if could be submitted in writing?
- Still couldn't hear much of what some presenters said. Bring funders to the summit.
- Community needs for relevant research for them is important to discuss with researchers. A) the long-term risks of the toxic substances that may be in the dust of the mountains - effects on animal plants and humans
- More time for afternoon panelists on 1st day (the indigenous scholars from across the country)

- Would like a workshop on how to pronounce place names, language info, (e.g. names of places) in print
- This was excellent and enlightening - no real suggestions for improvement.
- Speed round talks could be increased to 4-5 minutes.

Any other comments, questions, or suggestions?

- Nope :)
- Need more youth & KFN members participating. Maybe there should be a separate Youth Summit - for the youth.
- This was the first summit I was able to attend, and I thought it was interesting and the artist summaries of workshop was -
- Special youth meetings
- Incredible food + hospitality; so great to be meeting face to face again.
- I thoroughly enjoyed myself. I look forward to coming again. Norma Kassi and Jared did an excellent job on the film. Love you all! We need this everywhere. Gunalshist (!)! Pearl C.
- This is my second summit + I have loved both.
- Thank you so much - shaw nithan! Looking forward to the next one.
- Thank you for having us.
- Is there going to be some sort of dissemination of key points or reflections from the summit/ some ways of sharing forward what we've discussed over these 3 days.
- Would be great to send around a list of contact info for people who are willing to share (name, job/org/community, contact info).
- Shāw níthän for the hard work in putting this together.
- Really great meeting, thanks for inviting me!
- Great summit an example for other First Nations and those that wish to research in their territories.
- I really appreciated the fact that the program was not too full - time was available to chat with people.
- When is the best time to communicate research with the community?
- Include a cultural activity around a campfire. Thanks for the invitation to attend!
- Thank you for welcoming me to Lhù'ààn Mân. What is the timeline for the BRH project next steps?
- Thanks a lot for inviting us.
- It was wonderful, I learned a lot, thanks for educating us. I feel I have lots of new ideas! Thanks
- Way to go organizers!!!
- I really appreciate the examples of how researchers have been conducted with the community in the past. This is something I have struggled with -disseminating very technical work into something meaningful to the community.

- It has been a pleasure to be there. Thanks! Shāw níthän!
- I loved this experience and am so grateful for the opportunity to hear from and interact with community members. Thank you for your hospitality!
- The guest speakers were fantastic + multi-faceted ways the conference was conducted through (video/activities/etc.) - how can students build connections within a limited + non-negotiable timeframe if they want to build relationships/involve community (particularly w/o PI support)?
- In the future it will be nice to hear what research priorities are important to KFN so that we can begin taking concrete steps to evolve the research conducted in the region.
- Amazing summit - thanks/Shāw níthän for welcoming us, sharing us and feeding us! Lots to integrate moving forward.
- Perhaps more opportunities to interact with community members.
- Thank you so much for organizing this and hosting. I don't really feel this should be your responsibility to host this, but I REALLY appreciate it.
- Thank you so much for organizing. This was a very special experience and impacted me deeply.
- When speaking with other graduate students who only work in on area in 2-4 years, how can we create a positive impact and what could we do.
- This was really inspiring and positive event. I appreciate being able to participate.
- I am very grateful and honored to have been part of this summit. As a student/new researcher, I will be committed to maintaining this relationship with the community and sharing what I learn in my research in the way that best suits the community.
- Source for names for maps.
- Thank you for all the organization, shared experiences & hosting us!
- Food was memorable! Thanks
- I think communication is the hardest. Responses from the community + building relationships can take years, and more research is led by graduate students with 2-5 years to finish their research and who have little independence.
- Keep doing these summits. Switch between research and energy summit, or other important community themes.
- Wonderful gathering - thank you Shāw níthän for inviting and hosting us.
- Circle discussions bring truth, honesty to the questions with an assertive facilitator.
- Food was excellent as always!
- This was such an honour - thank you. I wish for better research practices that respect + honour KDFN in the future.
- Excellent food - organization!
- Food was great! Thank you.
- Thank you for inviting me. I wasn't sure what I was coming to but take a lot back.

Summit graphic illustrations - created by Esther Bordet from Yukon Graphic Recording

Lhù'ààn Mân - KLUANE LAKE RESEARCH SUMMIT

MAY 2023 DAY 1

10 CALLS TO ACTION

WE ARE PART OF THE LAND, WE ARE PART OF THE WATER

SET THE STAGE FOR **RELATIONSHIPS**
SHARING KNOWLEDGE IN A RESPECTFUL WAY

SCIENCE
AN OPPORTUNITY FOR **YOUTH**

WHY
WISDOM KNOWLEDGE CARE WITHIN
COLLABORATION
TRADITIONAL KNOWLEDGE
REVALUATE PRACTICES

HOPEFUL
10 CALLS TO ACTION PAPER
TARGET 2030

YOUTH
HOPEFUL
INVOLVEMENT
DIFFERENT LEVELS OF COMMUNICATING SCIENCE?
SIMPLE BUT IMPORTANT ACTIONS
SHARE THE LOVE

POSITIVE CHANGES
INTERNATIONAL INTEREST + EXPOSURE

10 CALLS TO ACTION
1. CALLS TO ACTION
2. TAKE A COURSE
3. PLACE NAMES
4. ANIMAL CARE
5. BE CREATIVE
6. SHARE + COPRODUCE KNOWLEDGE
7. FUNDING BODIES TO CHANGE THEIR APPROACH
8. FLEXIBLE RESEARCH TO MEET COMMUNITY NEEDS
9. UNDERSTAND THE SOCIO-POLITICAL CONTEXT BEHIND THE RESEARCH SITE
10. INSTITUTIONS + JOURNALISTS TO SEEK PERMISSION FROM COMMUNITIES PRIOR TO PUBLICATION

RECONCILIATION SCIENCE?
MEANINGFUL RELATIONSHIPS & COLLABORATIONS
SUSTAINABILITY SYSTEM
INTEGRATE TO CALL AND RESEARCH

Yukon Graphic Recording
DAY 1 - AM

RESEARCH IN RECONCILIATION

TOSH SOUTHWICK

MAKE SPACE FOR DIFFERENT WORLD VIEWS

INDIGENOUS PERSPECTIVES ON RESEARCH

EMILY MISSYASIT McAULEY
SHADIN PETE
KYLE BOBIWASH

RECONCILIATION
NATION TO NATION
INDIGENIZATION
DECOLONIZATION
JUMP IN WHERE YOU CAN!

TRUTH TRUST

ETHICS
RESEARCH ETHICS
TOKENISM (LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS)
TIMING APPROACH
INTEGRITY
AUTHENTICITY

PLACE NAMES
ELDERS
COLLABORATE
EMPOWER
BE RELIABLE
CONSISTENT

CONTEXT
BELIEF
DATA
PHENOMENON
GATHER, ANALYSE, & USE

KNOWLEDGE
AGRICULTURE
AGRI-FOOD CANADA
INDIGENOUS SCIENCE
LIAISON OFFICE
SCIENCE STRATEGY
TRUST + RELATIONSHIP
CONTINUUM OF CO-DEVELOPMENT

VALUES
PRODUCTIVITY
SOCIO ECOLOGICAL TIES
CROP DIVERSITY → BIODIVERSITY

RESEARCH
CONTINUUM OF CO-DEVELOPMENT

Yukon Graphic Recording

Lhù'ààn Mân - KLUANE LAKE RESEARCH SUMMIT

MAY 2023 DAY 2

Dan Keyi Kwandur STORIES FROM OUR COUNTRY

ROBIN BRADASH + ALYKE JOHNSON
NATHAN HODGE

KEEPING INDIGENOUS AND ANCESTRAL KNOWLEDGE ALIVE FOR THE FUTURE GENERATIONS. NORMA KASSI

ARTIC NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE
TOXIC WASTE WATER
CINE MEGES U
AICBR 2007

ELDER'S
MY GRANDFATHER WAS MY FIRST TEACHER
GIVE AWAY THE KNOWLEDGE IS A FUNDAMENTAL DUTY OF INDIGENOUS PEOPLE

YOUTH
WORK WITH SCIENTISTS, AKADEMIA
COLLABORATE

LAND GUARDIANS
WORKSHOPS ACROSS THE COUNTRY
MONITORING ON THE LAND TRAINING
COMMUNITY-BASED RESEARCH
INDIGENOUS LEADERSHIP INITIATIVE

TRUTH
WE ARE ALL WALKING NARRATIVES
WE ARE ALL WALKING NARRATIVES
ASK QUESTIONS
RECOGNIZE THE HISTORY
OUR COMMUNITY HAS SKILLS

LANGUAGE
WHERE YOU COME FROM
WHERE YOU NEED TO GO

RECOGNITION
OUR PERSPECTIVE LANGUAGE ARE BASED ON THIS LAND
GIVE RECOGNITION TO THIS PLACE TO THE PEOPLE TO THE FUTURE GENERATION

Yukon Graphic Recording

