

ANNUAL REPORT

2022/2023













MESSAGE FROM CHAIR

The Aboriginal Sports Circle of the Northwest Territories (ASCNWT) was established in 1999 to ensure Indigenous residents of the North had access to more equitable sport, recreation, and physical activity opportunities. At ASCNWT we envision a future of healthy, active, and culturally connected Indigenous communities.

This past year there has been much to celebrate, as the pandemic restrictions were lifted our organization was able to get back to steady programming, helping communities emerge out of the pandemic, and hosting some of our signature events in person once again.

There is no doubt that communities across the territory have been impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. This past fiscal year we supported over 20 communities, schools, and territorial sport organizations through our community development fund. ASCNWT supplied them with equipment, grants and helped them develop meaningful connections to qualified individuals and organizations that was all community driven.

We also saw the return of some of our signature events. We hosted the 2023 Traditional Games Championship in person for the first time in a couple years. We had over 200 participants from 20 schools compete, a great first event emerging from the pandemic. We were also able to host the inaugural Indigenous Summer Games. The planning and preparation for this event has been happening for several years and was great to see so many athletes from across the north compete is Northern and Dene Games. We saw over 100 participants from 33 communities across Yukon, Northwest Territories, Nunavut, Alaska, and southern Canada.

One of the trends our organization saw emerge out of the pandemic was the lack of volunteers and trained professionals to help deliver meaningful programming. Community champions of the past had either moved on to other things and communities were unable to retain or train new ones. ASCNWT tried to help solve this issue through delivering a variety of workshops like the Aboriginal Coaching Module, Indigenous Communities: Active for Life and the Indigenous Long-Term Participant Development Pathway. We held over 10 workshops and worked with 16 territorial sport organizations to help build capacity amongst community champions.

I would like to thank the Staff, Board of Directors, instructors, and partners for a successful year, without your dedication and passion it would not be possible to deliver on the goals and objectives of ASCNWT.

Mahsi Cho

Angela Grandjambe Chairperson

Jal A do Se

BOARD OF DIRECTORS



ANGELA GRANDJAMBE CHAIRPERSON



GRETTA SITTICHINLI
DIRECTOR AT LARGE



DIRECTOR AT LARGE



MERCEDES RABESCA TLI CHO DIRECTOR



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STAFF



EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



CHEYENNE LAFFERTY
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT MANAGER



CARSON ROCHE EVENTS MANAGER



LORI RUTHERFORD-SIMON LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT COORDINATOR



CHLOE LAROCQUE
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COORDINATOR



CHRISTOPHER MACDONALD INTERN



EMMANUEL RAMOS
COMMUNICATIONS & CONTENT COORDINATOR

STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS

For the year ended March 31, 2023	2023	2023	2022
REVENUES	Budget (Unaudited)	Actual	Actual
Canada - Sport for Social Development GNWT MACA - BL GNWT MACA GNWT MACA - ILP GNWT MACA - WCLP GNWT MACA - NAIG Aboriginal Sports Circle Contributions deferred - opening Contributions deferred - closing Other revenue Registration fees	\$ 367,704 175,000 60,000 169,801 800,000 - 137,796 - 246,798 44,200	367,705 175,000 60,000 169,800 800,000 662,980 289,100 1,010,937 (1,159,834) 207,743 61,176	387,329 175,000 60,000 283,000 800,000 - 24,500 648,382 (1,010,937) 96,492 (2,646)
	2,001,299	2,644,607	1,461,120
EXPENSES			
Administration Staff or instructor costs Travel expenses Grants Rent and fees paid Other	105,460 897,483 510,799 152,667 108,390 226,500	137,537 1,026,684 824,253 258,382 119,625 278,126	123,683 705,443 132,361 149,937 110,337 239,359
	2,001,299	2,644,607	1,461,120
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenses before other	-	-	-

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- Community Development
- TSO Northern & Dene Games NT
- 1 TSO Archery NT
- 12 Leadership Development
- 14. Indigenous Summer Games
- 16 NWT Archery Championships
- 1 Traditional Games Championships
- 20 Awards Dinner
- 22 Scholarships
- **23** Partners

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT



COMMUNITIES THAT ACCESSED COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

11

Behchoko
Fort Liard
Fort Providence
Fort Simpson
Fort Smith
Gameti
Inuvik
Norman Wells
Ulukhaktok
Wekweeti
Yellowknife

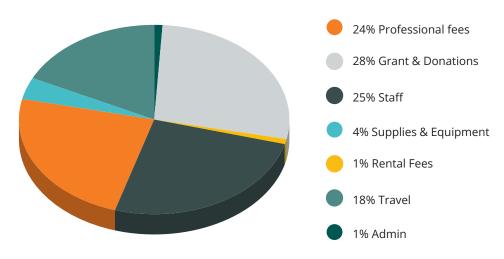
TSO PARTNERSHIPS

4

Hockey North NWT Judo NWT Soccer NWT Wrestling The Community Development Program was designed to assist communities with sport, recreation and cultural activities that are meaningful and beneficial to the community and its participants. Our goal is to work with organizations and/or communities to build capacity in their programming to get residents active. We strive to remove as many barriers as possible to ensure everyone has access to sport and recreation. The Aboriginal Sports Circle of the NWT (ASCNWT) is working to create strong partnerships with volunteers, recreation leaders, schools, and Territorial Sport Organizations (TSO's).

We have partnered with several TSO's to support their sport initiatives. We've had requests from TSO's to assist with running workshops, building capacity and equipment assistance. Together we aim to provide sport and recreation to communities and deliver quality programming.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT TOTAL COST \$453,265





ORGANIZATIONS ASSISTED

Organization

Community Government of Gameti

Yellowknife Ski Club Echo Dene School

NWT Wrestling

YK Galaxy Soccer Club

Chief Jimmy Bruneau School

Hockey North

Inuvik Ski Club

Jean Wetrade Gameti School

NWT Judo

Slide Zone Shredderz

Community Government of Wekeeti

Liidlii Kue First Nation

Community Government of Behchoko

Future Fury's Female Hockey

What the Funding Was Used For

Workout equipment & ice rink liner

Ski-at-school field trips

Archery equipment

Mats for Wekweeti, Gameti, and Ulukhaktok

Soccer tour of 10 communities

Dogsledding trip, archery equipment & hand games

Lacrosse camp in Norman Wells

Ski equipment

Workout rack for fitness room & archery equipment

Arctic Open Tournament

Their annual Big Fun event

Get equipment made for Dene Baseball

Start archery club

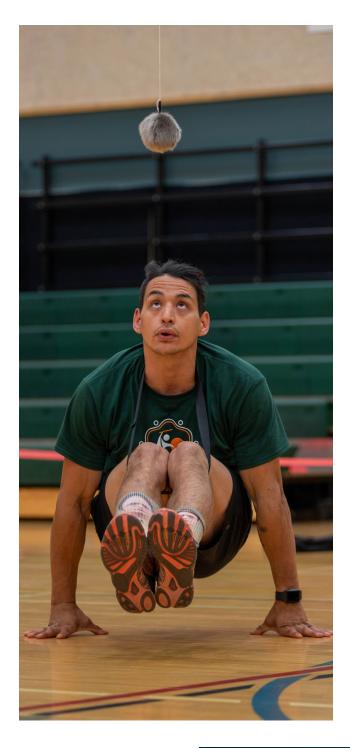
Disability Council workshop

Hockey equipment

TERRITORIAL SPORT ORGANIZATIONS







The Northern Games NT and the Dene Games NT (NG/DG) Territorial Sport Organizations are designed to promote cultural pride and understanding through participation in the traditional survival and social games. Both TSO's are operated and organized by working groups established by ASCNWT. The working groups meet 4 times a year to discuss ways to grow the games. We provide training opportunities for instructors, organize demonstrations for large events and work at developing the sports across the North.

ARCTIC WINTER GAMES

Dene Games NT organized and delivered the Dene Games territorial trials which were held in Dettah, NT. 52 athletes from 13 communities attended the trials.

16 athletes and 2 coaches from the following communities were chosen to Team NT Dene Games.

- Fort Resolution
- Fort Smith
- Tsiigehtchic
- Deline

- Fort McPherson
- Dettah
- Yellowknife
- Aklavik

At the Arctic Winter Games (AWG) they were able to win 3 Gold Ulus, 1 Silver Ulu, and 4 Bronze Ulus.

Northern Games NT organized and delivered the Arctic Sports territorial trials which were held in Inuvik, NT. 32 athletes from 8 communities attended the trials.

18 athletes and 2 coaches from the following communites were selected to Team NT Arctic Sports.

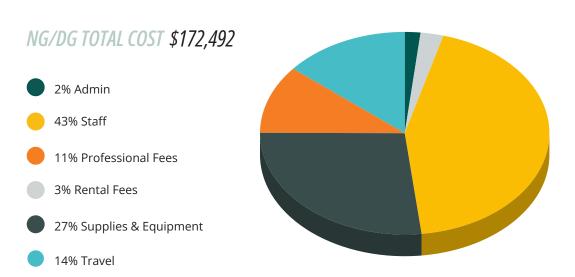
- Tuktoyaktuk
- · Ulukhaktok
- Tsiigehtchic
- Aklavik
- Inuvik
- Yellowknife

At the AWG they were able to win 8 Gold Ulus, 5 Silver Ulus, and 2 Bronze Ulus.



COMMUNITY PROGRAMMING

With the lifting of the pandemic restrictions, we were able to resume in-person NG/DG programming. We delivered programming to 11 communities, several schools throughout the NT, as well different organizations in Yellowknife.



COMMUNITIES REPRESENTED

20

Aklavik Behchoko Colville Lake Deline Dettah Fort Good Hope Fort McPherson Fort Providence Fort Resolution Fort Smith Gameti Hay River Inuvik Norman Wells N'Dilo Tsiigehtchic Tuktoyaktuk Tulita Ulukhaktok Yellowknife

TERRITORIAL SPORT ORGANIZATIONS



COMMUNITIES REPRESENTED



Fort McPherson Fort Simpson Fort Smith Hay River Inuvik Lutsel K'e Tsiigehtchic Tuktoyaktuk Yellowknife





Archery NT is a TSO operated and organized by a working group established by ASCNWT. It's purpose is to advise ASCNWT on ways to build the sport in the NT and how to best provide support to athletes, coaches and officials

COMMUNITY PROGRAMMING

With the opening of the Multi-Sport Training Facility (MSTF) in Yellowknife, Archery NT has been able to start weekly archery programming.

In addition, we brought our programming to seven other communites. Our program not only consists of teaching individuals how to shoot a bow safely, we also teach community leaders ways to continue programming after we leave.

In addition, we also held coaching courses in June 2022 to certify our coaches that were interested in participating at upcoming multi-sport games.

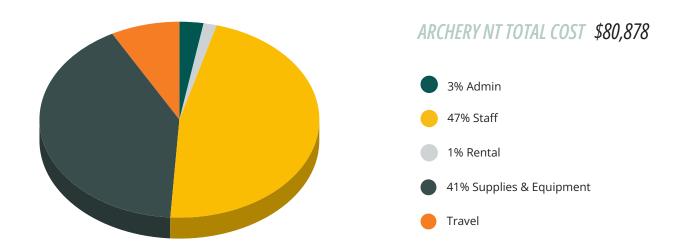


ARCTIC WINTER GAMES & CANADA WINTER GAMES

Archery NT organized and delivered the territorial trials for the 2023 AWG at the MSTF in Yellowknife. 18 athletes from seven communites attended the trials. The top two from each category, Male Barebow, Female Barebow, Male Compound, Femal Compound, were selected for Team NT.

Team NT Archery won four Ulus at the AWG. A Bronze Ulu in Individual Female Compound, two Silver Ulus in Individual Female Barebow and Individual Female Compound, and a Gold Ulu in Team Barebow Mixed.

Archery NT also organized and delivered the trials for the 2023 Canada Winter Games (CWG). There were 13 athletes from five communities registered. We were able to take four athletes to the games. This was only the second time Team NT has sent an archery team to the CWG.



LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

COMMUNITIES REPRESENTED



Aklavik Fort Good Hope Fort Providence Fort Simpson Fort Smith Hay River Norman Wells Tulita Yellowknife

NUMBER OF TSO PARTNERS

16

Archery NT **Badminton NWT** Basketball NWT Cross Country Ski NT Dene Games NT Hockey NWT NT Golf NWT Athletics

NWT Judo Association **NWT Snowboard** NWT Soccer **NWT Swimming** NWT Wrestling Association Northern Games NT Table Tennis North Volleyball NT

INDIGENOUS COMMUNITY COACH **DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM (ICCAP)**

The goal of this program is to attract and support underrepresented populations in coaching, such as female and Indigenous coaches. The program provides up to two Indigenous coaches per Games from each Province and Territory the opportunity to develop their coaching skills through the North American Indigenous Games (NAIG) experience.

ASCNWT has one ICCAP coach attending the 2023 NAIG. Bronwyn Rutherford-Simon is the apprentice coach for soccer.

ABORIGINAL COACHING MODULES (ACM)

The ACM workshop is a professional development training tool for Indigenous and non-Indigenous coaches who coach Indigenous athletes, as they become certified through the National Coaching Certification Program.

The material in the ACM has been developed to meet the following learning objectives: Understanding the role of sport in Indigenous communities; Understanding and positively influencing the community in which you coach; Coaching the whole person; Coaching beyond the physical to include the mental, spiritual and cultural; Responding to racism in sport; Establishing a code of behaviour for your team that respects differences and addresses racism; Helping those you coach make healthy lifestyle choices.

ASCNWT was able to offer the ACM in Norman Wells, Tulita, Fort Smith, Yellowknife, Aklavik, Fort Providence, Fort Simpson, Fort Good Hope and Hay River. We were also able to offer the ACM at the annual NWT Teachers Association conference for educators across the the Territory.

ABORIGINAL APPRENTICESHIP **COACHING PROGRAM (AACP)**

The AACP is a partnership between the Aboriginal Sport Circle, ASCNWT, the Canada Games Council, and the Coaching Association of Canada. It provides the opportunity for each province and territory to send two (2) coaches of Indigenous ancestry to the Canada Games as an apprentice coach.

We had two apprentice coaches participate at the 2023 CWG.

Shakita Jensen - Women's Hockey James Williams - Men's Hockey



INDIGENOUS LONG-TERM PARTICIPANT DEVELOPMENT PATHWAY (ILTPD)

This workshop and accompanying resource is designed to help sport and physical activity leaders and organizations across Canada enhance their understanding about how to support Indigenous participants and athletes in their programming.

For all of our workshops we offer training to be certified as a Learning Facilitator. Our goal is to have our own trained Learning Facilitators in the North.

INDIGENOUS COACHING DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM (ICDP)

The ICDP has been designed to help TSO's fund, mentor, identify and develop Indigenous coaches from communities across the NT. The ICDP was developed in 2019 and is available to the public and TSO's as a novel form of funding for recruiting, supporting, and training Indigenous coaches from communities across the NT. TSO's can apply for our assistance to:

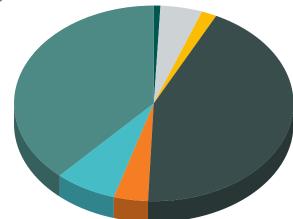
- Fund training or workshops.
- Identify, recruit, and support Indigenous coaches from communities.
- Provide mentorship opportunities for Indigenous coaches.

INDIGENOUS COMMUNITIES: ACTIVE FOR LIFE

This full-day workshop with its accompanying resources were created with guidance from Indigenous leaders throughout the country, with the purpose of inspiring community leaders looking for culturally tailored resources that act as a vehicle toward individual and community holistic development.

LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT TOTAL COST \$361,648

- 1% Administration
- 43% Staff
- 4% Professional Fees
- 5% Grants
- 7% Supplies & Equipment
- 2% Rental
- 38% Travel



EVENTS



NT COMMUNITIES REPRESENTED

Aklavik Behchoko Colville Lake Deline Dettah Fort Good Hope Fort Liard Fort McPherson Fort Resolution Fort Smith Gameti Inuvik Lutselk'e Norman Wells N'dilo Paulatuk Tsiigehtchic Tulita Ulukhaktok Whati

Yellowknife

NON NT COMMUNITES REPRESENTED

Anchorage, AK Cambridge Bay, NU Fairbanks, AK Fort Nelson, BC Gjoa Haven, NU Igaluit,NU Juneau, AK Kugluktuk, NU Rankin Inlet, NU Taloyoak, NU Whitehorse, YT Winnipeg, MB

INDIGENOUS SUMMER GAMES

The inaugural Indigenous Summer Games (ISG) were held in Yellowknife, NT on June 30, 2022 - July 3, 2022. Every region of the NT was represented. In addition, we had Officials from Nunavut, athletes from Alaska, and volunteers from Manitoba attend the games. The games showcased Indigenous culture not just through competition, but there was an Indigenous marketplace, local food vendors, cultural performances, and a gala/ fashion show promoting Indigenous clothing and Indigenous designers.

The list of performers that attended were:

- The Yellowknives Dene First Nation Drummers
- Fort Good Hope Drummers
- **Deline Drummers**
- Paulatuk Drummers & Dancers
- Teetl'it Gwich'in Jiggers from Fort McPherson

ISG COMMITTEE

The ISG Committee consisted of hardworking, dedicated individuals from across the Territory that have a passion for Traditional Games. This committee met monthly in the year leading up to the 2022 ISG. The goal was to plan, organize and deliver the Games. Some of the task they took on were choosing a logo, naming the event, selection of games, selection of performers, picking a host location, and creation of the techinal package.

Committee Members

Ryan Tourangeau Matthew Anikina Veronica McDonald Carly Gon Crystal Catholique Stephanie Illasiak Lorna Storr

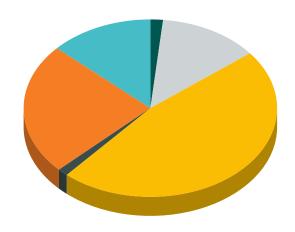
PARTICIPATION

We received over 120 online registrations coming in from Alaska, Yukon, British Columbia, Nunavut, Ontario and NT. Of those who registered close to 80 were able to attend the Games. Several of the registrants who could not attend cited it was due to cost of transportation.

During the Games, we offered same day registration. This allowed athletes to compete in events they weren't originally planning on competing in. This also gave audience members an opportunity to sign up and try some of the games.

Through these two means of registration there were well over 100 participants at the 2022 ISG.

ISG TOTAL COST \$322,036



13% Staff

2% Admin

13% Supplies & Equipment

24% Professional Fees

47% Travel

2% Rental



PARTNERSHIPS

ASCNWT partnered with many organizations and businesses to deliver the 2022 ISG. We are thankful that Rio Tinto stepped up to be our Major Title Sponsor.

We partnered closely with the Yellowknives Dene First Nation (YKDFN) and NWT Arts. We collaborated with NWT Arts to host a cultural market and worked with the YKDFN to put on the Indigenous Cultural Gala.

Additionally, the YKDFN assisted us by providing drummers, elders and speakers for the opening ceremony, the feeding of the fire, hand games demonstration, and drum dance.

We also partnered with Air North, Canadian North, Nova Hotels, Quality Inn, Signed, Dechinta Centre for Research & Learning, Northern Games Society, and Aurora Dodge. Their contributions helped make the Games a success.

NWT ARCHERY CHAMPIONSHIPS



NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS

40

COMMUNITIES REPRESENTED

6

Behchoko Fort Resolution Fort Smith Hay River N'Dilo Yellowknife

ARCHERY CHAMPIONSHIPTOTAL COST \$90,787

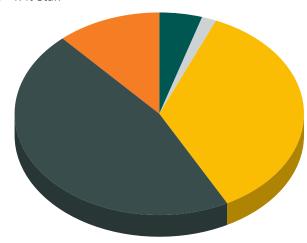
12% Travel

3% Admin

36% Supplies & Equipment

2% Professioinal Fees

47% Staff







The NWT Archery Championships took place at the Fort Smith Ski Club on September 24-25, 2022. This host location was originally planned to hold the 2021 Championships, but due to the pandemic we were forced to cancel. This event marks the first time the NWT Archery Championships were held in a community other than Yellowknife.

ASCNWT had recently purchased an enclosed cargo trailer to allow for the delivery of events like this in communities that do not have the capacity to host. We were able to bring archery gear for the participants to use and 3D archery targets.

40 archers from 6 communities competed in the 2022 NWT Archery Championships. This was the highest number of participants at the Championships since the start of the pandemic.

To help age eligible athletes prepare for upcoming multi-sport games, the format was designed to be similar to the formats at the CWG and NAIG.

In an effort to increase participation, we offered a 50% travel reimbursement, and covered accommodations for a two night stay at the local hotels.

On the heels of the success we had at hosting the NWT Archery Championship in a different community, we plan to hold the 2023 NWT Archer Championships in Fort Providence in September 2023.

TRADITIONAL GAMES CHAMPIONSHIPS





NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS

216

COMMUNITIES REPRESENTED

16

Aklavik Inuvik Behchoko Lutsel K'e Deline Paulatuk Detta Sambaa K'e Fort Good Hope Tsiigehtchic Fort McPherson Tuktoyaktuk Ulukhaktok Fort Resolution Fort Smith Yellowknife

The 2023 Traditional Games Championship (TGC) were held from February 10-12, 2023 in Yellowknife, NT. This was the first in-person Championships since March 2020. In 2021, we held a virtual TGC where schools submitted videos of their athletes competing. In 2022, we unfortunatley had to cancel the Championships outright.

This year had 20 schools, comprised of eight athletes, four male and four female, and two coaches, from 16 different communities participate.

This iteration of TGC came with a new venue. We collaborated with Ecole Sir John Franklin High School to be the new host of the TGC. A few of the benefits in changing the location were:

- Teams were closer to restaurants, grocery stores and other amenities.
- The bigger gymnasium provided ample space for the games.
- The gymnasium had bleachers in which spectators could watch comfortably with a good view.

In terms of audience size, the 2023 TGC was the most well attended Championship, which elevated the atmosphere of the event.

OPENING CEREMONIES

The opening ceremonies took place after the preliminary rounds of the Dene Hand Games on Day 1. We were lucky enough to have YKDFN Chief Fred Sangris welcome our TGC athletes, coaches, officials, and spectators. Afterwards, Hovak Johnston took us through a ceremonial Quilliq lighting. Then the YKDFN drummers performed a prayer song for all our competitors. We wrapped up the opening ceremonies unveilling the TGC banner which was beaded by Marlene Tutcho of Deline, NT.



RESULTS

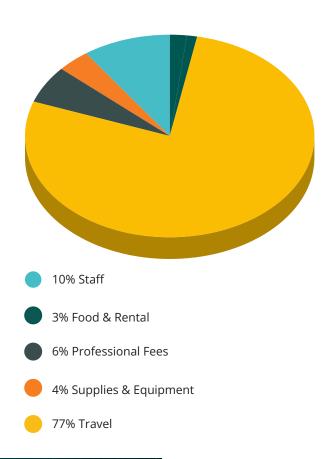
After three days of competition Ecole William MacDonald Middle School came out on top as the winning school. Mangililuk School from Tuktoyaktuk finished in a close second place, followed by Ecole St. Joseph School in third place.

This year the winning team was given an invitation to attend the 2023 Traditional Games Native Youth Olympics in Juneau, Alaska from April 1-2, 2023.

ASCNWT sent the 2023 TGC Champions, Ecole William MacDonald Middle School, to Alaska represent the NT. They brought home 3 medals.

After the success of the 2023 TGC, we plan to host the 2024 Traditional Games Championships again at Ecole Sir John Franklin High School.

TGC TOTAL COST \$433,389



ASCNWT AWARDS DINNER



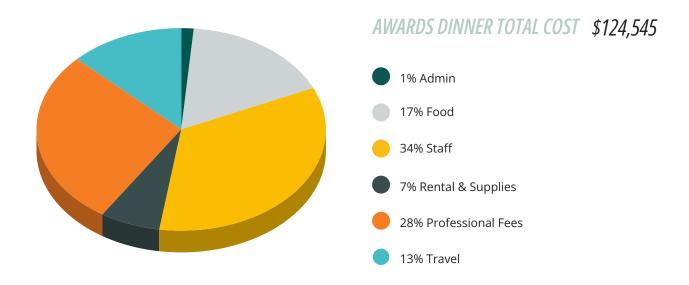
For the past two years, our awards dinners were scaled down. We visited each winner's community and hosted a private dinner with their friends and families. Although, the community visits were great, it was nice to have all the recipients in one place where they can all be celebrated together.

On November 26, 2022, we hosted our Annual Awards Dinner at the Explorer Hotel in Yellowknife, NT. As guests were arriving and getting settled, there was a Northern Games and Dene Games demonstration by some of our local instructors, followed by a Dene Hand Games demonstration by the YKDFN.

Prior to the start of the festivities, we were gifted with a special speech and stories from Angus Charlo.

Our emcee for the evening, Garrett Hinchey, guided us through the proceedings which included speeches from ASCNWT Chairperson, Angela Grandjambe and Shane Thompson, MLA of Nahendeh. We also debuted our 2022 ISG video.

We were scheduled to have Chubby Cree, a First Nations, Indigenous hand drum group from Edmonton. However, due to poor weather conditions they were unable to arrive. In their place we were able to get Juno nominated artist, Desirée Dawson to perform.



2022 AWARD WINNERS



SPORT AWARD DAWSON CRAIG YELLOWKNIFE



COMMUNITY BUILDER AWARD
CHRIS GRUBEN
INUVIK



LANGUAGE & CULTURE AWARD
ETHAN GILLIS
FORT SMITH



COACH AWARD SHAKITA JENSEN YELLOWKNIFE



NWTTA TEACHER AWARD VALERIE GENDRON FORT SIMPSON



Awards Artist Spotlight

Marlene Tutcho, an Indigenous artist from Deline, made beautiful beaded pieces that were presented to the award winners. Her love and skills for sewing were passed down to her from her mother, Rosie Takazo, who learned it from her mother Louisa Baton. During the harsh winter days, Louisa would teach Rosie and her sisters the techniques.

You can often find Marlene in her sewing room that was built for her by her husband. Her greatest wish is to ensure her grandchildren and future generations learn about her traditions, culture and skills

ASCNWT SCHOLARSHIP

The purpose of the ASCNWT Scholarship is to provide financial assistance to Indigenous NT students who are pursuing a post-secondary education related to sport, recreation, culture or specifically surrounding Indigenous people. A large part of ASCNWT's vision is to develop and support community leaders. It is our belief that, by helping students reach their academic goals, they will give back to their community as leaders and role models



Sahara Lafferty Behchoko, NT

Sahara is in her 5th year of university and her 1st year in the Bachelor of Education Elementary program at Thompson Rivers University. After completion of her program she intends to take her masters in Therapy, specifically working with behavioral issues. She would love to build a program in the North to help Indigenous at risk youth.



Camryn Soucy Fort Smith, NT

Camryn is attending the University of Lethbridge in which she is in the Social Work program, majoring in Indigenous Studies. She has represented Team NT as an athlete at several multi-sport games. She also volunteers her time helping with sports programming in Fort Smith.



Bronwyn Rutherford-Simon Fort Smith, NT

Bronwyn has just completed her 3rd year at Mount Royal University, where she is in the Bachelor of Health & Physical Education program. Bronwyn is an advocate for living an active lifesytle. She has participated in sports her whole life. She is now embarking on her coaching journey. Bronwyn was named as an apprentice coach for the 2023 NAIG.

TOTAL AMOUNT AWARDED

\$6,000.00

PARTNERS





































Canadian Heritage Patrimoine canadien











