

Correction

The Oct. 29 issue of the *Inuvik Drum* contained an error ("Things get real for search and rescue"). Brian Larman was misidentified. The *Drum* apologizes for any embarrassment or inconvenience this may have caused.

NEWS Briefs

Pooches get their walk

All community members – four-legged and two – are invited to a free dog-walking event Nov. 15.

The event, run by Arctic Paws to raise awareness for its spay/neuter assistance program, will take place at 2 p.m. starting at the Boot Lake parking lot.

It is the first of three such events to be held this year, sponsored by a grant from Get Active NWT.

Badminton tourney open for registration

East Three School will be hosting its annual badminton tournament Nov. 13 and 14, but registrations close Nov. 9.

Divisions will depend on how many participants come forward but the tentative categories are U15, U19 and adult, singles, doubles and mixed. There is a fee for registration, but it is lower for students.

Anyone wishing to register may contact Colin Pybus at the school.

Last year, Pybus called the event "very well-attended" with 34 students and 11 adults signing up.

Last-minute addition to candidates roster

After Inuvik had assumed Robert C. McLeod would be acclaimed in Inuvik Twin Lakes for the second election in a row, a last-minute contender put his name forward.

Jimmy Kalinek filed his nomination papers to run against McLeod for the seat Oct. 30, the day of the deadline.

He joins incumbent Alfred Moses and challenger Dez Loreen competing for the Inuvik Boot Lake seat in the Nov. 23 territorial election.

Play group opens doors

The Children First Centre will be hosting a play group for children zero to six years old every Wednesday from 10 to 11:15 a.m.

Executive director Patricia Davison said the play group is a way to open the building to the community.

"With Inuvik's climate, it is hard to find a place for children to run around and play," she said. "In the winter it is cold for little ones to be out for very long and in the summer there are many bugs. We open our gym up to young children to utilize. It gives them an opportunity to run and play, adults can network and share and enhances the well-being of families in general."

Davison said the centre is keen to help all families as much as they can and looks forward to when the outdoor playground will be up and running to accommodate even more children and families.

Children attending the play group must be accompanied by a parent or caregiver.



photo courtesy of Environment Yukon

Four bull caribou were found shot dead Oct. 15 near the Yukon/NWT border. An investigation into who is responsible for the meat wastage is underway.

Meat wastage case under investigation

Yukon conservation officer asking questions after four dead caribou found

by Sarah Ladik
Northern News Services

Conservation officers are investigating after four bull caribou were found shot near the Yukon border on the Dempster Highway Oct. 15.

Officer Shawn Hughes was in Inuvik following leads and collecting witness accounts on the situation, and did the same in Fort McPherson as well.

"We've been getting lots of comments and some names to follow," he told the *Drum*. "But I can't give any details, as it's still under investigation."

Hughes said caribou arrived in great numbers in the area Oct. 12 and hunters from all over the region turned out in droves as a result. The four caribou were found at kilometre 461, just a few

kilometres on the Yukon side of the border. He said that although they were found on Oct. 15, they were likely shot Oct. 13.

"They weren't gutted or anything," he said.

"They were just left to spoil there."

Amy Amos, executive director of the Gwich'in Renewable Resources Board, said not only is meat wastage illegal, it goes against the teachings of elders.

She said that although the board is not an enforcement agency, it does condemn the practice. To that end, Amos said the board has created posters designed to educate the

public about good hunting practices and remind people of their traditional duties.

"Report your harvest, don't wound, respect the land."

Amy Amos

"The poster talks about sharing the land and respecting the caribou," she said.

"Report your harvest, don't wound, respect the land. Don't disturb it more than you need to with Ski-Doos and everything else."

She also said the board has created bumper stickers say-

ing "let the leaders pass" for hunters on the Dempster.

"We just got them," she said last week.

"So they'll be ready for next year."

For now, Hughes said the caribou have moved on, and with them the hunters. The days following the initial hunt, however, were tense and chaotic.

"People dodging bullets totally happened," he said, confirming some accounts from social media.

"That hasn't happened in five years but we haven't seen caribou like this in five years."

He said rules exist for this kind of situation. It is illegal to carry a loaded firearm in a vehicle and it is illegal to shoot across a highway or from a highway.

"In the past that's been a problem," he said.

"We have had reports of dangerous hunting practices and we do want to get some more information."