Connecting Caribou, Community, and Well-Being

Elder/youth Land Camp

The approach to teaching and learning in camp will be grounded in Inuit customs and values, with a basis of respect and patience for youth learning and growing through their own experiences. This camp is focused on learning about traditional hunting and survival skills related to caribou. Many camp learning opportunities have been identified at meetings with Elders, youth, and the land camp planning committee from August, 2012 to July, 2013. Some examples of things that youth will learn or experience at camp include:

- names for caribou parts
- traditional sewing skills
- making traditional tools
- drying meat/skins
- skinning a caribou
- ways to approach and hunt caribou
- food preparation and preservation
- other hunting or fishing skills
- Inuktitut terminology
- survival skills
- healthy life skills
- how to treat animals and the environment
- story-telling in evenings
- safe use of firearms
- freedom to explore camp surroundings

All camp learning activities, safety protocols, and logistics have been discussed and developed by the Land Camp Planning Committee (and compiled by Simon Okpakok and Gita Ljubicic).

Learning Goals

August 4 - 14, 2013 at Tikiranajuq (weather permitting)

What to expect at camp...

- Camp and travel safety
- Camp life
- Learning goals
- What to bring

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Land Camp Planning Committee
Chair: David Siksik  Coordinator/Secretary: Simon Okpakok
Committee Members: Joseph Akoak, Martha Pooyataq, Mariam Aglukkaq, Gerold Kogvik, George Kamookaq, Susie Konana, Uriash Pukiqnak, Lorraine Pukiqnak, Donald Kogvik, Martha Kogvik

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**Camp Life**

The following logistics have been discussed to help camp life run smoothly for everyone involved:

- **Inuktitut language** - Inuktitut is to be the main language of instruction and communication throughout the camp, without the use of an interpreter, except for specific research or recording purposes.

- **Living/working together** - there will generally be a regular wake-up (8am) and bed-time (11pm) to help coordinate meal and story-telling times, as well as group cohesion.
  - youth will share tents with Elders/instructors
  - youth will be asked to contribute to all aspects of camp life (e.g. camp setup, cooking, cleaning, fetching water, disposing of waste, etc.)
  - there will be a group meeting each evening to discuss learning activities and locations for the next day (and will be adjusted according to weather)

- **Keeping the camp clean** - everything brought into camp should return to town, with the exception of garbage that can be burned.
  - a small tent with portable toilet will be provided as the bathroom facility for use by all camp participants

- **Don’t travel alone** - anyone travelling away from camp (or from the group in transit) MUST have someone else with them at all times.

- **Survival suits** - insulated, full body flotation suits MUST be worn by all youth participants (if you borrow one, please inform the camp coordinator and be sure to return it soon after camp)

- **First Aid Kits and supplies** - will be available in camp and during travel.

**Camp and Travel Safety**

Travel and camp safety is the top priority at all times. The following precautionary measures will be in place:

- **Emergency contact** - a satellite phone and SPOT locating device will be available in camp in case of emergency

- **Firearms** - firearms safety regulations and standards will be reviewed and enforced by camp instructors and support staff, only youth with parental permission will be allowed to use firearms

- **Don’t travel alone** - anyone travelling away from camp (or from the group in transit) MUST have someone else with them at all times

Camp waiver and consent forms must be completed by all youth participants in order to be registered for the land camp. For youth under 19, their parent or guardian must also review this booklet, and sign the appropriate forms, to confirm the permission for youth to attend. Parents/guardians are also welcome to attend the final camp planning meeting.