



**YUKON
FIRST NATION
EDUCATION
DIRECTORATE**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

September 16, 2020

SALMON DISTRIBUTION FOR WHITEHORSE-BASED FIRST NATION FAMILIES

Whitehorse - The Yukon First Nation Education Directorate has partnered with Second Harvest and Agriculture Canada Surplus Food Rescue Program to provide urban based First Nation Families with 10,000 lbs of B.C. ocean caught chum salmon and 20,000 lbs of canned B.C. salmon. We will be distributing the salmon at the Takhini Arena September 21-25 from 11:30 am-6:30 pm to all Whitehorse based First Nation families with children between the ages of 0-19.

To connect the distribution of the fish with traditional practice, we are also hosting a fish camp October 5-9 for Yukon school students at Helen's Fish Camp at Lake Laberge.

In addition to the distribution of the salmon, the YFNED and CYFN worked together this past year to create the Rural Nutritional Program through Jordan's Principle. This service is now housed at the YFNED, and we are pleased to announce the extension of that service for the next two years with an investment to communities of \$6.7 million dollars. This will provide ongoing resources to ensure access to nutritional/traditional food, wages for cooks, equipment and freight costs.

The YFNED is currently working to develop an urban nutritional service through Jordan's Principle for our Whitehorse based citizens, and the distribution of Salmon is the beginning of that journey.

"During these pandemic times the YFNED is honoured to support our First Nations," says YFNED Executive Director, Melanie Bennett. "We know optimal learning happens when we have healthy, happy families and we seized the opportunity to follow our protocols, traditional values by sharing food and honouring our relations."

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Related Links:

Yukon First Nation Education Directorate www.yfned.ca/

Second Harvest <https://secondharvest.ca/>

Food Surplus Rescue Program: <https://www.canada.ca/en/agriculture-agri-food/news/2020/08/surplus-food-rescue-program.html>