

# Ìtaà negetsà-lia et'ìì hoghàgetq̃ xèhoòwi

## Celebrating Families



The **Celebrating Families** project is all about documenting childhood and family life in the Tłı̄ch̄o region and how things have changed over time.

This year, we did research in Wekweèti and learned a lot from community members. We built a good team and drew on each other's strengths. This report shares the main activities from the research project in 2023.

### Wekweèti nàowo elèts'ele Research in Wekweèti

A research team was in Wekweèti in October 2023 to interview community members about their childhoods, their experiences raising children, and their ideas about what is needed for strong future generations.



Joseph Dryneck interviewed by Mary Rose Blackduck and recorded by Joni Tsatchia

Overall we interviewed 18 people going from oldest to youngest in the community: Elders, harvesters, and older parents. All of the interviews but one were in Tłı̄ch̄o Yatì and we video and audio recorded everyone to document and preserve the stories.

### Ayìì hoghàdeetq̃ What we learned

Important initial findings:

- documentation of how children played in before easy access to mass produced toys and to TV/internet
- documentation of how children learned through observing their parents on the land
- the importance of values like respect and patience in the whole structure of learning
- how to create a strong research team



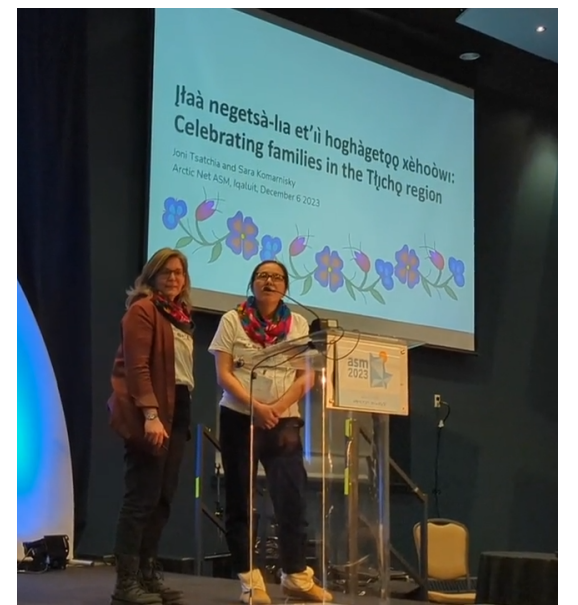
Roger Arrowmaker, Paul Eyaktwo, and Tony Tsatchia posing with hockey sticks. Published in Native Press newspaper July 11, 1980, page 6. NWT Archives/Native Communications Society fonds - Native Press photograph collection/N-2018-010: 07149



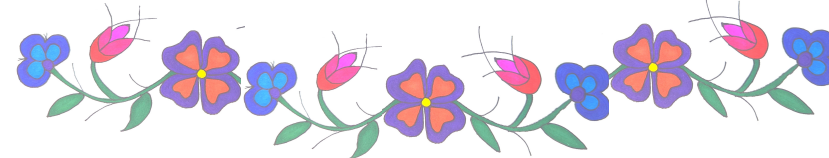
Cecilia Judas riding a bicycle and being pushed by another child in Wekweèti (Snare Lake). Photographer: Lee Selleck. Published in Native Press, September 24, 1982, page 6.

### Elèxègots'edo Sharing about the project

Our team gave a presentation about the project at the ArcticNet Annual Scientific Meeting in Iqaluit in December 2023, and virtually with Hotìì ts'eeda in February 2024. We also shared a presentation with managers and senior staff in the Tłı̄ch̄o Department of Early Childhood.



Joni Tsatchia and Sara Komarnisky presenting at the Arctic Net Annual Scientific Meeting in Iqaluit, Nunavut, December 2023



### Amìì goxetìì? Who was involved?



Darian Rabesca  
Summer Staff



Mary Rose Blackduck  
Interviewer and Interpreter



Joni Tsatchia  
Director, Dept. of Early  
Childhood, Tłı̄ch̄o  
Government



Dr. Sara Komarnisky  
Project Lead, Deedats'eetsaa

### Ìdaà ts'aade Taking it forward

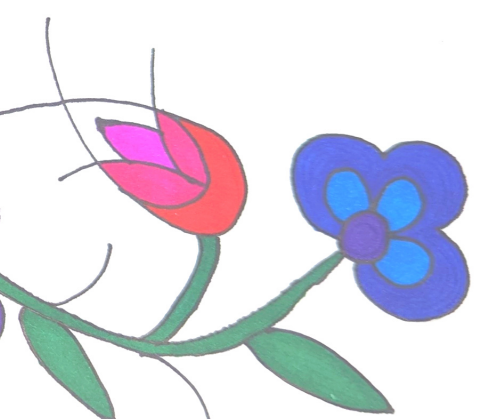
In 2024 we plan to continue working on the project. We will:

- Analyze interviews to discover shared themes
- Attend the Annual Gathering in Wekweèti to share about the project
- Build a local research team and visit Gamèti to do research



Wekweèti, October 2023

Masì cho to the community of Wekweèti for your hospitality and generosity in October!



Dedats'eetsaa:  
Tłı̄ch̄o Research & Training Institute



Research Institute  
Institut de recherche

