

Impacts of the NWT ON THE LAND COLLABORATIVE & LAND-BASED PROGRAMMING



WHO/WHAT IS THE COLLABORATIVE?

The NWT On The Land Collaborative was created in 2015 to promote and support land-based initiatives in the Northwest Territories. The Collaborative brings together government, charitable, corporate, and other partners to combine efforts and make it easier for NWT communities and organizations to access money and other resources for on the land projects.

The Collaborative is comprised of Community Advisors and Funding Partners. Community Advisors are appointed by regional Indigenous governments to serve as representatives for the Collaborative in their region. They provide on-the-ground support to projects throughout the application process, while also assisting in the selection of recipients. Funding Partners provide both monetary and in-kind support to successful applicants. Each Funding Partner appoints a representative to attend meetings and be their voice at the table. Every member of the Collaborative, regardless of their role or how much they contribute to the funding pot, has an equal voice at the table and plays an important role in determining how we work.

THE COLLABORATIVE SUPPORTS PROJECTS THAT:

- Get people out on the land;
- Connect community members to their land, cultures, languages, and traditions;
- Build or strengthen partnerships;
- Enhance community capacity; and
- Are sustainable.

In 2018 and 2021, the NWT On The Land Collaborative commissioned a review of reports received to date to better understand the impact of the Collaborative in the NWT, but also how we might better support grant recipients going forward.

IMPACTS OF ON THE LAND PROGRAMS



ON THE LAND PROGRAMS:

- Revitalize and strengthen relations between participants and the land.
- Connect community members across the generations, creating opportunities for knowledge transmission and mentorship.
- Create diverse opportunities for community members, especially youth, to learn land-based skills and practice their way of life.
- Foster healthy and resilient individuals, families, and communities.
- Provide communities with vital resources like traditional food and firewood.
- Foster attitudes of stewardship over the land and the community.

2016-2021 THE COLLABORATIVE BY THE NUMBERS

Types of grant recipients:
INDIGENOUS ORGANIZATIONS: 101
SCHOOLS: 82
NGOS: 69
MUNICIPAL: 10
INDIVIDUALS: 8

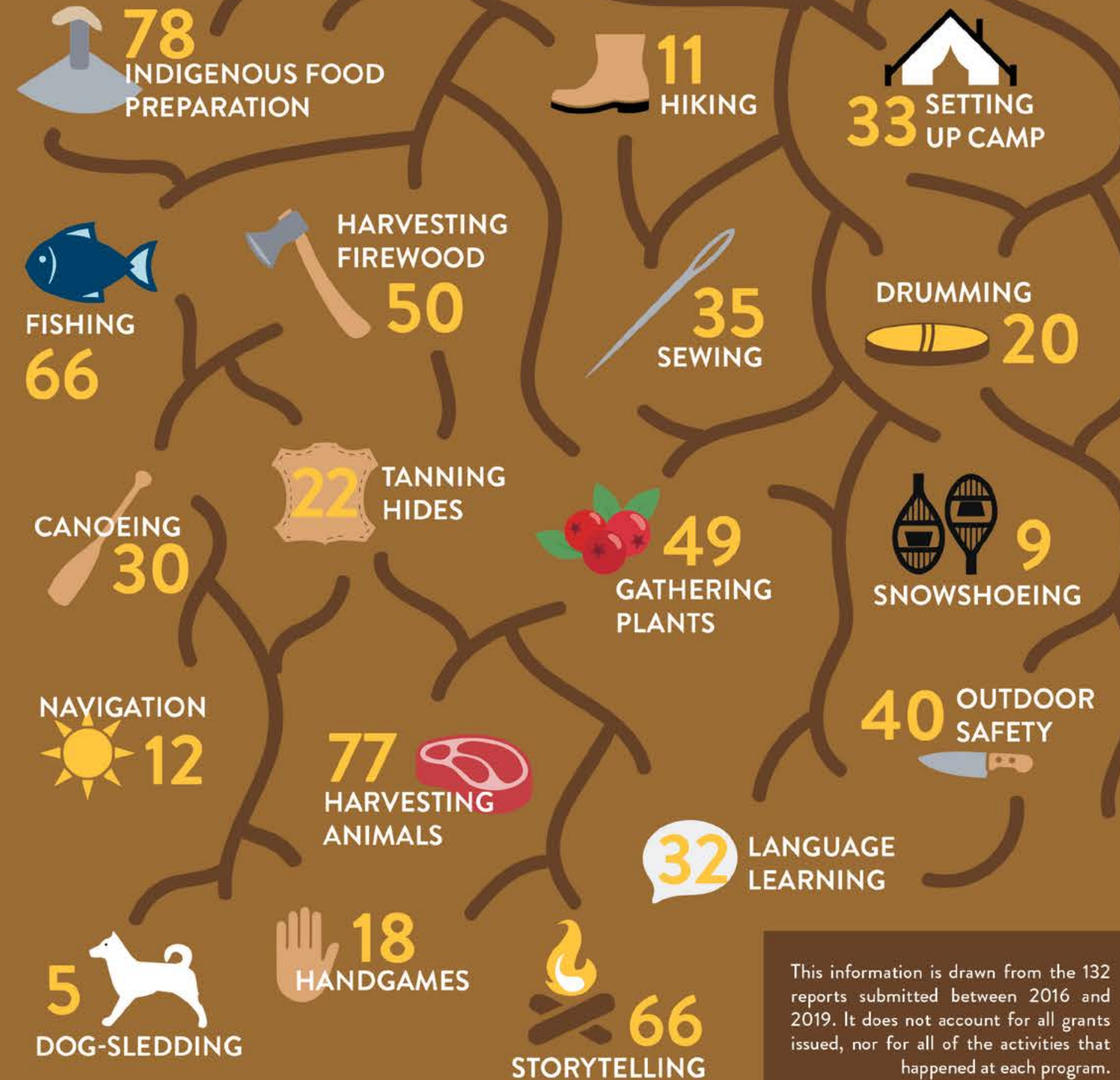
Total Amount Granted
\$4.8 MILLION

Total Grant Recipients
270

Average grant amount:
\$18,006



WHAT ARE RECIPIENTS DOING WITH THEIR GRANTS?



This information is drawn from the 132 reports submitted between 2016 and 2019. It does not account for all grants issued, nor for all of the activities that happened at each program.

TWO SAMPLE PROJECTS THAT HIGHLIGHT KEY LEARNINGS FROM THIS REPORT:

STRENGTHENING COMMUNITY

Many of the successful projects that have received Collaborative grants over the last four years have something in common: they build strong community relationships. Łútsël K'é's Annual Hide Tanning Camp, an initiative of the Łútsël K'é Women's Group, is one example of a program that demonstrates the unexpected ripple effects of on the land programming. They found that their hide camp for women had created "a number of spin-off activities" for the

greater community: "We have had the men come up to play handgames, people supplied the camp with fish and dry fish making was going on. Local craftsmen were making scraping tools for participants to purchase." Further, Łútsël K'é Women's Group noted that their annual hide camp was building more awareness in young hunters to properly skin hides because they remember that the women tanning hides don't want any knife marks in the hides.

LOVE THE LAND

On the land programming helps participants connect to their land, culture, and their community. Many of the successful programs use discussion, sharing circles, and storytelling with Elders to impart to younger participants the importance of caring for the land, and to educate them on issues facing the land. The aim for the Tsá Tué Water Guardians and Culture Camp organized by Délı̨ne Got'ı̨ne Government was to provide an opportunity for the youth to connect with the land and waters, and build their capacity in research and monitoring. Twenty-two youth and guides paddled to Tlı̨ ɔ̨hdá by canoe, following in their ancestors' footsteps. Along the way the youth visited sites of spiritual significance, learned and shared traditional stories about the sites, and strengthened their personal connections with the lake

and the land. The canoe trip was an amazing opportunity for them to gain skills, confidence, and traditional knowledge that will help them to successfully monitor and protect the lake in the future. At Tlı̨ ɔ̨hdá, participants engaged in visioning workshops that integrated Indigenous knowledge and Western science to discuss the future of Sahtú/Great Bear Lake. These workshops gave community members in attendance the opportunity to learn about the stewardship of the lake, discuss concerns and challenges, and share their ideas for the future. These workshops helped to achieve the goal of encouraging and motivating the youth and other community members to become more involved with the stewardship of the lake.

