

Total Impact Workshop March 12 & 13, 2019

Panelists' Bios



Norm Adamson is an Elder and Traditional Knowledge Holder from Ta'an Kwäch'än Council. Who was mostly raised by his grandparents Frankie and Cecilia Jim. Most of his younger years were spent around Lake Laberge and Fox Lake areas where trapping, hunting and fishing was a way of life. His knowledge of the land has been greatly influenced by his upbringing.

Dylan Clark is an Adaptation Analyst for the Climate Change Secretariat with Government of Yukon. Prior to his work with the Government of Yukon, Dylan spent a number of years working with communities across Nunavut developing adaptation initiatives and conducting climate risk assessments. His work has touched on the effects of climate change on Inuit harvesters on Baffin Island, on search and rescue demands across the Arctic, and climate linked land use change in Tanzania. Dylan holds a masters in Geography from McGill University and has contributed to Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change Special Reports. He is also a past National Geographic Young Explorer and Fulbright finalist.



Shawn Francis is a landscape ecologist and planner. From 2004 to 2008 he was the senior land use planner with the North Yukon Planning Commission, and assisted in the Dawson and Peel Watershed processes. Shawn has also been involved in a number of other wildlife, landscape and cumulative effects-related studies and planning initiatives in Yukon, Northwest Territories, Alberta, British Columbia and Saskatchewan. Shawn and his family currently reside in Saskatoon where he works with the Saskatchewan Ministry of Environment, focusing on land use planning and cumulative effects-related issues. He is known to experience acute cases of chronological dissonance after people confirm he is much older than he believes. Shawn is very pleased to have the opportunity to participate in the Total Impact conference, and to be back in a landscape he loves with a group of people he holds very dear.

Carol Geddes is an Elder and Traditional Knowledge Holder from Teslin Tlingit Council. She is an accomplished film maker, the medium through which she highlights the stories and struggles of Aboriginal life in Canada. She has also been the recipient of the Queen's Royal Jubilee Medal for her outstanding contributions to the cultural community, and has served on many boards and councils in the Yukon.



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Ron Chambers is an Elder and Traditional Knowledge Holder from Champagne Aishihik First Nations and has lived most of his life in the Kluane area. He has been involved in cultural and wilderness activities his whole life. As a teenager, he spent summers working with archaeologists and developed a great interest in this field. To this day, he continues assisting and advising archaeologists in the Yukon and Alaska. Ron is actively involved with several boards in the Yukon.

Jimmy Johnny was born four miles downriver from Mayo. In 1958, as a young man, he began what would be a long career as a hunting guide and outfitter in the headwaters of the Bonnet-Plume, the Snake, and the Stewart Rivers of the Peel River Watershed. Jimmy Johnny's knowledge of the terrain has made him one of the most well respected guides in the territory. Jimmy now serves as a member of the Mayo Renewable Resources Council. (YCS2017)



Keith Maguire is the Director of Major Projects Yukon, Executive Council Office, Yukon Government. He has extensive experience working on environmental and socio-economic assessments under the Yukon Environment and Socio-economic Assessment Act having been an assessor for over 9 years and supporting Yukon government's engagement in the assessment process for over 3 years. Keith holds a science degree in environmental science from the University of Waterloo.

Dr. Chrystal Mantyka-Pringle joined the Wildlife Conservation Society Canada Yukon Team as an applied biologist and conservation planner in 2019. She is dedicated to working with First Nations, Governments and NGOs to provide the best available conservation science for policy approaches, land-use planning, and protected area management throughout Canada. She specializes in understanding the impacts and interactions of climate and land-use change on biodiversity, and translating the implications into conservation planning. Much of her work is focused on developing systematic landscape planning approaches for conserving biodiversity, and working with expert/Indigenous traditional knowledge and empirical data to achieve science-based decisions.



Mark O'Donoghue is the Northern Tutchone Regional Wildlife Biologist with the Yukon Government's Fish & Wildlife Branch, based in Mayo since 1998. He has worked as a biologist in Maine, Burkina Faso in West Africa, Newfoundland, and the Yukon Territory. He received his B.Sc. in Wildlife Ecology from the University of Maine in 1981, and M.Sc. and Ph.D. in Zoology from the University of British Columbia in 1991 and 1997. Assessing potential effects of proposed industrial development on wildlife populations occupies a good proportion of his time in his present position.

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John Pattimore has worked and lived in Canada's the north for over 30 years having worked with Indigenous Groups and Nations in Nunavut, Yukon and British Columbia. This work has provided him with a solid basis of understanding of indigenous perspective on lands, natural resources and environmental management. He continues to learn about Traditional Knowledge working with colleagues, elders and citizens on development assessment within the Kwanlin Dun First Nation Traditional Territory. John is also leads in review and amendment processes with other governments for lands, natural resources and environmental legislation and policies including mining, water resources, resource roads and YESAA.



Sam Skinner has worked as a land use planner in the Yukon for 11 years, first for the Peel Watershed Planning Commission, then for the Yukon Land Use Planning Council where he contributed to the North Yukon, Peel Watershed and Dawson regional planning processes. His interests include landscape ecology, spatial analysis, cumulative effects, how to inform decisions, communicating across cultures and interests, and a bit of mycology.

Kiri Staples is a PhD student from Whitehorse. Her research explores the governance dimensions of cumulative effects management, focusing on the Yukon. She has a master's degree in Environment and Sustainability from the University of Saskatchewan and is currently based at the University of Waterloo. She has worked with Indigenous and non-Indigenous communities across the Yukon, NWT, and northern Saskatchewan on sustainability issues affecting people and the lands and waters that sustain them.



Lindsay Staples is a social scientist and Whitehorse-based consultant who brings a balanced, comprehensive and strategic approach to resource management and sustainable development. He has extensive experience in land claims negotiations and the implementation of final and self-government agreements, the development of public policy and legislation, and environmental assessment and monitoring of major development projects. He has worked with Indigenous peoples and communities, governments and industry in the Northwest Territories, Yukon, and British Columbia. He has advised and directly represented clients in a broad range of public review and regulatory processes.

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Mike Sutor is a regional biologist responsible for the Inuvialuit Settlement Region and migratory caribou herds in Yukon including the Porcupine, Fortymile and Nelchina caribou herds. He has worked in diverse landscapes and management regimes including in south and central Alberta, NWT, British Columbia and for the past 7 years, northern Yukon. Much of his time has focused on managing landscapes to ensure migratory species continue to thrive despite increasing barriers and/or filters to movement and the loss or modification of key habitats. Currently Mike is working with partners to develop habitat and land designation prescriptions for all of the major migratory caribou herds in Yukon.



Tim Smith has been the Executive Director at the Yukon Environmental and Socio-economic Assessment Board (YESAB) since November 2013. Prior to that, he was Chief of Mining Lands with the Mineral Resources Branch of Yukon Energy, Mines & Resources. Before moving to Whitehorse in 2010, he worked as a Senior Policy Advisor with the Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency in Ottawa and with Environment Canada in water policy and international environmental affairs. He also spent eight years with the Nova Scotia Department of the Environment in its policy unit. Tim has an undergraduate in environmental biology from McGill and a graduate degree in environmental studies from Dalhousie.

Joe Tetlich is the Chair of the Porcupine Caribou Management Board.



Ron Cruikshank is the Director for the Yukon Land Use Planning Council (YLUPC). He has 30 years of professional planning experience in northern Canada. These included living for 3 years with Chief Hyacinthe Andre in Tsiigehtchic NWT. For 4 years, he was the Senior Land Use Planner/Coordinator for the Gwich'in Land Use Planning Board in the NWT. This work led to the approved Gwich'in Settlement Area Land Use Plan. For the past 19 years, he has assisted and coordinated the implementation of Chapter 11 Land Use Planning of the Umbrella Final Agreement, in the Yukon. This work has included the approved North Yukon Regional Land Use Plan and the controversial Peel Watershed Region Land Use Plan. Through his professional experience, he has become familiar with regional planning under both the Mackenzie Valley Resource Management Act (MVRMA) and the Yukon First Nation Final Agreements. Ron received his Master of Arts (Geography) from the University of Waterloo in 1990