

A/OFRFC EDUCATIONAL OUTREACH WHITEFISH RIVER FIRST NATION

Nov 2015

TRADITIONAL KNOWLEDGE TRANSFER WORKSHOP

INTRODUCTION

The Anishinabek/Ontario Fisheries Resource Centre, in partnership with the Whitefish River First Nation hosted a 3-day workshop on traditional fish harvesting techniques. This workshop took place from October 21–23, 2015 at the Whitefish River First Nation Community Centre.

METHODS

The series of workshops were community led, and the A/OFRFC provided materials, supplies, an extra boat and a boat operator. A/OFRFC also provided a display booth that highlighted past projects in the community. The topic for Day One was preparing, setting and maintaining a net, which was led by two local fishermen. Day Two's topic was filleting fish, led by local fishermen, and a canning & packaging demonstration led by Myna Toulouse. Day Three's activities included a smoking fish



Two boats heading out to set nets

demonstration led by Edward Pitawanakwat and a fish pie making demonstration led by Doreen Jacko. Presentations by Whitefish River First Nation's Legacy Project Coordinator, A/OFRFC's Fisheries Technician Keith Nahwegahbow on past projects completed in Whitefish River First Nation, and the Source Water Protection Project Committee were peppered throughout the workshop.

RESULTS

An average of 10 people were in attendance for all sessions, with the attendance reaching up to 15 people for some sessions. The local day care paid a visit during the canning and

packaging workshop. A local elementary school class visited during the smoking fish demonstration. Over 20 people were in attendance for the community feast that took place on the last day.



Students from a local elementary participating in a fish smoking demonstration

CONCLUSION

Overall, the workshop was a success. Feedback received from evaluation forms were all positive, and indicate a rating of 4.5/5 for the whole workshop. A reminder from community Elder Ferdinand Paibomsai "Take only what you need.", a teaching that was honoured throughout the workshop.



Community members observing Myna Toulouse as she demonstrates canning



Community members observing fish being removed from the nets



Economic Development Officer, Robina Kitchemokman filleting a fish



For more information on this or other fisheries projects please contact:

Anishinabek/Ontario Fisheries Resource Centre
755 Wallace Road Unit #5 North Bay, ON P1A 0E7

phone: (705) 472-7888 fax: (705) 472-6333 website: www.aofrc.org email: aofrc@aofrc.org