

**June 1-3, 2018 YFGA Yukon Outdoor Woman (YOW) Program**  
**YFGA Volunteer Coordinator for YOW**  
**Nansi Cunningham**

This is what some of the twenty participants said about the YFGA Yukon Outdoor Woman Program:

"I finished feeling even more confident about doing fun activities in the woods safely. The group was super fun. I got to know many new friends hope to keep in touch. We all have so much fun learning with no judgment but support and laughing our heads off during games after dinner... especially the amazing and fun Fashion Show."

"Every minute was worthy and wonderful!"

"The true highlight of this weekend was meeting all the ladies, learning their backgrounds, appreciating their knowledge in skills in so many areas. It was so very good for me to get out of the 'city' and be so welcomed into such an amazing community of amazing woman. Being outdoors was also my favorite. It was a wonderful 'escape' for me."

"Spending time outside of Whitehorse with women was a great opportunity to recharge by doing something I love (learning), and in a special place i.e. Vista Outdoor Learning Center."

"All the courses were fantastic. All of the presenters were top notch and passionate. The location, food and hospitality were fantastic. A great all around weekend. Many thanks to all!"

"You should do this more often! There is so much to learn and this is a great place to do it. Please, say thank you to all the instructors for everything they taught us and the patience they showed :) It was wonderful to feel welcomed to ask your silly questions and have them answered in a very nice way. It is one of the best experiences I have ever had in the Yukon and will do it all over again. In fact, count me in for the next year!"

"Thanks so much Nansi for organizing, sharing your land, your stories and all the little touches you have added at Vista and as part of the weekend.

Thanks to the crew of women who came out this weekend (those that signed up) shared their experiences and helped create such a supportive, open, non-judgmental space to learn!"

**Local Expertise Offers Exciting Learning Opportunities**

The expertise of local resource people was generously provided. We would like to praise and thank the following instructors:

**Archery with Lloyd Lintott and Laurence Rowles** – "The fake blood trail was fantastic! 3D targets were great too! I knew was going to be fun but I learned more than I was expecting. Lloyd and Laurence were patient and encouraged us to the end. Thanks!"

**Backpack Hunting with Bernard Briggs** – "Bernard, you are passionate and a really great instructor. You gave me tons of tricks and ideas on how to get a lighter backpack and how to use the surrounding environment when I am in the backcountry."

**Botany Walk with Jen Line** – "I could walk through the forest all day learning from Jen. I enjoyed this course so much! The other day I was out in Kluane taking a pee in the bush and I was able to identify all the plants around me!"

**Environmental Education with Tami Grantham** – This course was wonderful; learning how to use and respect the environment, and understand how it works was a very good experience."

**Field to Freezer with Jim Welsh** – "Was truly an incredible experience with a great person leading it. Jim was amazing at providing all the steps and make sure all of us were involved."

**From Friction to Fire with Emily Payne** – “I hadn’t realized that fire making could be such an art. Great to learn how to make one’s own bowdrill kit from nothing and great to see an actual fire be made (even if I couldn’t get my own started).”

**Fly Fishing with Steve and Kris Hahn** – “You gave me all the knowledge now that I feel confident using a fly fishing rod properly. Thank you for the tips and all the equipment. I even went fishing this weekend!! Thank you so much- you both are great.”

**GPS, Map and Compass with Jim Gilpin** – “The content was broken down in steps and allowed the learning to build upon itself. This workshop allowed me to understand components of maps, datum and GPS systems that I didn't even realize know existed and could result in challenges if a rescue was needed or navigation.”

**Northern Bushcraft with Tami Grantham and Jim Welsh** – “This workshop provided the most useful information for what I was looking for in terms of survival tips and gear. Tami and Jim were just amazing. Lots of knowledge and techniques in this course.”

**Outdoor Photography with Heather Jones** – “Heather was great and did a fabulous job breaking down how good photos are taken. Very informative, with photos and explanation - catering to many learning types. Inspired me to learn more.”

**Wilderness First Aid with Kris Hahn** – “Kris inspired me to volunteer in first aid opportunities. She is Very knowledgeable. Wound cleaning was fun!”

HUGE THANKYOU AND APPRECIATION to those who contributed to the success of the YFGA Yukon Outdoor Woman Program for 2018!

The Fantastic instructors!

Lea-Ann Dorval and Bonnie Macdonald - cooks extraordinaire!

Environment Department, Yukon Government - for staff members and equipment

Yukon College, Dan Anton at Continuing Education for the GPS units

Anne Allan for providing the goat for the field dressing workshop

Our “home place”, Vista Outdoor Learning Centre

Saxon for registration at YFGA office

Nansi Cunningham, volunteer YOW coordinator

A wonderful group of Yukon Outdoor Women say:

“THANKS YFGA FOR SPONSORING YOW!”