**Yukon River**

**Educational Exchange**

**Summer 2021**

***APPLICATION FORM***

***APPLICATION PROCESS:***

Step 1 - ***Complete and submit your application by email or fax:***

YRDFA Educational Exchange Application

Fax: (907) 272-3142

info@yukonsalmon.org

**trip**

Step 2 – ***Conduct Phone Interview*** with YRDFA to provide additional information and further explore details and expectations for the educational exchange program.

Step 3 – ***Notification of Acceptance*** in to the Yukon River Educational Exchange. YRDFA will inform you whether you have been accepted to the Educational Exchange Program and provide you with additional information.

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| **Name: Shaheen Baker** |
| **Address: PO Box 25** | **City: Pelly Crossing** | **Zip: Y0B1P0** |
| **Phone Number: (867) 689 7045** | **Cell Number: (867) 689 7045** |
| **Email: shaheen.baker@hotmail.com** |
| **Family Members & children’s grades: Grandparents: Richard and Audrey Baker, My mother: Carmen Baker (four younger children), Myself: Shaheen Baker, My son: Emerson Jerome (Age 1), My Auntie: Charlene Baker, Her children: Kaylyn Baker, Amber Baker (Youth), Autticus Baker (Youth)** |
| **This is some of the family members I have named who are apart of our salmon fish camp. We have a many elders and young children who attend every year.**  |

***QUESTIONS*** *(If you need more space to answer a question attach a separate sheet).*

1. Why are you interested in applying to participate in the 2021 educational exchange?

I am interested in the educational exchange because I believe that salmon is very important to our world and I want to raise awareness of the decline and hardships that this decline has brought to our family and community. Fishing salmon has always been a part of our lives. It is our livelihood and always have been since our ancestors time.

I want to share my culture with the other participants and how we run our fish camp. I'm very interested in joining the conversation and learning about other culture and ways.

1. The 2021 Virtual Yukon River Educational Exchange will require video recording of family members and sharing your salmon story. Will be you and your family feel comfortable being recorded and sharing information about your traditional activities?

Yes. I have a passion for sharing stories through media production and feel very strongly about sharing our story.

3. Please tell us about you or your families Yukon River experience? What communities have you traveled to? Have you participated in any meetings; such as, Yukon River Panel, Yukon River Drainage Fisheries Association, Yukon Salmon Sub Committee, your local Renewable Resource Council meetings?

Every summer our family is at our fish camp when the salmon are running. We start by cleaning and buying the food and camping gear needed. We have a kitchen, fish cache and three cabins. Some family members set up wall tents and smaller tents for the children. After we set up camp we put in the net. Usually, the males and younger family members put in the net, run the boat and gut the fish. The elders and females cut the fish in the cache, taking care of salmon by turning to dry, keeping the smoke going, cooking and cleaning. Besides all the work that we do we enjoy ourselves by being together, swimming in the river, watching the children play, feasting on a fire cooked dinner including the salmon, stories and always offering prayer.
The families of Pelly Crossing all have fish camps along the river. We do visit each other and thrive being our on that land.
I have travelled to all communities in the Yukon and have travelled to many other countries. My grandmother is Tr’ondëk Hwëch'in from Dawson City so I do get involved with the cultural activities there.
I was a youth councillor for three years in the past so I am familiar with some meetings. My mother is currently on council so she would be involved with many of those meetings as well.