

Culture Award

Fort Good Hope Drummers



In the photo (left to right): Michel Lafferty, Leon Taureau Sr., Charlie Tobac, Jonathan Tobac, Lawrence Manuel, Eddy Cook, Thomas Manuel Jr., Carl Tobac, Casey Kaskamin. Missing from the photo are Robin Tobac, Russell Manuel, Aaron Ellton, Billy Shae, Shaune Tobac, Gordon Kelly, Buddy Gully, Rolland Codzi, and Ronald Kelly.

In the 1970's, when drumming was starting to die in the community of Fort Good Hope, a group of young boys started a drumming group. They took it upon themselves to get advice and drum songs from the elders. The FGH Drummers have since played at Expo '86 in Vancouver, the Yukon, and all over the NWT. There are many residential school survivors and a healer in the group that have helped others in overcoming their addictions. It is a wonderful feeling knowing that this tradition will never die because of strong and dedicated individuals like the members of the Fort Good Hope Drummers.