



Whitehorse Star

[News archive for December 2, 2011](#)

The Peel area: everything has a universal balance

The Peel watershed is an area that lies between the Tr'ondek Hwech'in and First Nation of Nacho Nyak Dun traditional territories.

By [freelancer](#) on December 2, 2011 at 8:03 pm



Photo by Vince Fedoroff

A TRIBUTE TO A SPECIAL PLACE – Joseph O'Brien displays a large dream catcher celebrating The Peel.

The Peel watershed is an area that lies between the Tr'ondek Hwech'in and First Nation of Nacho Nyak Dun traditional territories.

The Peel is alive with life. It has an ecosystem and a cycle that has remained in balance since the ice age.

This area has remained practically untouched for thousands of years.

This environment is and remains sensitive to any development, even for short-term profit that could damage the balance and not be reversed.

In the chain of life, as north and south, be it positive or negative, everything has a universal balance.

If it is disturbed, we will later pay the price. Is it really worth it?

This beautiful valley is considered sacred to the First Nations, and this area must be preserved for the future generations.

This is our future, all of us as First Nations, Yukoners and Canadians.

I heard a song that said, "You don't know what you got 'til it's gone," a tribute to the Tr'ondek Hwech'in and First Nation of Nacho Nyak Dun in their struggle as keepers of the land.

This piece of artwork is a dream catcher surrounded by golden eagle feathers, paint and pencil and a symbol: a warrior giving thanks to Mother Earth the Peel.

Mussi Cho.

The writer is a Northern Tutchone artist.

By JOSEPH O'BRIEN
Special to the Star