

An aerial photograph of a mountain valley. In the background, a large mountain range with snow-capped peaks is visible under a cloudy sky. The middle ground shows a wide valley with a river winding through it. The river is surrounded by dense forests with trees in various shades of green and yellow, indicating autumn. In the foreground, a large, clear blue lake is visible, with the river flowing into it. The overall scene is a beautiful natural landscape.

Yukon Geographical Place Names Board

❖ 2013 – 2014 ANNUAL REPORT ❖



The names of places reflect Yukon’s diverse culture, history, and landscape. Names such as Aishihik, Kusuwa and Tuchtua are just a few of the native names found on a modern map of the Yukon. Yukon First Nations named rivers, mountains, lakes and landmarks long before the first non-native explorers and settlers arrived in the territory. Names such as Gyò Cho Chù (Big Salmon River) tell where animals and fish are plentiful. Other names, such as Thechhàl Mǎn (Sekulman Lake), ‘Stone Scraper for Hides’ describe artifacts, people and events. Today’s Yukon First Nations still remember these names and are working to record them for future generations.

Beginning in the nineteenth century, explorers, fur traders, and prospectors came to the Yukon to trade with native people, search for gold, and explore the vast landscape, giving their own names to the land. The Danish explorer Vitus Bering was the first non-native to name a geographical feature in northwest America. Bering had entered the newly formed navy of the Russian tsar Peter the Great and in 1724 was appointed to conduct an expedition to explore the water routes between Siberia and North America. In 1741, Bering named an island lying off the coast in the proximity of a very prominent mountain. He anchored near the island on St. Elias’ feast day and named the island for the saint. The dominant mountain in question was, later in the eighteenth century, given the name of the island and Mount St. Elias became one of several peaks that define the border between Canada’s Yukon and the American State of Alaska.

While Bering and explorers to follow gave names to geographical features without asking the local names for places, others, such as geologist George Dawson and the Yukon’s first Commissioner, William Ogilvie, recorded many native names during their years in the Yukon, including the Yusezyu and Tatchun Rivers in central Yukon.

(cover) Southwest Yukon scene in September. Victoria Creek (right) empties into Louise Lake, which is connected to the much larger Kathleen Lake, located south of Haines Junction in the traditional territory of the Champagne and Aishihik First Nations. The Southern Tutchone (Athabaskan) name for Kathleen Lake is Mǎt’ǎtǎna Mǎn.

(left) Dezadeash River near its junction with the Kaskawulsh River, looking southeast at a portion of the Aurioal Range.

Many of the official names on the Yukon map today were given by non-native settlers who came to the Yukon during the Gold Rush period of the 1890s. In the area around Dawson City, Allgold, Bonanza, Eureka, and Nogold recall the successes - and failures - of the miners who came to the territory during the Klondike Gold Rush. Names such as Carcross (from Caribou Crossing), Fox Lake, and Eagle’s Nest Bluff, testify to the richness of Yukon’s wildlife resources. Other places, such as Five Finger Rapids on the Yukon River, Blackstone Mountain, and White River, were named for the shape, colour, and form of the land and water itself. One of the best known names of this type is Whitehorse, which took its name from the White Horse Rapids, whose foamy white crests reminded early prospectors of horses’ manes. Another legend tells of a chief’s white horse drowning there.



(above) Vuntut Gwitchin First Nation Elders Joel Peter and Robert Bruce Jr. with Gwich’in language consultant Ms. Ruth Carroll.

The Origin of the *Yukon Geographical Place Names Board*

In 1897, Canada established the *Geographic Board of Canada* whose mandate was to approve official place names across the country. Interestingly, one of the motivations for establishing this board came from events happening in the Yukon, from the discovery of gold in the Klondike. Today, the successor to this Board is known as the *Geographical Names Board of Canada* (GNBC) which until recently was referred to as the *Canadian Permanent Committee on Geographical Names* (CPCGN). The GNBC is made up of 23 members representing the provinces and territories, as well as federal departments that deal with surveying, mapping, translation, archives, parks, and native affairs.

In 1986, the responsibility for naming geographical features in the Yukon was transferred from the Department of Indian and Northern Affairs to the Government of Yukon, putting geographical naming in the hands of Yukon residents for the first time. As part of this transfer the Government of Yukon established the *Yukon Geographical Names Board* (YGNB) in 1987 to undertake the job of researching and approving geographical names.

In 1995, under the *Umbrella Final Agreement*, the *Yukon Geographical Names Board* was replaced by the *Yukon Geographical Place Names Board* (YGPNB).

The Board's Responsibilities

The *Yukon Geographical Place Names Board* (YGPNB) is constituted under the *Umbrella Final Agreement* (UFA), signed by the Council of Yukon First Nations (CYFN), the Yukon Government and the Government of Canada. The Board's primary function is to consider and recommend the naming or renaming of places or features located within the Yukon with special reference to Chapter 13, Section 11 of the UFA. The Board's mandate does not include the naming or renaming of features or sites within municipal boundaries or of transportation corridors (highways and bridges).

Board Members

The Board is comprised of six Yukoners who share a common interest in developing place name policies that address all Yukoners. Three members are nominated by the Yukon Government and three by the Council of Yukon First Nations, and all serve three-year terms.

(below) The Old Crow River (right) flows south to join the Porcupine River at the community of Old Crow. 1998 aerial view.



Member Profiles 2013-2014

CO-CHAIRS:



› TRACY RISPIN, CO-CHAIR: Ms. Rispin was first appointed to the Board in 2007. She is a member of the Vuntut Gwitchin First Nation in Old Crow, where she currently serves as VGFN Director of Education. She is an accomplished producer of films with historical and cultural themes. She maintains a deep interest in the language and lifeways of the Gwich'in people and brings a wide range of knowledge and experience to her position on the Board.



› JOHN RITTER, CO-CHAIR: Mr. Ritter has served the Board for four consecutive terms. He is also founding Director of the Yukon Native Language Centre. As a linguist, he has worked with all Yukon languages and contributes to the spelling and pronunciation of native place names. Also crucial to the place name application process is his ability to provide the Board with translation services during the consultation periods held with First Nations elders.

MEMBERS:



› MONTY ALFORD: Mr. Alford is a retired federal hydrographer who has lived in the Yukon for over 50 years. Mr. Alford was first appointed to the Board in 2003. With mountaineering as his avocation, he is familiar not only with the waterways of the Yukon but also with many of the mountain ranges. This extensive knowledge of Yukon geography is a great asset to the Board. Mr. Alford is the author of five books. He is a Member of the Order of Canada and a holder of the Queen's Medal.



› RON CHAMBERS: Mr. Chambers is of Southern Tutchone, Tlingit and Scottish ancestry. He was born and raised in the Kluane area but spent his high school years in Haines, Alaska, and northern California. After graduation, he pursued his artistic interests at SAIT in Calgary. He was a Park Warden in Jasper and Kluane parks for 22 years before retiring to start his own guiding business. Ron has been a member of many boards over the years and was Deputy Chief of Champagne and Aishihik First Nations. He currently sits on the Yukon Heritage Resources Board and Yukon River Salmon Subcommittee.



› BESSIE COOLEY: Ms. Cooley is a fluent speaker of the Tlingit language and served for many years as the Tlingit Language Instructor at the Teslin School. At Yukon College she completed the Certificate and Diploma Courses for Native Language Instructors, and earned both an Associate of Applied Science degree in Native Language Education and a Bachelor of Arts degree in Native Studies at the University of Alaska Fairbanks. In retirement Bessie continues to serve as a Tlingit language resource person and mentor in her home community of Teslin.



› POLLY THORP: Ms. Thorp was first appointed to the Board in 2004. She has lived in the north for more than 25 years, and she moved to Whitehorse in 2003. She has a degree in Native Studies from Trent University and a diploma from Yukon College. This education has helped her gain a solid understanding of northern cultures and issues. She is an avid hiker, trail runner and cross-country skier. She brings to the Board a keen interest in Yukon and northern landscape, history and culture.

SUPPORT PERSONNEL:



› DEANA LEMKE: Ms. Lemke was first contracted by the Board during the 2006-2007 fiscal year to provide administrative and secretariat support for its activities. She is the proprietor of Beyond Words Business Services and has extensive experience in board functioning and financial management.



› GARRY NJOOTLI: Mr. Njootli was appointed Yukon Toponymist in 2003. He is responsible for reviewing place-name submissions sent to the Government of Yukon's Heritage Resources Unit. He ensures they are complete and meet basic criteria before being forwarded to the Yukon Geographical Place Names Board for consideration. He also serves as a non-voting member of the Board. Mr. Njootli is a member of the Vuntut Gwitchin First Nation (Old Crow, Yukon).





View from Christmas Bay on Kluane Lake, looking south to the Slims River Valley.

Yukon’s Place Name Review Process

Initially, place name applications are submitted to the Yukon Government’s *Heritage Resources Unit*, a component of the Cultural Services Branch within the Department of Tourism & Culture.

Once place name applications have been received by the Yukon Government, the Yukon Toponymist is assigned with the task of establishing correct locations of proposed place name sites, ensuring that the correct spellings have been recorded on applications and verifying the reasons for place name requests. This helps to ensure that the proposed place name features are accurately located by latitude and longitude and that place names’ meaning, spelling and cultural significance have been properly documented. Once the information provided on applications has been confirmed by Yukon Government staff, the applications are forwarded to the Board for review and consideration in the naming or renaming process. If the applications are considered to have merit, they are recommended to the Minister of Tourism & Culture for approval.

Processing place name applications in a timely manner is a priority of the Board. However, the speed with which place name applications are processed is dependent on a number of factors that include:

- completeness of the applications when initially submitted to the Heritage Resources Unit;
- whether the place name sites are on First Nation traditional or settlement lands, or on federal or territorial lands;
- whether the sites identified are located within parks;
- whether the locations of the sites have been accurately determined;
- whether the historical or cultural backgrounds have been given.

The status of individual place name applications is tracked by means of a *Geographical Place Names Application Process Flow Sheet* (see Figure 1 on page 11).

Umbrella Final Agreement direction to the Board

The *Umbrella Final Agreement* directs the Board in its review of place name applications as follows:

- Section 13.11.2: “When considering the naming or renaming of places or features located within the Traditional Territory of a Yukon First Nation, or when acting with a federal agency where joint jurisdiction over the naming of the place or feature exists, the *Yukon Geographical Place Names Board* shall consult with that Yukon First Nation or federal agency.”
- Section 13.11.3: “A Yukon First Nation may name or rename places or geographical features on Settlement Land and such place names shall be deemed to be approved by the *Yukon Geographical Place Names Board*.”
- Section 13.11.4: “Traditional aboriginal place names shall be included, to the extent practicable and in accordance with map production specifications of Canada, on revised maps of the National Topographic Series.”



Visiting Gwich’in linguist William G. Firth with YGPNB Co-chair Tracy Rispin.

Assessment Criteria for Place Name Applications

Under the established review process, place name applications submitted are first reviewed by the Yukon Toponymist who confirms each application's accuracy and completeness. The Yukon Toponymist then forwards the application to the Board.

The Board uses the following guidelines to assess applications:

1. First priority shall be given to names with long-standing local usage by the general public, particularly indigenous names in the local native language.
2. Names of rivers, lakes, creeks, and other physical features shall be used for the entire feature. For example, the Yukon River has one name for its entire length, although it is visible from many locations such as Whitehorse, Carmacks, Ft. Selkirk and Dawson City.
3. Proposals to name a place or geographical feature after a specific person shall show that the person to be commemorated has contributed significantly to the area where the feature is located. In most cases, personal names may be given to geographical features only after the person's death.
4. When proposing names for previously unnamed features, those for which no local names exist, preference shall be given to names from native languages, names that describe the feature, names associated with historical events, and the names of people who have made an important contribution to the area where the place name is proposed.
5. Names shall be recognizable words or acceptable combinations of words, and shall be in good taste. Names that are discriminatory or derogatory from the point of view of race, gender, colour, religion or political affiliation shall not be accepted.
6. The spelling and accenting of names shall agree with the rules of the language in which they were written.
7. The Board has no jurisdiction over the assignment of names within municipalities, parks, territorial divisions, or other legal bodies that have been created by, or result from, legislation. Proposals for name changes within a national park are subject to federal review and approval. When geographical features are wholly or partly located within a national park, names and name changes proposals are to be referred directly to the Geographic Names Board of Canada (GNBC).



Yukon Toponymist Garry Njootli, YGPNB Co-chair Tracy Rispin, VGFN Elders Robert Bruce Jr. and Joel Peter, Ms. Ruth Carroll, and YNLC's Josephine Holloway.

Summary of Board Activities During 2013-2014 Fiscal Period

The Yukon Geographical Place Names Board carried out a variety of tasks during the 2013-2014 fiscal year.

a) Board Meetings

The Board held meetings in Whitehorse on November 15, 2013 and on January 15-16, 2014, with a final meeting of the fiscal year held on March 3, 2014. All meetings took place in the Yukon Native Language Centre library at Yukon College. The YNLC setting is especially conducive to the conduct of Board business, with ample space, computer and sound recording resources, as well as an extensive reference library of toponymic and historical materials. YNLC staff often provide helpful technical assistance to the Board meetings.

b) Review of Place Name Applications

For its November 15, 2013 meeting, the Board was looking forward to continuing its review of Peel River place name submissions by the Gwich'in Social and Cultural Institute based in Yellowknife, NT. These submissions reflect the results of research work conducted over many years with Elders from Ft. McPherson and Tsiigehtchic, whose traditional land base includes areas in present-day Yukon. Unfortunately, inclement weather made it impossible for the GSCI representatives to travel to Whitehorse for the meeting, and so the place name submissions will be reviewed at a later date. The Board was fortunate in that Mr. William G. Firth, Director of the Gwich'in Language Centre in Ft. McPherson, NT, was present for the meeting. He carefully spelled, pronounced and translated the Gwich'in names in the GSCI submissions that the Board had planned to review, providing very helpful perspective and background for the Board members. A full review with the Gwich'in Elders will take place at a later date when their travel can be rescheduled.

On January 15 and 16, 2014, the Board made considerable progress in reviewing thirty-five submissions from the Vuntut Gwich'in First Nation (VGFN) in Old Crow, representing names in their settlement land or in their traditional territory. VGFN Elders Robert Bruce Jr. and Joel Peter were in attendance to provide information on the Gwich'in names and their historical and cultural importance. Also present to assist the Board's deliberations was Ms. Ruth Carroll, a fluent speaker of Gwich'in who provided accurate spellings as needed during the review.

At its final meeting of the fiscal year held on March 3, 2014, the Board continued its review of VGFN place name submissions. VGFN Elders Robert Bruce Jr. and Joel Peter were again in attendance to assist the review, as was the VGFN Heritage Manager Megan Williams. Ms. Williams gave an interesting account of the First Nation's approach to documenting traditional sites, which includes video and audio recording of Elders, aerial photography, and the use of archival and library materials.

Following the names review with the VGFN visitors, the Board made tentative decisions on which features were to be recommended for official or alternate name status.

c) YGPNB Website: yukonplacenames.ca

The Board took positive steps during fiscal year 2013-2014 to upgrade its website yukonplacenames.ca, which was first launched in early 2005. The site provides access to general information on Yukon place names and the work of the YGPNB, including downloadable annual reports as well as images (and sound recordings) of specific place names approved by the Board over the years. However, the programming technology of the time did not provide for access via hand-held devices such as iPhones and iPads, which are now routinely used by the general public.

Moreover, the website did not easily or accurately allow for the spelling of Yukon First Nations place names in the local languages, all of them requiring special symbols (diacritics) to represent specific features of sound not found in English.

The Board undertook a systematic upgrade to its website with the aim of making it accessible by hand-held devices (as well as laptops), and to accommodate the full range of spelling requirements of Yukon First Nations languages. The Board anticipates the launch of the revised site to take place in late 2014.

d) Photo Documentation

The Board attempts to compile a complete set of information for each place name it recommends for approval by the Minister, including pronunciation, meaning and historical/cultural significance, as well as visual documentation wherever possible.

The Board last undertook an aerial photoshoot in September 2012. The documentation focused on the Peel River region with special emphasis on areas referenced in place names submissions reviewed by the Board. During the summer of 2013 a constellation of factors including inclement weather and limited helicopter availability precluded a photoshoot.

(right) VGFN Elder Robert Bruce Jr. explains map names at a recent YGPNB meeting.



(below) 1998 aerial view of Old Crow, the Porcupine River, and major nearby mountains. The closer mountain is called Chuu Ts'ii Nalk'at in Gwich'in, referring to its proximity to the Old Crow and Porcupine Rivers. The more distant mountain is called Chah Ddhàa in Gwich'in and Second Mountain in English.



Place Names Documentation Project

Since 1996, the Yukon Geographical Place Names Board and the Yukon Native Language Centre have jointly conducted a place name photo documentation project that visually records Yukon sites and features. The landscape images in this report are examples of the cost-shared documentation.

All place name photos in this report were taken by Wayne Towriss for the Yukon Native Language Centre and the Yukon Geographical Place Names Board.

The Board's Web Site

The *Yukon Geographical Place Names Board* web site was launched in January of 2005.

Board members believe the web site is a useful tool for informing the public about Yukon's rich culture and history that is reflected in the place names. As well, the Board believes the web site is an excellent vehicle for describing processes and criteria used to evaluate place name applications.

Additionally, the web site offers viewers the opportunity to observe photographs of Yukon features and to listen to sound files of First Nation elders pronouncing the names of these features in their own language. For example, photographs of *Jekudit'eda* (Alligator Lake) and *Nānidhāt* (Old Woman Rock) are illustrated, and sound files of these names in Southern Tutchone and Hän are featured.

To view the Board's web site go to: www.yukonplacenames.ca

YGPNB 2014 - 2015

Over the next year the Board will continue to review place name applications. As part of this process, the Board will consult regularly with the Yukon Toponymist to ensure that all applications received are complete and accurate. The Board will also continue to consult with applicants, First Nations, language experts and the public as required to confirm that all documentation is correct before applications are decided. The approved applications will be forwarded to the Minister, who then will make the final decision based on the Board's recommendation.

The Board will continue to work with governments to ensure that approved place name features are included in accordance with map production specifications of Canada on revised maps of the National Topographic Series.

YUKON PLACE NAME INFORMATION

Information about Yukon and other Canadian place names can be obtained by consulting the Geographic Names Board of Canada database at:

GEO NAMES

Natural Resources Canada
Room 634-615 Booth Street
Ottawa, Ontario
Canada K1A 0E9

www.geonames.nrcan.gc.ca

For information about the Yukon Geographical Place Names process or to obtain a status report on an application submitted contact:

YUKON TOPONYMIST

Cultural Services Branch
Heritage Resources Unit (L-1)
P.O. Box 2703
Whitehorse, Yukon
Canada Y1A 2C6

Telephone: (867) 667-3099
Toll-free: (800) 661-0408 (ext. 3099)
Fax: (867) 393-6456

www.yukonheritage.com

For additional information about the activities and mandate of the *Yukon Geographical Place Names Board* please contact:

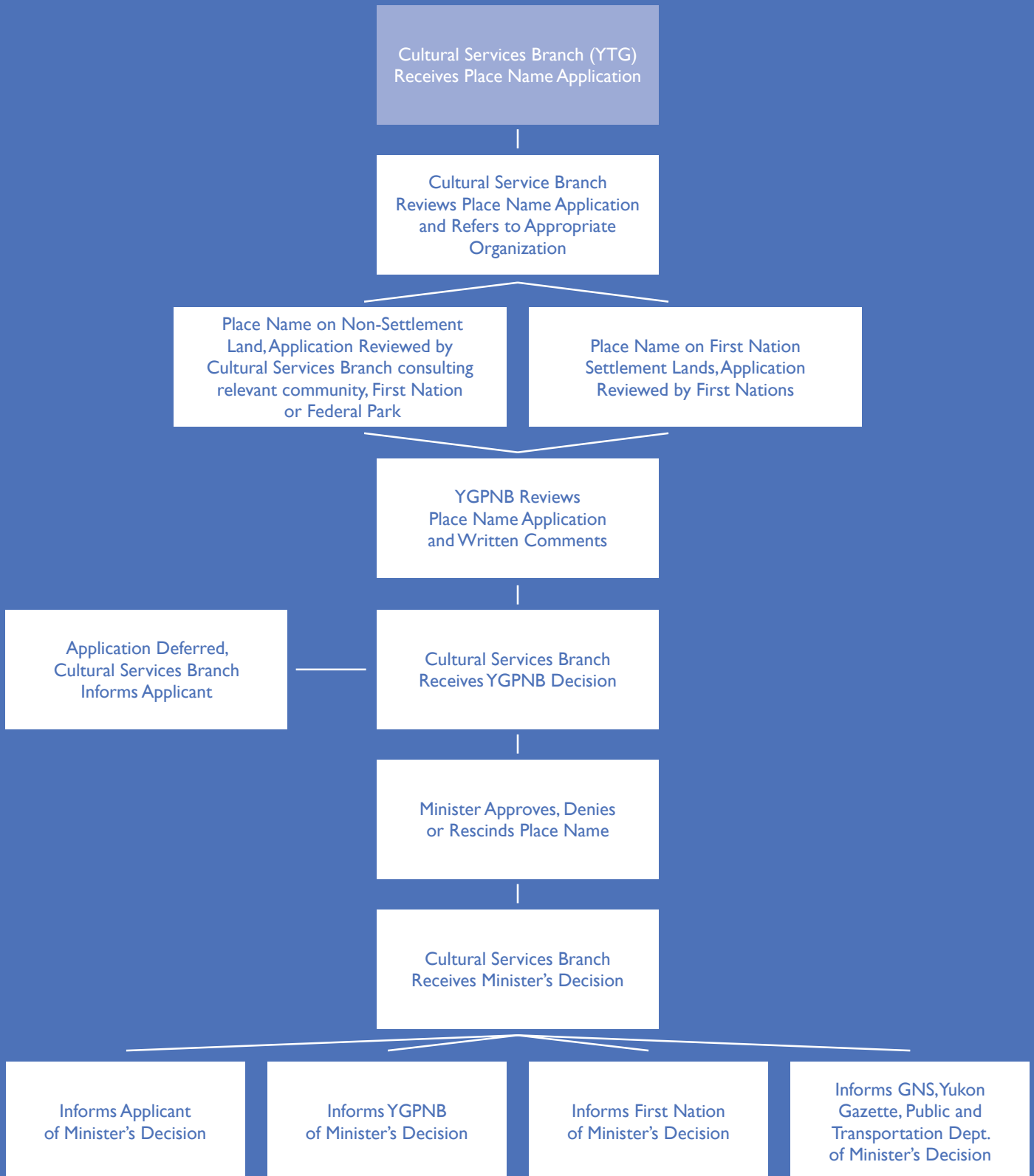
SECRETARIAT

Yukon Geographical Place Names Board
P.O. Box 31164
Whitehorse, Yukon
Canada Y1A 5P7

Telephone: (867) 667-7500
Fax: (867) 393-3904
Email: yukonplacenames@yknet.ca

www.yukonplacenames.ca

FIGURE 1: GEOGRAPHICAL PLACE NAMES APPLICATION PROCESS FLOW SHEET



INDEX

Management Responsibility Statement	14
Independent Auditors' Report	15
Statement of Operations and Changes in Net Assets	16
Statement of Financial Position	17
Statement of Cash Flows	18
Notes to the Financial Statements	19-20

M. McKay & Associates Ltd.
Certified General Accountants

MANAGEMENT RESPONSIBILITY STATEMENT

The management of Yukon Geographical Place Names Board is responsible for preparing the financial statements, the notes to the financial statements and other financial information contained in this annual report.

Management prepares the financial statements in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations. The financial statements are considered by management to present fairly the board's financial position and results of operations.

Management, in fulfilling its responsibilities, has developed and maintains a system of internal accounting controls designed to provide reasonable assurance that assets are safeguarded from loss or unauthorized use, and that the records are reliable for preparing the financial statements.

The financial statements have been reported on by M. McKay & Associates Ltd., Certified General Accountants, the board's auditors. Their report outlines the scope of their examination and their opinion on the financial statements.


Chairperson

August 13, 2014

M. McKay & Associates Ltd.
Certified General Accountants

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the Members of Yukon Geographical Place Names Board

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of Yukon Geographical Place Names Board, which comprise the statement of financial position as at March 31, 2014, and the statements of operations and changes in net assets and cash flows for the year then ended, and a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information.

Management's responsibility for the financial statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations, and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Auditor's responsibility

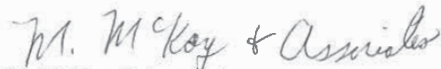
Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. Those standards require that we comply with ethical requirements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the board's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the board's internal control. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

Opinion

In our opinion, the financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Yukon Geographical Place Names Board as at March 31, 2014, and the results of its operations and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations.


M. McKay & Associates Ltd.
Certified General Accountants

Whitehorse, Yukon
August 13, 2014

M. McKay & Associates Ltd.
Certified General Accountants

**YUKON GEOGRAPHICAL PLACE NAMES BOARD
STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS
AND CHANGES IN NET ASSETS
For the year ended March 31, 2014**

	2014	2013
REVENUES		
Yukon Government Transfer	\$ 73,051	\$ 71,740
Interest	638	685
	73,689	72,425
EXPENSES		
Secretariat	26,522	21,525
Honoraria	19,522	17,254
Communications and website	16,658	1,690
Travel	14,382	11,974
Annual report	9,953	4,938
Professional fees	4,510	4,500
Rent	4,582	4,226
Office and general	652	593
Meetings	204	104
Bank charges	97	94
Documentation	-	11,820
	97,082	78,718
 DEFICIENCY OF REVENUES OVER EXPENSES	 (23,393)	 (6,293)
 Unrestricted net assets, beginning of year	 129,004	 135,296
 Unrestricted net assets, end of year	 \$ 105,611	 \$ 129,004

M. McKay & Associates Ltd.
Certified General Accountants

**YUKON GEOGRAPHICAL PLACE NAMES BOARD
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION
March 31, 2014**

	ASSETS	
	2014	2013
CURRENT		
Cash	\$ 133,730	\$ 132,309
Prepaid expenses	389	196
GST receivable	1,612	1,028
	135,731	133,533
CAPITAL ASSETS (note 3)	22,065	5,665
	\$ 157,796	\$ 139,198
LIABILITIES		
CURRENT		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	\$ 30,120	\$ 4,529
NET ASSETS		
Investment in capital assets	22,065	5,665
Unrestricted net assets	105,611	129,004
	127,676	134,669
	\$ 157,796	\$ 139,198

Approved on behalf of the Board:

 _____ Chairperson

M. McKay & Associates Ltd.
Certified General Accountants

YUKON GEOGRAPHICAL PLACE NAMES BOARD
STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS
For the year ended March 31, 2014

	2014	2013
OPERATING ACTIVITIES		
Government transfer	\$ 73,051	\$ 71,740
Interest received	638	685
Cash paid to suppliers and board honoraria	(72,268)	(77,485)
NET INCREASE (DECREASE) IN CASH	1,421	(5,060)
CASH, beginning of year	132,309	137,369
CASH, end of year	\$ 133,730	\$ 132,309

M. McKay & Associates Ltd.
 Certified General Accountants

YUKÓN GEOGRAPHICAL PLACE NAMES BOARD
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
March 31, 2014

1. Nature of operations

Yukon Geographical Place Names Board was established under the Umbrella Final Agreement, and the Yukon First Nations Final Agreements. Its main purpose is to consider and recommend to the Yukon government the naming or renaming of places or features in Yukon. It is exempt from income taxation under Sec. 149(1)(l) of the Income Tax Act.

2. Significant accounting policies

The board applies Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations.

(a) Revenue recognition

The board follows the deferral method of accounting for government transfers. Restricted contributions are recognized as revenue in the year in which the related expenses are incurred. Unrestricted contributions are recognized as revenue when received or receivable if the amount to be received can be reasonably estimated and collection is reasonably assured.

(b) Accounting estimates

The preparation of financial statements in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amount of assets and liabilities, disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amount of revenues and expenses during the year. Actual results could differ from these estimates.

(c) Capital assets

Capital asset purchases are reported as expenses in the year purchased, and recorded as assets valued at historical cost. Proceeds from the disposal of capital assets are reported as revenue in the year sold. Amortization is not recorded. The investment in capital assets account reports the net book value of capital assets.

(d) Financial instruments

Financial assets and liabilities are initially measured at fair value. Subsequently, financial instruments are reported at amortized cost, except for investments in equity instruments that are quoted in active markets, which are measured at fair value. Changes in fair value are recognized in net income.

M. McKay & Associates Ltd.
Certified General Accountants

**YUKON GEOGRAPHICAL PLACE NAMES BOARD
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
March 31, 2014**

3. Capital assets

	2014	2013
Office furniture and equipment	\$ 5,665	\$ 5,665
Website	16,400	-
	\$ 22,065	\$ 5,665

4. Financial instruments

Financial instruments consist of cash, GST receivable and, accounts payable and accrued liabilities. Transactions in financial instruments may result in an entity assuming or transferring to another party one or more of the financial risks described below. The required disclosures provide information that assists users of financial statements in assessing the extent of risk related to financial instruments.

(a) Fair value

The fair value of current financial assets and current financial liabilities approximates their carrying value due to their short-term maturity dates.

(b) Credit risk

The board has credit risk in bank deposit accounts and receivables. Credit risk is the risk that one party to a transaction will fail to discharge an obligation and cause the other party to incur a financial loss.

(c) Liquidity risk

Liquidity risk is the risk that the Organization will encounter difficulty in meeting its obligations associated with financial liabilities.

The Organization is exposed to liquidity risk in meeting its obligations associated with financial liabilities, which is dependent on receipt of funds from funding agencies.

5. Economic dependence

The board is dependent upon Yukon government transfers for continuing operations.

6. Closing surplus

The board may retain the closing surplus subject to the Yukon Government approving an annual plan which includes the closing surplus.

M. McKay & Associates Ltd.
Certified General Accountants



The McQuesten River (right) flows into the larger Stewart River. Both features are found in the traditional territory of the First Nation of Na-Cho Nyäk Dun in Mayo, Yukon.

