

MOCCASIN TELEGRAPH – 363rd Edition – October 7, 2012

Created by Sherron Jones sherronjones*shaw.ca

To use an e-mail address from the MocTel, replace the * with @.



Whitehorse

Photo courtesy Brian Clayson bdclayson*northwestel.net (In Whitehorse)

ALEX VAN BIBBER – 2005 LEGEND AWARD

The Legend Award™

Alex Van Bibber

2005 Legend Award Winner

(Article found online)

Alex Van Bibber was born under a spruce tree, beside the Pelly River in the central Yukon in 1916. Alex's father, Ira Van Bibber was a native of West Virginia, and came to the Yukon over the famed Chilkoot Pass in 1898 with the rush of stampeders bound for the Klondike goldfields.

Later, Ira met his Northern Tutchone native wife, Eliza, and together they had 14 children, all born and raised in the wilds of the Yukon. In addition to raising a very large family in the wilderness,

Ira also guided a few hunting parties, including a hunter named Charlie Sykes who had a two month boat and pack-dog hunt with Ira in 1919 in the MacMillan River country. The hunt was written up in Outdoor Life in a five part monthly series, beginning in the July 1920 issue.

Alex attended school in Dawson City, about 210 miles downstream from their homestead on the Pelly River. His parents could only afford to send a few children every fall to school. Alex was only 12 when he was put in charge of the hand-made log raft that carried him and several siblings several hundred miles downstream. Alex went to school until grade five, and then had to step aside to let other brothers and sisters get educated. In the spring, when school was out, the children would take a paddle-wheeler back up the Yukon River to Fort Selkirk, then walk the last forty miles up the Pelly River and home. In January 1943, Alex was hired by the US Army to help out the expedition in finding an alternate pipeline route from the Imperial Oil wells in Norman Wells to Whitehorse. This pipeline was built to supply oil to Alaska to defend against the Japanese that had landed on the Aleutian Islands. There were six men and three dog-teams in this expedition.

Their trip started out with 10 days of 50° to 60° below weather. Alex's main job was to use his knowledge of the country, to keep the party safe and comfortable, and to break trail ahead of the dog-teams on snowshoes all the way from Mayo, Yukon to Fort Norman, Northwest Territories, a distance of about 400 miles. It took them about 42 days to make this overland trip.

Alex started his professional hunting career in the fall of 1943. He first worked for Carl Chambers as a guide. He owned his own guiding territory in the southwestern Yukon from 1948 to 1968, and operated it along with his wife, Sue.

In Alex's very first year in the outfitting business, he guided Dr. Earl J. Thee to an incredible ram that scored 182 2/8 and, after all of these years, this ram is still #10 in the all-time B&C record book.

Another highlight in Alex's career was when he took famed bowhunter Fred Bear out on a grizzly hunt in August 1956. Fred arrowed his first grizzly with Alex and wrote about the hunt in his "Field Notes" publication.

In 1968, Alex shot the only true albino moose ever killed in the Yukon. Alex had seen this cow moose while guiding some hunters, and then he and his wife Sue, along with some friends, went back and got it after the season. It was a true albino, complete with white hair and pink eyes, lips and hooves. It is life-size mounted and displayed in downtown Whitehorse.

Alex made many friends during his years as a guide. Jim Cortino of Chicago hunted with Alex 13 times and became a great friend. Well-known hunter Johnny Caputo hunted with Alex twice and they became lifelong friends. One experience that Alex fondly remembers is when he was asked to look after some of the journalists who came along to the mountain base-camp when Robert Kennedy climbed Mount Kennedy in 1965. Alex sold his outfit in 1968.

He then helped his daughter Helen and son-in-law Mike Hassard run Ruby Range Rams, which they purchased from Johnny Muskwa in the late 1960's. After working with the Hassard's for many years, he worked for various other outfitters in the Yukon and then went to work with Kelly and Heather Hougen's Arctic Red River Outfitters in 1991. Alex is Heather Hougen's grandfather.

[I became aware after reading about Helen (VanBibber) and Mike Hassard that I had met them while they were operating a Laundromat in Vernon BC a few years ago and confirmed with Heather Hougen that it would have been her aunt Helen that I met. Helen went on to live in Calgary before passing away. I had stopped by the Laundromat to meet Helen after Fred Aylwin made me aware that she was a VanBibber and that I should offer her the Moccasin Telegraph-which I did and she received it for the balance of the time she was in Vernon. – Sherron Jones]

[Kelly and Heather Hougen sold Arctic Red River in 2009 and now operate Timberline Wilderness Adventures. Website is: www.timberlineyukon.com. You will see Alex in a photo standing near a boat.]

A few years ago, when Alex applied for an NWT guides license, it was not processed because they said a mistake was made on his birthdate. They said nobody could be born in 1916 and still be guiding. That's Alex for you. In April 2005, Alex will turn 89 years old and plans to return to Arctic Red for another season. [Age 96 in April 2012.]

In the past 30 years or so, Alex has gotten more into teaching and sharing his vast knowledge with others. He travels all over the Yukon throughout the winter months putting on workshops and sharing his knowledge. He and his wife Sue (now age 93) [passed away in 2011] still both run their own traplines near their home in Champagne, Yukon. Since 1988, Alex has been the chief instructor for the Yukon Fish and Game Association's outdoor education camp. Alex is still doing this seven-day camp every July. Alex has always made time for everyone, especially the younger generation who are eager to learn the ways of the bush. Alex has been honored over the years with various awards. He was recognized with the Order of Canada in 1992 (the highest award a civilian can receive in Canada), the Yukon Fish & Game Association Sportsman of the Year Award in 1995, the Canadian Wildlife Federation Roland Michener Award in 1996, and many other national and local awards that recognize his hard work, contributions and commitment to education in the hunting and trapping industry. Alex has always had a great outlook on life, living by his motto, "work hard and play hard." Anyone who has had the privilege of knowing Alex will know that he lives life to the fullest and always sees things in a positive and often humorous way. He has been a legend in the Canadian North for many years and it is great to see that he is now being formally recognized by his peers by way of the first ever "Legend Award" presented by Grand Slam Club/Ovis.

YUKON NUGGET

A CKRW Yukon Nugget by Les McLaughlin

Courtesy Rolf & Marg Hougen marg*hougens.com (In Whitehorse)

Yukon Flying Squirrel

My Dad used to say that this or that would happen when pigs fly. Pigs can't fly, I'd tell him. "It's just an old expression," he would say, frowning at my naiveté.

But squirrels can. Really? Yep, some can, and today we'll explore the lifestyle of a tiny creature whom you will seldom see. Just like flying pigs.

On the limb of a tall spruce tree in the dense Yukon forest, a tiny rodent - not much bigger than a mouse - prepares for a 50-metre journey through the air to a landing spot on another chosen tree. As it leaps into space, its four limbs spread wide, with loose fur-covered skin stretched out to create a parachute, the Northern Flying Squirrel glides along, twisting and turning through the trees.

The squirrel steers by adjusting the tightness of the skin flap and position of its front legs. The tail acts as a stabilizer, like the tail of a kite.

As the long journey nears its finale, the squirrel swoops up at the last moment, reducing its speed with air brakes - like a just-landed 737 - and settles gently on the branch.

It turns out this miracle of squirrel flying is not really flying. Instead, the Yukon Flying Squirrel is an accomplished glider. The tiny mammal is common in Yukon forests, but because it's a nocturnal owl, few Yukoners have ever seen one.

Because biologists have not studied the flying squirrel much in the Yukon, its distribution is not well known. Still, they say there are plenty of them around.

You've all seen red squirrels. Well, the flying guy is about half that size, weighing in at about 100 grams, the size of a big chocolate bar. Brown-grey fur on the top of its body contrasts sharply with the pale, cream-coloured underparts.

The loose skin that runs from the wrist to ankle means the little guy is not very agile on the ground, but a thing of beauty in the air. With the help of its flattened tail, the flying squirrel can bank and turn in mid-glide. The large bright eyes help give the flying squirrel a unique appearance.

Like all squirrels, the young are born in a tree in spring. Sometimes a mother will glide while holding one of the young in her mouth.

Unlike red squirrels, flying squirrels are very sociable. As many as twenty flying squirrels have been found sleeping in a single communal winter nest.

So you ask, how can I see this tiny creature that only comes out at night. Well, usually you don't, but some observers have reported seeing flying squirrels as they land softly on a bird feeder.

I saw one in the small forest above the clay cliffs many years ago. What kind of bird looks like a mouse, I later asked my Dad.

Dunno know, he said, but if you think you saw such a creature, the next thing you'll be telling me is that pigs can fly.

A CKRW Yukon Nugget by Les McLaughlin

CESSNA 180 FLIGHT AROUND WHITEHORSE

Hi All – My daughter Verena won a ½ hr flight in a Cessna 180 and on Saturday Bryan and Verena took advantage of the flight. Attached are some photos. The fall colours are so beautiful. The snow you see in the mountains is fresh, called 'Termination Dust'.

Sherron, if you wish to use any you have permission.

If these photos don't entice visitors I don't know what will.

When the aircraft returned to the float base they flew right over me. I was on the lake taking a boating course.

When I hit the water (as part of the training) it was so cold. Of course I almost jumped in and could see the bottom of the jet boat on the way up to the surface. I had the wrong life jacket (pfd) on and needed rescuing (I insisted on using my own). Good thing the instructor was a swiftwater specialist. Lesson learned: don't wear a cheap Canadian Tire PFD and make sure your dry suit is zipped up all the way. I stayed wet for 4 hours, not realizing how wet I was until I took the dry suit off. Br-r-r-r.

Donna Clayson bdclayson*northwestel.net (In Whitehorse)



First sign of pending winter – September 15, 2012
Photo courtesy Brian Clayson bdclayson*northwestel.net (In Whitehorse)



New snow on the mountains.

Photos courtesy Brian Clayson bdclayson@northwestel.net (In Whitehorse)





Beautiful fall colours.

Photos courtesy Brian Clayson bdclayson@northwestel.net (In Whitehorse)





Boarding the plane at Schwatka lake.
Photos courtesy Brian Clayson bdclayson@northwestel.net (In Whitehorse)



Lake in the mountains.

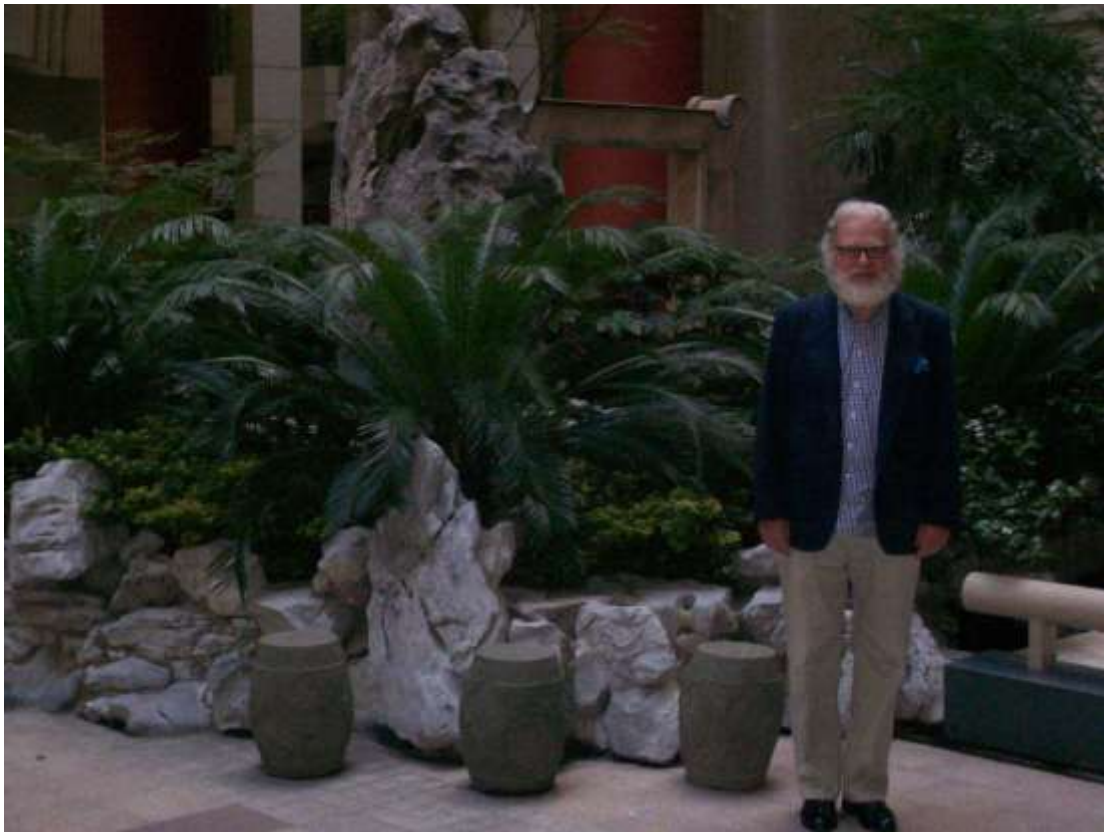


Verena – enjoying flying without turbulence.
Photos courtesy Brian Clayson bdclayson@northwestel.net (In Whitehorse)



Whitehorse

GILLIAN'S TRIP TO SHANGHAI CHINA



Edward Thompson





Gold Rush Gala



Canadian Whiskey at the Bar



Asian Can Can Girls



Gillian and Yukon Premier



If you have seen Gillian perform, you will know what she is doing.



Gillian and Edward with Shanghai in the background.



Heading home.

KARREN CROWLEY RECEIVES QUEENS DIAMOND JUBILEE MEDAL

I'm sending you an array of photos. They are of Karren Crowley, in Sidney BC receiving an award. She didn't want to toot her own horn by sending them in but I disagree & she said I could. The following are her words I've pasted from her note to me:

The award was the Queens Diamond Jubilee Medal. The town of Sidney chose me to receive the medal for years of volunteer work with the town. I did work with the Advisory Committee for the Disabled, CNIB, CCB and ran a support group for twenty years for the visually impaired.

The whole thing has been so exciting for me. To be honoured by my town has just blown me away.

I'm as proud as a peacock and grinning ear to ear.....what a thrill for a little old lady!

Be well, Carol Clarke clclarke@shaw.ca (In Vancouver)



The story behind the two Mounties is such a great one. The couple are man & wife, and the “lady cop” is my neighbours’ daughter. We watched her grow from age two and so this was a thrill to have the both of them escort us in. It was a surprise to both of us so hugs were happening all around. – Karren



I am just “over the moon” being chosen for the Queens Diamond Jubilee Medal. Especially because my town chose me. It is just the biggest thrill. The tall man with me is my friend Kenny Podmore who I have worked with on a few different committees. The Advisory Committee for the Disabled & The Town Criers competitions. He is also a town councilor for Sidney.- Karren



Queen's Diamond Jubilee Award – Karren (North) Crowley

By Harvey Burian hburian*telus.net (in Parksville, BC)

On September 23, 2012 at the Town of Sidney, BC 60th Anniversary Celebration, Karren (North) Crowley was an honoured recipient of the Queen's Jubilee Medal. My wife Vera and I had the pleasure and privilege of attending the ceremony and of seeing Karren receive her award from Acting Mayor, Stephen Price.

For those who do not know, Karren spent 8 of her formative years with her North family in the Yukon, both in Mayo and in Whitehorse. She attended school in both communities and left the Yukon in 1962 to marry Bob Crowley. Bob and Karren have lived in Edmonton, AB, Richmond, BC and, for the last 36 years, in Sidney, BC. They have two grown children, Jill and Joe and four grandchildren. Karen is a regular contributor to the *Moccasin Telegraph* and is a sister to Ted North, who has also submitted accounts of his experiences living in the Yukon.

Karren was nominated to receive the Queen's Jubilee Medal by her friend, local Councilor, Kenny Podmore. Here is what he wrote about Karren in the Town of Sidney 60th Anniversary Celebration program, which he has given permission to quote:

“Despite living with Retinitis Pigmentosa, an eye disease that severely limits her vision to that of “looking through a straw”, Karren Crowley has spent a lifetime working for others.

A Sidney resident for 36 years, Karren has been actively involved with the Canadian National Institute for the Blind and the Canadian Council of the Blind. In 1992 she began the Sidney & District White Cane Club, a support group for people living with low or no vision.

As a long-time member of the Advisory Committee for Persons With Disabilities, Karren had great influence in making Sidney the leading community in BC for accessibility.

She also belonged to the Friends of the Library for many years, bringing a new perspective to the staff. With the help of the Sidney Lions Club who donated a Daisy Reader (audible reading aid), visually impaired members were able to loan the machine.

Over the years Karren has worked with the Town Criers when they visit Oak Bay and Sidney during the International Town Crier Competitions. She has run the hospitality room and acted as a judge for Clarity and Volume at the competition.”

Congratulations to Karren! A very well deserved recognition for her many years of service to the community and particularly to those with visual impairment. It is also great to know that Karren has a connection with the Yukon which she is quick to let all who converse with her know.

The following photos were taken by Karren's friend and fellow volunteer in the White Cane Club, Colin Jackson, who has given permission for them to be used in the MocTel, and by Harvey Burian as noted.



Photo courtesy Harvey Burian
Karren receiving her medal from Acting Mayor Stephen Price



Photo courtesy Harvey Burian
Karren receiving her award citation from Acting Mayor Stephen Price



Photo courtesy Colin Jackson
Karren giving her acceptance speech



Photo courtesy Colin Jackson
Karren descending from the presentation area
Her friend, Councilor Kenny Podmore on the left,
her daughter Jill behind (middle) with MP Elizabeth May



Photo Courtesy of Colin Jackson
Karren with the two young RCMP constables, both
of whom she knows personally



Photo courtesy Colin Jackson
Karren with her daughter Jill and her award certificate

Reader's Digest is holding a contest on the 'Best' of Canada.

There are several categories. You can enter your favorite location or vote on those already entered. See URL below on my entry. This is very interesting and you can learn so much about different areas in Canada. Please vote.

Readers Digest – Vote now:

http://www.readersdigest.ca/cmit/submission-details?submission_id=114

Donna Clayson

Whitehorse, YT

Best Destination

Natural Park Happiness

Submitted by: Donna Clayson

Yukon is smallest of the 3 territories

Swim the cleanest lakes in Canada

Catch 22 lb Pike

Yukon River 4th longest in N America

Canoe Yukon River to Bering Sea

Hike mountain trails

Attend daily concerts

World's only International, toughest dog sled race (1000+ miles)

The Yukon River Quest is the longest canoe and kayak race in the world. The race is 460 miles and over 70 teams from around the world compete

Ski / snowmobile / skating on lakes / dog sledding / snowshoeing in winter

World's longest fishladder

High concentration of artists

Sourtoe Cocktail Club – drink a beverage and let a real mummified toe touch your lips

Known for Klondike Gold Rush of 1898

Large enough to hold 4 U.S. States

Only 33,000 residents, 75% in City of Whitehorse

Kluane National Park and Reserve of Canada, Yukon's UNESCO World Heritage Site

Has greatest range of annual temps in N America. Temperatures range from +34C to -52C.

Only receives 6.5 inches of rain a year

Third largest city in Canada by area

World's smallest desert at 642 acres

Home to 14 First Nations speaking 8 different languages dating back 50,000 yrs

Dempster is the only public highway in N America to cross the Arctic Circle

Approximately 50,000 moose, 10,000 black bear and 4,500 wolves

The White Pass & Yukon Route Railway is 110.7 miles (178 km) long. Of this, 20.4 miles (32.8 km) are in Alaska; 32.2 miles (51.8 km) in British Columbia, and 58.1 miles (93.5 km) in the Yukon. Built through the mountains in 9 months in 1898

Lots for tourists to do and see so need at least 2 months to visit

Alaska Highway (1387 miles) built in 11 months during WW II

Visitors come for the Northern Lights

Mount Logan is Canada's highest mountain and second highest peak in N America, located in Kluane National Park

Flight seeing over majestic mountains and 100 km long glaciers

Three national parks located in Territory

Mining accounts for 30% of the economy

Continuous daylight in summer

Happiest people in Canada according to Stats Can (Sept 2012)



Canada's Amateur Radio Magazine La Revue des Radioamateurs Canadiens

SEPTEMBER / OCTOBER 2012 – SEPTEMBRE / OCTOBRE 2012

MP Ryan Leef, MP Alice Wong and ASM Ron McFadyen, YV1RM, celebrate the arrival of D-Star in the Yukon



The West Carleton ARC sponsor Grid Expedition to FN04xa for the June VHF QSO Party



The First Amateur Long Wave QSO in St Pierre et Miquelon



Peel Amateur Radio Club Field Day



Lambton County Radio Club's Field Day



Publications Mail Agreement # 400286692 Registration # 098606



Montreal ARC
Hosts RAC Annual
General Meeting on
September 22

YUKON RECEIVES NEW EQUIPMENT

MP Alice Wong holding Icom radio along with MP Ryan Leef and long time Yukoner and Amateur Radio operator Ron McFadyen VY1RM.

The D-Star unit by Icom is the most northerly in Canada and the second most northerly in NA, Anchorage beat us by just a degree or two. Substantial grant from the New Horizons or Seniors Program that I applied for from the Canadian government. YARA [Yukon Amateur Radio Association] now has 23 repeaters. See the Yukon Amateur website at:

<http://yara.ca/repeaters/repeaters.htm>

73

Ron McFadyen, VY1RM mcfadyen@northwestel.net (In Whitehorse)

To Watch a video on the Icom D-Star system:

<http://www.icomamerica.com/en/products/amateur/dstar/dstar/default.aspx>

Yukon is once again on the forefront in amateur radio communication. The D-Star system allows for internet, e-mail and GPS.

MESSAGE FROM MAROESJA IN THE NETHERLANDS

Hi Sherron, what an exceptional Moc Tel !! Filled with memories, thanks to all who helped put it together, kind regards, Maroesja van Oeveren maroesjabigm@hotmail.com (In the Netherlands)

MESSAGE FROM MARIBETH MAINER

Good morning, Sherron;

It has taken me until this morning to open issue #362. My first clue that all was not well with my computer was the message "Internet Explorer has stopped working" when I tried to open it the first time. Days went by, with my doing all the usual trouble shooting things. Finally, Microsoft called to tell me that my computer was severely compromised. So much for the assurance months ago that I no longer needed spyware with this computer. It took 3 hours for the techs to get rid of it all. Good service but a painful lesson.

Issue #362 was a great read. Loved the pictures of Telegraph Creek. In my childhood, Telegraph Creek was simply an area where friends of the family had crashed their planes.

My daughter is fascinated by the teardrop trailer so I shared Judy Nadon's story and pictures with her. Too small for our 3 person family but maybe when the kid leaves home or I retire from camping....

Always good to put the pieces of a well-known story together. Thank you for pulling together the tribute to Helen Hassard and Sue VanBibber.

I was born in Whitehorse because of the Alaska Highway. Those army vehicles were still around when I was little. My grandfather had bought an army ambulance that he parked outside 505 Jarvis for a few years, using it to haul stuff while he added on to the little house.

I plan on having a re-read when my eyesight stabilizes. I just had my right cataract surgery a week ago; having the left in a couple of weeks.

Maribeth Mainer mainerml*shaw.ca (In Burnaby)

A MESSAGE FROM ROSE TOOLE

Thank you for forwarding the newsletter - we often have trouble getting them for some reason so really appreciated receiving 362 - the pictures are fantastic.

Our younger son - Jamie Toole - bought and restoring the old Caribou Hotel in Carcross and it is starting to look great - will be wonderful when he gets .the interior finished. He also opened up a Bakery/coffee shop/lunch etc in Carcross - we have visited him there several times and really enjoyed their lunches that they put on - especially their cinnamon buns.

Rose and Gordon Toole gtoole*northwestel.net (In Watson Lake)

A MESSAGE FROM IRENE TAYLOR – Remembering McRae Restaurant

We really enjoyed all the news in Moc Tel.

Just a few memories of McRae restaurant. When Ron and I and our 2 sons Keith (3 years old) and Ken (2 years old) moved to Whitehorse in 1961, it was our treat to go to McRae on a Sunday for pumpkin pie and there was a Ivy plant that went all around the cafe at the ceiling - she said it grew from all the truckers BS.

It was a place to buy booze on Sunday. Or it was a favorite place to eat as she was an excellent cook our two sons still recall her pumpkin pie.

Ron and Irene Taylor ietaylor1935@gmail.com (In Bowden AB)



Martha & Bill Kerr – at home in Kelowna - Sept 2012
Photo forward from Martha Kerr [marthakerr*shaw.ca](mailto:marthakerr@shaw.ca) (In Kelowna BC)

Martha Kerr phoned after returning from the ISR reunion in Penticton this past weekend to provide me with an okay to include the photo above and to say she had a really good time at the ISR. She said there were 62 there and that she saw a lady from Haines Alaska she had not seen in years. Bill did not attend, but that Marc Steinbach had driven her and Shirley Turton down from Kelowna to Penticton. Bill Kerr was out hunting in the direction of Douglas Lake Ranch and that he was not the hunter missing in the Aberdeen Plateau area and in the news. – Sherron Jones

Looking for retired Sourdough Rendezvous Queen Competitors.



CALLING ALL QUEENS

**Have you ever participated
in the Rendezvous Queen
Competition?
*If so... we're looking for you!***

Gather with us in 2014 for a four day gala reunion
honouring over 500 women who have participated in
50 years of Rendezvous Queen Competitions.
Please register soon by phone or on the website to
ensure you receive your invitation.

Join the celebration ~ see you in 2014!

yukonrendezvous.com/queenreunion p.888.386.6766

Fireworks image courtesy of John Reeve www.jreeve.ca

Contact: <http://yukonrendezvous.com/queenreunion>

ODD Gallery: Scott Rogers Meanders into Nonesuch Place

By Dan Davidson uffish*northwestel.net (In Dawson)

The latest exhibition at the ODD Gallery, which closes on July 27, was somewhat inspired by the life and works of Jan Welzl, an eccentric Arctic explorer, trader, storyteller and inventor who ended his days in Dawson City in 1948 and whose grave is a shrine to those travellers and residents who share his Czech heritage.

In the countries that were formerly known as Czechoslovakia, Welzl is a literary hero. His first book of fanciful Alaskan tales, *Thirty Years in the Golden North*, was even a Book of the Month Club bestseller, though he made very little money from it.

Scott Rogers, a Canadian visual artist based in Glasgow, Scotland, explains his exhibit, “Meanders into Nonesuch Place”, in his artist’s statement.

“My practice explores tensions between idealism and its enactment. I am particularly interested in ways that closed systems might be resisted through speculative positions. How might we understand the world to be different than it appears? How might we bring to be what can never be? Can we escape the possible?”

“Recently, I have investigated these questions through research into the history of perpetual motion machines and the narratives surrounding these devices.

“The life of Jan Welzl, an Arctic explorer and inventor, has been integral to this work. Welzl was an eccentric Czech locksmith who travelled the globe in the early 20th century.”

Welzl was born in 1868 what today is the Czech Republic, but then was a part of the Austro-Hungarian Empire. After many travels that took him to Alaska, back to his home and then to Canada, he lived in Dawson City in the 30’s until his death in 1948. An asteroid was named after him (No. 15425) in 1998.

During his final years in Dawson he occupied himself by attempting to build an elaborate perpetual motion machine in his cabin. To local children of the day, who did not know of his European fame, he was known as the Perpetual Motion Man.

“From (Welzl’s) story,” Rogers writes, “I have developed clusters of projects using a wide diversity of materials, techniques, and references. These works produce unexpected meeting points; they are sites of cohesion between otherwise disparate phenomena. Failed inventions, CG animations, sea chanties, whittling, Heath Robinson cartoons, automatons, and Fischli & Weiss are all assembled together as parts of this motley cast. In each case we transfer from concrete reality to the intellectual space of possibility, and from thoughts of what is to thoughts of what could be.”

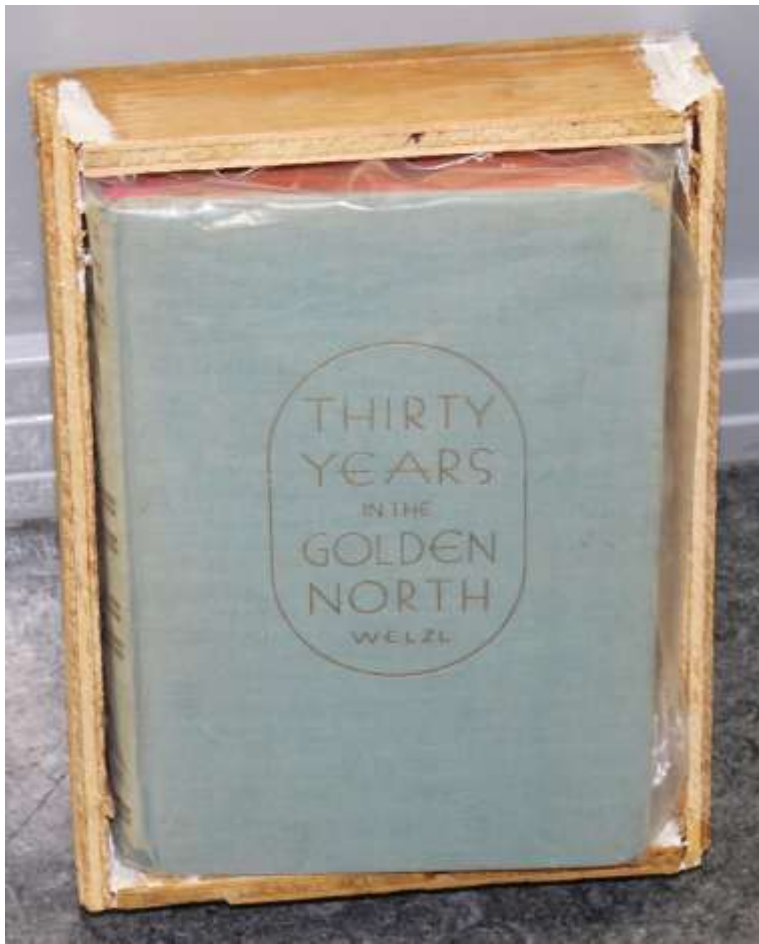
Rogers’s homage to Welzl included a wooden model of a sort of machine, a copy of Welzl’s most famous book and a scattering of drawings of little Rube Goldberg type machines and engines. Viewers will have to decide if it is significant that they are all located next to electrical outlets.



The size of the drawing is revealed by the actual coins placed on it.
Photo courtesy Dan Davidson uffish@northwestel.net (In Dawson)



Just what this machine might accomplish is not entirely clear.
Photo courtesy Dan Davidson uffish@northwestel.net (In Dawson)



A well preserved copy of Welzl's *Thirty Years in the Golden North*. Photos courtesy Dan Davidson uffish@northwestel.net (In Dawson)



The words of a poem or song based on Welzl's life story.

34th Annual Dawson City Music Festival Keeps the Chain Intact

By Dan Davidson uffish*northwestel.net (In Dawson)

It was surprising to learn that there are people who don't know about the Sunday Night Rule at the Dawson City Music Festival. Granted that the crowd on the dance floor was really enjoying the set by the Born Ruffians and didn't want it to end, but they were the next to last act of the night on the last night of the festival and when it gets to that point in the evening, no amount of chanting "ONE! MORE! SONG!" in loud angry voices in going to produce an encore.

All it's going to do is shorten the amount of actual music you get from the very last act of the festival, the Bruce Peninsula.

On Friday and Saturday night the fun goes on until 2 a.m., but on Sunday all the coaches turn back into pumpkins at midnight – because the neighbours have to go to work the next day.

That final act was quite different from the rockers that had preceded them, but they quickly convinced the crowd that they were worth listening and dancing to, so it all worked out in the end.

The outlook for the whole weekend was a little iffy on Friday, as the "crack-o-doom" style storm in the wee hours of the morning convinced the CBC folk that their Front Street Gazebo concert would have to move inside the Odd Fellows Hall instead.

Of course the day got steadily better as it wore on and the ballroom was a sweatbox by the time that it was too late to change their minds and move the equipment back outdoors.

The Weather Station, Old Time Machine and The Deep Dark Words played from a cramped stage to a ballroom packed to standing room only capacity.

The rest of the weekend vacillated from cool to hot and steamy, with a bit of smoke late Saturday and Sunday reputed to be from a fire down river in the direction of Forty Mile.

Visiting musicians are always blown away by the long twilight here, but a month after Solstice it does actually get dark if you stay up long enough, and by midnight it can be a little murky in the tent. Watching a quartet of hacky sack diehards trying to play with a dark little foot bag they could hardly see was an amusing reminder of that.

The festival could be said to have begun the night before at the Palace Grand Theatre, when Molly Sweeny and her accompanist, Sheena Ko, opened for Ron Sexsmith and his keyboard player Dave Matheson in a show before an absolutely packed house that ran to about two and half hours in total.

Main Stage opened on Friday night with the Trondek Hwëch'in Singers, in what has become a tradition here over the last several years. The rest of the evening worked a progression from listening music in a roots vein to dancing tunes as the evening wore on. This is the way the three main stage evenings generally move, from quieter music to increasingly frenetic, although front-loading the Sunday concert with the energetically blistering neo-metal sounds of Zipline was a departure from this style of programming.

For those more interested in sitting and listening, there were concerts at the Palace Grand on Saturday and Sunday and one at St. Paul's Anglican Church on Saturday night.

Saturday morning was occupied by the KidsFest, hosted by funnyman and Certified Lunatic and Master of the Impossible, Tomas Kubinek, with music by Blue Hibou and lots of games.

Music was happening all over town on Saturday and Sunday, with events at Minto Park, the Palace Grand, the Dänojà Zho Cultural Centre, St. Paul's, and the Front Street Gazebo. Some of these events were little mini-concerts lasting 15 minutes to an hour, other were themed workshop style events with names like Women of the World, Take Over; Freshly Pickled; In Chorus; and Who's the Boss (featuring the songs of Bruce Springsteen).

A favorite Sunday feature was the Potluck session, where band members were mixed and matched into new groups and told to cover a tune as best they could.

The energy built over the weekend, leading to a heartfelt climax at the Finale, when all the bands hit the stage and churned out a version of Fleetwood Mac's 1976 hit "The Chain", with its exhortation to "never break the chain."

Festival Director Jenna Roebuck ended the weekend with what has become the traditional send-off: "You don't have to go home – but you can't stay here."

However, it was a beautiful evening outside the tent and people in the crowd continued visiting for some time after the tent flaps closed behind them.



Minto Park remains the venue for the Main Stage tents, vendors' stalls and the beer garden.
Photo courtesy Dan Davidson uffish@northwestel.net (In Dawson)



Blue Hibou featured Kim Barlow, H  l  ne Beaulieu and Micah Smith as a bilingual trio.
Photo courtesy Dan Davidson [uffish*northwestel.net](mailto:uffish@northwestel.net) (In Dawson)



Jennifer Castle
Photo courtesy Dan Davidson [uffish*northwestel.net](mailto:uffish@northwestel.net) (In Dawson)



Old Time Machine (Ryan McNally and Kyle Cashen) played to an overheated ballroom during the CBC kickoff concert on Friday.

Photo courtesy Dan Davidson uffish@northwestel.net (In Dawson)



The Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in Singers opened the show on Friday night.
Photo courtesy Dan Davidson uffish@northwestel.net (In Dawson)



A member of Bruce Peninsula, Tamara Lindeman also performs as the Weather Station.
Photo courtesy Dan Davidson uffish@northwestel.net (In Dawson)

DCMF Day 2



George & Brandon. – Brandon Isaac proved to be a lively player of many varieties of the Blues, and invited George McConkey to join him for a couple of tunes.
Photo courtesy Dan Davidson uffish@northwestel.net (In Dawson)



The Deep Dark Woods offered a mixture of musical styles.
Photo courtesy Dan Davidson uffish*northwestel.net (In Dawson)



Gordie Tentrees was back in Dawson for the second time in just a few months with the Hill
Country News
Photo courtesy Dan Davidson uffish*northwestel.net (In Dawson)



The members of Kunda were keen on getting the audience up and moving.
Photo courtesy Dan Davidson uffish@northwestel.net (In Dawson)

DCMF Day 3



Fans pleaded to have an encore from the Born Ruffians on Sunday night.
Photo courtesy Dan Davidson uffish@northwestel.net (In Dawson)



Bruce Peninsula faced the tough task of winning over an annoyed audience as the last act on Sunday night.

Photo courtesy Dan Davidson uffish@northwestel.net (In Dawson)



Aided by a drummer and some sampling wizardry Cris Derksen provided an atmospheric set of tunes. Photo courtesy Dan Davidson uffish@northwestel.net (In Dawson)



The Dakhká Khwáan Dancers, were joined by some members of the Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in Singers for part of their set. Photo courtesy Dan Davidson uffish@northwestel.net (In Dawson)



They may be too young to vote, but the members of Zipline were a big draw beyond their own demographic on Sunday night.

Photo courtesy Dan Davidson uffish*northwestel.net (In Dawson)



The Sunday night finale number urged the audience and the performers to “never break the chain.”

Photo courtesy Dan Davidson uffish*northwestel.net (In Dawson)

Moosehide Gathering Drenched but not Dispirited at Thursday Night Opening

By Dan Davidson uffish*northwestel.net (In Dawson)

Even the most careful planning cannot dictate what the weather will bring to the party, and opening evening of the 11th Moosehide Gathering may end up going down in history as the wettest ever, as the sky opened up and delivered a wind driven downpour.

Small tents were overturned and large canopies rocked with the wind, while a crew of drenched workers struggled in vain to erect a canvas tent for the children to play in.

Opening ceremonies intended for the open space in front of the Arbour were moved inside, and volunteers scrambled to bring in benches and folding chairs that had been set up outside before the events could begin.

William Greenland was once again the emcee for the event, as he has been for the last two. He introduced TH Elder and Anglican Deacon Percy Henry, who offered an opening prayer. This part of the ceremony included the rededication of an ancient gunhawk (or dancing stick), which Henry said went back hundreds of years, to a time before the Gold Rush. “Now we’re gonna bring it back to Dawson; that’s where it come from.”

For this part of the ceremony he was joined by elder Ron Johnson, known locally as the Mayor of Moosehide. The pair paraded the gunhawk around the large circle and concluded by leading out the Tr’ondëk Hwëch’in Singers, who provided several numbers to welcome the visitors and citizens to the gathering.

As they concluded their set of tunes the rain let up and ended, and the crowd was able to go outside for the flag raising ceremony (with a 12 gun salute from the Rangers) and the lighting of the sacred fire, which is intended to burn through the weekend.

There followed a series of speeches by local and visiting dignitaries: Chief Taylor, Allison Kormendy & Kyrie Nagano, Deputy Chief and Elder Clara (Sis) Van Bibber, Council for Yukon First Nations Grand Chief Ruth Massie, Assembly of First Nations Yukon Regional Chief Mike Smith, and Klondike MLA Sandy Silver.



Allison Kormendy & Kyrie Nagano spoke for the TH youth.
Photo courtesy Dan Davidson uffish@northwestel.net (In Dawson)

It had been intended that the Tanacross Singers would perform that evening, but Greenland announced that they had been unable to cross the border into Canada.

The Kaska Drummers took up the challenge of keeping the gathering moving with their drumming and singing until it was nearly time for the evening feast.

The next three days will be filled with more singing, dancing, drumming, workshops and other events until the closing ceremonies at noon after the Sunday church service.



Watching the flag raising. Photo courtesy Dan Davidson uffish*northwestel.net (In Dawson)



The flag raising ceremony.
Photo courtesy Dan Davidson uffish*northwestel.net (In Dawson)



Onsite camping was encouraged.
Photo courtesy Dan Davidson uffish*northwestel.net (In Dawson)



Chief Eddie Taylor
Photo courtesy Dan Davidson uffish*northwestel.net (In Dawson)



Deputy Chief and Elder Clara (Sis) Van Bibber
Photo courtesy Dan Davidson uffish@northwestel.net (In Dawson)



Costumes.
Photo courtesy Dan Davidson uffish@northwestel.net (In Dawson)



Dancing to the beat of the Kaska Drummers
Photo courtesy Dan Davidson uffish@northwestel.net (In Dawson)



Dancing 2.
Photo courtesy Dan Davidson uffish@northwestel.net (In Dawson)



The Kaska Drummers helped to pass the time while the assembly waited for the evening feast.
Photo courtesy Dan Davidson uffish@northwestel.net (In Dawson)



Lighting the sacred fire had to wait until the rain stopped.
Photo courtesy Dan Davidson uffish@northwestel.net (In Dawson)



Mike Smith, Assembly of First Nations Yukon Regional Chief
Photo courtesy Dan Davidson uffish@northwestel.net (In Dawson)



Dawson Rangers offer a salute to the flags.
Photo courtesy Dan Davidson uffish@northwestel.net (In Dawson)



Ron Johnson and Percy Henry
Photo courtesy Dan Davidson uffish@northwestel.net (In Dawson)



CYFN Grand Chief Ruth Massie
Photo courtesy Dan Davidson uffish@northwestel.net (In Dawson)



Klondike MLA Sandy Silver
Photo courtesy Dan Davidson uffish@northwestel.net (In Dawson)



Setting
Photo courtesy Dan Davidson uffish@northwestel.net (In Dawson)



Setting 2.

Photo courtesy Dan Davidson uffish@northwestel.net (In Dawson)



TH Singers perform in the Arbour.

Photo courtesy Dan Davidson uffish@northwestel.net (In Dawson)

Moosehide Gathering finds sunshine for its second half

By Dan Davidson uffish*northwestel.net (In Dawson)

While Friday joined Thursday evening by not having ideal weather for an event that needs to take place mostly outdoors or under light pavilions, Saturday and Sunday improved remarkably and had people shedding coats and rain gear all over Moosehide.

The weekend's total tally had not been done by early the next week, but it was known that the Gathering fed 1500 people on Saturday.

The boats kept buzzing back and forth from Dawson all weekend bearing people and supplies. Music was a big part of the weekend, with standout performances by the Kaska Drummers, the Dakhká Khwáan Dancers, the Selkirk Spirit Dancers, the Yu'pik Miracle Drummers and Singers, and evening dances led by James Roberts & Band, Retrospect, Ecka Janus & Band, Bill Stevens, Boyd Benjamin, Allan Benjamin and Kevin Barr.

Some of these folks also staged performances during the afternoons, along with entertainer and Master of the Impossible Tomás Kubinek, Gramma Suzie, Peter Menzies and Simon Crelli and storyteller Tammie Josie.

Throughout the weekend there were sweat lodges and traditional teaching sessions by the elders as well as flute carving (with Vern Swan) and performers' workshops in various disciplines.

Since most evening events ran well past midnight, the daytime schedules didn't begin until 11 a.m. On Sunday that meant a church service in the Arbour, led by the Reverend Laurie Munro and Anglican Bishop Larry Robertson, with the assistance of Deacon and TH Elder Percy Henry. This was a service of Holy Communion, during which Henry spoke about the re-dedicated gunhawk and the rebuilding of native traditions, and the Bishop outlined some of the history of the Anglican Church in the Klondike area.

Closing events began shortly after noon with more energetic performances by the Kaska Drummers and Dakhká Khwáan Dancers. There would have been a group from Tanacross as well, but they were held up at the border on Friday for reasons that Tanacross elder Larry Jonathan could not explain when it came his turn to speak during the closing remarks.

The Tanacross people are close in spirit to the Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in and have been a great help to the Dawson people in reclaiming their traditional dances and songs.

With his people deprived of their chance to perform here this year, Jonathan turned his closing remarks into a one-man performance which had the audience on its feet and dancing again.

Following speeches by Chief Eddie Taylor (Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in), Chief James Allen (Champagne and Aishihik First Nation), Chief Charlie Ekland (White River First Nation), and Chief Rick O'Brien (Kwanlin Dün First Nation), TH Elder Doreen Olsen led in the closing ceremony by the Sacred Fire.

She directed the attendees to form an enormous circle around the entire Moosehide compound and had the four chief's stand at the cardinal points of the compass for blessing and smudging from the fire and a collection of herbs.

Following this everyone moved around the circle greeting everyone else.

The day concluded with a gift giving ceremony in which presents were presented to all non-TH people in attendance.

From the sounds of the discussions going on around the village, it won't be long before planning begins for the 2014 Gathering.



The Dakhká Khwáan Dancers invited just about everyone to join them on the stage.
Photo courtesy Dan Davidson uffish*northwestel.net (In Dawson)



Larry Jonathan, from Tanacross, Alaska.
Photo courtesy Dan Davidson uffish*northwestel.net (In Dawson)



Moosehide was enlarged with tents and pavilions for the bi-annual Gathering.
Photo courtesy Dan Davidson uffish@northwestel.net (In Dawson)



A wood working workshop was one of the special events.
Photo courtesy Dan Davidson uffish@northwestel.net (In Dawson)



Woodworking.

Photo courtesy Dan Davidson uffish@northwestel.net (In Dawson)



The Kaska Drummers played to a large audience.

Photo courtesy Dan Davidson uffish@northwestel.net (In Dawson)



Anglican Bishop Larry Robertson with Deacon and Elder Percy Henry.
Photo courtesy Dan Davidson uffish@northwestel.net (In Dawson)



Chief James Allen (Champagne and Aishihik First Nation),
Photo courtesy Dan Davidson uffish@northwestel.net (In Dawson)



Chief Rick O'Brien (Kwanlin Dün First Nation)
Photo courtesy Dan Davidson uffish@northwestel.net (In Dawson)



Chief Charlie Ekland (White River First Nation),
Photo courtesy Dan Davidson uffish@northwestel.net (In Dawson)



The Dakhká Khwáan Dancers got a lot of the audience up and dancing out front.
Photo courtesy Dan Davidson uffish*northwestel.net (In Dawson)



TH Elder Doreen Olsen leads the final closing ceremony at the sacred fire.
Photo courtesy Dan Davidson uffish*northwestel.net (In Dawson)



Visitors gather in an enormous circle at the end of the day.
Photo courtesy Dan Davidson uffish*northwestel.net (In Dawson)

OBITUARY

Marion (Mogey) Mogenson

Just wanted to let everyone know that **Marion (Mogey) Mogenson** passed away in her sleep on September 23, 2012. She still lived in Cranbrook BC and was 65 years old. By her request no funeral was held other than a gathering of family and the spreading of her ashes where her mom's ashes were at a location that was enjoyed by them both. She was predeceased by her Father and Mother. She is survived by her sister Phyllis and her brothers Tyrone and Jody. She will be missed by her friends and relatives.

Mogey was in Yukon from 1962 – 1993 Mostly in Beaver Creek and Haines Junction.

Tyrone Mogenson tydonn@hotmail.com (In Beaver Crk, Haines Jctn, Carmacks 1963–2002) Melville SK

NEW ADDITION

I would like to subscribe to the Moccasin Telegraph. Could you let me know how to do it??
I lived in Whitehorse for 26 years and now live in Westbank.

Thanks.

Megan Perry

Xyukoner@shaw.ca

REMOVED FROM THE LIST

Hi Sherron. Please take me off the MocTel list - my life is just too busy and it's been years since I've done more than glance over an article here and there.

Best regards for a great winter,

Murray Lundberg yukonalaska@gmail.com (In Whitehorse)

LUNDBERG, Murray yukonalaska@gmail.com (In Whitehorse)

Would you please remove my name from the list.

I have enjoyed the MocTel for some time now, and the hard work you have done for all the readers.

Thank you again.

dougmarceau@shaw.ca

MARCEAU, Doug dougmarceau@shaw.ca (In Carmacks 1954-55) Parksville

Please cancel our MocTel subscription. Don't get it read too often – keeping busy. If we decide to re-subscribe we will get in touch. Thank you, Heather & Mike

McGeachy, Mike & Heather (BERG) mhmcgeachy@northwestel.net (Mike grew up in Mayo, Heather in Dawson, 30 outside, now Tagish)

QUOTE OF THE WEEK

Unless absolutely essential, borrowing to buy a depreciating asset is dumb.

--- Caroline Donnelly

RECIPE OF THE WEEK

Impossibly Easy Pumpkin Pie (No crust)

(Try this one at the cabin)

1 cup canned pumpkin
½ cup Original Bisquick mix
½ cup sugar
1 cup evaporated milk
1 tbsp butter or margarine softened
1 ½ tsp pumpkin pie spice
1 tsp vanilla
2 eggs

Whipped topping, if desired

Heat oven to 350 degrees F. Grease 9 inch pie plate.

Stir all ingredients except whipped topping – until blended. Pour into pie plate.

Bake 35 to 40 minutes or until knife inserted in center comes out clean. Cool 0 minutes.

Refrigerate about 3 hours or until chilled. Serve with whipped topping. Store covered in refrigerator.

DATES TO REMEMBER

VANCOUVER YUKONERS' ASSOCIATION GENERAL MEETING

18 October 2012 11:30 am-2:00 pm
Croatian Cultural Centre Room C
3250 Commercial Drive, Vancouver
Parking plentiful and free
Transit accessible – Handicap accessible
Bring a friend
Lunch \$10
RSVP vanyukoners@gmail.com
604 277-2766 or 604 299-1969

SIGN UP TO RECEIVE THE MOCCASIN TELEGRAPH

If you have received this copy of the Moccasin Telegraph from a friend and wish to sign up to receive future editions yourself, the criteria is that you **are or were a Yukoner**.

The goal of this project is to provide an opportunity for folks to reconnect.

There is an annual subscription fee of (\$20 - \$25. your call) for the Moccasin Telegraph.

An easy way to send a money transfer is via your internet banking. Log into you bank's website, find "Money Transfers" or "Email Money Transfers" or however your bank may list it, enter the amount, my email address of sherronjones@shaw.ca and enter a password ie: moctel and press "Send". It's that easy. Then please send me an email to confirm your payment.

– Sherron Jones sherronjones@shaw.ca

MOCCASIN TELEGRAPH

Sherron Jones
9205 Orchard Ridge Drive
Vernon BC V1B 1V8