

**MOCCASIN TELEGRAPH – 367<sup>th</sup> Edition – January 6<sup>th</sup>, 2013**

Created by Sherron Jones [sherronjones@shaw.ca](mailto:sherronjones@shaw.ca)

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



**Schwatka Lake – October 2012**

Photo courtesy Heather Jones [hpj50@me.com](http://hpj50.me.com) (In Carcross)

**RHYME OF THE ANCIENT GOLFER**

By Gus Barrett [sourdoughs2@shaw.ca](mailto:sourdoughs2@shaw.ca) (In Qualicum Beach BC)

As I walk those treasured fairways  
Among my golfing peers,  
I wonder how the course might look  
In another hundred years.  
Will the cedar trees we've planted here  
Reach high into the sky,  
And will the blossoms smell as sweet  
When balmy breezes sigh?

Will eagles still be standing guard  
High in the 'Eagle Tree'?

Will seals and sea lions still exist  
To bask there in the sea?  
And what of the herd of tiny deer  
In the gully off number five?  
Will Mother Nature be kind to them  
In their struggle to survive?

Will members still view from the tee  
Mount Arrowsmith in awe,  
Or watch the sunset on number one  
And marvel at what they saw?  
Will this playground still be fondly known  
As "Gods Own Waiting Room"  
Where many a golfer in our day,  
Have willed their ashes strewn?

Those of us who've loved this place,  
And tended it with care,  
Have gloried in the fellowship  
And friendships nurtured here.  
And though the skills deteriorate  
The drives not near as long,  
You'll find us on the course each day,  
Slowed down, but playing on.

So, when members of a future  
Generation come to play,  
When teeing off on number five,  
At dawning of the day,  
If you sense an unseen presence  
Standing near you on the tee.  
Or may hear the eerie echo  
Of a golf ball off a tree.

If you hear the sound of softly padding  
Footsteps in the dew.  
Fear not, it's us, the ghosts  
Of ancient golfers playing through.

## **YUKON NUGGET**

A CKRW Yukon Nugget by Les McLaughlin

Courtesy Rolf & Marg Hougen [marg\\*hougens.com](mailto:marg*hougens.com) (In Whitehorse)

### **The Prospector Statue**

If you want to see a larger-than-life prospector who represents all the men and women who have trudged the trails in search of a motherlode, you have only to walk down Main Street, where there stands a bronze figure at the corner of Third Avenue.

He is decently dressed, this marvellous facsimile of the McCoy. With high-top boots, a feather in his hat, a poke of gold hanging at the hip, he looks ready to take the mineral world by storm. His faithful malamute looks quite convincing, too.

The project to bring the prospector sculpture to life took four years from concept to construction, beginning in 1988, and would not have happened had it not been for Chuck Buchanan and Bruce Patnode.

In 1986, Patnode was president of the Yukon Prospectors' Association and served seven years as a director of the Yukon Chamber of Mines. He and Buchanan, founder of the Yukon Museum of Natural History and Frontierland Theme Park near Carcross, had ideas. The larger-than-life bronze goldseeker statue was the most ambitious.

As project co-ordinator, Patnode called the project "a good idea", but at one point, the project was destined to die on the drafting table. Patnode pressed on. Only he knows how he managed to pull the money together and find such a prominent place for the landmark in record time.

First, with a miniature clay prospector-dog model, known as Marquette, Patnode promoted the "good idea" while circulating among the delegates attending the Geoscience Forum at the Westmark Hotel in November, 1991.

Once they accepted the plan and a cost-sharing agreement was set up with Federal and Territorial governments, Buchanan started the clay work in June 1992. They then sent the casting to a Montana foundry for bronzing, and shipping back to Whitehorse in record time and on schedule.

It was just then months from the day Buchanan cast the miniature image until the three-metre-tall prospector and his malamute companion magically appeared for the unveiling as part of the Mines Ministers' Conference in Whitehorse in September 1992.

When the conference delegates began their morning meetings, there was no sign of a statue. By lunch time, it was bolted down and covered with plastic. The area was clean and the heavy equipment gone. The prospector and his dog were unveiled to thunderous applause.



A monument to the many prospectors who have tramped the hills and valleys of the Yukon.

Attached to the base of the sculpture is an Honour Roll that pays tribute to individuals, companies and organizations who have walked the prospector's rocky road to fame.

A CKRW Yukon Nugget by Les McLaughlin



View of two men standing next to their three dogs carrying packs. Yukon Archives. H.C. Barley fonds, #5133.

**CREMATION OF SAM MCGEE** – Poem by Robert Service, read by Johnny Cash, painted images by Ted Harrison.

[http://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player\\_embedded&v=wGhFNYII\\_mU](http://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_embedded&v=wGhFNYII_mU)

### **Vancouver Island Yukoners' 2012 Christmas Lunch Party**

by Harvey Burian [hburian@telus.net](mailto:hburian@telus.net) (In Parksville)

*“There are strange things done in the midnight sun  
By the men who toil for gold;  
The Arctic trails have their secret tales  
That would make your blood run cold;  
The Northern Lights have seen queer sights,*

*But the queerest they ever did see  
Was that night on the marge of Lake Lebarge  
I cremated Sam McGee."*

*Robert W Service*

There were no strange things done nor Midnight Sun nor Northern Lights at the ABC Country Restaurant in North Nanaimo when 38 friends with various Yukon connections gathered for their annual Christmas lunch party on December 13<sup>th</sup>, 2012. But there was a wonderful time of friendship, chatter, laughter, delicious food and two special surprises, in addition to the previously announced musical presentations by Liam McParland, grandson of Ted and Trudy North.

The first surprise was offered by Blanche Barrett, who prior to the meal, favoured us with a preview reading of Gus' latest gripping poetic composition, "The Land We Can't Forget" (which has since appeared in the Dec 15<sup>th</sup> edition of the MocTel). Following the meal, the second surprise was presented by Ted North, who, in his inimitable style and best radio announcer's voice, read for us that familiar, yet always appreciated and haunting, Robert W. Service poem, "The Creation of Sam McGee".

Topping off the afternoon was the musical voice presentation of Liam McParland who, in delightful mellow tones, serenaded us with two Italian pieces and a number of familiar Christmas songs. Liam is a Grade 10 student and the great-great grandson of the famous Yukon musher, Percy DeWolfe Sr. He is also the great-grandnephew of Percy DeWolfe Jr, who attended the luncheon and who we all sang Happy Birthday to as he had recently celebrated his 97<sup>th</sup> birthday.

Very much appreciated were the folks who came over from the Mainland to share in the festivities. A big THANK YOU to Harriett Butterworth and Sharon Redmond for making the arrangements for the lunch party, and to everyone for coming!

To complete the event, those with a green tag on their chair bottoms got to take home the lovely poinsettia table decorations. A very nice added touch by our gracious hosts.

Best wishes for a very Merry Christmas and a Happy and Safe New Year.

All photos in this article are courtesy Harvey Burian [hburian\\*telus.net](http://hburian*telus.net) (in Parksville)



Left - F to B: Trudy & Ted North. Liam McParland, Harvey Burian  
Right - F to B: Myrt (Raymond) Acton, Joanne (Raymond) Halliday,  
Bill & Niki Buchan



Left - F to B: Frank Plementos, Lyn & Lowell Bleiler, Bryan Bjork  
Right - F to B: Bev Mason-Wood, Gunn & Kirk Yardley



Left – F to B: Gus & Blanche Barrett, Sheila Firth  
Right – F to B: Percy DeWolfe, Ron & Colleen Butler, Ron & Evelyn Smyth



Left – F to B: Gerald St Jean, Perry St Jean, Maribeth Mainer, Anna Mancini  
Right – F to B: Betty St Jean, Warren & Jean Rongve, Carolyn Moore



Left – F to B: Carole Munroe, Harriett Butterworth, Valarie Duckworth  
Right – F to B: Julie Trueman, Vivian Stuart, Sharon Redmond, Ralph & Janice Beaumont



Ted North explaining what he is about to read



Ted North reading “The Cremation of Sam McGee”



Liam McParland in full voice

*The following material has been typed by Sherron Jones, taken from photocopied documents. This is to provide you with an interesting account of a patrol taken by Corporal Howard Hooper Cronkhite who started out with a dog team from Whitehorse on January 7<sup>th</sup>, 1925 heading for Wellesley Lake. During the 467 mile 36 day trip the temperature reached 74 below. – Sherron*

**ROYAL CANADIAN MOUNTED POLICE**

**RECORD OF SERVICE**

**Reg No.: O. 322 9024    Name: CRONKHITE, Howard Hooper**

**Engaged at: Calgary, Alta    Date: 5-2-20    Date Discharged: 28-12-49**

**DIV.    DATE    STATIONED AT**

**Depot 5-2-20 Regina, Sask  
“B” 1-3-20 Rockcliffe  
Depot 1-7-22 Regina, Sask  
“B” 1-7-23 Dawson, Y. T.  
“B” 5-2-24 Whitehorse  
“B” 1-10-26 Dawson  
“E” 1-7-35 Vancouver, B.C.  
“K” 10-10-38 Lethbridge  
“K” ??-1-39 Blairmore (photocopied date illegible)  
“K” 4-2-39 Lethbridge  
“K” 4-3-39 Edmonton (Ref. Course)  
“K” 24-3-39 Lethbridge  
“K” 19-7-39 Banff  
Depot 1-12-40 Regina  
“F” 1-7-42 Swift Current  
“G” 1-8-43 Whitehorse  
28-6-48 Ottawa**

**Corporal 1-5-20 Dawson, Y.T. I/C Town Station 1-10-?? (Photocopied date illegible)**

**Sergeant 1-4-28 Dawson, Y.T. I/C Sub Division Canada Northern Division**

**Appointed to Commissioned rank on 1-11-40**

**ROYAL CANADIAN MOUNTED POLICE**

**(Stamped received at – Office “B” Division Dawson)**

**Whitehorse, Y.T. February 14<sup>th</sup> 1925**

The Office Commanding,  
R.C.M. Police,  
Whitehorse, Y.T.

Divn. File  
B 246-58 Sir, -

**Re: Patrol to Wellesley Lake, White River Dist.**

I have the honour to submit the following report in connection with the above mentioned patrol.

Acting under instructions received from the Officer Commanding Whitehorse Sub-District, I left Whitehorse with dog team of five dogs on January 7<sup>th</sup>, 1925 at 11.30 a.m., to investigate the smuggling of American Goods into Canadian Territory by Messrs. Green and Lawrence, Traders of Wellesley Lake, and the illicit manufacture of Liquor and sale to Indians by these men, in connection with which I carried written instructions, etc. As to my duties and an appointment as Customs Excise enforcement Officer.

I arrived at Takhini at 3.30 p.m. Miles travelled 22. Temp. 20 below zero.

Jan 8<sup>th</sup> Left Takhini at 11 a.m., late in getting started as one of the dogs had frozen his foot during the night, but he was too far gone to do anything with him, had to do away with him and proceeded on to the 31 mile post where I picked up another dog from Angus McLeod. Arrived at 31 mile Post at 2.30 p.m.  
Miles travelled 9. Temp. 32 below.

Jan 9<sup>th</sup> Left 31 mile Post at 9 a.m. arrived at Little River 12.45 p.m. met a musher by name of Bill Forbes from Keno Hill on his way Outside. Trail heavy with fresh snow.  
Miles travelled 10. Temp. 4 below.

Jan 10<sup>th</sup> Left Little River 8 a.m. arrived at Nordenskiold at 2.30 p.m. met Indian by name of George Ned on his way to 52 mile Post.  
Miles traveled 22. Temp. 4 below.

Jan 11<sup>th</sup> Left Nordenskiold at 8.30 a.m. arrived at Braeburn at 1.30 p.m.  
Miles travelled 22. Temp 14 below.

Jan 12<sup>th</sup> Left Braeburn at 8.45 a.m. arrived at Montague at 2.30 p.m.  
Miles travelled 24. Temp. 40 below.

Jan 13<sup>th</sup> Left Montague at 9 a.m. arrived at Carmacks at 2.30 p.m.  
Miles travelled 22. Temp. 36 below.

Wire received from O.C. Whitehorse, "Wait at Carmacks for instructions from Dawson."  
Wire received from O.C. Dawson. "Answer not received from Customs department you had better go on if instructions come will wire you at Coffee Creek can only advise that if seizure made and quantity too great to bring out one of you come to Coffee Creek and wire for further instructions."

**Jan 14<sup>th</sup> At Carmacks getting ready to proceed on patrol to Wellesley lake in company with Reg. No. 8716 Const. Thornthwaite, A.B. Temp 10 below.**

**Jan 15<sup>th</sup> Left Carmacks at 10 a.m. with Cst. Thornthwaite and two teams of dogs 5 and 4. Trail heavy with fresh snow, going very slow, arrived at Yukon Crossing 5.15 p.m. Miles travelled 22. Temp. 4 below.**

**Jan 16<sup>th</sup> Left Yukon Crossing at 9 a.m. had to break trail all the way to Minto, met J Woods with mail stage on his way to Yukon Crossing. Arrived at Minto 5.45 p.m. Miles travelled 25. Temp. 5 below.**

**Jan 17<sup>th</sup> Left Minto at 8.45 a.m., trail ha[r]d as we had to follow along the Yukon River and ice was very rough were it had jammed up. Sleigh and toboggan tipping over all the time, and we both got into over-flow, arrived at Hell's Gate 3.45 p.m. met John F.K. MacMartin mail carried from Selkirk here on his way to Minto. Miles travelled 15. Temp. 38 below.**

**Jan 18<sup>th</sup> Left Hell's Gate at 8.45 a.m., crossed the Yukon River and proceeded to Selkirk along bench on left limit, arrived at Selkirk 12 noon. Miles travelled 10. Temp. 22 below.**

**Jan 19<sup>th</sup> At Selkirk getting provisions and toboggan to proceed on patrol with as sleigh is useless just acts as a snow plough when there is no trail, purchased one for \$20.00 from an Indian by name of Robert Joe. Temp. 30 below.**

**Jan 20<sup>th</sup> Left Selkirk at 9.15 a.m., trail heavy with fresh snow and full of glaciers, both of us went into our waists in water, could not stop to change clothes as we were travelling through green timber, so kept on going till we came to a wood-cutters cabin by name of Harry Davis. Arrived at Davis's cabin 5.30 p.m. Miles travelled 20. Temp. 25 below.**

**Jan 21<sup>st</sup> Left Davis's cabin at 9.45 a.m. followed along river and in the back of sloughs came to Chas. Smith's cabin, wood-cutter, on an island, getting colder all the time, 58 below at Smith's so we stopped there. Miles travelled 6. Temp. 54 below.**

**Jan 22<sup>nd</sup> Still at Smith's, too cold to travel. 69 below and never went above 60 during the day.**

**Jan 23<sup>rd</sup> Still at Smith's Temp 70 below. Kept busy cutting fire wood, running short of dog feed. Purchased 9 lbs. of rice from Smith @ 15 cents per pound.**

**Jan 24<sup>th</sup> Still at Smith's Temp 69 below.**

**Jan 25<sup>th</sup> Still at Smith's Temp 70 below, went up to 65 by noon. Const. Thornthwaite and myself went out hunting Caribou for dog feed, but there was none to be seen.**

**Jan 26<sup>th</sup>** Left Smith's at 8.30 a.m. and proceeded down river, going very slow on account of ice jammed up, followed along in the back sloughs, had to be careful on account of open water and overflows. Got out on the main channel of the river, as there were no more sloughs to follow, ice got worse, jammed up as high as nine and ten feet, impossible to get over it, made to within two miles of Selwyn but could go no further, dogs ---- (a couple of lines not photocopied and then continues) ... rested the dogs and then returned to Smith's cabin arrived there at 4 p.m.

**Miles travelled 9. Temp. 64 below.**

**Jan 27<sup>th</sup>** Left Smith's cabin at 12 noon, arrived at Davis's cabin 1 p.m., proceeded on to W. J. Marshall's, wood contractor cabin, two miles further on as Davis's cabin was too filthy to stay in, arrived at Marshall's at 7.30 p.m.

**Travelled 8 miles. Temp. 64 below.**

Sent the following wires to the O.C. Dawson per phone from here to telegraph station at Selkirk:- "Patrol returning to Selkirk unable to proceed on account of ice jam in river were within 2 miles of Selwyn. Patrol could proceed to Scroggie and Kirkman Creeks, Patrol is at Marshall's cabin 19 miles below Selkirk, will leave for Selkirk in morning."

"Harry Davis and wife and two children destitute 20 miles below Selkirk no food in cabin no credit allowed at store, two children sick for want of proper food. Wire instructions re patrol and Davis."

Received the following reply from O.C. Dawson re Davis:- "Arrange credit at Selkirk twenty dollars food supplies Davis. You can go via Scroggie when weather moderates."

**Jan 28<sup>th</sup>** Left Marshall's cabin at 8.30 arrived at Selkirk 1.20 p.m.

**Miles travelled 20. Temp. 74 below.**

**Jan 29<sup>th</sup>** At Selkirk. Received the following telegram from O.C. Dawson "You will have to return to Carmacks when weather moderates. Can you get sufficient dog feed at Carmacks for trip via Scroggie." In answer to my telegram of same date which reads as follows: - "Out of dog feed local supply exhausted unable to proceed."

**Jan 30<sup>th</sup>** At Selkirk. Temp. 68 below.

**Jan 31<sup>st</sup>** At Selkirk. Temp. 68 below.

**Feb 1<sup>st</sup>** At Selkirk. Temp. 60 below.

**Feb 2<sup>nd</sup>** At Selkirk. Temp. 45 below.

**Feb 3<sup>rd</sup>** Left Selkirk at 8.30 a.m. broke the nose of toboggan coming down a hill onto the river where it hit a tree but managed to proceed with it to Minto, where we arrived at 2.30 p.m.

**Miles travelled 26. Temp. 45 below.**

**Feb 4<sup>th</sup>** Patched toboggan up with tin and left Minto at 8 a.m. arrived at Yukon Crossing at 2.30 p.m., trail bad with drifted snow.  
Miles travelled 24. Temp. 34 below.

**Feb 5<sup>th</sup>** Left Yukon Crossing at 8.10 a.m. arrived at Carmacks at 1.30 p.m.  
Miles travelled 20. Temp. 38 below.

**Feb 6<sup>th</sup>** At Carmacks awaiting instructions from the Officer Commanding at Dawson regarding the patrol and repairing dog harness. Received the following wire from the O.C. Dawson “  
Patrol cancelled for present return to Whitehorse. “  
Temp. 24 below.

**Feb 7<sup>th</sup>** At Carmacks mending dog harness.

(Feb 8<sup>th</sup> first line missing)  
A.B. for Whitehorse at 9 a.m. arrived at Montague 1.00 p.m.  
Miles travelled 23. Temp. 24 below.

**Feb 9<sup>th</sup>** Left Montague at 8.30 a.m. arrived at Braeburn at 2 p.m.  
Miles travelled 24. Temp. 2 below.

**Feb 10<sup>th</sup>** Left Braeburn at 8.15 a.m. arrived at Nordenskiold at 12.45 p.m.  
Miles travelled 22. Temp. 26 below.

**Feb 11<sup>th</sup>** Left Nordenskiold 9 a.m. arrived Little River at 1.30 p.m.  
Miles travelled 22. Temp. 2 below.

**Feb 12<sup>th</sup>** Left Little River 8.30 a.m. arrived at Whitehorse at 5.30 p.m.  
Miles travelled 40. Temp. 2 below.

**Total mileage 467. Days occupied 36.**

**DESTITUTES:** Referred to under date of Jan. 27<sup>th</sup>. One Harry Davis, age 47, place of birth Peterborough, Ontario next of kin, wife, name Bella Grace Davis, wife's name before marriage Bella Grace Woods (Indian) of Moosehide, Dawson, Y.T.  
Number of children two, ages respectively 2 years (boy) and (girl) 8 months. Military service 4 years and 3 months with 22<sup>nd</sup> Battalion C.E.F. has shrapnel wounds and has been gassed.

**Debts. W.J. Marshall, Wood Contractor \$250.00**  
Taylor & Drury Ltd. Selkirk 120.00  
Schofield & Zimmerlee, do 350.00

**This man is inclined to be lazy, he has had a good showing to make money this Fall by cutting wood for W.J. Marshall. He states that his house work at home kept him pretty busy with washing and cooking and looking after the children while his wife does nothing but sit around the cabin. He was advanced so much money from W. J. Marshall to buy supplies with this Fall, but buys his wife high heeled shoes and bought nothing but canned goods,**

though I believe he has now been taught his lesson for his two children were sick in bed from want of proper food, all they had in the cabin was a quarter of caribou. When he was in Selkirk he sold his three dogs harness and sleigh for fifty dollars and with the twenty dollars that he was advanced from the Territorial Government he took out in food such as flour rice, bacon, in fact a good stock of groceries without buying anything foolish.

**INDIANS:** The Indians through this district with the exception of Indians at Selkirk are catching a lot of fur but the wolves and coyotes bother them quite a bit, they tear the skins to pieces and leave the animals in the traps. The Indians at Selkirk do nothing but lay around their cabins until they run short of meat then go out and shoot a caribou, hardly visit their trap lines at all and during the cold weather they did not have enough fire wood to see them through, they received permission to use the logs out of some old buildings that Mr. Scofield owns. Their dogs are nothing else but walking skeletons, they hardly feed them at all and each Indian has about eight dogs.

From Yukon Crossing to Little River the Indians had traps some in the trail and some not three feet off the trail. I had to turn one dog loose and let him run on ahead of the teams to locate the traps, which I picked up and brought to Whitehorse, as no one seemed to know to whom the traps belonged nor has anyone claimed them. I also picked up a red fox caught in a trap out of season between Yukon Crossing and Carmacks which I left with Angus McLeod at 31 mile post on Dawson trail to skin and stretch and who will send it into Whitehorse as soon as it is ready. This fox was caught about Feb. 5<sup>th</sup>, 1925.

**GAME:** The following game is plentiful, Caribou, fox, lynx, wolves, coyotes, wolverine and mink, but moose appear to be very scarce.

**COMPLAINTS:** I received no complaints from either white men or Indians.

**TRAILS:** The Dawson trail from Whitehorse to Minto is in good shape, but at times was badly drifted. After leaving the trail at Minto we had to follow along the River which was bad on account of the ice but when they had chopped it out to carry the mail from Selkirk to Minto it was fairly good, at this point you go along for about three miles on the river and then out in on the main land again then out on sloughs until you get to Hell's Gate when you cross the river and go along the hog's back into Selkirk, which is a well beaten dog trail. From Selkirk you go on what they call the main land cut off, there has not been much traffic on this trail and it was hard to follow as it has practically not been cut out, you just go through the bush for about twenty miles and then you come out on the river at W. J. Marshall's, from there on you follow the river on all the back sloughs as much as possible, as the river ice is very rough, after about 15 miles the ice is piled up so high you cannot get over it. From Selwyn to Coffee Creek is the worst part on the river, four different people have tried to make it through with dogs, but all had to turn back. Some of these people were coming from Coffee Creek and some going from Selkirk. The old timers in the country say that they have never seen the river freeze so rough for years.

**GENERAL REMARKS:** While at Selkirk Mr. Scofield of Scofield & Zimmerlee, told me that Jack Lawrence of Wellesley Lake had been into Coffee Creek and had phoned him about getting supplies for Wellesley Lake as they were completely sold out. Scofield told him that he could supply him alright so Lawrence was going to come to Selkirk with a team of

horses but had to turn back on account of the ice. I was speaking to Scofield regarding trails when he told me this.

I have the honour to be, Sir,  
Your obedient servant,

(signed HHCronkhite)

Corpl. Reg. No. 9024

R.C.M.P. Dawson, Y.T.

Forwarded, this patrol was made ostensibly for the purpose of investigating the alleged smuggling of trade good across the International Boundary into Canada by American Traders named Green and Lawrence also the illicit manufacture and sale of liquor to Indians.

Corpl. Cronkhite who was detailed to take charge of the patrol was temporarily appointed a Customs and Excise Officer by the Department. I regret to report that the patrol was unable to achieve its objective due principally to the unprecedented severity of the weather and insurmountable barriers of up ended ice and overflow on the rivers, Corpl. Cronkhite and Const. Thornthwaite. I feel assured made every effort to overcome these difficulties and push through, but as the weather showed no signs of moderating and no open trail to follow, and their dog feed running short, it would have been futile to have made a further attempt.

If the Department are desirous of having this patrol made next year I would suggest that it leave about a month earlier, before the snow gets too deep and also to reach the Trading Post of Lawrence and Green before they dispose of their stock of merchandise to Indians and Trappers.

I am also enclosing a few snap shots which were taken on this patrol

(signed by R. Fuld)

Inspr.  
Commanding Whitehorse Sub-District.

The Commissioner,  
Sir: Forwarded. (16/2/25)

The destitute family, Davis, mentioned in the report were given a credit of \$20.00 worth of food which the Territorial Govt. has paid for. The wife has since died.

**The attached photos show the conditions of the Yukon River at the jam.**

**It would have been useless for the patrol to have gone via Scroggie and Thistle Creeks as they would have to first go back to Carmacks for dog-feed, none being obtainable at Selkirk.**

**Messrs. Lawrence and Green had arrived at Coffee Creek to purchase supplies at Selkirk, which either meant they had run out of food or got word of the a patrol coming and cashed any smuggled goods, they had.**

**The wire referring to instructions was one sent the Collector of Customs here regarding action to be taken in the event of a quantity of smuggled goods being found; the wire was sent from Otttawa by Radio on January 5<sup>th</sup>, but thru some error in transmission was not received here till February 4<sup>th</sup>.**

**Photos attached herewith.**

**(signed by ? Telford) Insp.  
Commanding "B" Division**

**Dawson Y.T  
3-3-25**

### **"I'm serious about my language," says Award Winning Elder**

By Dan Davidson [uffish\\*northwestel.net](mailto:uffish*northwestel.net) (In Dawson)

September 10, 2012

After four years at the Chooutla residential school in Carcross (1946-49) Doris Roberts returned to Dawson to discover that she could no longer understand her grandmother when the old woman spoke to her.

"'Gramma'," I said, "'I don't hear you' and she said 'What's wrong? What happened to your ear?'"

"I said, 'I don't know what you're talkin' about.'"

She was about ten years old then, but the damage to her sense of the Han language had been done. Even down river at Moosehide she found herself unable to get a good grasp of what was being said to her.

She credits her uncles, Jimmy Wood and Stanley Roberts, with having the patience and persistence to work with her.

"They talk away to me and finally it started to come back to me."

At first she could understand what was being said to her but was unable to speak the language.

“‘Try’ they said to me, and were laughing. Well, I’ve always said the Han language is a laughing language. That’s what I always told my students later. So eventually it all came back – not all of it, but some of it. It’s some kind of frustrating that I really have nobody to talk to.

“My brother, Edward, he’s the last fluent Han language teacher, so if I don’t know something I ask him ‘how would you say this?’”

By repetition they would get to the point where they could write down the word they were looking for.

At various times, when money is available, she’s been hired by the Tr’ondëk Hwëch’in to teach language classes, but she says it’s been sporadic and rather frustrating, with her program sometimes being cancelled with just a few hours’ notice when the funding ran out.

Much to her surprise, she enjoyed teaching.

“I never knew I’d have that patience for teaching, because I’m not a patient kind of person, but I did have that patience.”

Her uncle Stanley Roberts had told her that one day she was going to teach.

“I said that was too crazy. I’m not gonna teach. I’m too mischievous. Yet here I was. I got the patience. I got the time. I make time. So my uncle was right.”

She finds it frustrating that some of the older generation who could still speak Han didn’t seem to try very hard to pass it on to their children, so that it skipped a generation.

“Now, this generation, they’re trying to get it back.”

She worries that some of the Han she is hearing nowadays is not accurately spoken. For her it needs to start with the proper and careful learning of the Han alphabet, which leads to getting both the writing and the speaking properly.

Some of her students went on to become teachers of the Hän language and Roberts says that make her very proud.

One of Roberts major contributions was taking her students over to Tanacross in Alaska, the place where Chief Isaac had taken the songs and dances from this community for safe keeping.

Roberts organized a group of her language students to travel to Tanacross to meet with elder Laura Sandford and collect stories from other elders in the community. They learned six of the dozen songs that had been preserved there and brought them back to Dawson.

After a series of visits by Sandford (recognized at the Moosehide Gathering in 2010) the group now known as the Hän Singers began to perform them in public and they are now an increasingly lively portion of many public events in the community.

For her work as a language teacher and re-discoverer of the ritual songs, Roberts has been recognized by both the Council of the Federation Literacy Award recognizes outstanding achievement, innovative practice and excellence in literacy, including family, Aboriginal, health, workplace and community literacy and is given to recognize the excellence of educators, volunteers, learners, and community organizations (including non-governmental organizations) and businesses in each province and territory. Thirteen awards are given out annually across the nation.

Roberts was nominated by both the Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in and Yukon Learn.

“I’m serious – I’m very serious about my language, I always have been. I have great respect for it.

“It’s surprising, that award,” she said. “It surprised me.”

She said she feels a bit like she didn’t do anything.

“Do I think I deserve it? Well, people tell me that I do. They tell me, ‘Doris, it took a long time coming, but you did it.’”



Doris Roberts

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

## Taking Learning Outside the Box

By Dan Davidson [uffish\\*northwestel.net](mailto:uffish*northwestel.net) (In Dawson)

September 17, 2012

September 7 saw the official opening of a new classroom at the Robert Service School. The “room” is new in a number of ways, not the least of which is that it is outside. Łenähjin Tr’ədëk, or the Gathering Place, as it has been named, is the result of year’s planning inspired by RSS Han language teacher Melissa Hawkins (herself an RSS graduate) who said, “Wouldn’t it be great to have an outdoor learning setting right here on the school grounds?”

With some encouragement from former principal Joe Carmel Hawkins and CELC Jill Delany applied for funding to the World Wildlife Federation and received a \$5,000 grant that got the project started. An additional \$3000 came from the Toyota Evergreen Learning Grounds to purchase native trees and shrubs for the area.

The design was collaboration among several groups. Grade 3 contributed design ideas that were realized by Miranda Adam’s Little Lady Landscaping, as well as Gammie Trucking, Mike Crelli’s CnD Landscaping, John Lenart’s Klondike Valley Nursery and the Grade 9/10 Shop class and the Tr’ondëk Hwëch’in.

The site includes a fire pit surrounded by benches, a canoe set on a simulated shoreline, a wall tent (which can be heated and used even in the winter) and a selection of trees and shrubs along a gently landscaped small hill.

Since much traditional learning took place outside, this will provide a convenient space to pursue some of those goals in all seasons of the year.

The entire school and many interested parents and locals turned out on the Thursday to participate in a short dedication ceremony led by Hawkins, who is on maternity leave this fall.

“Our idea snowballed,” she told the gathering, “and became this amazing project you’re looking at right now.”

New principal Ann Moore and TH Elder Victor Henry cut the ribbon to open Łenähjin Tr’ədëk. Everyone filed into the new area through the antler-crowned gate, past the gorgeous sign in both Hän and English on which elder Percy Henry was quoted as saying, we need to teach our children today, so our way of life will live on.”

Angie Joseph-Rear opened the ceremony with a prayer, followed by a song from the Hän Singers. Finally the entire assembly turned to face the school building for a large group portrait.



Students, teachers and parents of the Robert Service School wave a welcome from their new outdoor classroom.

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



Principal Ann Moore and TH Elder Victor Henry cut the ribbon.  
Photo courtesy Dan Davidson [uffish\\*northwestel.net](http://uffish*northwestel.net) (In Dawson)



\* The Gathering Place sign.jpg – This sign expresses the dream behind the project.  
Photo courtesy Dan Davidson [uffish\\*northwestel.net](http://uffish*northwestel.net) (In Dawson)

## **Rangers Celebrate 65 Years with a River Trip**

By Dan Davidson [uffish\\*northwestel.net](mailto:uffish*northwestel.net) (In Dawson)

October 11, 2012

“Thank you for allowing us to come in and invade your small town here today,” Brigadier General Kelly Woiden said to Mayor Peter Jenkins on October 4.

He was referring to the assembly of First Canadian Ranger Patrol Group (CRPG), who were in Dawson City to celebrate the 65th Anniversary of the Canadian Rangers. Dawson was chosen as the place to celebrate this due to the patrol here being the first to “stand up” after the Rangers were created on September 4, 1947. Dawson’s patrol began its existence on September 22 and the patrol in Whitehorse followed suit after this.

Woiden described the Rangers as a case of “members of the community serving the community”.

Jenkins replied that they were welcome any time.

The red-garbed Rangers had arrived in town about a half hour earlier, having concluded a Type 3 (Joint) River Exercise on three rivers while the Canadian Ranger National Authority was meeting in Dawson.

The river patrol was a three-day exercise with Rangers departing from three different landing sites.

Captain Steven Watton, the Unit Public Affairs Representative, explained that Rangers from seven Yukon communities (Carcross, Carmacks, Dawson, Haines Junction, Pelly Crossing and Whitehorse) were represented in the exercise. There were also members from Atlin, Hay River, Gjoa Haven, Newfoundland and Labrador and Ontario.

The three patrols departed by boat from Minto Landing, Pelly Crossing and a spot near the McQueston Air Strip, and were met by a crew from Dawson who went upstream to rendezvous and then accompanied them to the landing near the bank beneath the Dänojà Zho Cultural Centre.

Woiden praised Sgt. John Mitchell for his role in making the exercise successful.

“Thank you very much for everything you’ve done today in making today happen. I know it just doesn’t take overnight to make these things occur. They take a lot of effort and time. I certainly thank you for being a citizen-member of this community.”

Dr. Whitney Lackenbauer, who is writing a history of the Rangers, was part of this exercise and Woiden thanked him for his efforts in this regard.

**Alex Van Bibber and Percy Henry were part of the original Ranger mobilization in the late 1940s, and the General brought them forward.**

**“I’d like to thank you two on behalf of all of us. Thank God you stood up in that 1947 time frame and decided to support your community and support Canada. Thank you very much.”**

Brigadier General Woiden is the Chief of Staff for the Army Reserve and the Canadian Ranger National Authority.

“Today,” he said, “ I am here to recognize the 65 years since the stand up of the Canadian Rangers. We’ve been recognizing this by doing the patrol (Exercise: Ranger Origins) up the river. Representatives from all the Ranger patrols across the country are here. We’ve also had the working group and a series of conferences the last three or four days here in Dawson City.”

Woiden is just two months into his leadership role in Yellowknife, so this was a great opportunity “for me to come and meet these wonderful folks and citizens and the local community.”

The Rangers roles, as ground search and rescue and operations watchers, has remained the same over the years, he said.

“They are folks who have the capability – who have skill sets that we don’t have to train. They have those natural skills sets to be able to work in the environment in their local communities. They can do ground search and rescue with a degree of skill set that you can’t really teach; they have it as a natural capability.

“The Army’s mission has been somewhat refocused on the North, so the Ranger’s mission has evolved over time. Our regular and reserve units are both starting to work a lot more with our Canadian Rangers to provide that capability.”

Woiden said the number of Rangers has been growing steadily over the last four to five years.

“We will be approaching 5,000 Rangers across the country and in the (five) major Ranger Patrol Groups.

“As the government of Canada continues its interest in the North, to shore up its sovereignty, to shore up the interest and ability to work in the North; I think as the Canadian Forces itself gets back into cold weather operations, we’ll be using the Rangers much more, because they are the footprint in the community and the ability to operate in the cold operations.”

The Canadian Rangers are organized as follows:

- 1 CRPG is located in northern Canada with a total of 58 patrols in the Yukon, the Northwest Territories, and Nunavut. Headquarters in Yellowknife, Northwest Territories. Number of Canadian Rangers: 157
- 2 CRPG is located in Quebec, with 23 patrols. Headquarters at CFB St. Jean, Québec. Number of Canadian Rangers: 696
- 3 CRPG is located in northern Ontario, with 15 patrols. Headquarters at CFB Borden, Ontario. Number of Canadian Rangers: 422;
- 4 CRPG is located on the Pacific west coast and Prairies, with 38 patrols, Alberta, Saskatchewan and British Columbia. Headquarters in Victoria, British Columbia. Number of Canadian Rangers: 695;

5 CRPG s located in Newfoundland and Labrador, with 29 patrols. Headquarters in Gander, Newfoundland. Number of Canadian Rangers: 743.

The celebration in Dawson continued in the evening with a wild game barbecue held at the Moose Mountain Ski Chalet, with a couple of big Ranger tents added on to hold the tables and the warmth from the tent stoves.



Alex Van Bibber prepares to cut the 65th anniversary cake.



The Rangers from Exercise: Ranger Origins stand up for photo op.

Photos above courtesy Dan Davidson [uffish@northwestel.net](mailto:uffish@northwestel.net) (In Dawson)



Alex Van Bibber and Percy Henry were among those early Rangers 65 years ago.  
Photo courtesy Dan Davidson [uffish@northwestel.net](mailto:uffish@northwestel.net) (In Dawson)

## **Potoroka takes the Dawson Race**

By Dan Davidson [uffish\\*northwestel.net](mailto:uffish*northwestel.net) (In Dawson)

October 19, 2012

Wayne Potoroka is Dawson's new mayor, having defeated Peter Jenkins by 292 votes in yesterday's electoral contest. He gained 474 votes to Jenkins' 182. It is a resounding success for a campaign which began in April, right after Jenkins announced that he would probably not seek another term, and included a Facebook page, a website and a vigorous door to door and mail campaign.

Potoroka presented himself as someone who would listen to and respect others, offering leadership that would develop a transparent agenda with clearly stated long term goals and objectives.

Jenkins was late into the contest, keeping quiet about his intentions and filing his nomination papers at just about the last minute on the last day. His pitch that there was still too much work to be done that only he could tackle clearly did not resonate with the electorate this time around.

In all, Dawson saw 658 voters cast their ballots for this election: 541 on the actual day, 70 in the advance poll, 10 by mail and another 37 where polling officer Bonnie Barber visited homes to allow them to vote. This is a significant increase over the 529 ballots that were cast in 2009, when Jenkins upset John Steins by a mere eight votes.

At that time the only election was for the mayor's seat and all the councillors were acclaimed.

In the election that brought Steins to office in 2006, he was unopposed and there were 14 council candidates. At that time only 398 voters turned out, so this year's tally is certainly an indication that politics is alive and well in Dawson again.

Incumbent councillors Stephen Johnson and Bill Kendrick were returned to office with healthy tallies of 349 and 330, but the two newcomers to the table outpolled them. At the top of the evening's tally was Kyla McArthur, with 502 votes in her favour. She was followed by former Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in Chief Darren Taylor, who took 470 votes.

The other candidates in the race pulled respectable numbers. Long time residents Johnny Nunan and Dick Van Nostrand took 216 and 255 votes, and even newcomer Hector Renaud pulled in 105.

As the tally sheets began to fill up Potoroka's lead over Jenkins was obvious from the beginning of the three hour counting session and steadily increased as the evening went on. At the end of the first two hours it was clear who would be on the new council, but it still took another hour to finish the count.

## **Wayne Potoroka**

### **Dawson's New Mayor Hopes for a Brighter Future**

By Dan Davidson [uffish\\*northwestel.net](mailto:uffish*northwestel.net) (In Dawson)

October 21, 2012

Two days past his election night victory, Wayne Potoroka sat down to reflect on the road ahead of him. Having served on three councils, under two mayors, he has a clear idea of what he would like to do and what he would like to avoid.

For the most part, he prefers to phrase these goals in positive terms.

“I believe in bringing different perspective to the table, cooperating with the organizations and groups in town, with other governments, who can help Dawson with its challenges.”

Not that there are no problems.

The lack of an agreement between the territorial government and the town over the Quigley Landfill, an issue that has remained unsettled since the mid 1990s and through six municipal administrations, is high on Potoroka’s list. The lack of such an agreement enabled the Yukon Housing Corporation to demolish an entire apartment building in the fall of 2011 and truck the debris out to the landfill.

“It’s unfortunate we didn’t have an agreement in place, because maybe we could have done something to lighten the impact that it’s having on the landfill.”

There is a shortage of all sorts of developable land in the town, especially when it comes to land for residential purposes.

“We need to be exploring a land development protocol with the Yukon government,” he says. “If they can help with our lot situation the we should be bringing them a little closer.”

This issue was raised by one of the municipal advisors early in the 2009-2012 term, but the proposal didn’t gain much traction with council. Potoroka would like to see that change.

“If we have people who want to help us out, let’s let them help us out.”

In dealing with the territorial government in general he hopes to strike a more pragmatic attitude than has often been the history here.

“We’re not always going to agree on things. We’re not always going to see eye to eye. We’re going to have our differences and maybe even our battles, but you have to put all those things in perspective and appreciate, realize and understand when you need to reach out for a hand.”

Potoroka sees in his involvement (as first vice-president) with the Association of Yukon Communities (AYC) as a way in which positive things can be accomplished for Dawson and all the other towns.

He sees the Dept. of Community Services as being much more service oriented over the last three years than it was during his first experience on council from 2000 to 2004.

“The increase to the Municipal Grant, which was recently announced, was the result of working together with them. There’ll be changes to the Municipal Act, or at least a refreshing of the Municipal Act. That’s been the results of that relationship.

“They’re testing out new ways of helping out communities when they need a hand with ‘community development teams’. These muster folks from every department to come together and help a community with a specific issue they’ve been facing.”



**Wayne Potoroka, Dawson’s New Mayor Hopes for a Brighter Future**  
Photo courtesy Dan Davidson [uffish@northwestel.net](mailto:uffish@northwestel.net) (In Dawson)

Looking back at the 2009-2012 council, Potoroka credits it with putting in place a solid administrative team which has created a number of useful tools, including a capital plan which forecasts 10 years ahead to predict spending needs.

“This makes it easier to plan for the future, easy to decide how much money to put away so that you’ve got the cash on hand when you need to replace a vehicle.”

Potoroka intends that his administration will be about the future, “about setting a positive tone and

tenor for our community. It's about planning for the challenges that Dawson's facing."

He has an impressive mandate going into this term, with the highest polling numbers that have been seen for the mayor's office in many years, and more than he has ever received in his council runs, although his personal numbers were always strong.

Part of the increase would be that more people voted this time out. Going back to 2000, there were 533 voters; 2003 saw 494. The council that was returned in 2006, after the two-year trusteeship, was elected by just 398 voters. In 2009 there were 529. This year there were 658.

Potoroka reflected more on the overall pattern than on his 474-vote victory.

"I really think that what we saw on Election Day – the real story there – is how many people turned out to the polls. For me that was really encouraging because it said that people were taking an interest in their municipality and taking an interest in being a part of where their community is heading.

"Dawsonites are starting to get engaged, and when you get an engaged community, it's tough to hold them back."

Municipal politics in Dawson over the last 15 years have been dominated by clashing personalities and old battles that were continually being refought. Potoroka is determined to steer clear of these pitfalls and forge ahead in a positive manner.

"It's a new day, and there are a lot of new people walking the streets of Dawson City. We need to be working for everyone and making this the best community it can possibly be."

## **George Black Ferry Shuts Down**

By Dan Davidson [uffish\\*northwestel.net](mailto:uffish*northwestel.net) (In Dawson)

October 22, 2012

With about 6 hours' notice to residents, the George Black ferry made its last run across the Yukon River at 7 p.m. Sunday evening. While the ferry has been running pretty much from day to day and on reduced hours since just after Thanksgiving, there hadn't been much ice in the river until late last week and West Dawson residents were hoping that the service might make it to Oct. 26, which was when it was pulled out of the water last year. No such luck. There is usually a 24 hour notice from the time the sign is posted, but that was not the case this year. The sign was not there at close to 1 p.m. on Sunday and was there by 2:10 when this photo was taken.



October 21, 2012

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

## **Commissioner Phillips Visits Dawson and Presents a Medal**

By Dan Davidson [uffish\\*northwestel.net](mailto:uffish*northwestel.net) (In Dawson)

October 25, 2012

Commissioner Douglas Phillips embarked on a Diamond Jubilee Tour of the Yukon's rural schools during the month of October, beginning in Carcross on October 11 and moving on to Dawson City and Old Crow later in the week. His focus is on meeting students in grades 5 and 6 to talk about his role as Commissioner and the Queen's Diamond Jubilee.

At Robert Service School, the Commissioner arrived on the 15th and met with classes early in the afternoon.

He spoke about the role of the Commissioner's Office, which is similar in function to that of a Lieutenant Governor in the provinces and to the Governor General in Ottawa. The Commissioner signs legislation into law after it has been passed by the Yukon Legislature, delivers the government's Speech from the Throne, swears in the members of the Legislature and serves as continuity if, as during the last transition for the Yukon Party, there is a period when the new leader of the governing party has not been elected to office yet.

Phillips then presented slide shows about the life and reign of Queen Elizabeth and members of the

Royal family, as well as archival newsreel coverage of a Royal Visit that took place in the Yukon in 1959.

“She’s been Queen of Canada for 60 years,” he told the students, “and to give you an idea of how long that is, I was in Kindergarten when she became Queen of Canada.”

The year after her coronation in 1952, two Yukon girls, Lena Emma Tzya and Yvonne Russell, were chosen to go to London as part of a six-week tour with the Canadian Girl Guides.

“Lena brought with her a beautiful hand beaded purse ... made by herself and her mother for the coronation. Lena’s purse as well as the Girl Guide uniform that she was wearing; are now part of the Yukon’s permanent art collection.”

That bag was part of the display the Commissioner brought with him to show the students.

Students were also given a poster and a delicious cookie decorated with the Diamond Jubilee crest.

The second part of the afternoon ceremony involved the presentation of a Diamond Jubilee Medal to former RSS teacher Betty Davidson, who was cited for her three decades of work with extra-curricular school choirs in both Faro and Dawson City, as well as her work with the Dawson Community Library Board (where she is a liaison person for the nationally celebrated Berton House Writers Retreat) and her many years with the Dawson Restorative Justice Group. It was also noted that she is an active member of St. Paul’s Anglican Church, where she serves as a member of vestry, a Lay Minister, Rector’s Warden and member of the Yukon Diocese’s executive committee, as well as being a delegate to the Provincial Synod.

“It’s really my pleasure,” said Phillips, “to present this medal to Betty for her outstanding contributions to this community and to the Yukon. Betty, its people like yourself that make this place so special.”

“When a person is selected for the Diamond Jubilee Medal,” Davidson said, “that is an honour for the community as well as the person that receives it. I have been very happy to live in Dawson since 1985. It is my home.”

Davidson, who was born the year Elizabeth became Queen, was named after her, and is also in her 60th year.

That evening Commissioner Phillips met with the Dawson Rangers for a social evening at the Eldorado Hotel.

The tour will conclude in Watson Lake on October 30 after stops in Faro, Ross River, Haines Junction, Burwash Landing, Beaver Creek, Mayo, Pelly Crossing, and Teslin.



Students look at the displays and pick up their goodies.  
Photo courtesy Dan Davidson [uffish@northwestel.net](mailto:uffish@northwestel.net) (In Dawson)



Commissioner Doug Phillips and Betty Davidson  
Photo courtesy Dan Davidson [uffish@northwestel.net](mailto:uffish@northwestel.net) (In Dawson)



The Commissioner meets with Grades 5 and 6 in the Ancillary Room at the Robert Service School.

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

## **MOCTEL 366**

Thank you, Sherron, for this excellent MocTel; thoroughly enjoyed it. Sorry to learn about Danny Sheardown. I met him many years ago—he was the same age as Rex's/my stepson, Jon and I know that at one time they played together.

I loved Gus Barrett's poem. A perfect portrayal of the Yukon!

Trudie Terpening [tagishtrudie@shaw.ca](mailto:tagishtrudie@shaw.ca) (Surrey)

Hello Sherron,

I have been receiving your Moccasin Telegraph for about the past year. I really appreciate it.

My Mom is Jean Asp-Davis (Jeannie White/Sauve) and my Dad was Paul White P.Eng, Dominion Land Surveyor, Entrepreneur and he donned many other hats. I have been meaning to send you an obituary for my Dad. He passed Oct 8, 2011. There are many who will remember him for his strong personality. Some found him charming and others found him challenging. Some of us got to experience his many faceted nature. I can tell you that being his daughter was never boring.

I have the good fortune of being born in Whitehorse and my roots remain grounded in the beauty of the Yukon and the resiliency of the people. I travel "home" two to four times a year and am grateful for the friendships that have endured and the new ones that I have forged. I think being a Yukoner has been one of my greatest strengths. I learned to care for people in a harsh environment and accept that it takes all kinds of Colorful Five Percenters to make a community whole. Jim

Robb is my friend and I have been known to fraternize with members of all political parties - sometimes in the same afternoon. Also I spent my weekends and summer as a young girl on the Yukon Game Farm with Danny Nowlan and family.

It took me some time living "outside" to realize that my childhood was not a normal one. And I wouldn't trade it for anything. I am tougher than most, quicker to laugh than many of my southern friends and interested in the world and the people around me.

Thank-you for your dedicated work keeping Yukoners connected.

Much Respect,  
Paula Morrison (nee White)  
[tenaciouspaula@gmail.com](mailto:tenaciouspaula@gmail.com)  
Kelowna BC

P.S. I would be happy to send a picture of my Dad or contribute some stories current or reflections. Thank-you for posting the obituaries. I have read of friends and a tribute is a beautiful thing.

## **DONATIONS FOR VANCOUVER YUKONERS BANQUET**

If anyone would like to donate items for the Silent Auction, either goods or services, to contact Judy Leahy at:  
[jaleahy@telus.net](mailto:jaleahy@telus.net) or 604-560-3871.

Judy Leahy  
Director  
Vancouver Yukoners Association

## **HAULING ORE IN YUKON AND NORTHERN BC**



Maple Leaf

Photo courtesy Tom Mickey [tmickey@northwestel.net](mailto:tmickey@northwestel.net) (In Whitehorse)

Attached are a couple of pictures of the trucks that are hauling the ore from the **Wolverine Mine** on the Campbell Highway north of Watson Lake. The destination is Stewart, B.C. and the original plan was to have drivers located at Dease Lake, B.C. so that one driver would take the load from the mine to Dease Lake and then another would take it on to Stewart and return to Dease Lake. I am not sure if this is what is happening or not.

I was on the Stewart Cassiar road last year and saw a number of these trucks but do not know if they are using Dease Lake as a switch point or not. I got these pictures when the trucks were being built and the idea of the design was that when they unloaded at Stewart they would then "stack" or load the trailer on the truck and have a lot less wheels on the road. The idea sounds great but the ones I saw returning from Stewart were not "stacked or decked" just strung out as if they were loaded. I am not sure who the trucking company is. Maybe someone else knows more about it than I do.

Tom Mickey [tmickey@northwestel.net](mailto:tmickey@northwestel.net) (In Whitehorse)

P.S. Don mentioned Lynden Canadian doing the Minto & Keno hauling....it should be **Canadian Lynden** who also controls Yukon Alaska who haul liquor, cement and calcium from Skagway to points in the Yukon.



Maple Leaf Loaded

Photo courtesy Tom Mickey [tmickey@northwestel.net](mailto:tmickey@northwestel.net) (In Whitehorse)

This configuration is what Wolverine uses to ship zinc to Stewart. I do not know what configuration Alexco uses to ship from Keno Hill, possibly, the same.

Regarding Cantung's shipments, they ship with Manitoulin, to Edmonton and Vancouver. Last year Alex with Ice Road Truckers "saved" the mine in one of their episodes. Sorry for not replying sooner, but I am on the road at present.

George Millen [george\\_millen@hotmail.com](mailto:george_millen@hotmail.com) (In Watson Lake)

## **YUKON ZINC CORP – WOLVERINE MINE**

Yukon Zinc Corporation is a Canadian mining, exploration and development company with properties in Yukon, Canada. Yukon Zinc's head office is located in Vancouver, Canada.

## **Corporate History**

**Yukon Zinc**, formerly Expatriate Resources, sharpened its focus on the emerging Finlayson District in the Yukon by establishing StrataGold Corporation and Pacifica Resources Ltd. The sale of the gold assets to StrataGold in 2003 and public financing of StrataGold created significant value for Expatriate shareholders. In 2004 Pacifica Resources Ltd. (now Selwyn Resources SWN.TSX-V) received Non-Finlayson District exploration properties.

In July 2008 Jinduicheng Molybdenum Group Co. Ltd. and Northwest Nonferrous International Investment Company Ltd. acquired all of the public shares of Yukon Zinc Corporation. Currently Yukon Zinc is private and no longer publically listed, and JDC is the majority shareholder. In 2011, Yukon Zinc secured four key shareholders including Fosun Gold Holdings Limited, Arich Investments Ltd., Silvercorp Metals Inc., and Northern Mineral Investment Corporation.

## **Wolverine mine photo gallery:**

[http://www.yukonzinc.com/en/operations\\_gallery.cfm](http://www.yukonzinc.com/en/operations_gallery.cfm)

## **STEWART BC**

**Stewart** is a small town, incorporated as a district municipality at the head of the Portland Canal in northwestern British Columbia, Canada. In 2006, its population was about 496.

For more information about Stewart:

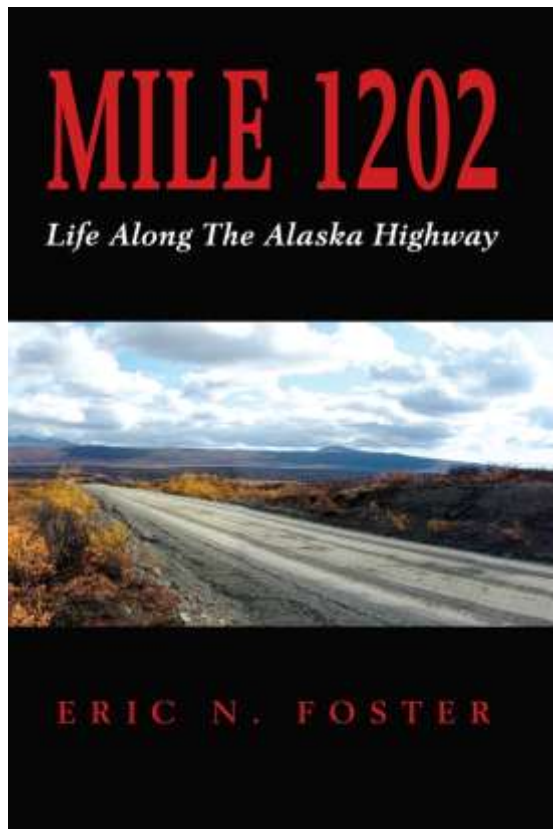
[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Stewart,\\_British\\_Columbia](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Stewart,_British_Columbia)

## **Mile 1202 by Eric N. Foster.**

This book describes some of the interesting people, places and history of the Yukon. Eric taught at the Yukon Vocational School in 1968 and in Beaver Creek, Mile 1202, from 1969 to 1972.

His second book, **B.C.-Yukon Sketches**, is a collection of short stories and verse containing a great variety of subjects but all of which take place in the Yukon or Northern and Coastal B.C.

Both books are available at Mac's Fireweed Bookstore.



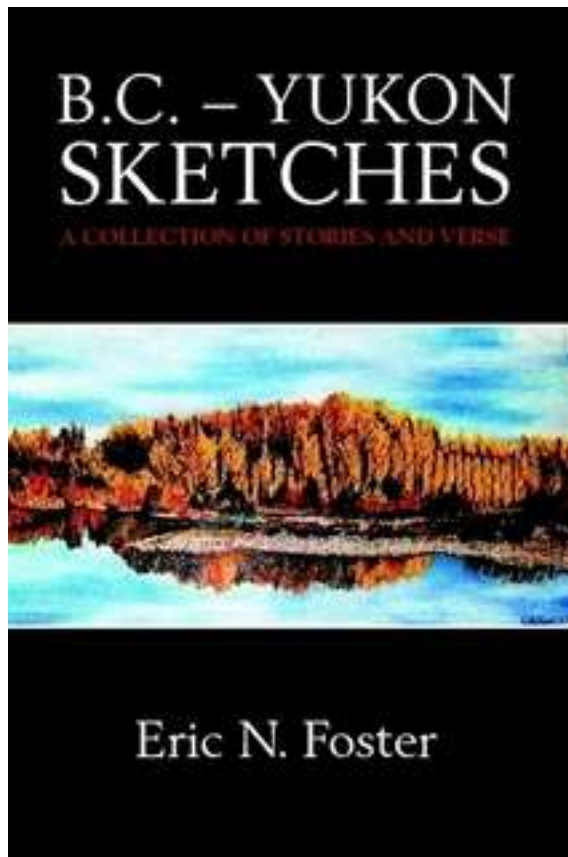
**ISBN 978-0-9880432-1-3**

Eric Foster's book is full of the flavor of the Yukon in 1970. He went there along with his wife and family to teach school. He shows the hopeful spirit of the people who lived, worked and played in Beaver Creek. They held curling bonspiels, holiday dances, hunted moose and mountain sheep, and cavorted on snowmobiles as they enjoyed the cold for eight months each year. The four months of summer allowed them to grow vegetables, go fishing and enjoy the school picnic. Foster's story tells about tough people making their way with courage and spirit. Caroline H. Davidson Writer - Poet

<http://www.lulu.com/shop/eric-n-foster/mile-1202-life-along-the-alaska-highway/paperback/product-20367340.html>

About Eric or to download a copy of the book:

<http://www.lulu.com/spotlight/ericnfoster>



ISBN 9781300154013

In B.C. - Yukon Sketches, Eric N. Foster explores two landscapes: the outer landscape of the small working towns of lumbering, mining, and farming as they were fifty to sixty years ago; and the inner landscape of a young man searching for a meaningful maturity for himself through working and talking with others as he meets them. In his poetry and verse, Eric paints with the brush of the artist that he also is. He notes in the tiniest detail how the Spring comes upon the land in the North. As the musician that he too is, he describes for us how the forest, farm and ocean sound as the earth warms.

For further information on this book see:

<http://www.lulu.com/shop/eric-n-foster/bc-yukon-sketches-a-collection-of-stories-and-verse/paperback/product-20367356.html>

## **OBIT**

### **Donald Murray**

> Don was driving about a block from his home in Delta a few days ago and sounds like he tried to get out of the way for an ambulance and was hit by another vehicle. Has been in intensive care in White Rock hospital and this afternoon he passed away.

Those who knew Don would agree that he would have been doing the 'right' thing.



**MURRAY, Donald Allan** June 17, 1940 - December 31, 2012. It is with deep sadness that we announce the unexpected passing of Don on December 31, 2012. Left to mourn are his wife Adrienne, daughter Marilyn, son Dean (Tamie), grandchildren Jacob and Cailin, aunt Margaret Howk, "sister" Marny Ryder, sisters-in-law Adele (Garth) Goddard, Sandy (Gord) Braun, niece and nephew Lisa and Jeff (Megan) Goddard and extended family Chris, Donna, Nicholas, and Loukas Stavropoulos, Vince, Isabelle, and Nicolas Hammer, and numerous friends. Don was born in Whitehorse and moved with his family to Cloverdale in 1971. Don proudly worked for the Federal Government for 48 years, 42 with Canada Border Services Agency, formerly Canada Customs, during which time he hired and mentored countless employees, believing in them and gently leading them to full potential. Don forged life-long friendships, and his meaningful impact is largely entrenched in the current CBSA organization. He made a difference to those he met. Regardless of rank, Don was a people person and demonstrated kindness without effort. Don was always generous, warm, caring, and thoughtful. He went out of his way to make others feel appreciated and significant, whether searching for a special toy to brighten a child's day or random acts of kindness. Don always took the time to make those around him feel special and at ease. He was blessed with an infectious laugh, a mischievous sense of humour, and always had a smile and a twinkle in his eye. Don was a loyal Detroit Red Wings fan and enjoyed hockey banter with others. Don maintained his connection to the North through the Vancouver Yukoner's Association and the International Sourdough Reunion, serving as president of both associations. Don happily chauffeured all who needed a ride to each event, regardless of the location. Don will be greatly missed by all whose lives he touched. A special thank you to the ICU staff at Peace Arch Hospital. A viewing will be held on Sunday, January 6, 2013, from 3:00 to 6:00 p.m. at Henderson's Langley Funeral Home, 20786 Fraser Highway, Langley. **A Celebration of Life will be held at 10:00 a.m. Monday, January 7, 2013, at The Vancouver Club, 915 West Hastings Street, Vancouver** (parking below the Terminal City Club - entrance on Cordova Street off Howe Street). In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the Variety Club.

Published in Vancouver Sun and/or The Province on January 4, 2013



L to R: Don & Adrienne Murray, Carol Avon, Frances MacLeod  
At the Island Yukoners Picnic - August 18, 2012.  
Photo courtesy Harvey Burian [hburian\\*telus.net](mailto:hburian@telus.net) (In Parksville)

So sad about Don. He has been a good friend of mine since I taught him the ropes in the **Whitehorse Post Office** when he was 18 yrs. old. I was an old guy of about 28 back then. That's a pretty long time to keep a friendship going.  
Gus Barrett

I am so sad about Don. He was a neat guy to grow up with in Whitehorse. As an adult I thought he was a super, gentle, kind man. I loved his sense of humour and that twinkle in his eye. Please know you are in my thoughts and prayers.  
Barbara Taylor-Conway



**Paul Sanson White Jr.**

November 19, 1929 - October 8, 2011

P.Eng - UBC Delta Kappa Epsilon 1956 - Dominion Land Surveyor (Retired)

It is with great sadness we announce the passing of Paul S. White on Saturday, October 8 2011. Paul passed peacefully, family at his side. His wit, charm and keen intellect will be missed. Never short for words or opinion, he was a strong personality that would take challenges head-on. His entrepreneurial spirit brought involvement in many great ventures and adventures from the Iron Ore fields of Labrador to aerial surveys of the Arctic and gold and silver mining from the Yukon to Australia and Russia. He was a proud member of the Lions Club for over 50 years and supported many community programs. A Jazz aficionado, his love of Jazz music as a scholar historian, a musician and enthusiast was well known as was his support for the community of Jazz musicians. A master wordsmith and orator of considerable skill, his storytelling and accounts of various adventures captivated many an ear. Now it is time for his story to be told. Son of Paul Sanson White and Helen Orvis. Paul is survived by his children Paul White III, Corri Coy (nee White), Dean White , Paula Morrison (nee White), Alita Sauve and their children. His siblings Judy Row, Gary White, David McCart, Wendy McCart Porritt. Predeceased by siblings Gayle Hungerford and Ian McCart.

A celebration of his life was held on Saturna Island, BC at Saint Christopher's Anglican Church on Saturday November 26, 2011 followed by a reception at the Saturna Community Hall accompanied by the Jazz music he loved. A celebration of Paul's life will also be held in Whitehorse, Yukon in the Spring or Summer of 2013. Condolences may be forwarded to [tenaciouspaula@gmail.com](mailto:tenaciouspaula@gmail.com)

## QUOTE OF THE WEEK

*It is only the first step that is difficult.*

*Marie De Vichy-Chaconne*

## RECIPE OF THE WEEK

### Australian Quiche

Submitted by Sherron Jones [sherronjones@shaw.ca](mailto:sherronjones@shaw.ca) (In Yuma, AZ)

Crust: Spray Pam on Pie Plate  
Shake corn flakes crumbs all around

6 eggs  
2 cups milk  
1 ½ cups grated cheese  
1 cup mushrooms  
¾ cup red peppers  
¾ cup green peppers  
¾ cup to 1 cup cooked bacon  
1 ½ cups spinach  
1 green onion

2 tablespoon flour  
1 teaspoon baking powder  
Salt

Mix all and pour in pie plate and sprinkle with corn flake crumbs

Bake @ 350 about 30 minutes or until knife inserted in center comes out clean.

## DATES TO REMEMBER



## Vancouver Yukoners' Association 85<sup>th</sup> Annual Banquet

April 13, 2013



**River Rock Casino/Resort – Whistler Ballroom  
8811 River Rd, Richmond BC  
Free Parking in Casino Parkade**

**Hotel reservations  
Telephone: 604-247-8900 or toll free 1-866-748-3718**

**Ask for *Vancouver Yukoners'* rate**  
Book by Jan 31, 2013 to get the “early bird” rate  
Two Queen Room \$145.00 & 1 King Bed Room \$155.00  
One Bedroom Suite \$179.00 & 2 Bedroom Suite \$229.00

Special rates extend 3 days pre- and post-banquet based on availability  
**Rates will change after Feb 1, 2013**

**Banquet Reception: Ballroom Foyer No-Host Bar 5pm – 6pm  
Welcome followed by Dinner: 6:15 pm**

**Hospitality Room: Open Friday from 4 pm and Saturday from noon  
Note: Pick up tickets in Hospitality Room**

.....  
**FOR TICKETS CONTACT VIVIAN STUART:**

**Email: [lornellis@shaw.ca](mailto:lornellis@shaw.ca)**

**Address: #217 – 3255 Cook St, Victoria BC V8X 1A4**

**Phone: 250-383-1349**

**\$58.00 per person with cheque payable in advance to  
*Vancouver Yukoners' Association***

(Maiden names too please – Helps to find friends of years ago)

**IN WHITEHORSE CONTACT GOODY SPARLING: 867 668-3958**

**Cheques only please - payable to Vancouver Yukoners Association**

**We encourage Yukon residents to fly Air North  
and to contact them for any special discounts**

**Check [www.vancouver-yukoners.com](http://www.vancouver-yukoners.com) for updates**

## **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](mailto: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](mailto:sherronjones@shaw.ca)

## **MOCCASIN TELEGRAPH**

Sherron Jones  
483-5707 E 32<sup>nd</sup> Street  
Yuma Arizona USA 85365