

MOCCASIN TELEGRAPH – 392nd Edition – June 15th, 2014

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Grizzly family – May 2014 – Carcross Road

Photo courtesy Heather Jones hjones*northwestel.net (In Carcross)

Hi Sherron,

Last week the Carcross to Whitehorse commuters were treated to many sightings of a beautiful mama grizzly and her two cubs. I was one of the fortunate ones who had a few minutes to "hang out" with them and capture some of the playfulness of the babies as mama kept a close watch. I created this composite image from those few minutes with this family; I call it my "Chris Caldwell Emulation".

Thanks again for all that you do.

Heather Jones

COURTESY WHITEHORSE STAR – YUKON HISTORY SECTION -

An Atlin Road Agent September 30, 1899

THE BENNETT SUN.

VOL. I.

BENNETT LAKE, B. C., SEPTEMBER 30, 1899.

No. 28

News items from
The Bennett Sun, September 30, 1899

An Atlin Road Agent

Masked Highwayman Holds Up a Stage in Real Western Style and Gets \$3.55.

Atlin has had a genuine stage holdup. The work of the robber was shockingly crude. His method, or rather lack of it, demonstrated that he was not an expert in the profession, and that he was thoroughly in want of experience. His ignorance can only be excused by his boldness, from which it originated.

It happened Monday evening, Sept. 16, about 8 o'clock. Walker's stage was enroute to Pine City from Atlin when a masked highwayman stepped out in the road and at the point of a Winchester commanded the driver to halt. The command was obeyed and the passengers were ordered to get out of the stage and line up with their hands in the air. Four of the passengers, Messrs. D. Patterson, C.H. Dewitt, J. Dillon and Mrs. Nelson took to the woods.

The others were Driver Walker, Photographer Draper, T. Shirley, W. Waters, J. Emmett and Miss Maud Biggs.

They had considerable money about them, but most of them managed to lose their purses in the stage before leaving it. The highwayman's order to them, therefore, to throw their money in a pile on the road resulted in only \$3.55 being contributed to the road agent.

This he sulkily picked up, and backing into the brush, he disappeared.

The police were immediately notified and vigorous search made for the daring robber, but up to late reports he has not been caught.

TWO PAPERS FOR CAPE NOME

Cole Bourk and George E. Story, both former employees of the Klondike Nugget at Dawson, have gone to Cape Nome with a complete newspaper and job plant, where they will start the Nome Nugget. G. B. Swinehart, formerly with the Yukon Sun, preceded them with a paper to be called the Arctic Gold News. Cape Nome will not be behind in the newspaper line.

After 18 months' of hard fighting Thomas V. O'Brien has received from the Canadian government a franchise to build a narrow gauge railroad from Dawson to Grand Forks, where Eldorado empties into Bonanza, a distance of 15 miles. The estimated cost is \$200,000.

The Bennett Sun became the Whitehorse Star upon moving to Whitehorse from Bennett Lake, B. C. in July of 1900. The Whitehorse Star's first publication was on July 18, 1900.

YUKON NUGGET

A CKRW Yukon Nugget by Les McLaughlin
Courtesy Rolf & Marg Hougen marg*hougens.com (In Whitehorse)

BUZZSAW JIMMY

His real name was Jimmy Richards but I never knew anyone who called him anything but Buzzsaw Jimmy.

It's a nickname he earned for the unsafe but effective contraption he used to cut cord wood.

By looking at Jimmy, you could tell the machine got the best of him – more than once. He had hundreds of stitches on his body, a missing finger, and a missing leg that he lost – twice.

Jim Richards left home in Saint John, New Brunswick in 1898, bound for the Klondike Gold Fields.

The wonder is that he ever made it to the Yukon at all. First, the train he was riding derailed on the Prairies killing two of his fellow passengers. Then, the backup train derailed near Canmore, Alberta and the car he was riding in left the tracks.

When he reached Vancouver, he hired on as a deck-hand for passage on a steamer heading for Alaska. During the voyage, the rickety ship was damaged in a storm.

He finally arrived in St. Michael, Alaska, near the mouth of the Yukon River, and boarded the paddlewheeler James Domville for the journey up the Yukon River to Dawson City.

Like others who arrived in 1898, he found all the gold-bearing claims taken so got back on the James Domville and worked for passage to Whitehorse by chopping wood along the way.

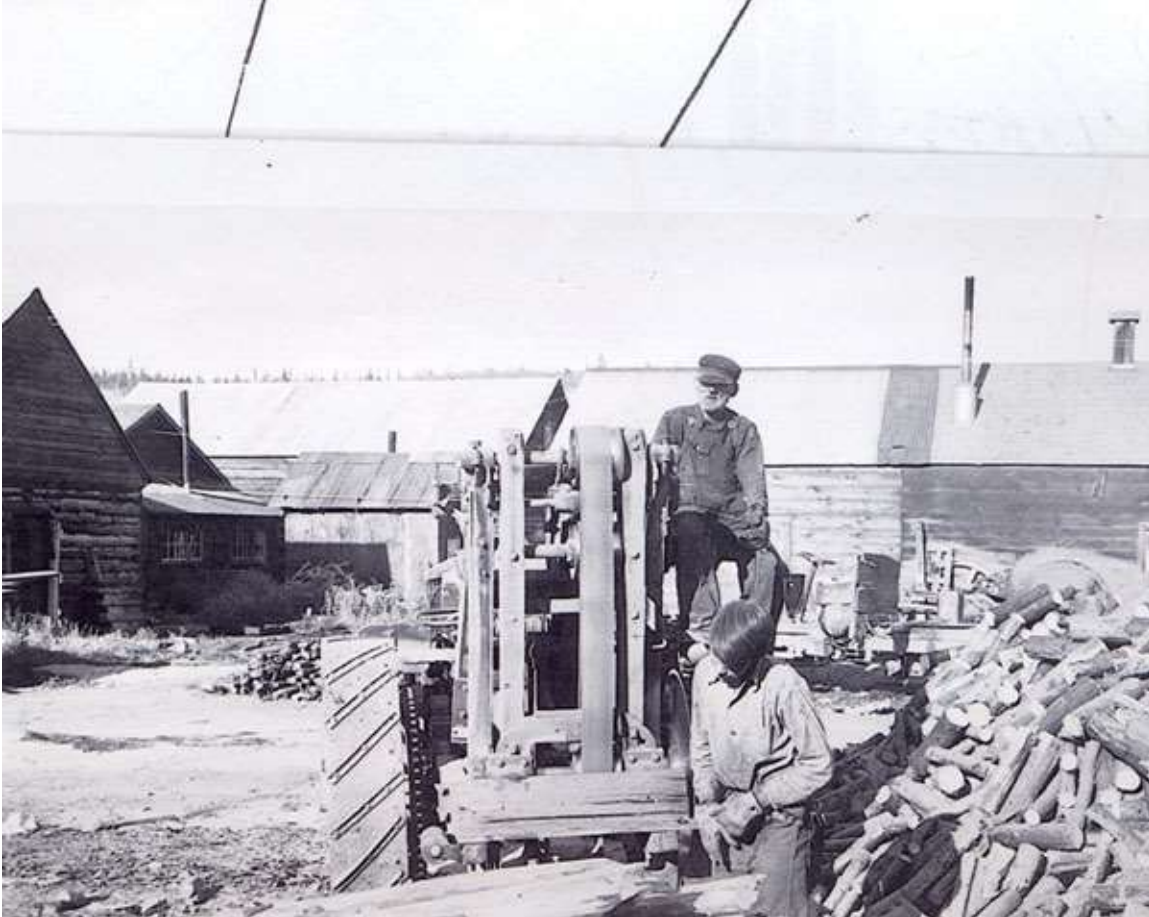
He still had gold fever when he arrived in Whitehorse in October, so he built a sleigh and headed for Atlin, where he spent the winter working for wages on small claims.

Thus, he began a career of doing odd jobs. He worked on the Yukon River as a jack-of-all-trades, and then settled in Whitehorse where he built his strange, but effective, mobile woodcutting machine with parts salvaged from an old tractor and Model T Ford.

Wood cutting in a land of almost perpetual winter could be profitable. With his homemade gizmo, Buzzsaw Jimmy could cut ten cords an hour.

He had regular contracts to cut wood for businesses like the Whitehorse Inn. But it was dangerous work. In 1911, he almost lost his right arm to the open buzzsaw.

Things got worse when, a few years later, he fell off the seat, caught his leg in the gears, and made a beeline for the hospital where the doctor amputated his leg.



Buzzsaw Jimmy with his unique wood cutting machine
Photo: 1942 photo by Odin Hougen,

Fitted with a wooden replacement, the irrepressible Buzzsaw Jimmy was quickly back on the job. But accidents continued. During his cutting career, he cut his arm, back and leg... again. Buzzsaw was becoming a regular guest at the tiny Whitehorse hospital.

Then came his most famous accident when again he fell into the rotating saw blade and severed his right leg.

But this time, he picked up the leg, shook it at the wood sawing contraption and said: "Fooled you." He had severed his wooden leg.

Sometimes, if someone new happened to be watching him cut wood, Jimmy would deliberately pretend to cut through his wooden leg. The ploy never failed to evoke gasps or worse... a fainting spell from the onlooker.

How much wood could a woodcutter cut with a wood-cutting machine like Buzzsaw Jimmy's?
Good question.

Countless cords I am sure, in a wood-cutting-career that lasted fifty years.



Sometime in the 1950s, he retired and his machine was dragged away to the dump. Buzzsaw Jimmy left Whitehorse and his colourful career in 1963 when he moved to Vancouver, where he died at age 94.

A CKRW Yukon Nugget by Les McLaughlin



Jim Robb's Yukon

MAY 22 TO AUGUST 23, 2014
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Jim Robb, Washburn 1880, 1977. Poster: Deborah Leland

Jim Robb's Yukon Exhibition

Treasured local artist, Jim Robb is most recognized for his 'colourful five percent' publications and his illustrations of Yukon buildings, characters and landscapes past and present. With more than one hundred original works loaned by Yukoners, this retrospective will highlight artworks from Robb's fifty-eight year career as an artist in Whitehorse.

JIM ROBB'S YUKON BOOK

To celebrate Jim's continuing contributions to our artistic heritage, the Yukon Arts Centre is publishing a high quality, 40 page catalogue to commemorate this exhibition. The book will feature photos of many of the featured artworks, as well as stories and memories from Jim,. As a non-profit charitable organization, the Yukon Arts Centre relies on support from patrons like you. Our goal is to raise \$8000 to produce this catalogue commemorating Jim's fifty-eight year career as an artist in Whitehorse. Your gift of \$25, \$50, or \$100 will help preserve these important Yukon stories, not only after the exhibition closes, but for years to come. Donors will receive a tax receipt by return mail. To donate, please go to [Canada Helps Jim Robb Donation Website](#) or make a cheque payable to Yukon Arts Centre and drop it at the Yukon Arts Centre or mail it to: Yukon Arts Centre, Box 16, Whitehorse, YT Y1A 5X9

Thank you
Jessica Vellenga

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Submitted by Donna Clayson

Memories of Wigwam Harry

By Donna Clayson bdclayson*northwestel.net (In Whitehorse)

Growing up in Whitehorse I was introduced to Wigwam Harry by my father, Doug Storing. I was 13 years old when I noticed a man sitting on the curb on Main Street, obviously inebriated and unable to walk another step. I asked my dad, in an innocent way, who that drunk man was. Dad, known for few words and barely audible voice said, "If you want to know, ask him". I was very shy and known to take some time upon meeting anyone to get up enough nerve to say hello to them. Never would I outright approach this very drunk individual and ask him his name. Dad insisted and literally dragged me in the direction of the smell of liquor and cigarettes.

As I stood over Harry and stammered in a voice barely audible I asked, "What is your name?" Harry looked up at me, trying to focus his eyes and said, "Ker-r-y". With no teeth and a tongue

thick from years of drinking I thought he said Kerry. It took several months before I learned his name was Harry Fieck, aka Wigwam Harry.

I learned of Wigwam's tragic past but I was more intrigued when dad told me he had worked on the building of the Alaska Highway, just like he did. To me he was just another drunk.

I spent quite a bit of time with my dad, especially visiting the Dairy Queen on Second Ave. Dad liked their soft ice cream and, I found, so did Harry. Dad would invite me to go with him, along with Huckleberry our dog, for an ice cream cone, dipped in chocolate. Instead of heading straight to the Dairy Queen, dad would drive all around Whitehorse looking for Harry so he could treat him as well. When we found Harry either at his home in Moccasin Flats or stumbling down the street, dad would honk his horn and instruct me to slide over with Huckleberry on my lap. As Harry clambered onto the seat beside me the smell from his clothes and body odour made me gag. Huckleberry always enjoyed Harry. Not sure if it was the smell that permeated from Harry or because Harry was always happy to see the dog and gave pats freely.

One day as dad and I were cruising down Main Street towards the Dairy Queen we saw Wigwam carrying a box, just received from the Post Office at 4th & Main. Dad told me that once a year Wigwam would receive a package from his brother in the States. Inside was a set of brand new clothes. He would find someone to let him take a bath at their house so he could don his new duds on a fresh washed body. Dad honked the horn and as I scuttled over beside dad Harry slid in beside me and Huckleberry. As usual Huck wanted his pats but Wigwam was too excited about his package and ignored Huck. Pouting, Huck turned his back and gave Wigwam the same treatment. As we ate our ice cream (Huck got one as well) we headed to our house for the long anticipated bath. As I tried holding my nose and lick my ice cream cone all the way home to 8th & Wheeler I prayed we would get there fast.

While mom started the bath Harry unpacked the treasured box, extracting shirt, pants, socks and underwear. With shampoo and shaving items donated by dad we knew the bathroom was off limits for a couple of hours. While Harry soaked my mom very gingerly, with two fingers, carried Harry's clothes outside to the burning barrel. Every so often I could hear muffled singing coming from the bathroom and wished he would hurry up, I needed in there. Sure enough, two hours later, Harry was done. As the bathroom door opened I realized a huge transformation had taken place behind the closed door. Where Wigwam entered, Harry Fieck emerged, smelling like roses, hair slicked back and clean shaven (Harry was never without facial hair) sporting brand new clothes. Wow, he was really good looking and really smelled good! Before he left the house he would place his dirty, long coat over his shoulders and dad would drive him to Main Street so Harry could parade up and the down street, proudly displaying his yearly look.

Harry would sport his new clothes until the next package arrived. Every year when Harry picked up his package we all knew it had come when, from person to person, you would hear, "Wigwam got his package." I always wondered who the lucky resident was that offered his bath tub and burned his clothes.

I learned to love and respect Harry Fieck. I loved watching him dance on Main Street when the street was blocked off every Friday night during summer. Every block it seemed had a musician playing an instrument, usually guitar and the merchants would roll out clothes on moveable racks onto the sidewalk. It was a party atmosphere and Harry loved it. With finger on top of his head he

would whirl in circles to the music. I learned to not mind when, with his special smell, he would climb into the truck beside me. With toothless smile he would offer dad a sip from his mickey. Dad never refused, he respected Harry too much to refuse just like everyone else did.

I thought Harry would be around forever. As I grew into adulthood and moved away I often thought about Wigwam and dad would keep me updated on the yearly package. When the phone call came from dad telling me to sit down, that he had tragic news, that Harry had passed away I was devastated. I cried, knowing I would never smell that odour again. I still miss him to this day but I hold his memory close. We all miss Harry Fieck.



Gert (Rose) Squirechuk – 87th Birthday.

The Ice Pool begins again

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

April 7, 2014

Tickets for the 2014 Dawson Ice Pool have been on sale for a week or so now, and are available at all sorts of places all over the territory, but the real sign that the annual ice lottery is on is when the tripod appears on the Yukon River, which it did just last week.

The tripod is placed by members of the Yukon Order of Pioneers, and the Ice Pool is run by the IODE.

There's been an ice pool since 1896 and there are records for all but five years since then.

There are time and date sheets on display where ever the tickets are sold, but the easiest way to look at the data is on the sortable database found at www.yukonriverbreakup.com. You can sort by year, day or time to find out when your best chance of picking the time and date might be. This site is maintained by Mammoth Mapping and also contains photo and video posts from the last five years.

Don't expect the task to be an easy one, though. After years of hovering between April 30 and May 12, last year fooled everyone and held on until May 15. It hadn't been that late since 1962.

The tripod is linked by a cable to a clock fastened to the Dänojà Zho Cultural Centre. When ice shifts and the tripod moves, the cable stops the clock. There is usually someone there to notice and they will notify the fire department so that the fire siren can be sounded to let people know what has happened.

The person who comes closest to the day and time wins. The last two years have seen solo winners collecting over \$3600, but the two years before that had splits, with each of the pair taking over \$1600.

You can buy tickets up until midnight, April 25, since April 28, in 1940, is the earliest recorded break-up date.



Ice Pool tripod set.

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

Kaminak is very perked on the coffee project

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

April 8, 2014

Rory Kutluoglu, Exploration Manager for Kaminak Gold Corporation, gave an enthusiastic report on the Coffee Gold Project to students and community members attending the Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in's Mining Trades Fair for students and the community on April 3.

The Coffee project is one of several that are being explored and developed in the White Gold District of the Yukon, about 80 km south of Dawson. Since 2010, the company has drilled 16 separate and distinct gold discoveries in the area, totalling some 700 drill holes. Some \$14 million was spent on exploration during last season.

Despite the usual warnings about “forward looking statements” Kutluoglu emphasized that the geology and the resources so far discovered in the area seem to bode well for future development, and while there are not large prospects for immediate employment, once the mine is up and running it would not be unreasonable to see 100 people working there.

It will be fly-in/fly-out mine site for workers, though the company expects to move the ore to trucks via a barge system.

Kaminak and the Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in signed an economic development agreement in May 2013 respecting the First Nation's rights to be kept informed, to realize economic opportunities during the exploration, mining and environmental monitoring phases of the project. Since some of the job opportunities are still a few years down the road, Kutluoglu suggests that younger people might be wise to consider getting some training in areas that would lead to jobs. Kaminak hopes to hire locally as much as possible.

So far the company's exploration has concentrated on relatively shallow surface indicators that would support open pit mining using heap leach technology. Potential for this is thought to be very high at this time while only 20% of the area has been explored.

Kutluoglu said that 2014 would see the preliminary economic assessment phase of the project, but that the deposit was open in all directions and the mining friendly regulations in the territory were all positive elements.



Rory shows core samples - Rory Kutluoglu, Exploration Manager for Kaminak Gold Corporation, shows a slide of the type of core samples that are typical of the Coffee Gold Project.

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



Kaminak camp site

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

New Lodge design revealed to the Dawson public

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

April 8, 2014

The replacement for the Alexander McDonald Lodge project will be going to tender in May-June. Construction on the new building should begin in July and the entire project is slated to be completed by the summer of 2015.

About a dozen locals were present in the large conference room at the Dawson City Community Hospital to listen to Liris Smith, Director of Care & Community with Yukon Health and Social Services; project architect Jack Kobayashi; and project manager Lester Balsillie present the basics of the new facility.

Originally budgeted at \$6.5 million, the project has been increased to \$10 million.

It is a one storey building with 15 private bedrooms, all substantially larger than the ones at the current residence and one of which could be used by a couple. Kobayashi indicated that the site plan would allow for a five-room expansion along the Church St. side of the building at a later date.

The facility will be connected to the hospital by a link and will share a number of services with the larger building. In particular, the current lodge has already been providing food services as needed by the hospital and that will continue.

Smith said that it would originally be for level 1 and 2 care, but was being constructed so that level 3 care could be a future possibility.

The building's exterior design elements have been the subject of much discussion between the planners and the town's Heritage Advisory Committee over the last several months, but the plan as shown in Kobayashi's AutoCAD renderings met with the general approval of those at the meeting.

Where there was some disagreement with the presentation was on the size of the building. Hotelier Peter Jenkins felt that the building ought to be two storeys high with twice the number of rooms, given that the present lodge takes in people from more than just Dawson City. Elders from Old Crow, Mayo and Pelly are frequently in residence. This is similar to the argument the Yukon Hospital Corp. made for building the new hospital to the size that it became.

Dr. Gerard Parsons said that the government was passing up a chance to provide the town with an elder care industry by not building the second floor and moving right way to level three extended care for seniors.

The presenters were of the opinion that they had already managed to get the budget increased and were unlikely to be able to do it again. Kobayashi indicated that the type of construction would determine whether a second floor might be added some years later. At this point, he maintained that it might be either modular or stick built.

Jenkins admitted it was a done deal and called it a wasted opportunity.

Others felt the large flat roof on the main section of the building was likely to cause snow problems, or that it was wasted space as it was and that some attempt to create a seasonal rooftop garden ought to be made. The roof may have seemed larger than it really is, as the simulations did not show the large air handling until that will need to be located there.

Kobayashi indicated that the site itself presented some of the design challenges for project, located as it is next to two imposing buildings (the hospital and the Dawson City Museum) on one side and a group of small residential homes on the other side of Sixth Avenue.

This was an informational meeting; a case of the government letting the public know what it intends to do. Aside from consultation with medical and senior care personnel and the town's HAC, there has been minimal consultation with the community at large.

The now vacant Dawson Health Care Centre will be demolished in May. The Yukon government commissioned a hazardous material building assessment from Golder Associates Ltd. Their investigation of the building showed the materials to have asbestos in samples from the drywall joint compound throughout the building. There is approx. 17,000 sq. ft. of drywall. Asbestos was also found in pipe insulation, sheet flooring, exterior caulking, and light fixtures. In addition to the asbestos there was other hazardous material found, including:

- Ballasts containing PCB's
- Misc. chemicals. (removed by H&SS)
- Fluorescent bulbs and thermostats containing mercury.

Graphics: from screen shots of the architect's presentation.



West side drawing, showing new lodge and new hospital
Courtesy Dan Davidson uffish@northwestel.net (In Dawson)



North View rendering
Courtesy Dan Davidson uffish@northwestel.net (In Dawson)



The overhead site view.

There will be a second Live at the Palace season

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

April 10, 2014

The Dawson City Arts Society met for its AGM in the Oddfellows Hall ballroom on March 27. The meeting was well attended, with over two dozen people in the audience and at the board table.

Executive director Karen Dubois told the assembled membership that over 10,000 people attended events created or sponsored by the Klondike Institute of Arts and Culture (KIAC) during the last year.

“Highlights included the increasingly well subscribed Youth Art Enrichment Program (YAEP); the diverse films screened at the 14th Dawson International Short Film Festival; wonderful concerts with high-profile musicians like Chad Van Gaalen and Kelly Lee Evans; the well-attended Yukon Riverside Arts Festival with exhibits ranging from Sarah Fuller’s Homecoming Installation at Bear Creek and Paul Griffith’s Welcome Stranger in the ODD Gallery; to the ever-popular Members’ show at the Confluence Gallery in the Yukon School of Visual Arts.”

There were new programs as well, including a critically successful Live at the Palace Grand season, and the Saturday Dawson Artists’ Market, both of which were made possible by the Tr’ondëk Hwëch’in’s Regional Economic Development plan. The second season of the Print and Publishing Symposium was held at the Dawson Daily News Building with the assistance of both Parks Canada and the Dawson Community Library.

In addition to running its own diverse programming, DCAS has a presence on the governing council of Yukon School of Visual Arts (YSOVA) and is also represented on the Klondike Development Organization.

Dubois announced that there will be a second season of Live at the Palace Grand this coming summer and that YTG funding has been obtained to hire a producer for this series of shows.

The Artists’ Market will also continue, but this year it will be driven by volunteer organizers from within the artistic community.

“This is my fourth AGM where I said we should just keep on doing what we’re doing because we’re getting stretched – and yet we took on two new projects,” said President Peter Menzies. “Somehow the organization manages to do a little more. This year it’s the Palace Grand and the Artists’ Market.”

In 2013 the YAEP added a fourth workshop and still had to turn away over 20 applicants – enough for a fifth group.

Menzies, who also teaches at Robert Service School, sees programs like YAEP and the Rural Experiential Model of week-long intensive workshops piloted by Yukon Education last fall as being natural events that might interest students in trying out the first year fine arts program at YSOVA.

Menzies likes to talk about the “cultural cluster” of events that take place in Dawson around music, art and performance, and remains excited about the way that DCAS and KIAC, as its program arm, plugs into all of these areas and has partnerships with so many other groups in the town.

Dubois was keen on both new and older programs.

“I felt the Riverside Art Festival was really exceptional last year. It’s like it’s really taking wings; it’s becoming something that people want to come to Dawson for. The Print and Publishing Symposium has added so much to (the festival). We had an experimental music stage on the YSOVA building. We moved the workshops inside and having the big concert on the Saturday night was great, as was the Grand Old Soapbox on Sunday. It just seemed to me to be well organized and very exciting.”

DCAS ran in the red to the tune of about \$138,000 this year, but when you realize that nearly \$136,000 of that was caused by the amortization of assets, this was actually an improvement over last year’s financial position.

During elections Peter Menzies, Pat Habiluk and Gail Calder were reelected to the board, joining Helen Bowie, Marion Dale, Mark Moore, Teresa Conkin, Rose Hebert and Lulu Keating, who still had half of their two-year terms to complete.

The executive remains the same: Peter Menzies - President, Gail Calder - Vice President, Pat Habiluk - Treasurer, Rose Hebert - Secretary.

ODD Gallery committee elections selected Veronica Verkley, Erica Barta, Diego Martin, Janice Cliff, Justine Hobbs and Meg Walker who join Dan Sokolowski, Ange Bonnici, Curtis Collins and Kerry Barber on that committee. .



DCAS Table. – board members Teresa Conkin, Mark Moore, Pat Habiluk, Gail Calder, Peter Menzies, Lulu Keating, Rose Hebert and Helen Bowie.
Photo courtesy Dan Davidson uffish*northwestel.net (In Dawson)

Feast held to honour commemorative bowl project

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

April 10, 2014

From 1920 until 1952 St. Paul's Hostel existed as a place for children of mixed racial heritage to live while they were attending the Dawson Public School. These children were neither native nor non-native in the eyes of the government. They were not scooped up by the residential school system, but the school in Dawson was the only one in the territory they were allowed to attend, so Bishop Isaac Stringer established this residence for them.

Located on what is now an empty lot between the Dawson Daycare and St. Paul's Thrift Shop, the building was originally the Samaritan Hospital, and was expanded to meet the needs of some 40 children at its peak. By the time it closed in 1952 the number had dropped to 9 and the building was deteriorating.

As part of the Truth and Reconciliation Commissions work related to the Residential School problems, a social commemorative bronze bowl has been created by a group of native artists. 139 of these bowls will be distributed to communities throughout Canada and one will be arriving in Dawson sometime later this season.

Emcee Chris Clarke explained that the recipient communities were required to have a community ceremony to explain the purpose of the bowls before the end of March, and so the last day of the month was chosen for a feast at the Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in Community Hall.

Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in and the community of Dawson have already held a number of events related to the Residential Schools issue, the most recent having been a special ceremony at the Robert Service School last year, after which a plaque bearing the Prime Minister's Apology was mounted in the school foyer, and the TH flag was mounted in the school gymnasium.

The Dawson Public School burned in 1957 and the current Robert Service School is the second successor institution since that time.

At a later date, Clarke said, there will be a commemorative plaque containing the names of all the students who had to leave Dawson to go to school, mostly at the Chooutla School near Carcross. The plaque will be placed at Moosehide.

Clarke outlined the basic history of the hostel and the commemorative marker project, which produced the design for the bowl, which will be cast in bronze. The outer rim of the bowl is carved in a braided design, while the inner rim contains a variety of images.

"Within a week they created the bowl. They were inspired by conversations with former students as well as archival research. It was designed to be an object in the community that could be used."

Just how the bowl will eventually be used in the community is a subject that will be determined at a later time.



Bowl.

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



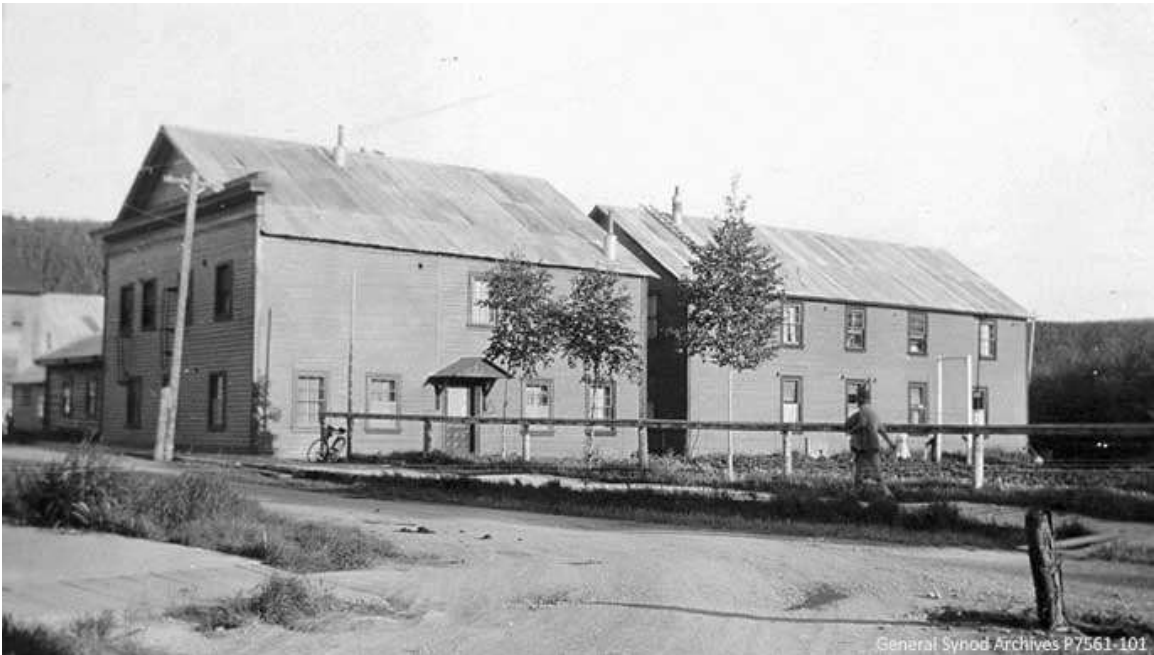
Chris Clark.jpg

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



Memorial feast

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



St Paul's Hostel.

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

Casino could have a 30 year life once it is approved

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

April 10, 2014

The Casino Mine project is owned by Western Copper and Gold Corporation and is located on land that is accessible only by air, about 130 km west of Pelly Crossing. It is on Crown Land and on Traditional Territories. While Casino currently has a signed agreement with the Selkirk First Nation, the company is anxious to be on good terms with the Little Salmon/Carmacks First Nation and the Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in.

Therefore, Claudia Riveros was on hand to present the project at the recent TH Mining Career Fair.

Riveros indicated that the exploration phase of the mine planning has ended, including baseline studies, mineral resource and road access evaluations, and a feasibility study. At this point \$43 million has been invested in the project.

The years 2014 to 2015 will see the company moving through the review processes with YESAB, the various governments and the Yukon Territorial Water Board.

Once that process is completed the work plan is to spend four years preparing the mine and putting the infrastructure in place. The current mine life is estimated at 22 years, after which a further seven years will be taken up with closure, decommissioning and post-closure activities.

This is a multi-metal project and Casino expects to recover gold, silver, copper and molybdenum. The gold can be recovered in a heap leech operation but the other metals will be processed in an on-site concentrator, which will separate the metals for shipment, with access to the Klondike Highway being on a haul road that will exit near Carmacks.

The plant will be powered by two gas turbine generators, complete with heat recovery boilers and a single steam driven generator, and internal combustion engine driven generators for a total installed generation capacity of 150 MW. Liquefied natural gas ("LNG") will be imported to the site and gasified to provide natural gas to fuel the power generation plant.

A big part of Riveros' pitch to students and locals concerned the potential for jobs which she noted would run from entry level through skilled and offer opportunities for those with technical, trades or university training. There could be up to 600 people at the camp, working in bi-weekly shifts while living in the camp facilities, flying in and out.

She encouraged students to think in terms of career planning.

“Whether you're twelve or forty-five ... if you plan a career, it helps your personal growth. Over 20 years ago I started as a geologist, and now I'm in communications. It sounds very detached, but when I look back at my career path, I see a very rewarding connection of dots, so I speak to the value of planning your career.”



Claudia Riveros spoke at the TH Mining Career Fair.
Photo courtesy Dan Davidson uffish@northwestel.net (In Dawson)



The Casino camp – from the corporate website.
Courtesy Dan Davidson uffish@northwestel.net (In Dawson)

Golden Predator flies again at Brewery Creek

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

April 11, 2014

Golden Predator is back and once again aiming to reopen the mine at Brewery Creek. Just months after signing an economic development agreement with the Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in in 2012, the company was denied its application to begin production at the mine by running on the former Viceroy mining plan while developing further plans for expanded operations here.

Shortly after that ruling in early 2013, Golden Predator changed its corporate name from to Americas Bullion Royalty Corp. and restructured its operations to deal mostly in royalties.

Now, just over a year later, Golden Predator is back, emerging as a company spun out of the ABR nest and returning to its stated brand goal of being the “Yukon’s premier gold company by discovering, developing and bringing into production quality reserves in a safe, profitable and socially responsible manner.”

In looking at the Brewery Creek property chief geologist Mike Burke told his audience at the Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in's Mining Careers Fair on April 3, the company is working at a proven resource site which only ever shut down when it did because the price of gold was too low at the time.

It has, he said, already been proven that a heap leach recovery plan can work safely there and that the site can be rehabilitated once the mining stops.

Since 2009, Golden Predator has put \$30 million into exploration at the site and has expanded the possible resources there by about 500%.

“Mining builds communities,” he said, “and communities build the Yukon. We’re going to be Golden Predator again so don’t throw out your hats and coats.”

He said the restructured Golden Predator, combining the assets of several smaller companies (Redtail Metals and Northern Tiger Resources) is well positioned to be profitable. The focus of the company is on Brewery Creek to begin with. Though it has other assets, this is one with the most immediate potential.

The YESAB decision that drove the company into hibernation delayed the reopening of the mine by about two years, Burke said, but the current goal is to be in operation in startup mode by 2016 with the first gold bars being poured in 2018. The revised proposal to the YESAB executive committee will be ready this coming August.

“We want to support the local economic development of the Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in and its citizens, achieve successful environmental screening, licensing and permitting and reopen our mine,” he said.

The mine site is about 55 km from Dawson, with an access road just a few kilometres up the Dempster Highway.

There won't be a lot of employment opportunities this coming summer as consultants will be used to finish the YESAB submission, but once things get going the agreement with TH specifies 50%+ TH employment at the mine. Burke encouraged people to think along those lines when doing their own career planning.

He displayed several statistical charts to demonstrate that Dawson had benefitted in terms of employment, numbers of jobs in the town and average salaries when Viceroy was operating the mine and suggested that there would be a similar bump once Golden Predator reopened.

There were also about 100 more students at the Robert Service School during those years.

He emphasized that work at a mine can be obtained by people with all levels of education from high school through to university.

“Hopefully some of the things you see there,” he said, pointing to an occupations chart, “kinda turns your crank and makes you want to get out there and inspires you to pursue something.

“What we want to do is provide a place for your young folks to come back to. It's one thing sending your kids away. You want them to come home, but you don't want them to live in a basement. You want them to find a good job ... a good career.

“So it's 'jobs, jobs, jobs' – a Shawn Ryan phrase that I stole – that's what we hope to provide. We've provided quite a few in the past here.”

He conceded that it's been a bit of a dry spell for the last couple of years, but forecast that there would be more productive times ahead.



Mike Burke speaks at the TH Mining Careers Fair.
Photo courtesy Dan Davidson uffish@northwestel.net (In Dawson)



The Brewery Creek site – from the company's website.
Courtesy Dan Davidson uffish@northwestel.net (In Dawson)

WATCHES – something we all take for granted now.

I thought this was an interesting story. My father, Harold Parker, worked for the CN Railway, used to have a watch like this one. I can remember hearing him wind it up and set it on his night table just before he went to bed at night.

We were taught when we were kids to never touch dads' watch. If we wanted to see it we had to ask him and we could watch him winding it up. He also taught us how to tell the time when we looked at a watch.

These are things people just take for granted, but, not a lot of people had their own personal watch to wear when we were kids.

Rusty Reid rustyreid.yukon@gmail.com (In Penticton – Marsh Lake for the summer)

Sears & Roebuck

If you were in the market for a watch in 1880, would you know where to get one? You would go to a store, right? Well, of course you could do that, but if you wanted one that was cheaper and a bit better than most of the store watches, you went to the train station! Sound a bit funny?

Well, for about 500 towns across the northern United States, that's where the best watches were found.

Why were the best watches found at the train station?

The railroad company wasn't selling the watches, not at all.

The telegraph operator was. Most of the time the telegraph operator was located in the railroad station because the telegraph lines followed the railroad tracks from town to town.

It was usually the shortest distance and the right-of-ways had already been secured for the rail line.

Most of the station agents were also skilled telegraph operators and that was the primary way that they communicated with the railroad. They would know when trains left the previous station and when they were due at their next station and it was the telegraph operator who had the watches. As a matter of fact, they sold more of them than almost all the stores combined for a period of about 9 years.

This was all arranged by "Richard", who was a telegraph operator himself. He was on duty in the North Redwood, Minnesota train station one day when a load of watches arrived from the East. It was a huge crate of pocket watches. No one ever came to claim them.

So Richard sent a telegram to the manufacturer and asked them what they wanted to do with the watches.

The manufacturer didn't want to pay the freight back, so they wired Richard to see if he could sell them. So Richard did.

He sent a wire to every agent in the system asking them if they wanted a cheap, but good, pocket watch. He sold the entire case in less than two days and at a handsome profit. That started it all. He ordered more watches from the watch company and encouraged the telegraph operators to set up a display case in the station offering high quality watches for a cheap price to all the travelers. It worked!

It didn't take long for the word to spread and, before long; people other than travelers came to the train station to buy watches. Richard became so busy that he had to hire a professional watch maker to help him with the orders. That was Alvah Roebuck & Richard Sears. And the rest is history as they say.

The business took off and soon expanded to many other lines of dry goods. Richard and Alvah Roebuck left the train station and moved their company to Chicago -- and it's still there. Yes it's a little known fact that for a while in the 1880's, the biggest watch retailer in the country was at the train station. It all started with a telegraph operator: **Richard Sears**.



Bet You Didn't Know That!!!
Now that's History!!!!

RCMP need public help in locating Slokan Park's Elena Popoff

by Nelson Daily Staff on 17 Apr 2014

Elena Popoff . . . missing since Tuesday. Elena Popoff . . . missing since Tuesday.

Slokan Park RCMP are asking for public assistance in finding a woman missing since Tuesday (April 15).

Elena Popoff, 64 has not been seen or heard from since being confirmed to be in the Trail area Tuesday.

Slokan Park RCMP said Popoff attended some appointments in the Silver City but has not returned home.

RCMP added Popoff regularly stays in contact with friends and family.

When last seen, Popoff was driving a gray Nissan pathfinder with BC license plate 210 TMD.

The Slocan Park woman is approximately 5'5" and weighs 135 pounds with brown hair, brown eyes and wears glasses.

If anyone sees Popoff they are asked to contact the Slocan Lake detachment at 250-358-2222 or Crimestoppers at 1-800-222-TIPS (8477).

Popoff is the third person to go missing in the West Kootenay in the past couple of weeks.

Tyler Sheriff went missing earlier this week but was located on Friday evening (April 18).

A Nelson woman was reported missing in early April but unfortunately was found deceased by Search and Rescue (Friday) April 11 near the Burlington Northern Rail bed on the way to Troup Junction.



Elena Popoff

Elena Popoff, 64, went missing on April 15. Her body was found in the Columbia River three days later.— image credit: Nelson Star file photo

Recovered body confirmed as Slocan Park woman

by Staff Writer - Nelson Star

posted May 9, 2014 at 10:00 AM— updated May 9, 2014 at 12:01 PM

Elena Popoff, 64, went missing on April 15. Her body was found in the Columbia River three days later. - Nelson Star file photo Elena Popoff, 64, went missing on April 15. Her body was found in the Columbia River three days later.— image credit: Nelson Star file photo

The BC Coroner's Service confirms a body recovered from the Columbia River near the Trail airport last month was that of a missing Slocan Park woman.

Elena Popoff, 64, was last seen in the Trail area on April 15. RCMP said she had some appointments there but never returned home, which was unusual as she normally stayed in contact with friends and family.

Her body was found three days later in a shallow shore area of the river about one kilometer from the airport. A vehicle was located nearby.

Foul play has been ruled out. The coroner is still investigating.

Note: Elena was a MocTel subscriber from pretty well the beginning. I am so sorry to hear of her death. – Sherron Jones

POPOFF, Fritz & Elena (formerly SOUKOROFF) [popoff47*columbiawireless.ca](mailto:popoff47@columbiawireless.ca) (In Whitehorse 1973–1995. Tagish 1995–Apr.04) Slocan Park BC

What's In a Name – Exhibit Text (shared by Whitehorse Museum)

The Yukon has a rich history. That history is reflected in the names on many of the territory's highway signs—the names of Yukon's towns, villages, and capital city. This exhibit explores how 15 of Yukon's communities got their names.

Yukon

The Yukon region got its name from its most impressive geographical feature—the river. The name "Yukon" was first documented by Hudson's Bay Company trader John Bell, who explored the area for new trade routes in 1846. In letters to HBC officers, he called the river Youcon, which was his version of the Loucheaux (Gwitchin) word Yughoo meaning "Great River," according to Coutts. Some contemporary linguists refute this version of the history, and believe the origin of the word Yukon is unclear. Despite its uncertain etymology, the Yukon was considered part of the North Western Territory until 1895, when it was made a separate district within what is now known as the Northwest Territories. With the passing of the Yukon Act in 1898, it became the "Yukon Territory," and amendments to the act in 2003 officially changed the name from the "Yukon Territory" to "Yukon." Nearly two centuries of history and lore have built the word Yukon into something legendary. Stories like Robert Service's *The Cremation of Sam McGee* and Jack

London's White Fang have cemented Yukon's reputation as a wild and off-beat land in the minds of readers worldwide.

Burwash Landing

The settlement of Burwash Landing began in 1904, by the Jacquot brothers who discovered gold in nearby Burwash Creek. The name Burwash was in honour of their friend, Lachlin Taylor Burwash, the Mining Recorder at Silver City.

Burwash himself was born in Cobourg, Ontario, in 1874. His graduation from the University of Toronto with a degree in mining engineering coincided with the discovery of Klondike gold, and headed north to the Yukon, where his expertise could be applied. He was appointed Mining Recorder in Stewart City in 1900, and then at Silver City in 1903. He later became Government Mining Engineer and Mines Inspector for the Yukon Territory.

During the First World War, Burwash served in the 1st Pioneer Battalion and rose to the rank of Major.

In the 1920s and 1930s, Burwash explored the Canadian Arctic and reported on living conditions of northern aboriginal peoples. He was also the first person to take aerial photographs of the magnetic north pole. He died in 1940.

Info- "This settlement began in 1904, shortly after the discovery of gold on Burwash Creek by the brothers Eugene and Louis Jacquot, who were from Alsace-Lorraine in France. It was a supply center, serviced by boat, for the miners on the various creeks in the district. The brothers named it after their friend, the Mining Recorder at Silver City, Lachlin Taylor Burwash."

Carcross

In the late 1800s, Carcross was known as Caribou Crossing because of the large herds of caribou which crossed the narrows between Lake Bennett and Nares Lake twice a year on their annual migration.

The White Pass & Yukon Route company formally established the town in 1899 to maintain the rail line and connect freight and passengers to Atlin and points around the lake via sternwheelers.

In 1903, Bishop Bompas petitioned the Dominion government to change the name of the community to Carcross because of the confusion in mail services due to the duplication of names in Alaska and British Columbia, as well as in the Klondike.

In 1904, Caribou Crossing was officially renamed Carcross.

Carmacks

Originally hailing from California, George Washington Carmack found himself in the Yukon in the mid-1880s. While he is better known as one of the co-discoverers of the gold that triggered the Klondike Gold Rush of 1898, Carmack was trying his luck before then. In 1893 he found a seam of coal near Five Finger Rapids where he built a cabin and set-up a trading post, which is where present day Carmacks has its origins. As for George Carmack, he was a miner to the bone. As he reported to the Dawson Daily News in 1922, "It just gets in your blood. Although I don't go out into the hills like a used to, I'd be lost if I dropped mining."

Info "In 1893, George Washington Carmack found a seam of coal near Five Finger Rapids and another near Tantalus Butte. He built a cabin there while he tried to develop the coal and carried on a certain amount of fur trading with the local [First Nation]. This was the beginning of present day Carmacks. The settlement grew and became a riverboat stop during the Gold Rush and later a supply point for various mining operations in the district."

Carmack went on to co-discover the gold on Rabbit Creek, later re-named Bonanza Creek, which would start the Klondike Gold Rush of 1897-9.

Dawson City

In its heyday, Dawson City was considered the "Paris of the North" and was named in 1897 after a man who actually never set foot in the town, Dr. George Mercer Dawson.

In 1887, Dawson, along with William Ogilvie, organized and headed the first survey of the Yukon Territory. This is particularly impressive as he contracted Pott's disease (tuberculosis of the spine) as a boy, which left him in poor health for the rest of his life and resulted in him never growing bigger than a 12-year old. Nevertheless, Dawson performed some of the most arduous surveys ever attempted in Canada. He also studied and documented the cultures of the different First Nations he encountered whilst working, which earned him the title of the Father of Canadian Anthropology. Dawson rose through the ranks of the Geological and Natural History Survey of Canada to become the Director in 1895, a position he held until his death in 1901.

Destruction Bay

An ill wind brought some good in the case of Destruction Bay, or at least where the community's name is concerned. The community started as a camp for U.S. Army Engineers who were working on the construction of the Alaska-Canadian Highway in 1942. Once the camp was completed, high winds ripped through which destroyed most of the buildings, hence the name Destruction Bay.

Faro

Today, the gambling card game of faro isn't played very much, but during the Gold Rush it was a favourite. Requiring only two decks of cards, faro was a quick game with rules that were easy to learn. This popular card game probably served as the namesake for the community.

Info "The game of faro is an old and simple gambling game played throughout the early west. It was probably applied to the town by Dr. Aro Aho after the name of the first claims staked on the ore body."

Haines Junction

During the construction of the Alaska-Canadian Highway in 1942, a road was built at Mile 1016 that would run south and west to Alaska. This was part of the wartime effort of the United States government to increase the transportation of supplies from the United States to Alaska. At this junction, a settlement began, comprising of shops and Army Engineer barracks. The settlement took its name from the community at the end of the road, Haines, Alaska, which in turn was named in honour of Francine E. Haines, one of the first missionaries to visit the area in 1879.

Mayo

The town of Mayo is named after Captain Alfred Henry Mayo, a prospector, trader and riverboat captain. Mayo was born in Maine, and as a young man with a slim build, he earned his living as a circus acrobat. He came to the Yukon in the 1870s, and alongside with Jack McQuesten and Arthur Harper, operated trading posts along the Yukon River. In 1887, when Mayo was operating a trading post at the mouth of the Stewart River, Ogilvie named the Mayo River after him, on the suggestion of Alexander MacDonald. The settlement that started at the confluence of the Stewart and Mayo rivers took its name from the Mayo River.

Old Crow

Old Crow is situated at the confluence of the Porcupine and Crow Rivers above the Arctic Circle. The location was near caribou hunting grounds, and it was a traditional fishing site for generations of the Vuntut Gwitchin. In the early 1900s people started to settle there, and they named the area, river and the mountain in honour of their ancestor, Chief Deetru` K`avihdik, or Chief Crow May I Walk.

Pelly Crossing

In 1840, Robert Campbell of the Hudson's Bay Company was striving to establish the actual course of the Yukon River. When he came upon what was to become Pelly River, he decided to name the river and surrounding bluffs after the Governor of the Hudson's Bay Company of the time, Sir John Henry Pelly. Described as a, "clever and cordial man who found making money something of an intellectual challenge" , Pelly overturned the Company's policy concerning exploring the Arctic, which helped to radically increase activity in Canada's north. When Campbell reported his discoveries to Pelly, the Governor responded with the suggestion that Campbell name his discoveries after himself instead. Campbell declined, but came to regret this later in life.

Ross River

In 1843, Robert Campbell of the Hudson's Bay Company (HBC) voyaged down the Pelly River. He named a number of the tributaries that flowed into the Pelly, including one named for the Chief Factor of the HBC at the time, Donald Ross.

Donald Ross started working for the HBC in 1816 and he moved through the ranks, becoming a clerk in 1822, was appointed a chief trader in 1829 of the major trading post, Norway House, in Manitoba. By 1843, he had been appointed the Chief Factor and was responsible for several posts all within one department. Although he was able to move up through the ranks, not all employees of the HBC were able to do so. Measures were put into place to restrict the advancement of employees who were of First Nation descent, or 'Native sons'. Ross despised this attitude, and was vocal in his belief that any locally born employee was equal to any hired men sent by the London Committee in England.

Tagish

Located between the Tagish River and Marsh Lake, the site of present-day Tagish was a gathering place in the 19th century for different families to come together to trade and to observe the seasons' celebrations. The word Tagish, in the Tagish language, pertains to the sound of the spring break-up of the ice on the river.

Teslin

Teslin is found by Teslin Lake, a long, narrow lake that stretches for 148 kilometers between British Columbia and southeast Yukon. The shape of this lake was described by the Inland Tlingit word as *tás ten*, or "long sewing sinew". This transformed into Teslin, which is the name of the village on the lake shore that was permanently settled in the early 1940s.

Watson Lake

Sources differ as to who Frank Watson was, the man who gave his name to the lake that the town of Watson Lake is situated by. Some accounts say he came from Lake Tahoe in California, prospecting in the Klondike before heading south in to the upper Liard River district. Others describe him as a Yorkshireman from England, who was headed in 1897 to the Klondike from Edmonton but along the way, disillusioned by the challenge of fighting his way over unmapped terrain, decided to settle where he had found himself, the upper Liard River district. Here the differing accounts merge. He built a home on the shore of Fish Lake, which became known as Watson Lake, where he raised a family while trapping and prospecting in the surrounds areas.

Whitehorse

The rapids below Miles Canyon were turbulent, with white-capped waves that were said to resemble the manes of white horses. The end of the rapids was a natural resting place, and by 1887, the name White Horse was in common use for the site. A settlement began, taking its name from the rapids. Though if the White Pass and Yukon Route Company had had its way, Whitehorse would have been named Closeleigh, in honour of the company's financiers, the Close brothers. The local residents did not approve of this name, and in 1900, White Horse became the official name of the town. The spelling remained as two words until 1957, when the Geographic Board of Canada combined them to the current name, Whitehorse.

OBIT



William (Bill) Simpson

December 22, 1933 - June 11, 2014

Bill left his family and friends peacefully after a struggle with heart disease. Missing him are Diana, wife of 54 years, son Stuart (Christine) of Atlin BC, son Doug (Kim) of Medicine Hat, AB, and Susan (Kevin) of Medicine Hat AB, 9 grandchildren and 3 great grandchildren. The family wishes to give sincere thanks to; Dr. Buchanan, Dr. Barnes, the staff at the hospital, Home Care and all of the many friends that have been so kind.

In lieu of flowers, a donation to the Heart & Stroke foundation would be appreciated.

A memorial service will be held starting at 2:00 p.m. June 15, 2014 in the Grey Mountain Room at Mt. McIntyre Recreation Centre located at 1 Sumanik Drive in Whitehorse, Yukon. We hope you stay for refreshments and visiting afterwards.



Beryl Joyce Gourlie

July 29, 1930 - June 11, 2014

We will be having a Life Appreciation Service for Joyce Gourlie on Tuesday, June 17th at 1:30 p.m.

The Service will be held on Crocus Cove at Copper Ridge Place, all are very welcome to attend. If anyone would like to speak or are willing to read a poem, please let Kathryn Watson from Copper Ridge Place know.

We're going to miss this lovely lady with the big heart. For those of you who knew her stories, "Jumper Boy" will not be invited.

**Word in from Rusty Reid that Claire Festel passed away June 10, 2014 in Penticton.
(1957 – 2014)**

FESTEL, Claire [clairefestel*me.com](mailto:clairefestel@me.com) (In Whitehorse & Elsa 33 years) Penticton



Author Claire Festel Awarded the Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal Thursday, May 29, 2014

Claire Festel **Harbour Publishing** would like to congratulate author Claire Festel for being presented with a Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee medal on June 8, 2013. She was presented the medal, an award for significant achievements by Canadians, in recognition of her contributions to the Yukon.

Festel's latest contribution was her book *Remarkable Yukon Women*, which paints a picture of what life is really like for women in the Yukon. When the Hon. Doug Phillips, Commissioner of the Yukon, presented the Diamond Jubilee medal, he said "The only remarkable Yukon woman missing from the book of the same name was its author, Claire Festel."

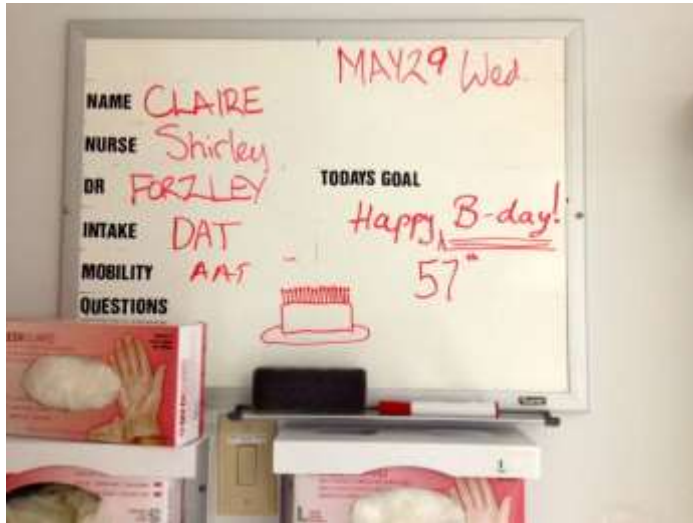
Throughout her lifetime, Festel has lived as a true Yukoner: canoeing, hiking and flying to remote destinations and working as a labourer, trapper, writer and journalist. She served as Executive Director for the Tourism Industry Association, Chair of the Heritage Resources Board and volunteered for the Yukon Quest sled dog race. Two days before she was awarded the medal, Festel and 29 of the 50 women featured in her book attended a tea where they presented a donation to Karen's Fund, a legacy that provides financial assistance to women undergoing treatment for breast cancer, to celebrate the connection between women and their community.

FROM CLAIRE FESTEL'S ONLINE BLOG:

Happy Birthday to Me!

By Claire Festel,

Penticton, May 29, 2014



Linda drew the cake, Carroll wrote the wishes and Ken brought fresh hot coffee!

Today I turn 57, born in the year 1957. That is supposed to be auspicious I think. I know for sure I have a good life to celebrate and I'm doing it with an open heart. Because three-four days ago, I almost lost my life.

On May 13, I went to my monthly oncology appointment for a report on the status of my multiple myeloma. I'd been under so much stress since Ed was diagnosed with MM [Multiple Myeloma] in March that I felt weak, exhausted and anaemic. The results of the blood tests showed I was all of those. Plus, the chemo was no longer effective and I had one option left – a newly released chemo regime that had been through clinical trials and approved for compassionate reasons for patients where two types of chemo had failed working. The prognosis is short-term. I wanted to see my Mom and Gaspe family and my oncologist said probably the best time to do that was while he was processing the chemo regime.

On May 17, I flew to Gaspe. Was fine when flew but I had two uncontrollable nosebleeds the following two days. Day 4, I went to Gaspe hospital emergency for a blood test figuring I needed hemoglobin but that level was fine. More serious, my platelet level was borderline.

However Gaspe Hospital is so small they do not store platelets and would only order them if I had another uncontrolled bleed. Then it would take two days to get the platelets or they would have to fly me to Quebec City. The doctor recommended I return back to Penticton early.

Stella decided to fly back with me – thank the Universe for giving me her as a sister although each of my sisters and sisters-in law would have also stepped up to come with me. Back home in Penticton, Edi and our friend Ingrid (staying with him to help out), were very worried.

We decided to come back Sunday instead of Monday. I made it to Penticton airport in one piece but at high cost. I am still at the ICU in Penticton Regional Hospital. Thankfully I am in recovery and awaiting release once I am stabilized.



My Mom and Me.

When we left Gaspé I was feeling weak. Stella had a wheel chair lined up in Quebec City and for every stop west.

That leg I vomited in Quebec City. We checked with a doctor and he recommended we go on but to stop if there was any active bleeding. All ok. In Toronto I vomited once en route to Vancouver but slept most of the way. Stella was very worried. I was too out of it to know.

In Vancouver I felt woozy, light headed, nauseous and unsteady. I started to get a searing headache that was like a sharp knife going from my right temple arching over the top of my head to the left.

We talked with an Air Canada official. He could call a medic who would come within 30 minutes, but the clinic was closed. By this time, I was vomiting blood.

Stella and I considered our options. We would be in Penticton at Emergency in about the same amount of time as it would take to get to a Vancouver hospital. We did not know the risk I was taking with the compression and altitude changes.

We decided to fly to Penticton. Ed would be waiting with a vehicle to take me to Emergency at PRH while Ingrid and Stella waited for the bags.

PRH was excellent. They admitted me and within one hour had done a blood test and CT scan. They were pumping me with hemoglobin, IV, platelets, drugs for nausea and headache. I was out of it. Ed went home at 11:30 pm. In the middle of the night the Emerg doctor ordered two extra bags of platelets from Kelowna which arrived 1.5 hours later and they administered them to me.

At midnight the emergency doctor called Ed at home and explained the situation. You can imagine how shattered he was.

The low platelets had caused a spontaneous haemorrhage in the layers between the skull on the left side of the brain. The doctors were concerned about a build-up of cranial pressure. They stabilized

it by stabilizing me with platelets, pain medication, anti-nausea meds, and hemoglobin. It was an all-out effort on their part. They saved my life on Sunday/Monday.

It's Thursday today and I'm still in hospital under observation. Feeling like I'm back in the land of the living but very fragile. I probably won't get back to you individually but please know I appreciate every message. My desire to live and to recover is surging through me with the strength of much love and optimism – after all, it IS my birthday on May 29.

REMOVED FROM THE LIST

Stan Marinoske – removed by request

Leona Marinoske

Bob Jacobs – removed by request

Eleana Popoff – passed away

Claire Festel – passed away

THOUGHT OF THE WEEK

Everybody is like a magnet. You attract to yourself reflections of that which you are. If you're friendly then everybody else seems to be friendly too.

RECIPE OF THE WEEK

This Recipe is from Anne O'Brien...Lived and taught in the Yukon for Years...as did her Husband.. Brian. – Sent in by Gillian Campbell.

Welsh Cakes

Recipe makes about 20. Can double.

Ingredients

1½ cups flour

½ teasp salt

½ teasp baking powder

½ cup sugar

1 egg

2 Tbsp

OJ (more or less)

½ cup currants or other dried fruit

Method

Sift dry ingredients.

Cut in butter to make a mealy mixture.

Add egg. Mix.

Add OJ just to bind.

Add currants, mix well.

Roll to ¼ inch thick, cut w. 3" cutter.

Cook in lightly greased frying pan, 3-4 mins per side till lightly browned.

Welsh Biscuits (OES Cookbook) Maribeth Mainer.. gave this to me. – Gillian

4 c. all-purpose flour (I also add 1/3 c. cornmeal but that is optional)

4 tsp. baking powder

1 tsp. salt

1 c. sugar

1 c. shortening, margarine or butter (cold)

1 c. currants (or raisins or dried blueberries)

1 c. milk

2 eggs

Stir dry ingredients together. Cut in cold shortening until lumps size of peas or smaller. Add dried fruit. Mix milk and eggs together in separate cup or bowl; add to rest of mixture. Stir lightly, just until combined. Turn out on floured surface. Roll to ¼" thickness. Cut in rounds or rectangles. Bake in hot oven (425F) for 15 minutes or until light golden brown. Best eaten warm with butter but freeze well.

DATES TO REMEMBER

VANCOUVER YUKONERS' ASSOCIATION GENERAL MEETING

June 19, 2014

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 k29j32@gmail.com
604 819-7630

Okanagan Yukoners' Picnic
Summerland Ornamental Gardens
(June 22) Set-up at 11AM potluck at noon.
Bring your own Cutlery, Dishes and Beverage

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
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