

The Teslin Post

The Christmas Edition



Early last spring, the previous village council appeared on the verge of tearing down and removing the old hall. Community intervention stayed the execution. So what happens now?

Bonar Cooley's plan to save the Community Hall
(page 4)



Village of
Teslin

Gateway to the Southern Lakes



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Volume 1 Number 12



The On-line Teslin Post has just completed its first full year of operation. It was supposed to get easier each month. It hasn't. A big thank you to all those who do contribute. Gord Curran, Minnie Clark, Aunt Edie, Derek Baker, Robert Postma and Marg Garolitz all supplied great photos for the December issue.

I heard from Wes Wirth our former CAO. In response to comments about the Official Community Plan Wes writes, "Citizens and Council should amend what they don't like in the OCP to reflect current community values. It should be noted that ... the OCP was obtained through public input and I would think (it) is still valid. Council is not obliged to enact all that is in the OCP..only what they can afford and desire to do."

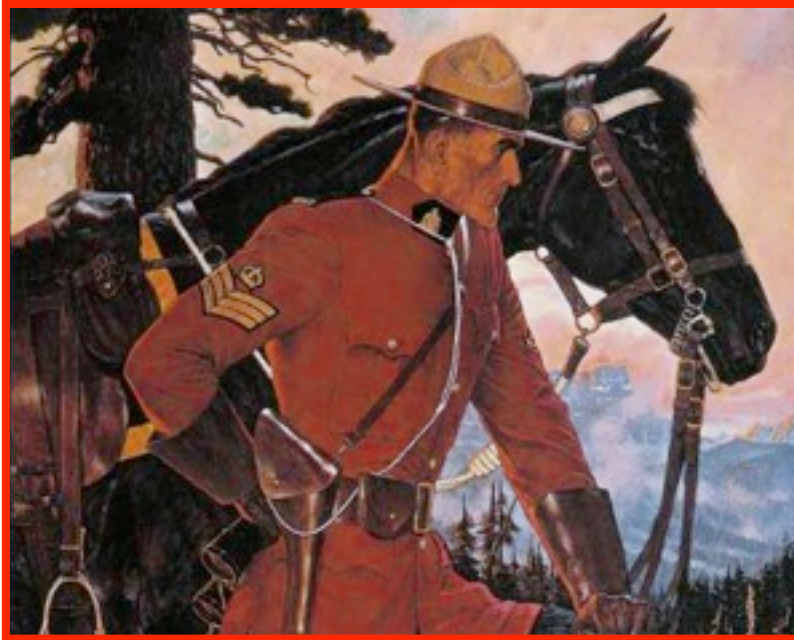
Wes also sends Holiday greetings and a heartfelt thank you for the send off last October. There you go...

Any suggestions, ideas, photos, or comments are always welcome. Drop off a note at the Village office or email me at: mhodgson@northwestel.net

Merry Christmas

Mike Hodgson

Editor



Shaun, Dean and Mike, of Teslin's RCMP Detachment, wish the entire community a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

"We watch for rolling stops"

Season's Greetings from your Teslin Posties, Jay and Trevor. We'd like to say, "Thank You!" to everyone for coming in to see us at the Post Office. It's been our pleasure to help you out, and certainly our pleasure to banter with you. We look forward to seeing you in the new year and wish everyone the best during the holiday season!



New Life for an Old Building?

Does the old community hall still have a place in Teslin? Bonar Cooley believes so — in fact he is going to village council on December 14 to convince our elected officials.

The building, he points out, was Teslin's Centennial project in 1967. It is the last true community-built structure. Teslin (which was still unincorporated at the time) had funding for building material approved by the government. When it became clear that the monies would be arriving too late the building season, a local citizen stepped up to the plate. The late Bob Fleming covered costs until the cheques arrived. Notables that gladly pounded nails and lifted logs included; Ray Douville, "Teddy Bear" Jackson, George Sidney, John Dewhurst, Harry Morris and many others. "Tiny" Kitchen supplied local logs from his mill down the bay.

Over the next twenty years, the community hall was the hub of the Teslin. Court, turkey shoots, bonspiels, movie nights, dances, club meetings, and much more depended on the building. Dorothy Jackson, it was recalled, ran the canteen for several years.

It was only in the late 1980's that the hall was sectioned up into office space and drifted into decline. Problems developed with the heating and sewer system. There was talk of mold being in the unfinished basement. However, the structure was believed sound.

So what does Bonar want to do? He says that it's an important building which needs to be preserved. With minimal alterations, the old hall can once again be functional. The gentleman sees it being two large rooms. One side could be a youth centre — the other side could be a general meeting area specifically aimed at seniors, SARs, and possibly the fire department.

Though the costs need further research, Bonar optimistically believes a figure of \$100,000 would not be unrealistic. The work, he feels, would be mostly deconstruction. Walls would be taken out and the basement filled in. A new heating system would be the only real "big ticket" item. Bonar understands that the tax payer would be footing a big chunk of the costs. However, there are revenue sources that could be explored. These include the new federal stimulus monies, both the Federal and territorial heritage departments, CDF, and lotteries. Who knows maybe our MLA could find some available funding.

There would be other considerations: Do we restore the outer building to the original log or stick with the yellow aluminum siding? The building currently sits at an odd angle to the other VOT structures. Should we look at moving the building to a better location?

Bonar Cooley will be meeting with the Village Council with his drawings; his figures; and his arguments for saving the structure. In the end it will depend on whether this is something that the community wants and can afford.



On behalf of Executive Council and TFC Citizens, I would like to extend Christmas greetings to all community members. It has been an interesting year full of changes in Teslin and we are looking forward to building on past successes and a prosperous future together. Gunalchish.

Peter Johnston

Chief Executive Officer

Teslin Tlingit Council

*The Village of Teslin
Mayor, Council & Staff
wish everyone a
Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!*

Just a few reminders over the Christmas holidays:

Village of Teslin Open House on Thursday December 17, 2009
10 a.m. -2 p.m.

Water delivery scheduled for Christmas Day will be delivered December 24,
2009

Regular Commercial Garbage Pickup for Friday will be
Thursday December 24, 2009

Everyone have a safe and fun filled holiday!

Christmas Holiday Hours

December 24, 2009 – Closed at 12:00 PM
December 25, 2009-December 28, 2009 – Closed
December 29, 2009 – December 30, 2009 – 8:00 AM – 5:00 PM
December 31, 2009 - Closed at 12:00 PM
January 1, 2010 – Closed
January 4, 2010 – Back to Regular hours 8 – 5 PM



House Concert at Morley Bay!

Dave Gunning was the featured performer at the Hett/Allan residence this past month. Mr Gunning proved to be a captivating troubadour. Hailing from Pictou County Nova Scotia, Dave's east coast roots came through in his wonderful songs and stories. Holy Darwin, the guy has even played stand-up base for Stompin' Tom Connors. Talk about mingling with living legends. The story of his audition for Tom's band was a crowd favourite. I can't remember any perspective employers ever asking me if I was one of those "fallsey downsey" kind of drinker.

Bottom line it was an excellent show and if you weren't there ... you should of been. Keep your eyes peeled for posters for the December/January event. Twenty bucks a head ... all the proceeds goes to the performer.





Immaculate Heart of Mary RC Church wishes you

A Happy and Joyous Christmas

You are invited to attend the Christmas Eve "Midnight Mass" at 11:30 PM

**Celebrant: Father Philip Kennedy
President of Catholic Missions in Canada**

**You are Cordially invited
to
St Phillips Anglican Church
Christmas Celebration
with
Sarah Usher
December 20th
1100 am**

Scripture readings in Tlingit & English



Stacey, Shelley and all the staff at Nisutlin Trading Post would like to wish a merry Christmas and happy new year to all.

Thank you for your support and we look forward to serving you in the coming year.

Best wishes to all



Road Kill

What you need to know about the law if you want to keep road kill from the Alaska Highway or other Yukon Highways?

In the YUKON: A person in possession of "found carcasses" is required by law to contact a conservation officer as soon as possible after taking possession of that wildlife.

A person may possess road killed wildlife **before** delivering this wildlife to a conservation officer. They must as soon as possible report this wildlife to a conservation officer who may issue a free Wildlife Act permit to possess it legally.

If you **do not** contact a conservation officer you are in illegal possession of this wildlife and thereby in contravention of the Wildlife Act.

Please Note: Not all wildlife can be returned to the public but in most cases the wildlife is returned.

If you have any questions or want to report "found carcasses" please contact us or leave a message at the Teslin Environment Office

867-390-2685 or 1-800-661-0525



"There is no better time to say thank you and to wish you and your family and friends a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New year.
May your holidays be happy and safe and may you have a year blessed with happiness, love and family.
Gu.àl shé hà s'atí yagìyí I jiyís wùk'è!"



Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Our wish is for a safe and wonderful New Year to you and yours. Gunalchish from Steve, Juanita, Kids and Staff at the Yukon Motel.

The Leader and Caucus of the Yukon New Democratic Party would like to wish all residents of Teslin a safe and happy holiday. At this time of year, we should all take a few moments to ponder how fortunate we are to live in this wonderful place called Yukon...

Merry Christmas to all,
Elizabeth, Todd and Steve



Merry Christmas to all of Teslin
from the
Staff and Students of Yukon College



The Elder's Christmas Dinner
December 2, 2009

Lots to eat... Lots of friends...
...and the fine fiddlin' of
Nicole Morgan and Joe Loutchan...
Who could ask for more?



Thanks to Ben Schonewille and all those
who made the 2009 Elders supper a
resounding success.

Merry Christmas to All

Trevor Sallis at the Teslin Library wishes every one a very merry Christmas. During the holiday season ... the Library hours are:

**December 22, 23, 24 (till 4:00)
Open Regular Hours
December 25 & 26 Closed
January 5 Back to normal Hours**

The library is having an open house on December 22 from 3:00 till 6:00 with all kinds of goodies. Come see Trevor's new fridge.



This holiday season, Yukoners are celebrating not only the festivities, but also bright skies and mild weather.

There is hoar frost on the trees and snow on the ground, and ice edging out from the banks of Yukon's rivers and lakes.

And, as the outdoors turn white, loved ones congregate in warm homes to reconnect, share stories from the past year, and revisit recipes steeped in affection and family tradition.

As we approach the holiday season, we are reminded not only of the blessings of friends and family but also those of living in a country and territory we love.

With best wishes for the season from the Yukon

Liberal Caucus and hope for a happy and fruitful New Year,
Arthur Mitchell
Leader, Yukon Liberal Party

Teslin Health Center



I am grateful to be working with sincerely and truly amazing people.

Carla Pshebylo has a work ethic second to none and keeps this place running smoothly.

Robert Postma has been working here 5 years helping many people through the night.

Claudia Huber has is our relief clerk and very easily steps in when Carla is away.

Darryl Kremer is rock-solid reliable. Sneaking into the health centre after hours ensuring everything is spotless, clean and our walkway is safe.

Julie Tipping has been mentoring with us since October. She brings a wealth of knowledge through formal Nurse Practitioner education and is catching on quickly to the "Yukon way".

Persa Kovich, Deb Chadwick, Barb Pollock—all relief nurses who've recently jumped in to provide health services when Robert or I am away.

Last but certainly not least **Teslin Ambulance volunteers**—these guys are amazing and I can't believe how far our ambulance crew has come in a few years.

Merry Christmas Everyone!

Hazel

Teslin Health Centre Holiday Schedule

December 24th walk-in clinic 8:30-11:30 am

December 25, 26, 27th closed.

December 28th re-open for walk in clinic 8:30-11:30 a.m.

Jan 1 closed

A nurse will be on-call throughout the holidays for emergencies.

Also for health information or advice call 811 from any phone in the Yukon 24 hours a day to speak with a registered nurse.



CAO Report - December 2009

by

Mike Drake

Sustainability Planning

A meeting was held with the Economic Development Plan steering committee on November 25, 2009. The Steering Committee has indicated to the contractor that a new focus may be required for the Plan a more local Plan was requested with very little regional emphasis. The contractor has agreed to come back to the Steering committee with a more local approach to the Plan.

Projects

EMO

The EMO coordinator is an important aspect of the CAO job. Continue to keep in touch with EMO on training; I will inform council once some formal training can be arranged.

Community Infrastructure

Community Recreation Complex

We have contacted an engineer to develop drawings/tender package for this work as recommended by Flaghill Woodworks. The engineer/architect has a less expensive solution for us to try this year. This has been discussed with Flaghill and they agree on this approach at this point in time.

Tender for the exercise room has been awarded to Flaghill Woodworks and the project has started. (90% CDF funded)

Municipal Centre

This building has quite a few heat loss issues that I am trying to remedy. From the most obvious things like putting plastic (heat shrink) over the interior windows that leak. To things like overhead doors or frames that need replacement.

Vehicle Fleet

The 2000 Chev truck is back in service and will be used to go back and forth to the dump solely.

Landfill

One load a week continues to be hauled by local contractor to Whitehorse. A Government contractor continues to haul non-refundable waste to Whitehorse.

The Compost bin deposit has been lowered to \$10 as per council's direction. (funded by recycling fund)

Sewer System/Lagoon

Sewer line flushing and cameraing completed in October. Report for Councils review have been received and must be transposed from a CD to paper copy for consumption.

Continued on next page

Water System

Contract has been completed for stainless steel water tank. This transition went very smoothly. (Building Canada Fund)

Contracts have been signed and work on 2nd well drilling project is currently on hold until spring 2010.(Building Canada Fund).

Other Activities**Financial Process**

Village senior staff will be meeting with a contractor that has been recommended by YTG to focus on meeting the requirements of PSAB 3150 guidelines. Some work has already been completed on this but a considerable amount of work is still required. The contractor has completed this type of work with other Yukon communities.

Land Issues

The Official Community Plan has been received from the OCP contractor. First Reading was on November 23, 2009. The next step is to have a Public Hearing. The contractor has agreed to attend the required Public Hearing at our cost to answer any questions that may come up. I believe we should look to the very early New Year to move the OCP adoption process further.

Staffing

Casual staffing for sick/vacation continues to be used as and when available. We have had a very slight impact on staff related to Flu Like Symptoms, with very low absenteeism.

Yukon Communities Insurance Association

They are aware of my presence in Teslin as the new CAO. There will be a meeting of this group in the near future which I will be invited to.

Teslin Tlingit Council

I attended a Joint Capital, Lands, TTC and VOT meeting on November 17, 2009 to discuss several issues of common concern. The one issue that did stand out was the Snow Removal in the old Village area. It was agreed that more planning may be required to help alleviate the flooding problem that occurs in the spring. Our Public Works Foreman will meet with a TTC representative to consider the options and get back to the group. It was also pointed out that we are currently engaged in a Snow Removal contract with a local contractor and that must be honoured.

No revised date for a Joint Council Meeting has been proposed at this point.





Teslin School students and staff wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a very happy holiday.



Public Advisory!

DOG OWNERS IN & NEAR THE COMMUNITY OF TESLIN HAVE BEEN EXPERIENCING PROBLEMS WITH WOLVES.

We are encouraging the public to report **ALL** wolf sightings in and near the community. We are here to help and are taking preventative measures to ensure the safety of your animals.

Note that we will be working with local trappers, trapping within the Village of Teslin during the winter of 2009-2010.

Please take **EXTRA** care to ensure your dogs are not running loose and interfering with our efforts to protect the public and property within Teslin.

* * * * *

Please call in your sightings:

390-2685

Or

1-800-661-0525

[HYPERLINK "http://www.environmentyukon.gov.yk.ca/temp_directory/documents/assess_resp_guidelines_table.pdf"](http://www.environmentyukon.gov.yk.ca/temp_directory/documents/assess_resp_guidelines_table.pdf)http://www.environmentyukon.gov.yk.ca/temp_directory/documents/assess_resp_guidelines_table.pdf

Mind Your Little Ones

Meet Patty Sound the new YTG social worker for Teslin. Patty has 14 years experience working for family services in British Columbia. Most recently the young woman worked with the Cowichan First Nation on Vancouver Island. Local social work has changed a bit since the Hodgson era. Patty will focus primarily on child welfare; followed closely by financial assistance; juvenile justice; and finally support and referral services. Patty's office at the Health Centre is open from Monday to Friday and she welcomes townfolk to drop by for a cup of tea.

Health and Social Services wish all of Teslin a safe and happy holidays.



Teslin Tlingit Council held it's Community Christmas Feast on December 9th. It was another full house with an abundance of children. Congratulations on a job well done.



DAAADDY!!!! Get me outta here !!!!
Dawson Baker meets Santa at the Rec Plex

Village Update

23 November 2009

Regular Council Meeting Minutes

Highlights

Meeting #22-09

Members Present: Mayor Clara Jules, Councillor Margaret Douville, Councillor Lori Joe, and Councillor Sharron Anderson

Members Absent: Stacey Hassard

Hearing of Delegations and Individuals

3.1 Patricia Evans & Irene Mahoney Development Permit Appeal

172-21-09

Moved by Councillor; M. Douville Seconded by Councillor; S. Anderson

BE IT RESOLVED that Village Council approve the Development Permit for Patricia Evans & Irene Mahoney. Allowing them to replace a building on their property.

~carried~

Reports and Recommendations of Boards Established by Council

4.1 Election of Officers for the Teslin Volunteer Fire Department 2009 / 2011

173-21-09

Moved by Councillor; S. Anderson Seconded by Councillor; M. Douville

BE IT RESOLVED that Village Council adopt as presented the Election of Officers for the Teslin Volunteer Fire Department 2009 / 2011

~carried~

Reports from Village Administration, Standing or Special Committees of Council

5.1 October 2009 Financials

174-21-09

Moved by Councillor; M. Douville Seconded by Councillor; S. Anderson

BE IT RESOLVED that Village Council adopt the October 2009 Financials as presented.

~carried~

Continued on the next page

Consideration of Items of Correspondence

7.1 Letter to TTC from Minister M. Horne

7.2 Request for Rec Plex Usage Nov 28-09 Advancement Group

175-21-09

Moved by Councillor; S. Anderson Seconded by Councillor; M. Douville

BE IT RESOLVED that Village Council deny the request for donation of the Rec Plex for the advancement ceremony.

~carried~

Introduction and Consideration of By-laws

9.1 First Reading Official Community Plan (Booklet Separate)

175-21-09

Moved by Councillor; S. Anderson Seconded by Councillor; L. Joe

BE IT RESOLVED that Village Council has had First Reading Official Community Plan (Booklet Separate)

~carried~

9.2 First Reading of New Zoning Bylaw

176-21-09

Moved by Councillor; S. Anderson Seconded by Councillor; L. Joe

BE IT RESOLVED that Village Council had First Reading of the New Zoning Bylaw

~carried~

New and Unfinished Business

10.1 Staff Christmas Party (Dec 19, 2009)

177-21-09

Moved by Councillor; M. Douville Seconded by Councillor; S. Anderson

BE IT RESOLVED that the Village of Teslin Christmas party for all full time staff, Fire Department and Council will be held at the Yukon Motel on December 19, 2009.

~carried~

10.2 Christmas Lighting Contest/ Hayride / Bonfire

Clara will arrange to have some Elders as judges.

10.3 Recreation Complex Usage - Re: Seniors Activities

CAO to write letter to Seniors indicating that they are able to use the Rec Plex for carpet bowling as long as there are no paying customers who have priority. If the Seniors are willing to cover the rental cost then they will receive priority on a first come basis.

10.4 Request for transfer of funds

177-21-09

Moved by Councillor; L. Joe Seconded by Councillor; S. Anderson

BE IT RESOLVED that Village Council transfer \$200,000.00 from the Waste Reserve fund to the General Operating Account as needed.

~carried~

Continued on the next page

Staff Xmas Bonus

178-21-09

Moved by Councillor; S. Anderson Seconded by Councillor; L. Joe

BE IT RESOLVED that Village Council agrees to provide all full time employees in the amount of \$100.00.

~carried~

Scheduled meetings and other important dates for Council

14.1 Scheduled Meetings

14.2 March 20, 2010 - Teslin Hosting AYC Meeting?

179-21-09

Moved by Councillor; S. Anderson Seconded by Councillor; M. Douville

BE IT RESOLVED that Village Council agrees to host the March 20, 2010, AYC Board Meeting in Teslin.

~carried~



Dlu Wkat Hit
(Early Learning & Child Care
Centre)
wish
Teslin a very joyful Christmas

Closing Shot



Once upon a time...
Santa was an Anglican.
Christmas 197?
Photographer: Marg Garolitz