

The Teslin Post

Teslin Celebrates Twenty-five Years of Incorporation



Jim Clark & Robin Smarch receive their silver medallions from CAO Wes Wirth

On July 5 2009, Teslin celebrated the 25th anniversary of our incorporation as a village. The special day started at 2:30 p.m. at Friendship Park with musical entertainment (including performances by 2007 & 2008 Aboriginal Performing Artists of the Year Leela Gilday and Derek Millar) that continued until almost midnight. Special guests included MLA Marion Horne, the ubiquitous MP Larry Bagnell, and numerous former Mayors and councillors. Current councillors Douville and Smarch flipped burgers (and turned hot dogs) steadily throughout the afternoon.

Wes Wirth, Teslin's Chief Operating Officer, saw the celebration as a successful venture. The gentleman mused that an annual birthday party may be something to consider. There has also been some thought of combining efforts with the Teslin Tlingit Council for an even more inclusive celebration in the future.

Village of
Teslin

Gateway to the Southern Lakes



What's Inside...

This month you will have to search around and find things on your own. It's the summer for gosh sakes.

Volume 1 Number 7

During the past month, VOT & TTC tried their hand at large events. At the beginning of July the Village had it's "Concert in the Park" and then several weeks later the First Nation had the "Ha Kus Teyea Celebration". These events were journeys down an unmarked trails and were expensive gambles. In the end each proved to be a success ... albeit somewhat qualified. Turn out was lower than expected for both the celebration and the concert. However these were the first "kicks at the can" and our local governments should examine what worked and what didn't ... then offer an improved product. Teslin, by they way, was very well served by both events

I note that other communities (Dawson, Atlin and Haines Junction) have successful music festivals every year. What if Teslin had one that focussed on First Nation entertainers? I don't think anybody else is doing that in the Yukon or northern BC. It would need solid planning, promotion, and community commitment. Could TTC and VOT work hand-in-glove to make it happen? Maybe.

Thank you to those wonderful Teslin photographers ... Gord Curran and Minnie Clark. Most of the shots herein (except the really really good ones) were taken by them.

Also ... thank you to Ron Morberg for two shots of the Ha Kus Teyea Celebration.

A special thanks to Wally Geddes (and his incredibly inexpensive Yashica 35mm camera) for the great pictures from Canada Day 1975.



I'm calling on all photographers (and we see you at every event in the community) ... to show us your stuff!!! Get published!

Any suggestions, ideas, photos, or comments are always welcome. Really welcome. Trust me. Drop off a note at the Village office or email me at:

mhodgson@northwestel.net

Regards,

Mike Hodgson

Collator

A Message From Nataschaa...

Looking out the office window at the vibrant purple flowers dancing in the wind, completing the final steps before embarking on my journey south for the last course work of school, I reflect upon the year. It has certainly been one filled with unexpected learning about patience, acceptance and friendship. This year has amplified to me the resilience, complexity and beauty of the human spirit. I have gained a greater understanding of depth to which we are all connected and through this intricate web we can find strength to overcome the challenges that life presents us. It is the light that beams through the smiling eyes that can lift us from our points of pain.

I am grateful for the smiles, thoughts and kind words that have been shared in the last months. Through the variety of life challenges that have come up this year I have felt incredibly supported and cared for. The flurry of recreation activities have also been amply supported to help create successful events for everyone to enjoy.

As I pack my car, grab my mug of coffee, prepare the sandwiches, fill up with gas and watch Teslin fade in the distance I imagine the life that will continue while I am gone: Theatre camp, paintball trips, the youth center, fishing....

And I dream of coming back to the school filled with games, the fancy new weight room, harvest time, healthy eating workshops, yoga, canoe lessons...

I feel grateful for the blessings that we share. Until September...



The Mayors of Teslin

Michael Hodgson.....	1984
John Dewhurst.....	1985
Doug Hogan.....	1986
Bernice Schonewille.....	1988
Frank Saligo.....	1991
Gord Dumas.....	1994
Jim Clark.....	1997
Orville Smith.....	2000
Clara Jules.....	2003
Robin Smarch.....	2007

Mayoralty Facts

1. No Teslin mayor has ever served two complete terms.
2. John Dewhurst and Mike Hodgson both lived outside town boundaries while mayor. Something there opponents only found out much later. Ha!
3. Doug Hogan was the youngest serving mayor.
4. Orville Smith was the oldest serving mayor.
5. Jim Clark had the oddest shaped head of any serving mayor.
6. Three mayors have been TTC citizens. Three others have been adopted by either the Wolf or Crow clan.

The Ha Kus Teyea Celebration
Seven Tlingit Days in July



Congratulations to the Teslin Tlingit Council for a successful Ha Kus Teyea Celebration. You made us all so proud.



Ron Morberg



Ron Morberg

Traditional Dominion Day Tea for Elders

by
Sharron Chatterton

The Museum Society has long been urged to hold a traditional Dominion Day Tea on the new Canada Day.

The characteristic of a Dominion Day Tea, we were assured by Pearl Keenan and other ladies familiar with the occasion, were prolonged tea-sipping and dainty sandwiches, the splendour of as much silver and bone-china as could be assembled, leisurely conversation with persons of goodwill, a veritable crush of little cakes, and a festoon of flowers and patriotic flags. Speeches were deemed quite unnecessary, pipe-smoking allowable, gloves optional and best bib and tucker more desirable than not.

With these criteria in hand, the good Society managed this year to pull off this fabled occasion without the slightest hitch.

The tables, ladies and gentlemen, were a vision of crystal sweet dishes filled to the brim with an assortment of candies. Centre pieces were a most original mix of candles and miniature Canadian flags. Vases of blue lupins paid gentle tribute to the dear Union Jack, now displayed discretely on one wall. Grand silver tea pots, cake plates and silver milk and sugar bowls jostled with snippets of copperware and fine glass. The large Recplex Hall was picketed with red and white bunting, and to create the desired intimacy the tables were ringed with an exhibition of historical panels from the Yukon Archives for the *Enjoyment of All*.

Seated grandly a full hour early at the most ornate table to be found was Irene Mahoney, Wilma , and Sadie Morris, soon to be joined by Mary Griffiths. Three pots are reported to have been replenished over the two hours taken by these ladies at tea. Soon-to-be-wed Timothy and Lucky had two entire teas with a delightful emphasis on cakes. Not to be outdone, a phalanx of smiling Jackson-Bob ladies returned, having enticed their menfolk to accompany them, and boldly ordered an entire second round, sandwiches and all, and rotated at least 12 persons through the five pots of tea and unmentionable numbers of cakes and sandwiches consumed thereat.

(continued next page)

Many others persons of interest attended the event and attire was noted to have ranged from the simple to the sartorial. While hats were less common this year, Sharon Anderson wore a most fetching purple and red be-ribboned straw hat and Pat Wiens a fearful concoction of red flags and white frippery. A few hardy souls tried the luxuriously creamy, frothy iced coffees and a Mr Hodgson declared them exceptional. A goodly number of persons strolled the perimeter reading the historical boards and engaging their neighbours in lively conversation over the photographs.

During the Tea, cheering could be heard from the crowds outside and all concerned within rightly concurred that it was for our Dominion Day Tea. Yes, without doubt, the traditional Dominion Day Tea was regarded as a rollicking success and the Society is committed to revisiting the event in 2010.

Respectfully Submitted to The Editor by Your 89 Member Museum Society.



Above. These four early birds picked up the best seats in the house

Left. Carolyn Allan displays her famous "dainty sandwiches"

Highlights of the Village of Teslin Council Meeting
Meeting # 12-09 June 22, 2009

Members Present: Mayor Robin Smarch; Councillor Sandy Smarch; Councillor Stacey Hassard

Members Absent: Councillor Margaret Douville

Public Present: Cpl. Sean Pike Caitlin Kerwin

Councillor Hassard wanted to know if letter had been delivered to Tod Smarch.

CAO advised that letter had been delivered but no action from it.

Mayor Smarch wanted to know if we received a response from the Minister.

CAO advised that we had not received a response.

Councillor Hassard raised a concern again that two youth had been promised full time summer employment and now we were advertising for two part time youth to work.

Councillor Hassard raised some concerns with the one water tender that was issued for Wellhead protection with regard to liability if cleaning could not be completed quickly or if something went wrong during the process. An issue was also raised as it relates to the ability to dig around the wellhead as specified. Council is of the opinion that the second well should be done before we address these other issues.

CAO to talk to engineer about how to remedy some of these concerns and how to proceed.

4.1 May Fire Department Report

Council supports the decision to write a letter to our MLA and the minister with regard to the process of having to go through the YESAA process whenever we wish to burn a building for fire practice.

5.1 Financial Statements for April 2009

#97-12-09

Moved by Councillor Hassard;

Seconded by Councillor S. Smarch;

BE IT RESOLVED that Village Council adopt the Financial Statements for April 2009 as presented.

-carried-

5.2 Financial Statements for May 2009

98-12-09

Moved by Councillor Hassard;

Seconded by Councillor S. Smarch;

BE IT RESOLVED that Village Council adopts the Financial Statements for May 2009 as presented.

-carried-

7 Consideration of Items of Correspondence

7.1 Community Lottery Funding

CAO advised that we have \$7,496 available to give away in September.

7.4 AYC-Municipal Fiscal Year

Councillor S. Smarch to support our desire to change to YG yearend

7.5 AYC-FCM September-09 Board Meeting**7.6 Municipal News Release-June 12, 2009****7.7 AYC AGM Dates 2010**

Council supports the April 15 - 18 dates for our AYC AGM

10 New and Unfinished Business**10.1 Commencement Organizing Committee - Rec Plex User Fee**

No representation was at the meeting from TTC so no change to the original decision was made.

10.2 Teslin Official Community Plan - Interim Report

Council will review this for the next meeting in more depth.

10.3 25 Year Celebration Update**10.4 Bar @ Rec Plex**

Councillor S. Smarch requested that we purchase a new dispenser and shot glasses for the bar at the recreation complex.

Councillor Hassard requested that the drinking fountain be cleaned up and that we check on whether the wall between the bar and the back room could be removed creating a larger space and more opportunity for air movement.

10.5 New Sign for Rec PLeX

Mayor Smarch brought everyone up to speed on the new sign that was being proposed for the Recreation complex.

11 Question Period

Mayor Smarch wanted to know why parents were not called or arrangements made for someone to call when the arrival time from swimming lessons changed.

CAO advised that he had spoken to the Recreation Programmer on this matter and that better communication would occur in the future.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:40 PM.



Are you recycling yet? Telephone Shawna at the village office and ask about the blue box programme.

Concert in the Park

Curran



Hodgson



M. Clark



M. Clark



Hodgson

All Gord Curran



Foreman's Report June 2009



Landfill

The transfer station has been working very well and the area has been staying a lot cleaner. We have only had to haul one extra load so far this summer. The tender for the work at the landfill was awarded to Deadman Creek and is almost completed. The relocation and installation of the electric fence has started and should be completed in the coming weeks.

There has been no bear activity at the landfill since the implementation of the transfer station and we hope to keep it that way with the improvements that we are making.

We are working hard to divert a large percentage of waste, but there is still room for improvement, we would like to ask the members of the public to help us with this by having their waste sorted when they come to the landfill this would save time for both them and the attendant.

We are still hauling loads to Raven Recycling, but more often they are complete loads of non-refundables.

Lagoon and Force Main

The lift stations have been receiving there cleaning and degreasing.

All of the lift stations have had the enzyme added and all appear to be staying cleaner and working well.

We waiting to send the samples out from the lagoon for analysis, with a discharge planned as soon as they come back.

The force main has been very nicely, we are planning to have them flushed out this summer.

Arena & Curling Rink

The Arena has seen a lot more use this season so far now that the youth center is open.

We are still working on the tender for the weight room we hope to have it complete soon.

The new water system and generator building is complete and working very well.

We have started the planned changes to the parking area in front of the Rec Plex. We will have two Handicap stalls and the rest of the lot will be drop off only, with posted signs for no parking.

Water Quality / Water Delivery

We had a few problems with the water truck it went into Whitehorse and is now running very well.

We still send in three samples, twice a month to Environmental Health for analysis.

Insect Control

The hand application of the pesticide has been completed for the year with good results. With the water coming down in the lake the bugs will be bad for awhile because we cannot apply with in 50m from fish bearing waters.

In the spring next year we will again be doing the aerial application and hand application, unfortunately we can not treat for the black flies just Mosquitoes in the larvae stages.

Other Activities

Road patching is underway and will be ongoing for the entire summer.

The parks and trails have been getting regularly checked and cleaned.

The new swing set is complete we are just waiting to get the inspector out of Whitehorse to put it into service.

CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER UPDATE

Community Events

Public response to the July 1 and July 5 celebrations have been positive. I appreciated the way staff pulled together to make these events happen given the situation with our recreation programmer being unavailable for these events. Thanks to the Councillors and Mayor for their participation.

Sustainability Planning

We are still waiting for the contractor to meet with us on our Economic Development Plan.

Projects**Marina**

The rock fireplace requires some repair and we are waiting for the contractor to attend to this.

EMO

Meeting was held with Nursing Station Staff and TTC Health and Social with regard to a possible pandemic with H1N1 and we plan to have a public information session on August 5. Funding was provided for a contractor to work with First Nations to develop plans. TTC and VOT have requested one plan for the community.



CAO Report Con't

Community Infrastructure

Community Recreation Complex

Gas Tax application has been submitted for additional funding for recreation complex roof repair contract. Once approved we will contact an engineer to develop drawings/tender package for this work as recommended by Flaghill Woodworks.

Contract for entrance to Curling Rink and for steps to water fill station for the Recreation Complex have been completed.

We are presently working on the tender for the exercise room which has been approved by CDF and this should be out shortly.

Old Community Hall

This discussion will be further discussed in September as part of the next phase of OCP/municipal square discussions.

Municipal Centre

Project has been completed with the exception of the new doors.

Vehicle Fleet

Additional repairs were completed to the water truck. Costs not covered by warranty were towing and air freight of the parts.

Park

Land for park on Sawmill Road has now been transferred pending completion of survey. We are waiting on a

couple of other projects to get to the survey stage before we have this surveyed.

Swings are being installed in the friendship park – arranging for certification of proper installation.

Landfill

The capping of the existing burn pits, composting area and final items on the transfer station setup have now been completed. We are now in a position to reinstall our electric fencing.

Water System

Three tenders have closed and Council is in a position to make decisions on this tonight.

Sewer System/Lagoon

Request will be submitted shortly for sewer line flushing and cameraing subject to Council's review of additional funding being made available.

Programming

Recreation

Presently Recreation uses a TTC van when available for activities outside the community. When a trip is required to pick up supplies, etc. and her personal vehicle is used there is no coverage for damage to that employee's vehicle unless they happen to carry business insurance.

CAO Report con't

It is our suggestion that a policy be created that they must carry business insurance when using their personal vehicle and that the Village will purchase this additional insurance. Another option would be for recreation to have a vehicle of their own and then it would be covered under the village policy.

Composting

The Village has applied under the recycling fund for composting bins that we can supply to households for the purpose of composting. Once the funding is approved we will order them and initiate our composting program.

We have also applied for a cardboard baler for the recycling depot. The volume of cardboard that we currently collect and need to transport to Whitehorse suggests that we could use a baler to our advantage. Cost of the baler is around \$12,000.

Other Activities**Financial Process**

The fall will require us 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.

Yukon Rural Roundtable**Land Issues**

OCP review will resume with the next round of public consultations to occur in mid September.

Staffing

We have hired a casual to cover for vacation and LWOP during the summer months and some casual assistance is still required at the recycling centre as volumes have increased.

Teslin Tlingit Council

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

The Teslin Landfill Site is open, Wednesday through Sunday, from noon till 7:30 p.m.
The Recycling Station is open on Wednesday, Thursday, and Saturday from 2:00 until 6:00 p.m.

Mike's

Teslin's Spring (ish) Brides...

Minnie Clark



Tim & Lucky
July 3 2009

George & Robyn
June 27, 2009

Mike's



Dick & Lorraine
20 June 2009

Public Notice

Parking in front of the Hall will no longer be permitted.

The Village of Teslin requires water truck access and fire access to the building and as long as people are parked in this confined area this is not always possible.

There is plenty of parking area between the arena and the Village Office.

Handicapped parking is still available to the right of the entrance as marked... and temporary parking for loading and unloading only is still permitted.

By Order of Mayor and Council

Not in the Recycling Bin.....



This needle was found in one of Teslin's recycling bins. The cap was off...and the attendant was jabbed. It is unclear, at this time, whether this was from someone with a medical condition or from the injection of illegal drugs. The fact that the cap was also in the bin may indicate that this was not from a drug abuser. However, our recycling bins should never be used for this type of waste disposal. The village will be taking further steps to ensure the safety of its workers at the land fill site

Recreation Report June 2009

Youth Events

-The youth center was not open the entire month as Kevin was away and due to other unforeseen circumstances. It will be up and running again.

-The swimming lessons were very successful. 11 youth attended and received their certificates.

-Breakdance camp was another great event. The kids had tons of fun and are really learning their moves. Progress is apparent. 20 youth attended these sessions.

-Soccer Camp was fun for the youth that attended. There were about 15.

-We are finding that the age group for most camp attendees is 11 and under. The hope is that these youth will become accustomed to structured programs and a culture will be developed of regular attendance to such events. As the youth get older they will develop their skills and continue to attend.

-The Youth Leadership Training was amazing. The 6 kids that participated had an awesome time and learnt much. Plans are being made to move forward with this group to develop a youth advisory council.

Major Event for Adults

-Canoe lessons were held for adults. The first lesson was very well attended, with 18 people showing up. The second was less as it was a Sunday after the wedding.

-Canada Day was said to be a good event. The Village of Teslin staff carried through with the planning that I could not participate in.

-The Concert in the Park was a huge success. There has been an incredible amount of positive feedback. Attendance was probably between 250 to 300 people. We will look at how to move forward for planning next year.

Funding Proposals

\$13,000.00 was approved for youth summer camps.

Pending funds

-New Horizons for Seniors \$15,000.00- Elders/Seniors story sharing and video with youth

-Health Investment Fund \$5000.00- Personal trainer to teach how to use equipment & T.V.'s for weight room

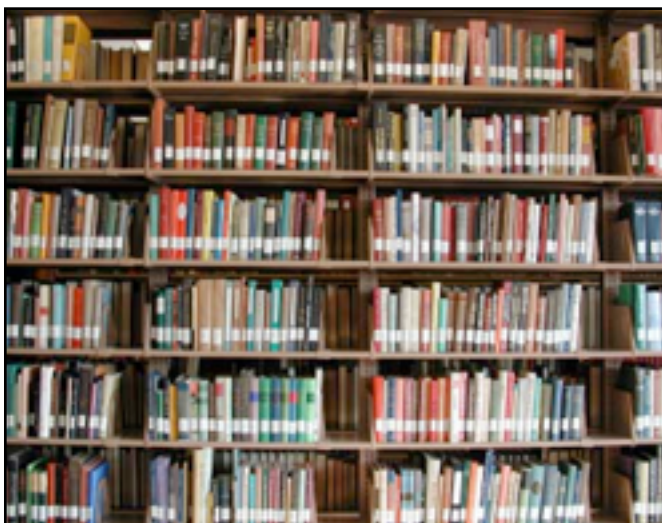
-True Sport Fund \$25,000.00- Purchase 6 tandem canoes, voyageur, trailer & storage





Teslin's Anniversary Medallion

The Village of Teslin has commissioned a special medallion to mark the 25th anniversary of our incorporation. There were only 50 made and are free to all those who were elected to council during the past 25 years. Former councillors and mayors are encouraged to visit the village office and obtain this memento of their service.



Teslin Library hours are:
Wednesday 9:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.
Thursday 12:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.
Saturday 2:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Closing Shots



Teslin

July 1, 1975

Photographer Walter Geddes