

# The Teslin Post



## Teslin's First House Concert a Roaring Success

Nathan Rogers, son of the famous Canadian troubadour Stan Rogers, put on a fine concert at the Hett/Allen residence this past September 23. About 18 Teslanders sampled goodies; swilled some wines and coffees; chatted with Nathan; and then listened to some of the finest music heard in Teslin in some time.

The next concert will be on October 21 and be featuring Yael Wand. Apparently Ms Wand has voice to die for and sings Appalachian, Celtic and Israeli folk. Anyway google her and then book a comfy chair with Dave or Carolyn. They're in the book...

## The Election Issue

see pages 3 - 9

### Elections Are About Change

George Cuff

Every election should include a thoughtful discussion regarding change. What do the incumbents think could be done better? What are newcomers advocating? What will success look like? If the time that follows every election were used to good effect, the discussions would centre on what each councillor feels might need to change in order to show respect for the feedback heard during the election.

Leaders are comfortable talking about change. They realize that few thriving organisms or organizations manage to survive and flourish without evolving in some respect to face new challenges.

Leaders are also keen to embrace change. It is not that all proposed change is good. However, effective leaders recognize that the degree of change needs to be carefully considered, while understanding that few things in life really stand still.

(submitted by Wes Wirth)

Village of  
**Teslin**

*Gateway to the Southern Lakes*



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## Volume 1 Number 9

Well ... it's election time in Teslin. In this edition I have asked the candidates to supply their platform for publication. Those running for council got 250 words worth of say. The mayoralty candidates got slightly more. Most everyone knows the individuals who have put their names forward .. seek them out and ask some hard questions. Look for the candidate (or candidates) that will speak for you and keep Teslin a high quality and vibrant community. Remember if you don't exercise your right to vote — you really don't have the right to whine later. So get out and vote!



I always need pictures, reports, and story ideas. Drop off a note at the Village office or email me at:

[mhodgson@northwestel.net](mailto:mhodgson@northwestel.net)

Regards,  
Mike Hodgson  
Editor

# Election Update

## Who can Vote?

1. You have to be a Canadian Citizen
2. You have to be 18 years of age or older on voting day.
3. You have to be a resident of Teslin (that means within the town boundaries) for one year prior to voting day.

## When & Where?

1. Voting will be held at the Council chambers at the Village of Teslin Office.
2. The Advance Poll is on October 8, 2009
3. The regular Poll is on October 15, 2009
4. The Polling Station is open from 8:00 a.m. till 8:00 p.m. on both voting days.
5. There are mail-in ballots. However, they have be arranged with Jay Dobson (the returning officer) well before.
6. Jay is in the phone-book.

## Who's Running?

The candidates start on the next page. I asked each of them to outline their platform. I asked the counsellors to nail it down in 250 words or less. The two mayoral candidates got their own pages. All the platforms were written by the candidates ... or by someone they know and trust.

The order of the platforms is the same as how the candidate's names appear on the ballot.

## Who do I vote for?

1. Read what the candidates have to say.
2. Corner them at the post office, restaurant, or store and ask them direct questions.
3. You get to vote for one Mayor and up to four counsellors.

Get ready to meet the candidates....

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## *The Candidates for Mayor*

### **Clara Jules**



I would like to say Hi to the people of Teslin and all those living in the surrounding area. I hope you are all well.

As for me, I feel for my community as we've lost four people in Teslin during the past three months. I hope and pray that no more families feel the pain of losing a loved one.

I have now put my name forward to be Teslin's mayor. I was Mayor twice before and believe I served you well. Unfortunately, during my last term I had to leave the position half way through so as I could support my husband who needed a very serious operation. Leon is better and I am ready to step forward again. Once again I will put every effort forward to work with the people and the government in all areas that need attention in our town.

So, I hope to have your vote as Mayor on October 15, 2009. There is an advance poll on October 8th should be unable to vote on October 15th.

Thanks very much for your support and may God be with us all.

Yours Truly,

Mrs Clara Jules

## Robin Smarch



My name is Robin Smarch. I am a Teslin Tlingit Citizen. I was raised by my grandmother Virginia Smarch. I have lived in Teslin from the age of ten.

I have been on Village of Teslin Council since 2003. I started as a councilor and completed my full term. I then ran again in 2006 as a councilor and finished the term as a Mayor.

I am letting my name stand as Mayor again because I would like to serve a full term as Mayor. I feel very confident that I can continue to bring about additional changes as Mayor. Everyday is a new challenge and very rewarding.

One of my focuses as Mayor and council member was to beautify the community and so far it has been very successful. We have had meetings on our OCP the Official Community Plan and some great ideas have come out of the plan. The plan has resulted in a lot of great discussions from the senior citizens to the school students and the two local governments. These discussions and completing projects is what makes the community a better place to live.

I enjoy working with the different governments and would like to work closer with Teslin Tlingit Council so that we can make Teslin a better place for everyone. We have had many successful projects with Teslin Tlingit council and the Yukon Government and would like to see this continue.

## *The Candidates for Councillor*



### **Sharron Anderson**

I have lived and worked in Teslin for 13 years. In the past 6 months I have attended, as an observer, minimum of 4 Council meetings, just to find out what was going on at these meetings. I'm running for councillor as I'm active in the community, am willing to put forward new ideas, and welcome input from others. I am a good listener and am not afraid to voice my opinions. If you have any questions, please feel free to call me. Please come out and vote on October 15. I would like your support.

### **Margaret Douville**



My name is Margaret Douville. I am a Dak'aweidi woman who was born and raised in Teslin. As a councillor for the Village of Teslin I have been involved in completing the following projects: the main sewer line; the new landfill; the Marina upgrading; our artificial ice; and the emergency generator installation.

In the future we are working together in starting a compost program and the development of the official community plan.

I am planning on looking closely at the following concerns: municipal services and facilities; environmental matters; development of utility and transportation systems; and the regular review of the Official Community Plan and zoning bylaw.

Thank you for your support in the past and I hope you consider voting for me in the upcoming municipal election.

Sincerely,

Margaret Douville

## Tess Lamberton



My name is Tess Lamberton and I am an administrative assistant at the YESAB Office. I moved to Teslin in 2000 to work and have made this community my home. I was a public representative on the joint VOT/TTC sustainability working group. Through that process I have learned the values that the citizens of Teslin have. I am new to village politics and would try hard to represent the citizens of Teslin by making fair and impartial decisions that would affect the community.

Councillors are elected to represent the citizens of our community. Although our electoral boundaries do not extend to include rural residents of the Teslin area (Cottage Lots, Fox Point, etc), I believe it is important to remember that they support this community as well.

More discussions with our citizens about what is important are the key to making sound decisions. I would like to be able to bring forth those views as part of the decision making processes.

If you would like to have someone new and approachable on Village Council that wants to represent **ALL** citizens, then vote TESS LAMBERTON for councillor !!

## Bruce Wiseman



As most of you know my name is Bruce Wiseman. What you may not know is that I am running for councillor in Teslin's municipal election. I would like you to consider voting for me.

Living in Teslin for over 25 years and my experience as a past village councillor gives me a clear understanding of the dedication and hard work required for this elected position. Over the years, I have been involved in many aspects of our community. This includes years as a volunteer

ambulance attendant and helping to organize many community events and recreational activities.

I am also a foster parent.

As a councillor, I would continue to carry out and complete the goals that have already been adopted by the present council. I would also help to set new goals for the betterment of the community. I would be ready to read the reports, ask the hard questions, listen to our citizens, and work for a better Teslin.

I look forward to serving the community and dedicating my time to the needs of all community members.

Thank you for your consideration,

Bruce Wiseman

## Sandy Smarch



The past 3 years in municipal politics have been both exciting and challenging. Teslin celebrated its 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of incorporation and our Official Community Plan (OCP) is nearing completion. We have dealt with new laws/regulations governing solid waste management and for the past 2 months we have been searching for a new Chief Administrative Officer.

I was on council in the late 80's and decided 3 years ago to become involved again. I represent Teslin on the Association of Yukon Communities (AYC). This Association meets to discuss a wide range of concerns that affect municipalities so that we can present a united front to YTG on issues like funding, fire protection and other services.

If re-elected, I will continue to work hard on your behalf by:

attending council meetings, AYC meetings, meetings with YTG and participating at functions like the OCP sessions, and involvement in community celebrations like Teslin's 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

continuing to work on projects that were started during the past 3 years such as the study on arsenic in the water, the secondary drinking water supply and the Fire Smart program. working on projects identified in the new OCP such as the community square and sustainability. re-establishing a good working relationship with Teslin Tlingit Council for the benefit of our whole community.

In closing, I would like to encourage you to vote on October 15<sup>th</sup> and thank you for considering me for council for the Village of Teslin.

Respectfully, Sandy Smarch

## Lori Joe



Hi everyone,

My name is Lori Joe and I am running for town council. I am a member of the Kukhhittan people and have lived in Teslin for over 35 years. I have worked as a manager in the Health Department for TTC for 11 years. I enjoy working with people and making things better. This is why I would like to be a town councillor.

What are my concerns? Well, I would like to see more of an emphasis on our infrastructure. The pot holes in town, for example, certainly have people talking.

I would also like to explore why all Teslin's services have moved from the town centre. The Library is now off in one corner; the post office in another, and bank is somewhere else. That, to me, needs to be looked at again. The Village also needs to work more closely with the Teslin Tlingit Council. Teslin is a small community and working together is essential.

Lastly, I am always interested in increasing the profile of recreation and social programmes within the community. I encourage recreation activities for all age groups. In closing, I will listen, learn and do what is best for Teslin.

Sincerely,

Lori Joe

## Stacey Hassard



I am a strong believer in our community of Teslin. I was raised here and I also raised my own children here. My wife and I operate our business in Teslin and have great pride in our community. After much thought and deliberation I have decided to run for re-election for the Village of Teslin council. I feel that I can continue to contribute greatly to the council.

Over the past several months the Village of Teslin with consultation from community members have been preparing a new official community plan and I would like to see this project through to the final implementation stage.

As you know our current CAO, Wes Wirth has recently resigned; Council has taken on the important responsibility of hiring a new CAO to join the Village of Teslin team. I think it is very important to have some existing council members return to

council during this transition period.

I lastly feel that I would be a valuable asset to this council as I work diligently to ensure fiscal responsibility and would like to work towards increasing the village of Teslin reserves back to an acceptable level.

If I am successful, I look forward to continuing my work for the people of Teslin.

Best of luck to all of the people who are dedicating their time to this valuable position.

Remember

•Get Out And Vote•

Advance Poll

October 8

Voting Day

October 15

Eight o'clock in the morning

till

Eight o'clock at night

## Teslin's Shoreline Cleanup

Kim Melton

Teslin School students and teachers showed their true fall colours on a blustery day at the beach this week, picking up garbage and cleaning up our community. Everyone was amazed at the amount of glass they found, as well as large pieces of metal, old bits of construction material, and bottle caps galore. Students marked down everything they picked up so that the information can be added to a Canada-wide database on shoreline debris.

I think broken glass is the easy 'winner' for our top find. Getting out and seeing the impact of garbage on our community and environment teaches us why we shouldn't litter, and I thank all students who came out to help. I hope you'll remind your friends and family that we can all help in small ways to keep our community beautiful! Thanks to the Nisutlin Trading Post for donating thank you gifts, and to the Teslin Tlingit Renewable Resources Council for the idea. Way to go Teslin School for being role models for your community!





## RCMP Update

Remember James Splinter? (He's on the left) Our old constable has been on a nine month peace mission in the Sudan. That would be quite a change from beautiful downtown Teslin. James is providing police training and mentoring to the fledgling South Sudan Police Service.

## Meet the new guy!

Constable Mike Muller is the latest member of the Teslin detachment. We now have a full compliment of Mounties -- so watch those rolling stops. This is the constable's third posting in the Yukon. Previously Mike has been in Watson Lake and Whitehorse. When not battling the forces of evil, Constable Muller enjoys volleyball and mountain biking. Rumour has it that Mike is interested in setting up a bike circuit.

Mike also is well experienced in working with students -- so you may see a lot of this Mountie at Teslin School.

Welcome to Teslin, Mike!



Constable Mike Muller

## RECREATION UPDATE WITH NATASCHAA CHATTERTON & KEVIN CAMERON

The first day of fall has come and gone, signaling the transition into longer nights and colder days. This is the perfect time to start thinking about how to keep your self fit, healthy and happy in the long winter months. The citizens of Teslin have certainly worked hard to create so many possibilities to satisfy these needs.

Rita and Sharon have started their sewing classes again, Carolyn and David are hosting high quality house concerts, Yukon College is delivering a full season of delicious food as you travel the world through the experiences of others, the Healing Center is bringing forward the wisdom of canning, Cross Country Teslin continues to walk and run, the school is hosting a family dodge ball night, and you can get your butt in shape with circuit training and badminton.

With so many fun options there is no reason to be bored or to stay home!

Also note coming up on November 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> Juliette from Shanti Yoga will be teaching baby, prenatal, postnatal, foot massage, and Nia dance classes in Teslin. So mark it off in your calendar. You don't want to miss this opportunity to feel balanced, calm and strong while having FUN.

So why not set some goals, big or small, and see the impact reaching these will have on your life!



### In Remembrance

Sadie "Kax duhoon" Morris  
Dak'aweidi

Liz "Skendeya" Smith  
Kukhhittan

"...the passing of an elder is like  
the burning of a library.."

**Highlights of the Village of Teslin Council Meeting**  
**Meeting # 17-09 September 14, 2009**

**Members Present:** Mayor Robin Smarch, Councillor Sandy Smarch, Councillor Stacey Hassard

**Members Absent:** Councillor Margaret Douville

**Public Present:** Cpl. S. Pike, Cst. M Mueller, Frank Thomas, Natascha Chatterton Rob Anderson  
Kristyne Geddes

**3 Hearing of Delegations and Individuals**

3.1 Teslin Curling Association

# 139-17-09

Moved by Councillor Hassard; Seconded by Councillor S. Smarch;

**BE IT RESOLVED** that Village Council agrees to donate the hall and bar to the  
Curling club on October 30, 2009.

-carried-

3.2 R C M Police

Cpl. Pike introduced Council to the newest member of the Teslin detachment, Cst. Mike Mueller.  
Advised they would be working with the school in a new program called Aboriginal Shield, which was  
designed to adopt current cultural sensitivities.

**5 Reports from Village Administration, Standing or Special Committees of  
Council**

5.1 CAO Report

Councillor S. Smarch indicated that he thought M. Gergel was a mason by trade who could repair our  
fire pit at the Marina.

5.2 Public Works Report

Public Works Foreman to firm up date for ice installation.

5.3 Recreation Report

Mayor acknowledged that the summer recreation program seemed to be very successful.

**7 Consideration of Items of Correspondence**

7.5 Request from TTC re: Ha Kus Teyea Celebration

Council offered the recreation complex as it was not an out of pocket expense. As we have already  
provided many additional services, we cannot waive any additional out of pocket costs.

Continued on next page

**8 Consideration of Items of Accounts Payable by Village**

## 8.1 Accounts Payable for August

# 140-17-09

Moved by Councillor S. Smarch; Seconded by Councillor Hassard;

**BE IT RESOLVED** that Village Council approves the Accounts Payable for August 2009 in the amount of \$158,377.53.

-carried-

## 10 New and Unfinished Business

## 10.1 Janitorial Tender # 142-17-09

Moved by Councillor Hassard; Seconded by Councillor S. Smarch;

**BE IT RESOLVED** that Village Council awards the Janitorial Contract to To the T Janitorial for one year effective October 1, 2009 in the amount of \$8,267.40.

-carried-

## 10.2 Exercise Room Tender # 143-17-09

Moved by Councillor Hassard; Seconded by Councillor S. Smarch;

**BE IT RESOLVED** that Village Council awards the Teslin Arena Exercise Room tender to Flag Hill Woodworks in the amount of \$98,952.00 inclusive of GST.

-carried-

## 10.3 YESAB Application

## 10.4 Heating Fuel Purchase Review

Councillor Hassard excused himself from this discussion and there was no quorum to make a decision on this matter.

## 10.5 Review of bereavement Policy

CAO to review policy.

**13 Scheduled meetings and other important dates for Council**

## 13.1 Scheduled Meetings

## 13.2 Proposal to cancel October 13 Meeting # 144-17-09

Moved by Councillor Hassard; Seconded by Councillor S. Smarch;

**BE IT RESOLVED** that Village Council agrees to cancel the October 13, 2009 Council meeting.

-carried-

**14 Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 PM.



## Teslin Cross Country Sports Club Update

The TCCSC continues to meet every Tuesday (at 5:30 p.m.) outside the Health Centre for their weekly training session. Despite the occasional injury the group is showing great dedication and perseverance. The club is planning on running as long as the weather permits . They welcome all aspiring runners.

### Notable highlights:

- Karl Blattmann placed second in the Chocolate Claim Ten Miler.
- Shelley Hassard, Kim Melton, Hazel Booth, and Rob Dobson had a great race in the Yukon River Trail marathon
- Karl Blattmann placed fourth in the open mens category for the half marathon.
- TCCSC was at the Klondike Road Relay this September under the name Ludicrous Speed. Wearing bib #91, the Teslanders finished eleventh in the open category with a final time 16:47:31.



The Teslin Community Library had its grand opening on September 29. Trevor Sallis, our intrepid librarian reports that a startling number of people actually visited to feast on delectable edibles and wander about the facility.

## Foreman Report for July & Aug. 2009

**Rob Anderson**

### **Landfill**

- The transfer station has made a very nice change at the landfill; the staff has been putting up the signage and the electric fencing. We have had to haul a couple of extra loads so far this summer, but not the two a week as expected.
- The work at the landfill was awarded to Deadman Creek and is now completed.
- There is now a fenced location for the storage of household compost.
- 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.
- Our efforts at diversion of waste have been fairly successful, but there is always room for improvement.
- We are still hauling loads of Refundables to Raven Recycling, but YTG has hired a contractor to haul from each recycle center which will greatly reduce the number of loads we need to haul.

### **Lagoon and Force Main**

- The lift stations worked very well over the summer with no problems.
- We sent the sewage samples to ALS laboratory and plan to start effluent discharge the first week of Sept.
- We did have a few problems with sewer smells out of some of the manholes and after the sewer flushing is complete we plan to reseal all manholes that have caused the issues.
  - The sewer flushing has been completed and went very well we did discover a couple of minor repairs. Which we hope to deal with yet this season.

### **Arena & Curling Rink**

- The youth center seemed to be a success this year.
- The tender for the weight room is now out and closes on Sept. 9
- We have been in contact with Cimco and they plan to come up within the first two weeks of October to start up our plant. So the Curling and hockey will be soon to follow .

### **Water Quality / Water Delivery**

- The water truck has been running very well.
- We still send in three samples, twice a month to Environmental Health.
- The tender for the replacement of the tank and pump on the water was awarded to Deadman Creek and will be completed by Dec. 2009.

### **Other Activities**

- Road patching has been going on all summer and will carry on until the weather will no longer permit.
- The parks and trails have been getting regularly checked and cleaned.
- The new swing set is complete and being enjoyed by both kids and adults.

### **FireSmart 2009 -2010**

The Firesmart season is set to start on September 1st with a 6 person crew. We hope to have it run until the third week of November. It will consist of both TTC and VOT programmes

## CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER UPDATE



### **Sustainability Planning**

The contractor has met with me on our Economic Development Plan. They have started their research and hope to meet with the steering committee by the end of September.

### **Projects**

#### Marina

The rock fireplace requires some repair and we are trying to find a contractor to attend to this.

#### EMO

New CAO, as the EMO coordinator, may require some training. This is an important aspect of the CAO job.

### **Community Infrastructure**

#### Community Recreation Complex

We have contacted an engineer to develop drawing 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.

(Gas tax funded)

Tenders for the exercise room have closed and Council will need to make a decision on this. (90% CDF funded) New low flush Toilets and waterless Urinals have been installed in the municipal buildings.

(gas tax funded)

#### Old Community Hall

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

#### Municipal Centre

Leaking roof has since been repaired. Tender for Janitorial Services has been issued.

Proposal for biomass heating system for Administration buildings should be ready for Council meeting at the end of September for discussion/approval.

#### Park

Land for park on Sawmill Road has now been transferred pending completion of survey.

#### Landfill

We still need to finish reinstalling our electric fencing. Compost bins have been ordered. (funded by recycling fund) Chipper rental approved by gas tax.

Continued on next page.

**Water System**

Contract in place for stainless steel water tank. (Building Canada Fund)  
Contracts have been signed and work on well drilling project and arsenic removal projects have commenced. (Building Canada Fund). Work on Pump house protection has been completed. (Building Canada Fund)

**Sewer System/Lagoon**

Sewer line flushing and cameraing completed. Report for Councils review will be coming shortly.  
Mowing has been completed along Lagoon wetland roadways. Need to get cells brushed yet this year – original contractor too busy – looking for an alternate contractor.  
Draining of cell # 4 to the wetlands has commenced.

**Programming****Recreation**

Reduced programming is occurring during August. Youth center continues to operate.

**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.

**Land Issues**

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

**Staffing**

Firesmart Crew has been hired for the season and they started September 1. The funding for both projects should take us till the end of November.

**Teslin Tlingit Council**

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



Are you Recycling?

Phone Shawna at the Village office and ask about the blue box programme!

# Closing Shot



There once was a time.....