
THE TOWN CRIER



FEBRUARY 2012

MAYOR'S NOTES

The Mayor was out of Watson Lake this week.

Mayor, Richard Durocher
Town of Watson Lake

Business Retention and Expansion Survey

The Whitehorse Chamber of Commerce has been contracted by the Yukon Government to survey all businesses in Yukon as to what the Government of Yukon can do to help their business retain employees and expand their business.

If you want to ensure your business (and Watson Lake) have input into the Yukon Government strategy, fill out and submit the short survey, which is available at www.whitehorsechamber.com

You can answer the survey online, print it out from that website, or pick up a copy from the Town Office.

Watson Lake Revitalization Commission



TOWN HALL MEETING

Please be advised an open Town Hall meeting will be held in the Mezzanine at the Watson Lake Recreation Complex on Wednesday, February 22, 2012 at 7:00 p.m.

- The 2012 Provisional O/M & Capital Budgets will be available for the public.

- Discussion of a vision and strategy for the future of Watson Lake

This is your opportunity to share ideas, concerns and questions with Mayor & Council. All members of the public are invited to attend.

TOWN OFFICE CLOSURE

The Town Office will be closed on Friday, February 24th for Heritage Day. We will reopen on Monday, February 27th at 8:30 am.

KIKI KARNIVAL UPDATE

- ❖ Rec Hockey Tournament was won by our local "Eagles" team. Congratulations guys. 2nd place was Deer River Slashers from Ft. Nelson. 3rd place was The "Warriors" from Whitehorse
- ❖ Food Fair was a huge success. A big Thank you to Monica Gardner for exceptional organizational skills. All proceeds from the door went to Women's Hockey
- ❖ Community Dinner was wonderful, A big thanks to Minor Hockey
- ❖ Dance 19+ We had huge attendance, the band was awesome!
- ❖ Games for the whole family No one showed up ☹
- ❖ Bingo the grads of 2012 ran this event and it was a great fundraiser
- ❖ Drag Races we had good local attendance. A great time was had by all



Carbon Monoxide Poisoning Symptoms

Because carbon monoxide is odourless and colourless it is not always evident when it has become a problem in the home. Often people who have a mild to moderate problem will find they feel sick while they spend time at home. They might feel a little better outside in the fresh air but will have re-occurring symptoms shortly after returning home. If other members of the family have re-occurring bouts with flu-like symptoms while fuel-burning appliances are being used it may be time to have the house checked by a professional.

Symptoms of Carbon Monoxide Poisoning

Low levels of carbon monoxide poisoning can be confused with flu symptoms, food poisoning or other illnesses and carry a long-term health risk if left unattended. Some of the symptoms are:

- Shortness of breath
- Mild nausea
- Mild headaches

Moderate levels of CO exposure can cause death if the following symptoms persist for a long measure of time.

- Headaches
- Dizziness
- Nausea
- Light-headedness

High levels of CO can be fatal causing death within minutes.

Treatment Options

There are immediate measures you can take to help those suffering from carbon monoxide poisoning.

- Get the victim into fresh air immediately.
- If you cannot get the people out of the house, open all windows and doors immediately. Any combustion appliances should be turned off.
- Take those who were subjected to carbon monoxide to a hospital emergency room as quickly as possible. A simple blood test will be able to determine if carbon monoxide poisoning has occurred.

How Can I Eliminate Sources of Carbon Monoxide in My Home?

The most important step you can take to eliminate the possibility of CO poisoning is to ensure that CO never has an opportunity to enter your home. This is your first line of defence. Review this list to minimize the risk of CO in your home.

- Have a qualified technician inspect and clean fuel-burning appliances yearly, before the cold weather sets in, to ensure they are in good working order.
- Have a qualified technician inspect chimneys and vents yearly for cracks, blockages (e.g., bird's nests, twigs, old mortar), corrosion or holes.
- Check fireplaces for closed or blocked flues.
- Check with a qualified technician before enclosing heating and hot water equipment in a smaller

room, to ensure there is adequate air for proper combustion.

- If you have a powerful kitchen exhaust fan or downdraft cooktop, have a qualified technician check that its operation does not pull fumes back down the chimney.
- Never use propane or natural gas stove tops or ovens to heat your home.
- Never start a vehicle in a closed garage; open the garage doors first. Pull the car out immediately onto the driveway, then close the garage door to prevent exhaust fumes from being drawn into the house.
- Do not use a remote automobile starter when the car is in the garage; even if the garage doors are open.
- Never operate propane, natural gas or charcoal barbecue grills indoors or in an attached garage.
- Avoid the use of a kerosene space heater indoors or in a garage. If its use is unavoidable provide combustion air by opening a window while operating. Refuel outside after the unit has cooled.
- Never run a lawnmower, snowblower, or any gasoline-powered tool such as a whipper snipper or pressure washer inside a garage or house.
- The use of fossil fuels for refrigeration, cooking, heat, and light inside tents, trailers, and motorhomes can be very dangerous. Be sure that all equipment is properly vented to the outside and use electric or battery-powered equipment where possible.
- Regularly clean the clothes dryer ductwork and outside vent cover for blockages such as lint, snow, or overgrown outdoor plants.
- A **carbon monoxide detector** or **CO detector** is a device that detects the presence of the [carbon monoxide](#) (CO) gas in order to prevent [carbon monoxide poisoning](#). CO is a colorless and odorless compound produced by incomplete combustion. It is often referred to as the "silent killer" because it is virtually undetectable without using detection technology. Elevated levels of CO can be dangerous to humans depending on the amount present and length of exposure. Smaller concentrations can be harmful over longer periods of time while increasing concentrations require diminishing exposure times to be harmful.
- CO detectors are designed to measure CO levels over time and sound an alarm before dangerous levels of CO accumulate in an environment, giving people adequate warning to safely ventilate the area or evacuate. Some system-connected detectors also alert a monitoring service that can dispatch emergency services if necessary.
- While CO detectors do not serve as [smoke detectors](#) and vice versa, dual smoke/CO detectors are also sold. Smoke detectors detect the smoke generated by flaming or smoldering fires, whereas CO detectors detect and warn people about dangerous CO buildup caused, for example, by a malfunctioning fuel-burning device. In the home, some common sources of CO include open flames, space heaters, water heaters, blocked chimneys or running a car inside a garage.
- **Please check with [Home Building Centre](#), [As You Wish](#) and [Twilight Services Ltd.](#) for Carbon Monoxide Detectors.**

Greetings From Recreation!

Kiki Karnival was a great weekend and I would like to thank all the groups and the staff whose hard work made it a success. This was my first time organizing a Kiki Karnival and I must say it was a lot of work and even more fun! Lucky for me I have a great boss to help me out and show me the ropes. I absolutely love community events when everyone comes together like that. The Food Fair put on by Women's Hockey was phenomenal, I spent an hour just wandering around eating, it was a pregnant girl's dream!

Minor Hockey hosted the Community Dinner, 4H hosted the pancake breakfast, Women's Hockey hosted the Food Fair and the beer gardens, the Grad class of 2012 hosted the bingo and The Daycare hosted the dance. It is the volunteers of the community that make these events possible, and they deserve huge recognition and thank you! I have heard a lot of positive feedback about the weekend and I'm glad everyone enjoyed themselves. The hockey tournament was great! We had five teams and it was won by "The Eagles" a local Lower Post team.

Our next big event coming up is the second annual snowmobile Hill Drags and Iron Man Competition, which is a town event run in partnership with the Outdoor Rec Club as well as the Ski Club. These will take place March 30th, 31st and April 1st at our beautiful Mt Maichen ski hill. The Friday will be a Meet and Greet, the Saturday will be the Drags and then the Sunday will be the Iron Man. Last year was a learning experience and this year will have some changes. There will be no shuttle bus this year as well as no charge at the gate to get in. If you are interested in volunteering please contact myself or Alyssa at the recplex. This is an annual event that was started last year and we are looking forward to hosting it for years to come, and we look forward to seeing you there.

I hope you have all had a wonderful winter and are looking forward to the coming spring. I don't know about you, but it seems like it was summer only yesterday and here it is on the doorstep again! I guess time really does fly when you are having fun! As usual, if you have any thoughts, ideas or activities that you would like to share with the community please do not hesitate to contact me at the information provided below.

Meaghen Kimmitt

Recreation Programmer
Town of Watson Lake
recreation@watsonlake.ca
867-536-8022

Watson Lake Recycling Centre

536-2000

Email: recycling@watsonlake.ca

HOURS OF OPERATION:

Tuesday – Friday	11:00 – 5:30
Saturday	10:00 – 5:30

A Reminder: The Depot will be closed Friday February 24 thru Wednesday Feb 29. We will return to our normal hours of operation Thursday March 1. There will be no drop off of bulk cardboard during this period.

The outside drop-off area for non-refundables will be unattended for 6 days....if you can wait until we re-open before dropping items off, it would be greatly appreciated. If you **MUST** drop items off before we re-open, please try and fit them into the bags as compactly as possible. Please do not drop off loose papers/magazines/soft plastics during this period.

Corrugated Cardboard: If you have large pieces of cardboard (furniture boxes?) or a very large number of smaller boxes, please do not use the outside drop-off bag. Come by the Depot while we are open. You will be directed to the back door and we will take the cardboard directly into the Depot and deal with it there. This will be faster and easier for you, and will save the space in the bag for many smaller drop-offs. One large box, semi-twisted up and shoved improperly onto the top of the drop-off bag pretty much fills it up and leaves nowhere else for the next people to put their cardboard. That creates a big problem and mess after hours and on weekends.

Outside Drop-Off Area: Despite our attention to it, this area gets quite slippery. Proceed with care!

Large Orders: During the spring, we frequently have people bring in very large amounts of refundable containers. Please give us a quick call if you are bringing in a large amount and check how busy we are. We can't give you any guarantees of timing, but if we already have 3 trucks waiting in the parking lot, we will tell you so that you can time your visit accordingly.

Spring Cleaning & Household Hazardous Waste: As you go about spring cleaning, and the re-opening of sheds and greenhouses that you haven't entered since last fall, please keep the following in mind:

Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) are the waste products that are found in our kitchens, bathrooms, yards, basements and garages – formerly useful, but hazardous products used in and around the house. These items should not go into the dump, but generally do. Some examples of HHW are aerosol cans, single use propane cylinders, unfinished containers of laundry and stain removers, toilet cleaners, wax strippers, drain cleaners, oven cleaners, acetone, insect repellent and weed killer. This is a very short list of some common examples. If you have any of these items that you would have previously taken to the Landfill, please hold onto them until our annual HHW Disposal Day in September. Call us for more information.

Proper Disposal of Paint:

Oil based paints – keeps tightly sealed and bring to the Depot **ONLY** at our Household Hazardous Waste Day in September.

Water based paints - leave the container open until any leftover paint is completely dry, then put them on the Metals pile at the landfill.

Town Website: The Recycling Depot now has all basic information available on the Town website....cont.

Go to:

<http://www.watsonlake.ca>

Town Government
Municipal Services

At the bottom of the page, under Recycling Center, there is a link to click on for Recycling Information.

Please let me know if there is other information you would like to see posted there

Watson Lake Signposts in 1944



LANDFILL – HOURS OF OPERATION

The Watson Lake Landfill hours of operation are as follows.

Monday 12:00 pm – 6:00 pm

Closed; Tuesday & Wednesday
Thursday – Sunday
12:00 pm – 6:00 pm

The Landfill will be closed all statutory holidays.

All Commercial Waste must be weighed at the Yukon Government weigh scales and weigh slips presented to the Town Office.

The Town of Watson Lake does not accept: Concrete, asbestos or petroleum products at the landfill site.

NORTHERN LIGHTS CENTRE

The Northern Lights Centre applied to CDF funding to acquire a full dome northern lights show called "Experiencing the Aurora". This show was made by Evans and Southerland. They had a crew filming in the arctic for seven months. We received a phone call the other day telling us we were successful in our application. We should have the show installed by the end of March and as soon as we can we will do a free premier of the show for the town.

Town of Watson Lake Web Page

www.watsonlake.ca (Check it out)

PANCAKE & SAUSAGE SUPPER!!

When: Tuesday – February 21, from 5 to 6:30 P.M.

Where: At the Signpost Seniors Building.

Price: Your free-will donation at the door.

(recommended gift: \$5 ea. or \$12 per family)

These funds will help our churches to meet certain community events as they present themselves.

Come friends and families and enjoy!

Sponsored by the Churches of Watson Lake



In 1942, 27,000 soldiers and civilians punched a military road through the untamed wilderness of Canada and Alaska. In August, 97 historic military vehicles will celebrate the 70th Anniversary of the building of the Alaska Highway by convoying 4,100 miles in 27 days through Canada and Alaska. Over 250 members of the Military Vehicle Preservation Association will arrive in Watson Lake on August 6 and spend all day August 7 in town.



February is....

Heart Health Month

Get to know your heart



Mt. Maichen Ski Hill

Weekends 11:00 am – 4:00 pm

Concessions open same hours as the ski hill

Closed if temperature is -25C or colder

Night skiing

Wednesday's 6:30 to 9:30pm

Friday's 6:30 to 10pm

The skiing conditions are amazingly good thanks to the excellent grooming done by volunteersMt. Maichen



Greyhound Depot Hours

Monday to Friday

9am to Noon

&

5pm to 10 pm

(Closed between noon and 5pm)

Saturday

2:30 to 10:30



Greyhound Bus Schedule

NORTH BOUND BUS

From the South

(Ft. Nelson to Watson Lake)

Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday

Arrives @ 10:10pm

Leaves to Whitehorse @ 10:15pm

SOUTH BOUND BUS

From the North

(Whitehorse to Watson Lake)

Monday, Wednesday and Friday

Arrives @ 7:15pm

Leaves to Ft. Nelson @ 7:40pm

MEMBERS OF COUNCIL

Mayor

Richard Durocher

Councillors

Cynthia Armstrong

Howard Fick

Bev Lister

Rick Relkoff

Leigh Relkoff (Youth Clr)