
THE TOWN CRIER



JULY, 2014

We take this opportunity to issue a special edition of the Town Crier on three subjects of importance to the community: a legal challenge against the Yukon government, the results of a petition on waste management and a study on our landfill. These topics can be technically complicated, so please feel free to approach me and I will address any question you may have.

Legal Challenge:

On July 9, the Liard First Nation and the Town of Watson Lake issued the following press release:

The Liard First Nation and the Town of Watson Lake have today filed a Statement of Claim in the Yukon Supreme Court against the Government of Yukon for environmental abuses in Watson Lake. This marks the first time in the history of the Yukon that a First Nation and a local government have joined forces as co-plaintiffs in an action against the territorial government. It also marks the first time that the Environment Act has been used against the very government that introduced it.

The challenge identifies two issues that are of concern to the plaintiffs. Hydrocarbons emanating from the Alaska Highway and its right of way are being discharged into fish bearing waters, Wye Lake, which eventually flows into the Liard River. Significant testing has been conducted and contaminants from gas and diesel have been observed at levels up to 7,450 ug/L. Yukon defines contamination at 5,000 ug/L and the results are thus well beyond that threshold, although the plaintiffs do not believe that any level of contamination is acceptable.

The second issue stems from the systematic release of hydrocarbons from Yukon garages and offices into the Town's sewer system. Elevated levels of hydrocarbons in the Town's lagoon system were observed and in an attempt to determine the source, Town officials tested Yukon's sewer lines which showed levels up to 37,700 ug/L, more than seven times the level of contamination. The Town does not allow the discharge of any hydrocarbons and the plaintiffs are concerned with the proximity of the lagoon system to the Liard River.

Yukon was informed of these issues after which the Town proceeded to plug Yukon's sewer system in order to avoid further contamination. After doing so, Yukon questioned the Town's authority, instructed them to re-open the lines, and threatened the Town for all costs due to the disruption of service. In repeated communications, Yukon minimized the volume of the discharge and the Premier has defined the contamination as "alleged" despite laboratory data, disclosed to the Yukon, that clearly indicated otherwise.

"The irony is that Yukon, through the Yukon Water Board, is demanding a remediation plan for our sewage lagoon and it has placed demands that we spend \$100,000 on hydro-geological wells to ensure no leakage occurs into the Liard River" stated Richard Durocher, Mayor of Watson Lake. "In light of our discovery, the demands are absurd. Our community will not spend one cent on a problem created by the very government that has ordered we clean it up".

The Statement of Claim asks the Court to impose a multitude of remedies, all of which revolve around the clean-up of the sewage lagoon and the Alaska Highway right of way. Precise figures for the clean-up will not be known until a Level II Environmental Review is ordered by the Court, one of the requests being made by the Plaintiffs, but preliminary figures indicate remediation in excess of \$20 million.

"The Yukon Government wants us to believe they can properly monitor and enforce environmental standards in the Peel Watershed and on lands where fracking is to occur, but they can't even clean up their own backyard. Their conduct is hypocritical. Their behavior demonstrates why so many Yukoners are concerned with the environmental and First Nations attitudes of this government" stated Cindy Porter, Councillor for the Liard First Nation.

Neither plaintiff is seeking any direct monetary compensation.

The plaintiffs are represented by Geoff Plant, QC, former Attorney General of British Columbia and a major figure in that province's New Relationship, a policy directive that closes the gap between Aboriginal people and BC communities.

For further information:

Richard Durocher
Mayor
Town of Watson Lake

Cindy Porter
Deputy Chief
Liard First Nation

The Town originally noticed high hydrocarbon levels in its sewage lagoon and the water vaults that empty into Wye Lake. Both contaminants jeopardize the Liard River. These tests were required under a permit with the Yukon Water Board. The Town eventually isolated a multitude of sources and the parties have been in discussion with Yukon to clean the abuse. These discussions have led to nothing but gamesmanship and the plaintiffs have thus taken the next step.

Since taking the Mayor's chair, I have always advocated transparency but on this issue, I trust you see the need for discretion in what we release to the public. Both the LFN and Town Councils are aware of our objectives and our strategies, but we will not hamper our legal team by openly releasing more information than is what before you. The matter is now before the Courts, we are confident of the end result, and we are saddened that Yukon is not living up to its obligations as defined by territorial statute.

Petition:

On May 20 the Town received a petition at which time we engaged a lawyer for a legal opinion on its validity. That opinion has now returned.

There are a multitude of reasons which render the petition inconsistent with the Municipal Act but we will isolate one so that residents can understand that Council cannot **legally** hold a referendum. In discussions with Yukon prior to the release of the legal opinion, they share our concern. Here are extracts from that legal opinion:

The problem is that the question put forth (in the petition) is poorly written and it is not clear how the Town is to proceed in the event of a "Yes" vote. The petition states:

Do you agree that within 180 days the Town of Watson Lake must replace bylaw 012-05 the "Waste Management Bylaw" and that the replacement "Waste Management Bylaw" must be publicly approved through a referendum?

The *Municipal Act* does not contain any provisions dealing with unclear petitions. However the issue has arisen in Saskatchewan.

In *Kindersley (Town) v. McTaggart*, 2000 SKQB 130 the court stated as follows at para 11-13:

A review of s. 88 also suggests that the request of the petitioners for a bylaw must be sufficiently detailed so that neither the council nor the court is required to second-guess what the content or terms of the proposed bylaw should be...

In the circumstances of the case before me, it is very unlikely that the council could prepare a bylaw for the consideration of the electors without the advice of legal counsel skilled in matters involving municipal taxation. It is also very unlikely that legal counsel could prepare such a bylaw without making discretionary assumptions and decisions about numerous significant issues that are not addressed in the request of the petitioners. In my view, if a request for a bylaw in a petition lacks sufficient particulars so that council would be required to fill in the gaps in this fashion in order to put a bylaw to the electors, then that request is not a legal request pursuant to s. 88 and council is not required to act on it.

Legislation permitting electors to have a direct say in the administration of their municipality is of little value unless it can be enforced by the court. Section 88(1) requires the council to "...introduce a bylaw in accordance with the request of the petitioners..." The court cannot compel council to do so, by way of *mandamus* or otherwise, unless the request for the bylaw submitted by petitioners is sufficiently detailed to permit the court to specify what the council is to do. As well, the court could not determine an application under s. 88(1.1) and (1.4) if the request of the petitioners in effect left the determination of issues to the discretion of council.

Also from Saskatchewan, the Court of Queen's Bench dealt with an unclear petition in *Thorson v. Regina (City)*, 2004 SKQB 154. The court declined to rule on whether a municipality could refuse a petition that is "unclear" because it was unnecessary but did make the following comments:

In view of the conclusions and decisions reached by the Court with respect to the fundamental question of jurisdiction it is unnecessary for the Court to deal with the two further grounds argued by the City in opposition to this application. The question of whether or not the petition, by its wording, is too vague and uncertain (based upon the principles set out by Baynton J. in the *Kindersley (Town) v. McTaggart*, 2000 SKQB 130, 192 Sask. R. 268 (Sask. Q.B.)) or falls within one of the stated exceptions set out by subsection 106(3) of *The Cities Act* are unnecessary for the Court to rule upon. Suffice it to say that when a referendum calls for the expenditure or potential expenditure of large sums of public monies as much certainty and clarity as is reasonably possible under the circumstances with respect to the criteria to be applied in determining those amounts or a formula for their calculation are necessary. It would not be appropriate for either the City or its citizens to be asked to support the expenditure of an uncertain but large amount of money for what may be up to three years through a referendum vote on a question that is vague or uncertain or does not specify the amount to be spent.....continued

In my opinion the Town is justified in rejecting the petition due to a lack of clarity in the question and that the onus is on the petition makers to propose a new bylaw.

Uncertainty also arises primarily from the word "replace". I think that one could reasonably infer that all or most signatories to the petition—at least those who understood it—are dissatisfied with the Waste Management Bylaw and would like to see some changes. That much seems clear.

What is not clear is whether signatories intended to create a vacuum in the law. If the petition were read to state that the "Town of Watson Lake must repeal bylaw 012-05" such an inference could be drawn. However it uses the word "replace". What is to happen if the replacement bylaw is rejected by voters? Is the Waste Management bylaw of no force and effect? Is the previous bylaw back in force?

These "what ifs", in my opinion, render the petition one that council cannot be compelled to act on.

The above opinion leaves Council with an appreciation of the discontent with the bylaw, but provides no solution on how to proceed. May I suggest two solutions for you?

One, Council is in the process of holding a charette for the community, to be held in the fall. The topic area will address how municipal government operates. After listening these last few months, there is a misunderstanding on how local government operates, and a failure to weigh the increased responsibilities downloaded upon us. We just received a 10 Year Solid Waste Study for our landfill that estimates closure costs at \$2.7 million. Don't you think we need to reduce waste? Where do you think we should obtain these monies? The charette will hopefully inform the community on how we operate with issues much more complex than they were a decade ago. Some do not wish to pay \$20 a month, but please tell us where we are to find \$2.7million or the numerous regulatory costs that confront us annually?

My second suggestion concerning the petition is to write me with precise recommendations for change. We hear that some are concerned with user fees, others are not; some wish curbside recycling collection, others find the current system fine; some want commercial pickup, others do not; some want to use our garbage bins, others do not; some want increased landfill hours but no increase in staff; some want the recycling centre to stay, others understand the need to consolidate staff functions. Council has made decisions on each of these issues so if you have ideas that improve how we operate, let us know.

Approach me and write down your suggestions. This does not mean we automatically react to every wish as there are often greater or more far-reaching impacts on our community, but I promise to listen, to see whether the proposed changes are appropriate.

Thank you for understanding these issues. Government has become more difficult over the years. We ask that you undertake this journey in a creative and constructive manner, not an antagonistic one.

Good News on Landfill:

Environmental consultants engaged by the territorial government have completed a 10 Year Waste Management Study of our landfill. The report is required as part of the Town's waste management permit which expires on December 31. The draft report has now been completed and is being reviewed by Yukon.

The study states that if recycling initiatives are continued, the Town should be able to reduce 50% of current materials from its landfill. As you may have noticed, our recycling centre is already burdened by increased volume, and we commend all residents for their efforts. It is slowly working.

The study also states that we should be able to factor a 5:1 compacting ratio and once that is accomplished, the landfill should be good for another 20 years. The study continues to estimate the possibility of 50 years but those projections are, in the opinion of the Town, predicated on our population and the efficiency of our operation.

The study provides guidance on a variety of operations which we could implement. Some are already underway.

Bad news? The study estimates that the closure plan will cost \$2.7 million. The precise cost will be dependent on what environmental mitigation measures will be required but the study nevertheless provides a gauge as to what to expect.

After the report is reviewed by Yukon, it will be finalized and posted to the Town's website.

Richard Durocher

Mayor

July 15, 2014

HOME OWNER'S GRANTS

Yukon Homeowners who have paid their property taxes in full and were living in their home on January 1st for 184 days (six months) of the tax year are eligible to receive the YTG Home Owners Grant.

The Town of Watson Lake has mailed property owners whose taxes are paid by a mortgage company a Home Owner's grant application form. Please complete the form and submit it along with a copy of your receipt to:

Government of Yukon
Community Services
Property & Assessment & Taxation (C9)
Box 2703, Whitehorse
Yukon, Y1A 2C6

YTG provides a grant of 50% of the general taxes, up to a maximum of \$450.00 per household. Yukon Senior residents (65 years of age or older in the current tax year) are eligible for a grant of 75% of the general taxes, up to a maximum of \$500.00.

The Home Owner's grant application deadline is February 15th of the following tax year.



DEVELOPMENT PERMITS

PLEASE REMEMBER THAT A DEVELOPMENT PERMIT IS REQUIRED IF YOU ARE DOING ANY CONSTRUCTION, ENGINEERING, EXCAVATION OR OTHER OPERATION IN, ON, OR OVER LAND, OR THE MAKING OF ANY MATERIAL CHANGE IN THE USE OF ANY BUILDING OR LAND.

Watson Lake Zoning By-Law states:

Section 3 (1) No development shall be carried out without a Development Permit issued under this by-law.

Development Permit fee: Residential \$30.00
Commercial \$50.00

A Development Permit is separate from a Building permit and must be obtained prior to a building permit being issued. Building permits are obtained from the YTG Building Inspector.

If you have any questions please call the Town Office at 536-8000



BURNING PERMITS

Burning permits are available at the Energy, Mines & Resources Building. There is no charge for these permits. Please respect our community and obtain a burning permit prior to burning in your yard. Please contact 536-7335 for more information.

TOWN OF WATSON LAKE

BY-LAW 14-04

SCHEDULE "A"

SOLID WASTE FEES

A BY-LAW TO PROVIDE FOR THE COLLECTION, STORAGE, TRANSPORTATION AND DISPOSAL OF SOLID WASTE IN THE TOWN OF WATSON LAKE

- Waste Curbside Collection - Eligible premises \$20.00 unit/month
- Waste Curbside Collection – Eligible premises Persons over 65 years of age \$10.00/unit/month
- Waste Organic material - small load \$5.00 per load
- Waste Domestic Animal carcasses-small \$7.00 each
- Waste Domestic Animal carcasses-large \$15.00 each
- Waste Bulky items ie. Couch, recliners etc. \$10.00 each
- Waste Bedsprings, mattresses \$15.00 each
- Waste C&D and wood - small load \$23.50 each
- Waste C&D Sorted large load - to be weighed \$69.00/ tonne
- Waste Large metal recovery (small load) \$23.90 each
- Waste Large metal recovery (weighed) \$70.55/Tonne
- Waste large metal recovery (vehicle bodies) \$ 250.00 each
- Waste White goods \$15.00 each
- Waste White goods (containing refrigerant) \$40.00 each
- Waste Residual waste-up to 2 bags free per weekly pickup
- Waste Residual Waste - bags in excess of 2 bags/ weekly pickup \$2.00/tag/bag
- Waste Residual Small load (Max 2mX2.5mX.3m or 6'X8'X2') 10.00 each
- Waste Residual Medium load (Max 2mX2.5mX1.2m or 6'X8'X4') 20.00 each
- Waste Residual Waste Sorted large load - to be weighed \$69.00/Tonne
- Waste Mixed Waste C&D unsorted large load - to be weighed \$250.00/Tonne
- Waste Mixed Waste Un-sorted large load - to be weighed \$250.00/Tonne
- Waste Banned Landfill Waste E-Waste - Audio - Small \$5.00 each
- Waste E-Waste - Audio - Large \$10.00 each

- Waste Waste E-Waste - Computer - Small
\$10.00 each
- Waste Waste E-Waste - Computer - Large
\$15.00 each
- Waste E-Waste - Monitors - Small Flat
\$15.00 each
- Waste E-Waste - Monitors - Large Flat
\$30.00 each
- Waste E-Waste - Monitors - Small CRT
\$20.00 each
- Waste E-Waste - Monitors - Large CRT
\$40.00 each
- Waste E-Waste - Handheld
\$1.00 each
- Waste E-Waste - Copy Equipment - Small
\$10.00 each
- Waste E-Waste - Copy Equipment - Large
\$40.00 each
- Waste Tires with an inner diameter greater than 62
cm (24.5 inches) \$40.00 each
- Waste Load inspection fee \$100.00 for
misrepresenting content
- Waste Uncovered Load
\$250.00 each
- Waste Permit to Collect Waste
\$100.00
- Waste Permit to Dispose Waste
\$100.00
- Waste Permit to Transport Waste
\$100.00
- Waste Curbside collection – religious organizations
No Charge

Greetings From Recreation,

July 14, 2014

Finally we have some incredible, sunny, fantastic, summer weather! How many of you were burnt after this incredible weekend? I have seen a few doozies for sure. Weather like this makes living in a community with 6 lakes (yup, 6!) a wonderful thing, doesn't it? I hope you were all able to get out there and enjoy at least part of it. Lucky Lake has got to be one of the best places on earth, in my humble opinion. It is my summer happy place.

Canada Day has come and gone, it was a fantastic turn out and a truly wonderful day. I think the sunshine had a lot to do with it ☺ and I know that the volunteers and my co-workers were who made it happen. I would like to take a moment and say a few thank-you's. Thank-you to the Riding Association for doing the concession, such a hard working group of volunteers that work cohesively like a well-oiled machine. As usual your service was exemplary. I would also like to thank the volunteer Fire Department for their spray down of the kids and candy toss, something the kids look forward to every year. Thank you to the Mayor for delivering a touching speech in the dedication of Lucky Lake's new park in honour and remembrance of Jaedyn Amann.

As well as a huge thank to my co-workers who worked very hard through pouring rain to make sure that Jaedyn's Park was in time for the celebration, as well as setting everything up for the big day. They are a great crew to work with, which makes days like Canada Day a lot of fun to run. And last but definitely not least, I would like to thank the community for showing up and making it a great event! I was quite nervous, as it was my first time running this event and it was wonderful to see how happy and involved everyone was. Thank you Watson Lake!

Shaun Perry is going to be hosting Thai Chi Movement twice this month, Wednesday July 9th and Wednesday, July 16th. Weather permitting it will take place at Wye Lake Park at 7:15pm, the fee will be \$10. If the weather disagrees then it will take place at the Recplex. Shaun is the gentleman who runs Nu-Growth Therapeutics and he is frequently in Watson Lake, perhaps if he has a good enough turn out he will be compelled to teach it every time he is in town.



The first annual Watson Lake Volunteer Firefighter Golf Tournament is going to be taking place the weekend of July 26th and 27th! This is a standard 18 hole, four person team, best ball tournament with standard rules. Friday night horse race \$20, \$100 early registration or \$150 to register the day of the tournament with all of the entry fees being redistributed as prize money. To register please contact Scott MacLean at the fire hall 536-8008 or Chris Irvin at Watson Lake Foods. This will be a licensed event with the proceeds going to the volunteer fire department. Sunday there will be a follow up BBQ at Upper Liard Lodge, this is not included in the registration fee. This looks like a very fun event, and what a fun and hard-working crew to run it.



Born and raised, Watson Laker turned international star! - Mackenzie Brown will be doing a concert on Saturday July 26th @ 9:00pm, with all of the door proceeds going to Cystic Fibrosis. You can look Mackenzie up on You Tube, just type in her name. After her show we can play some iPod music and have ourselves a bit of a dance. This is going to be fun night for a great cause so please come out and show your support. A huge pre-emptive thank you to our awesome volunteer fire department for running the dance for us (they are running the golf tournie this weekend as well!), I am sure they are going to do a terrific job as usual. This is taking place the Saturday night of the golf tournament so make sure you finish your round of golf early enough to hit the show! Looking like it's going to be a fantastic weekend all around.

Arts in the Park and the Farmer's Market are running every Saturday at 3:00pm, at Wye Lake Park. If you are interested in putting in a table you can feel free to just show up with your table and set up. Any questions please contact Corrine Zozula at 536-8020, she is the organizer and the lady selling the AMAZING baked goods. So come on out, pull up a chunk of lawn and

enjoy the live music and homemade goodies 😊



Discovery Day Weekend is next month, and with it is

the 10th Annual Buddy Taylor Memorial Ball Tournament. Cheryl O'Brien and the Riding Association make the ball tournament happen, and they do a fantastic job of it. I honestly don't know what I would do without them. We are hoping for ten teams this year, making the tournament run from Friday night till Monday afternoon. This is always a fantastic and action packed weekend. I am really hoping for a large and wonderful parade this year, so please consider entering a float. Think of the children! There are prizes for different categories and you can seriously decorate anything you want and enter it, kids can decorate bikes, parents can decorate strollers, decorate your boat, Harley, heck you can even decorate your dog! Get creative Watson Lake! For a lot of our locals this is the only parade they get to see so let's make it a seriously fantastic event for the whole community. It takes a community to make a community so let's make this parade something for these kids to remember! As usual the parade will end at Wye Lake Park where the festivities will continue. We are going to have *Watson Lake's Got Talent* at 1:00pm and if you are interested in entering please register at the recplex free of charge. This is not a competition but a showcase of our community's talents, so please come out and see what we have to offer. The people involved in the show would love their community's support 😊 If you would like to volunteer for this weekend please contact me and I will give your name to the organizations that are running the different events for us. I am sure they would love your help.



I was golfing on ladies night a few weeks ago and the conversation turned onto the subject of having a winter carnival here in Watson Lake, kind of like a smaller scale Rendezvous. We already have Kiki Karnival but it is hard to do other events during that weekend because everyone is either playing hockey, watching hockey, volunteering, or all three. This winter carnival will just be activities, and I need YOUR help in thinking up fun events, a great name, and volunteers to help run it. So if there are activities that you would like to participate in please let me know! We can do things like tea boiling and wife packing. I am going to do a community wide contest this winter to name our new carnival, so get creative! I was thinking that January would be a good month, November and March are wild

cards for weather with no guarantee of snow, December is all about Christmas and February is action packed with Kiki, Rendezvous and the Open Air Bonspiel. So our sleepy, quiet month of January is going to have a super fun event thrown into its midst! This new, local tradition has the potential to be a lot of fun. Are you excited? I am!

Meaghen Kimmitt
Recreation Programmer/
Personal Fitness Trainer
Town of Watson Lake
fitness@watsonlake.ca
(867)536-8023

"Be the change you want to see in the world" -Mahatma Gandhi

WATSON LAKE BYLAW

Off-Road Vehicles

Please use caution when using your off-road vehicle in Town boundaries. Follow the speed limits, drive respectfully and keep unnecessary noise to a minimum. You must follow the rules of the road - that includes stopping at Stop Signs, and slowing down in School & Playground zones.

Fences in Bed Repair

Please ensure that your fence is in good repair and maintained. Notices will be given out to anyone in violation over the duration of the summer.

Animal Bylaw

Remember that all dogs must be on a leash. Fines start at \$75.00 and will be issued.

Animal Control Contact: 867-536-4766
Our Animal Control Officer works evenings & weekends.

House Numbers

Make sure your house has the correct number, and that it is visible from the street.

--
Michael Wilson
Bylaw Enforcement Officer
Watson Lake, YT
Cell: 867-536-4772
Email: M.Wilson@Watsonlake.Ca

PET SAFETY: Your pets in the summer heat!

Even with windows open, a parked car can quickly reach more than 150 degrees resulting in heat stroke, permanent brain damage or death to your pet. Never leave your dog or cat unattended in the car for even a few minutes.

Pets don't sweat! Panting works like an evaporative cooling system bringing in cool air only if there is any. An air-conditioned house is safest for your pet, but the next best thing is a well-ventilated/insulated doghouse or a shaded porch with a fan or misting system. Provide fresh water all day long making sure that outside bowls remain in the shade even when the sun moves in the late afternoon. Outside food bowls should be placed in a pan containing a few inches of water to keep ants out.

Hot concrete & asphalt can burn precious paws! Walk your pets during the cool parts of the day and stick to the grass. If it's too hot for your bare feet, it's too hot for paws. Dog shoes are great on hot surfaces for short periods of time, but since heat is expelled from the pads of the feet, your dog is likely to overheat if his paws are covered for long.

BBQ Tips

All barbeque grills must only be used outdoors — using grills indoors or in enclosed spaces is not only a fire hazard, but it exposes occupants to toxic gasses and potential asphyxiation.



Always position the grill well away from combustible objects — buildings, fences, deck railings and landscaping can easily and quickly ignite.

Get your grill cleaned and serviced. Check all propane tanks and lines for leaks and damage.

Never leave a lit grill unattended.

Always use long handled grilling utensils and heat resistant oven mitts to avoid exposure burns from heat and flames.

Periodically remove grease build-up in catch trays to prevent it from igniting.

Keep a garden hose nearby, connected and ready for use in case of a fire.

Watson Lake's Laverdure pins spot at world championships

YUKON NEWS: Tom Patrick Friday July 11, 2014



Laverdure has been named to Team Canada for the FILA World Wrestling Championships this September in Tashkent, Uzbekistan.

She earned a spot on the team for the 55-kilogram weight class with a pair of wins during world team trials in Guelph, Ont., on Friday.

She then stayed in Guelph to compete at the Canada Cup the next day and took gold in the women's 53-kilogram division.

Laverdure is also set to represent Canada at the Pan-American Championships in Mexico City next week.

The following week she is off to Glasgow, Scotland, for the Commonwealth Games.

"It's crazy - I just looked at my schedule," said Laverdure. "I go to Mexico (on Sunday) and I think we're there until Thursday or Friday, then we come back and I think I'm there for four days and then I go to Scotland ... and I'm there for a while."

She'll take as much international competition as she can get these days. Laverdure sees it all as preparation for making and then competing at the 2016 Olympic Games, which the 32-year-old sees as her last shot at Olympic glory. She has twice been first-alternate for Canada's Olympic teams.

Laverdure will compete at 53 kilos at the Pan-American Championships and at 55 kilos at the Commonwealth Games.

"For me it's another opportunity to go to focus on that goal (of making the Olympics)," said Laverdure. "An opportunity to compete with some of the best in the world.

"That's why I'm going 53 at Pan-Ams next week, because I won't get to see those 53-kilogram people at worlds because I'll be at 55."

Laverdure went undefeated both days in Guelph. She steamrolled Liisa Wainman 10-0 and then clinched the spot at worlds with a 4-1 win over Brianne Barry.

She was set to face Barry a second time in the Canada Cup final but won by default when Barry forfeited the final to catch a flight to Hungary for the World University Championships.

The world championships in Uzbekistan will be Laverdure's fourth in her career. She won a bronze at the 2008 world championships in Japan and also took two fifth-place results at worlds in 2007 and 2012.

"They're going to try to get us acclimatized in Dubai, and then we'll fly from Dubai to Uzbekistan - but that's still in the works," said Laverdure.

Laverdure attempted to make Canada's worlds team in the 32 kilo class during team trials at the start of May in Calgary, Alta. She placed second and was first-alternate for the team.

Laverdure returned to competition after eight months away following shoulder surgery to win gold in the 53-kilogram weight class at the 2014 Senior National Championships in March. It was her first national title since 2009 when she won in the 55-kilogram class.

Laverdure, who competes out of the Dinos Wrestling Club in Calgary where she is a lawyer, is not the only Yukoner going to the Commonwealth Games.

Fellow Watson Laker Zach Bell is also on Canada's roster for the quadrennial event. The two-time Olympian will compete at his third Commonwealth Games in both road and track cycling.

Bell won a bronze medal in the scratch race at the 2010 Commonwealth Games in Delhi, India. He took in a fifth place finish at the 2006 Commonwealth Games in Melbourne, Australia.

"I've done a couple training camps with the team that's going, so I've been on (the track) but not tons," Bell told the News in a recent interview. "Obviously I've been focusing on the road with my road team this year."

Contact Tom Patrick at

tomp@yukon-news.com



TOWN COUNCIL MEETINGS

Council Meetings are held the first & third Tuesday of every month. The next scheduled Council meeting is Tuesday, August 5th at 7:00 pm.

Please approach members of Council on any agenda item that you wish to bring forward.

Mayor	Richard Durocher
Councillors	Tim O'Brien Brenda Leach Cynthia Kearns Thomas Slager

NORTHERN LIGHTS CENTRE

Daily presentations: 2-part presentation 55 Mins.

In our full-dome theatre

Black Holes

Experience the Aurora

867 536-7827 for more information

Northern Lights on the outskirts of Watson Lake

