



## Six Recipients to Receive Top Honours in Heritage

Once again YHMA is pleased to announce the winners of the Yukon Heritage Awards. The awards will be presented at a gala event at 7pm on the evening of May 30<sup>th</sup>, 2009 at the Yukon Transportation Museum in Whitehorse. All are welcome to join in the celebration for these outstanding individuals.

When we placed the call for nominations in February, our office was flooded with several quality suggestions for the Lifetime Achievement in Heritage Award. As the YHMA Board of Directors debated the contributions of each candidate, two grand ladies emerged from the list as the clear front runners. The board simply could not decide, and in a highly unusual occurrence, the board has resolved to present the 2008 Lifetime Achievement Award to two recipients: Gudrun Sparling and Babe Richards.

The ladies were nominated together by Jim Robb winning the boards vote with his description from his letter of nomination, “These ladies lived in Whitehorse when the towns population was 300-400 people, and have through the years, always shared their valuable knowledge, experience and history of the area, to both the general public and to the media. These two lifelong friends have contributed a lot through the years.”

YHMA will be presenting four awards: the Lifetime Achievement in Heritage Award, the Annual Heritage Award and the Helen Couch Volunteer of the Year Award, and the Historic Places Initiative Heritage Conservation Project of the Year Award. While the Heritage Conservation Project award is sponsored by the Yukon Department of Tourism and Culture’s Heritage Resources Unit, with the support of Parks Canada through the *Historic Places Initiative (HPI)*.

Lifetime Achievement in Heritage Award will be presented to Gudrun Sparling and Babe Richards for their lifelong dedication to sharing Yukon history. A concurrent nomination letter from Erin McMullan spoke of the ladies with spunk and enthusiasm, “Babe has approached her entire life as an adventure. Growing up in the town of Whitehorse, then-population 300, she grew up witness to its development and remains close friends with many of its prominent citizens, including Goody Sparling, who is still her best friend”. YHMA is pleased to honour two ladies who have contributed a true lifetime of building and preserving Yukon heritage.

Local Whitehorse and former Dawsonite Greg Skuce will be awarded The Annual Heritage Award for his years of dedication in the fields of industrial conservation and digital preservation. Greg has been monumental to many of Yukon’s large heritage projects from restoration of the trains in Dawson to his past years work with MacBride Museum renovations and Yukon Transportation Museum. He wins the award with a nod from the Yukon Transportation Museum and their staff’s appreciation of Greg’s unparalleled memory on museum collections and Yukon history. “Greg’s knowledge on varied topics is so impressive that at the Transportation Museum, we have coined a new phrase; if we need information about an artifact or about general history, rather than “Google” it, we “Greggle” it!.”

What's Happenin' Now: Yukon heritage and museums across the Territory.....

List of special events, training, conferences, AGM, deadlines. Do you have an event you think our readers may be interested in? YHMA members are welcome to send in their events at

0H [hyhma@northwestel.net](mailto:hyhma@northwestel.net)

■=Deadline ■=Course ■= Conference ■=Holiday ■=Event

April 29, 2009

Yukon Volunteer Bureau

**Budgeting for Non-Profits**

May 4-6, 2009 – Dawson City

May 29-June 1, 2009 - Whitehorse

**Interpretation Canada**

**Interpretive Skills Workshop**

May 7, 2009

**Histor!ca Fair Territorial Competition**

May 15, 2009

**Aboriginal Training Program in Museum Practices, Internship with Canadian Museum of Civilization**

**Application Deadline**

May 18, 2009

**International Museums Day**

May 18, 2009

**Victoria Day**

May 20, 2009

**Yukon Heritage Training Fund Application Deadline**

May 25-30, 2009

**Marketing & Development in Cultural Organizations, UVIC**

May 30, 2009

**YHMA AGM 2pm**

**Heritage Awards 7-10pm**

June 4-6, 2009

**Canadian Association of Science Centres 2009 Conference, Regina SK**

June 7-9, 2009

**2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Technology in the Arts: Canada Conference, Stratford, ON**

June 9, 2009

**Charities Directorate Information Session, Yukon College 9-noon**

June 21, 2009

**National Aboriginal Day**

June 24, 2009

**Saint Jean Baptist**

July 1, 2009

**Canada Day**

July 4, 2009

**Yukon Heritage Training Fund Application Deadline**

October 23-25, 2009

**YHMA Heritage Conference Yukon College, Whitehorse**

October 31-November 21, 2009

**Leadership skills for History Professionals Indianapolis, Indiana**

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The Helen Couch Volunteer of the Year award goes to Con Lattin for his many years and service to the MacBride Museum Board of Directors. Mr. Lattin has been instrumental to MacBride Museum's renovation and a longtime member of the MacBride Museum.

The Historic Places Initiative Conservation Project of the Year Award is presented annually to the person or group whose conservation work on a historic property best exemplifies the practices outlined in the Standards and Guidelines for the Conservation of Historic Places in Canada. This year the award will be presented to Matthias Bindig and Lauren Blackburn for their work on the Wernecke Mine Manager's House in Keno City, Yukon.

A special awards ceremony will take place on Saturday May 30<sup>th</sup>, at the Yukon Transportation Museum. The evening has been promised to be filled with laughter, libations, good music and a few special memories. If you would like to volunteer for the Yukon Heritage Awards please contact Erin Wall at YHMA, 3126 Third Avenue or by phone 867-667-4704.



### *From the Desk of Erin Wall...*

As we gear up for the coming tourism season, many may be wondering what the summer will bring. With low tourism projections from TIA Yukon and Holland America, the overwhelming thought is that there will be a few more summer students with time on their hands.

Well I say great! Time to do as mother told us, and 'turn that frown upside down' or 'make lemonade out of lemons', or any other colloquial saying meaning to get going and do something about it. My mother would have said "time to put on a little lipstick", a sentence uttered about everything from herself to organizing the house. A saying I thought was contrived and sexist, but as I grew older I understood it was more than appearances. She meant that tidying up and getting ready, makes you feel good from the inside out.

With extra hands in the office, YHMA is looking forward to accomplishing just that! Summer project include major overhauls of the filing systems, a little building maintenance, and maybe float around a few innovative ideas. It is a good time to clean our room and sort out our shoe boxes, so to speak. No, this may not be glamorous work but it is the necessary work that always gets pushed to sides as we prioritize our busy schedules.

With the economy taking a break from its usual chart climb, we have an employers market. In theory, those well paying jobs students usually clamour for won't be there causing more students to apply in heritage and more people willing to travel for employment. With choice of students, we should really take advantage of the situation and complete some major projects and prepare ourselves for future, so that when the economy once again dons its new hiking shoes beckoning our visitors back or the new \$500,000 YG marketing budget for overseas tourism development starts flooding our gates with a new demographic, we will be more ready then ever to teach, inspire and instil an appreciation of Yukon's incredible history.

# YHMA NEWS

WHAT IN THE WORLD HAVE WE BEEN UP TO?

## THE BUZZ

Letter to the Honourable James Moore:  
The Provincial Museums Associations came together to this month to write a letter requesting further disclosure on the summative evaluation of the Museums Assistance Program. We eagerly await his reply.

New Marketing Campaign 2009-2010: YHMA will be hiring a new marketing manager to spearhead this years effort. Museums and contributing members will be contacted for their extensive input on the joint marketing program so far.

AGM & Heritage Awards:  
This years Events will be held May 29 & May 30, 2009

**YHMA AGM** is at Taylor House 412 Main street Whitehorse, 5pm-6pm  
**MAY 29, 2009**

**27<sup>th</sup> Annual Yukon Heritage Awards** will be held at the Yukon Transportation Museum 30 Electra Avenue, Whitehorse 7pm-9pm  
**MAY 30, 2009**

March Fundraiser:  
Thanks to Baked Café, Lauren Tuck and Lara McDonald for making an successful night.

CHIN Meetings in February were fruitful. Erin Wall, YHMA and David Schlosser, YG Collections headed to

Ottawa to meet with the Provincial Museums Associations, Heritage Canada, and the folks at CMA. Many great ideas came from these meetings. Look for upcoming notices.

## CHECK IT OUT - GREAT WEBSITES

[www.artbabble.org](http://www.artbabble.org): What could be more fun then a site dedicated to video about museums and art galleries!

[www.brooklynmuseum.org](http://www.brooklynmuseum.org) : navigate around a very simple to use website, their myspace.com page and become a first fan, their new social network to support the museum!

[www.indicommons.org](http://www.indicommons.org): The Commons was launched on January 16, 2008, by Flickr with the release of nearly 3,000 photographs from two popular Library of Congress collections.

[www.kelloggsadventurepass.ca](http://www.kelloggsadventurepass.ca): Kellogg's partnered with CMA for this promotion.

[www.kids.tate.org.uk](http://www.kids.tate.org.uk) : Webby nominated and so much fun! Just don't get caught playing on it at work \*or at least quickly quip something about ideas for your website

[www.greatmuseumstvseries.com](http://www.greatmuseumstvseries.com) : ok, this one is coming soon but it looks promising!

## HEADLINES OF INTEREST

Aboriginals give 1 M to Human Rights Museum:

"The Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs, together with the South Beach Casino, announced the gift yesterday, saying the project is very important to them and to all Manitobans." -Winnipeg Sun

Gathering for Dr. Catherine McClellan: A gathering was held at the Na'kwa'Ta'Ku Potlatch House to celebrate the Late Dr. McClellan. Carcross-Tagish First Nation Elder Ida Calmegane, and other Elders and researchers shared stories about Kitty's work recording FN traditions in their communities to produce her final publication *My Old People's Stories*."

## DOORS OPEN

**DAWSON** was a four-day event (March 25-28) consisting of presentations, workshops, the inaugural Pecha Kucha Night Dawson and tours.

Trolley Signs get Funding Approved sharing Yukon's history along Whitehorse waterfront

AGO cuts 70 position in cost saving move

YG News: Ed Krahn will continue as Yukon Government's Carcross and Special Projects Coordinator until March 31, 2011. Brian Groves will remain A/Manager, Museums Unit

Yukon Tourism Training Fund says goodbye to Kelly Fraser and hello to Amanda Dieckmann as fund administrator

## Winners of 2009 Yukon Students' Heritage Poster Contest Announced

The winners of this year's Yukon Students' Heritage Poster Contest have been announced by Tourism and Culture Minister Elaine Taylor.

"All entries received this year were very strong," Taylor said. "The quality of the students' drawings and accompanying statements clearly indicate the important role that heritage plays in the lives of our youth."



Kierra Smeeton's drawing depicting the Widdershin cabin on Second Avenue in Whitehorse won first place in the primary category.

Hanna Wirth's depiction of the S.S. Klondike won first place in the elementary category.



Both winners will be presented with an award and a poster of their drawing at the upcoming Historica Fair this spring. The Yukon Students' Heritage Poster Contest is a joint effort of the national Historic Places Initiative, Yukon Historical & Museums Association (YHMA), and Government of Yukon.

For more information on the contest, please visit [www.heritageyukon.ca](http://www.heritageyukon.ca).



## DAWSON CITY MUSEUM The Critical Link-Innovative Programming

The Dawson City Museum, in partnership with Yukon Energy, rolled out the innovative education program, **A Night in the Museum** on March 23, 24, 2009. Twenty Grades 5-6 students from Robert Service School participated in a hands-on experiential learning program and slept overnight in the Museum. **A Night in the Museum** is the first structured school program for the Dawson City Museum that will be open to elementary students across the Yukon Territory for years to come in its new format as a half-day program under the new title of *A Journey to the Klondike*. The program unites the students with the common goal of making the journey to the Klondike in search for adventure and new opportunities.

**A Night in the Museum** is an interactive program with elements that are 'cool and unique' to students. More specifically, the students assume the roles of historic characters and interact with each other as if they are from the time 1897-98. While one of the fun aspects of this program is the adventure of sleeping overnight in the

museum, more importantly; the students are engaged by activities that combine history with art. The students have an opportunity to gain multiple perspectives of the Klondike Gold Rush, while practicing their social studies skills and processes.

Jonathon Howe, aka Soapy Smith, tries to scam his audience



A large part of the pilot program's success was due to the high level of community involvement. The collaborative effort by the

students' school teachers, museum's group guides, special guest role players, and chaperone parents helped to create this student-centered program. Grade 5 and 6 teachers, Brenda Rear and Helen Dewell prepared their students by having them complete the Museum's Pre-Visit Activities, which included research on their historic identities and drawings of their characters in costume.

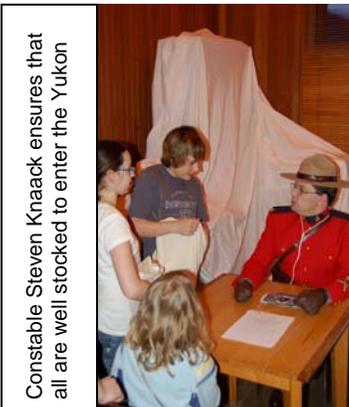
The program guides led their students through an imaginative learning journey. The creative minds of Suzanne Hale, Cari Tangedal, Renee Berquist and Andrea Parent allowed the students to retrace their characters' historic paths and their possible social interactions. Along the way, students were able to discover for themselves the hardships and rewards of getting to and arriving in the Klondike because of their team work and individual differences.



Group Leader Suzanne Hale and her team make one of the many trips up (or down) the Golden Staircase aka The Chilkoot.

A highlight of the program was the volunteer guest role players. A winter visitor to Dawson, Carol Gibson, a French and music teacher from Huntsville, Ontario, and Dawson residents, Jonathon Howe, Sylvia Burkhard, Constable Stephen Knaack, Byrun Chandler, Greg and Alex Hakonson added elements of surprise throughout the evening program. They played the roles of Seattle steamship ticket agent, Soapy Smith in Skagway, a Chilkoot Packer, a NWMP officer on the Chilkoot Pass, an experienced boater of Miles Canyon, and a Klondike Goldfields Miner. Their ability to participate in the program added an immeasurable depth to the students' journey. These volunteers presented realistic challenges to the students, requiring them to invent strategies to overcome their obstacles to reach for their dreams.

The program's two overnight chaperone parents also played an important role in the program. Sue Franks and Michelle Dubois stepped in to help create this Klondike dream. As mothers of two of the children, they added a supervisory presence by sleeping over at the Museum but also a group dynamic in their roles of Chilkoot packers.



Constable Steven Knaack ensures that all are well stocked to enter the Yukon

The Museum proved to be an invaluable educational resource and facility. The Klondike Library, books and photo collection, offered an infinite research opportunity for the context of the program. The artifacts and exhibits allowed the students opportunities to hone their observation and critical thinking skills. The Museum's props provided students with opportunities to touch and feel them, allowing them to imagine and therefore interact with the past. The dramatic architecture of the Old Territorial Administration Building and the intimate gallery spaces were transformed into historic stages and scenarios.

By drawing on all of these community resources, the Dawson City Museum and Yukon Energy accomplished their memorable goal. The evening of March 23 and 24 was unlike any other for the Grade 5 and 6 students in the Territory. **A Night in the Museum** proved to be effective, evocative, and curriculum-based school program that was more than just a field trip. Just ask the students or their parents. However, the quality of this innovative program can only be sustained by community involvement as it was on the premier event.



## Old Log Church Museum

We have had a busy year in 2008-2009 at the Old Log Church Museum and would like to share with everyone some of the highlights!

### The Bishop Who Ate His Boots Travelling Exhibit

This past year, the “Bishop Who Ate His Boots” travelling exhibition was hosted by the Maritime Discovery Centre in Port Alberni, BC and Musee Heritage in St. Albert, AB. It was well received at these locations, and this summer it is scheduled to go to the Peterborough Centennial Museum and Archives in Peterborough, Ontario. The exhibition is scheduled to travel across Canada until at least until 2010.

### Summer Season

We experienced a 3% increase in visitation over the previous year and museum shop sales increased by 14% over the previous year. My thanks to the summer staff who did a great job running the front line visitor services and other tasks assigned to them – Alison Lindsay, Owen Thompson, Sarah Murray and Joelle Hodgins.

### Summer Programmes

Barb Forsyth returned in July and August to present a new interpretive programme **Mrs. Bowen, Bompas and Stringer: Women of the Early Church**. In addition, she also delivered the returning programme: *Who Lies Beneath: Guided Walking Tours of Pioneer Cemetery*. Our regular slate of audio-visual programmes and the interactive Explore Herschel Island were also available.

### Photo Exhibit

On November 7 the opening reception of the new photo exhibit titled, *Connection to the Past, Legacy for the Future: 150 Years of the Anglican Church in the North*, made its debut in the Hougou Heritage Gallery at Arts Underground. The museum partnered with Yukon Archives to present the exhibit. This exhibit features themes such as: Early Missionaries, The Vanners, The Church During the Gold Rush, The Legacy of the Alaska Highway, Anglican Church in the Communities, and Notable Visitors to the Diocese of Yukon Churches. It consists of 27 frames which are comprised of photos and text. There is also a 60 min DVD which accompanies the exhibit. Umbelulla on the River did the catering. The opening was emceed by board member Arlene Kubica with guest speakers Elaine Taylor, Minister of Tourism & Culture and Sarah Usher, Diocese of Yukon. It was well attended. The photo exhibit remained open until the end of January and was well received by the public.. We hope to have it tour various churches, museums and other institutions in the Yukon in the coming year.

### Events

On June 15<sup>th</sup>, 2008 we held a book launch for *Northern Reflections*, Writings by Desmond Carroll, and Illustrated by Ted Harrison. It was an extremely successful event with well over 55 people attending. Yukon News interviewed Marion Carroll and Taryn and carried a full page article on Desmond Carroll, his wife Marion, and the book. Sales of the book were so popular we had to go to a second printing. Marion Carroll donated 25 books to the museum. Proceeds from book sales have been divided between the Old Log Church Museum and the Artist Retreat in Carcross.

On November 29<sup>th</sup>, 2008 we held a new event “Old Fashioned Christmas Sale”. During this special event, our gift shop had a fantastic new selection of beautiful and unique Victorian inspired Christmas decorations, ornaments and other gifts for sale. Visitors to the museum also enjoyed a wonderful festive atmosphere; snacks and goodies donated by Jeff Thistle and Millie Jones, listened to Christmas music and viewed a new Christmas themes exhibit with photos and artifacts from our museum collection. This event was a resounding success and we hope to make it an annual event.

## **Special Projects**

Two big projects that we have completed this year were the Risk Assessment and Disaster Plan and Permanent Exhibit Re-development Project: Phase 1.

A complete Risk Assessment and Disaster Plan has been created. Risk Assessment, Disaster Prevention, Health and Safety, Emergency Response Procedures, Recovery and Collections Salvage Procedures have all been addressed in this plan. The plan will continue to be evaluated and added to/edited as necessary. Collections salvage priorities will continue to be researched and added to the Disaster Plan. Thank you to Garnet Muething for her work on the Risk Assessment.

For the “Permanent Exhibit Re-Development Project: Phase 1 – Research and Development” an Exhibit Brief and draft Request for Proposals (RFP) was prepared. In addition, a significant portion of the research, storyline development, artifact selection/conservation work for this exhibit has been completed by Susan Twist and Daintry Chapple. Garnet Muething assessed the current permanent exhibit which has included: measurements and assessments of current exhibit cases, draft scale floor plan of current exhibit layout, description of exhibit space and specifications, photographs of current exhibit and church interior, deficiencies in current exhibit, condition reports of artifacts currently on display and reviewed preliminary artifact lists.

## **Training Partnership with Cultural Services, Museums Unit**

This year we have been participating in an exciting training partnership with the Cultural Services Branch, Museums Unit, YTG, the John Tizya Centre in Old Crow Yukon, and other Yukon heritage organizations. It is being overseen by Shelby Blackjack, First Nations Heritage Training Coordinator, YTG.

Dorothy Frost, Interpretive Guide at the John Tizya Interpretive Centre in Old Crow, Yukon has participated in several training sessions at the Old Log Church Museum on subjects such as Emergency Planning, collections management, conservation and most recently database management. This has been a great opportunity for our museum and has helped to forge and strengthen ties between Old Crow heritage staff, YTG and the Old Log Church Museum. We look forward to more opportunities for training and partnership in the future.



Yukon Government Photograph



## MacBride Museum

# Spring 2009 at MacBride

Saws are whirling and woodchips are flying as staff renovates the Museum's foyer and train shed in anticipation of this year's summer season. Stop by and see the changes for yourself in late-May.

## Exhibits



### Man's Best Friend: Mutts, Malamutes and Huskies in Yukon history

They work, they play, they protect and they love unconditionally. Yukon dogs have done it all. This collection of historic photographs from the MacBride Museum of Yukon History's collection explores the exceptional role that canines have played in building the territory and befriending its people. Now, add a photo of your dog to the exhibit. Just bring it in to Arts Underground and tape it up on the wall.

In the Hougen Heritage Gallery, Arts Underground (305 Main Street) until April 30, 2009. For information please call 667-2709 (ext.6)

### Yukon Erotica

Yukon Erotica: Actors, Dance Hall Girls and Ladies of the Night is now showing at the MacBride Museum. See the show and now you can take a painted lady home. Call 667-2709 (ext.6) to order an image from the show. Look for the Museum's series of Yukon Erotic postcards, calendars and other objects coming in 2009



## Programs

**Summer Camps** This summer MacBride is offering 8 weeks of summer camps

- June 22 – 26** Aurore of the Yukon (Ages 5-7)
- June 29 – July 3** Aurore of the Yukon (Ages 8-10)
- July 6 – 10** Yukon Secret Agents (Ages 5-7)
- July 13 – 17** Yukon Secret Agents (Ages 8-10)
- July 20 – 24** Yukon River Ghost (Ages 5-7)
- July 27 – 31** Yukon River Ghost (Ages 8-10)
- August 3 – 7** Game on Yukon! (Ages 5-7)
- August 10 – 14** Game on Yukon! (Ages 8-10)

Cost: \$150/week for non-members, \$130/week for members

For more information, or to register for a camp call 667-2709 (ext.3)

### *Baby Animals Preschool Programs*

*April- May Fridays 10-11am*

*Explore the Wild World Gallery, play games, create art*

*April 17 Beavers*

*April 24 Frogs*

*May 1 Fish*

*Cost \$5.00 per child and parent*

## Special Events

### Yukoner Days

The Museum offers Yukoners with proof of residency FREE admission on the third Thursday of each month. The next Yukoner special day is May 21.

### Game On, Yukon!

The MacBride Museum and author Keith Halliday launch the fourth book in the MacBride Museum Yukon Kids Series. This story follows the adventures of the dynamic characters from Aurore of the Yukon, Yukon Secret Agent and Yukon River Ghost and their involvement in the Dawson City Nuggets' 1905 bid for the Stanley Cup. This book will launch in June 2009.

### HOURS

Winter Hours (until May 18): Tuesday to Saturday 12-4

Summer Hours (May 19 until September) Daily 9:30am to 5:30pm

For information on upcoming exhibits, programs and events go to our website [1Hwww.macbridemuseum.com](http://www.macbridemuseum.com), or call 667-2709 (ext.6).

# Yukon Heritage Resources Board update

Submitted by Morgen Smith, Executive Director



## A few highlights from YHRB

In the fall of 2008, Nancy Huston joined the Yukon Heritage Resources Board as its tenth member. Morgen Smith joined the YHRB staff as Executive Director in January of this year.

The Board held meetings in November of 2008 and February of 2009 to, among other activities, review and update its action plan, prepare recommendations for funding under the Historic Resources Fund, discuss Board budget issues, and address current and future training needs. The November meeting included a visit with Minister Taylor and a Cultural Services Branch update from Rick Lemaire, as well as a session by Barbara Hogan of the Historic Sites Unit on the historic designation process in the Yukon. At its February meeting, the Board was treated to a tour of the Yukon Archives and an introduction to its many current projects by Territorial Archivist Ian Burnett and the archives staff. The Board's next meeting will take place May 14-16 in Dawson, in conjunction with the International Gold Show. During the visit to Dawson, the Board will be hosting a public reception—stay tuned for more information about the time and location.

In February, YHRB joined the Water Board for a day of very informative training workshops on Traditional Knowledge.

YHRB continues to solicit input on its *Draft Rules of Procedure for Determining Ownership of Heritage Resources under Chapter 13 of Yukon First Nation Final Agreements*. To date, the Board has provided presentations on the draft rules to heritage staff members or Chiefs and Councils of three First Nations, representatives of Yukon Government, and members of the Yukon First Nations Heritage Group. The Board provides the Parties with regular updates on the rules development process and opportunities for comment.

Minister Taylor approved the Board's recommendations to fund the following projects under the Yukon Historic Resources Fund:

1. *The Unsinkable Babe Richards: An Extraordinary Life* biography project
2. Caribou Hotel Rehabilitation Project
3. Dawson Firefighter Shelter planning and design
4. A.J. Goddard Site Evaluation (Yukon River Survey)
5. Hets'edan Ku Traditional Sewing Project
6. Exterior Maintenance and Upgrade of the Odd Fellows Hall
7. Vuntut Gwitchin Government: Gwich'in Language & Graphics Enhancement Project
8. Yukon Historical & Museums Association conference

This year, \$30,362 in interest generated from the fund was available for these projects. The deadline for applications is October 15 of each year. More information can be found at <http://www.tc.gov.yk.ca/yhrf.html>

Current and former YHRB members, along with many generous volunteers from the heritage community, will be assisting with both a school Heritage Fair on April 8<sup>th</sup> and the territorial Historica Fair, which will be taking place on May 7<sup>th</sup>.

YHRB welcomes comments from the heritage community and public on any of its activities. The YHRB office is located in the historic Taylor House at 412 Main Street in Whitehorse. We can also be reached by phone at 668-7150 or by email at [yhrb@northwestel.net](mailto:yhrb@northwestel.net).

# Yukon College Invites Participation in Summer Field Research Program

Norm Easton, Instructor in Anthropology and Archaeology at Yukon College, is seeking participants to assist in archaeological and ethnographic field research either as formal students in its university transfer credit course, Anthropology 225 Field Methods in Subarctic Archaeology and Ethnography or in its shorter term non-credit Research Intern program. Both opportunities will be based out of the Little John archaeological field camp, located just off the Alaska Highway, north of Beaver Creek, Yukon.

The Little John site holds archaeological deposits with cultural dates ranging from 14,000 years ago to the present, excellent bone preservation, and a Wisconsin interstadial (c. 43,000 years old) stratum. The site thus presents a comprehensive record of the environment and cultural adaptations to southeast Beringia. Additional archaeological survey in the region, collaboration with Alaskan investigations at the Mead site and survey within the Tetlin National Wildlife Refuge, continued documentation of Upper Tanana place names and history, and participant observation in contemporary village life will provide students with an unparalleled opportunity to develop their skills in the four fields of Anthropology.

The credit course provides six weeks of instruction introducing archaeological and ethnographic field methods as currently practiced in Yukon—that is, as an integrated program of documentation of local culture-history with a strong community presence in the research activities. In this approach, archaeological survey and excavation is closely articulated and connected with related ethnographic enquiry. That inquiry includes oral history and place-names documentation, kinship and social relations, subsistence and other land-use patterns, traditional technology, and contemporary adaptations of indigenous aboriginal society. You can download a [copy of the Course Outline](#) for further detailed information on course content and transferability. The course begins and ends in Whitehorse and runs June 4th through July 21st. The course fee of \$1,800.00 covers in-field transportation and subsistence and most textbooks.

The field Research Intern program is for short-term, non-credit participants. Research Interns participate in all aspects of the field program but are not required to write tests or assignments, and can arrive at the field camp throughout June through mid-August. Yukon residents can register to participate at a cost of \$400.00 for one week, or \$600.00 for two weeks. The fee covers in-field transportation and subsistence costs.

Finally, if you are driving up the Alaska Highway this summer between June and August, we would like to invite you to stop in to tour the site and see what we've uncovered this year. A day-long Community Tea and Public Interpretation program is scheduled for Sunday the 12th of July. Note that the site will be closed from July 16th through 24th.

Further information on this opportunity, as well as a series of links to additional information on the Little John site and related publications available as PDF downloads can be found on the [Course Webpage](#) or by contacting Norm Easton at 867-393-8012 in Whitehorse or via email: [northeaston@gmail.com](mailto:northeaston@gmail.com).

# Creating Experiences: Program Planning for Heritage Workers

February 24-26, 2009  
Facilitator Wendy Molnar

At the end of February, YHMA hosted a three day course on Program Planning for Museums and Heritage Centres. Wendy Molnar of Manitoba and of the award winning Inuit Heritage Trust Fund Training Program came north to Yukon to facilitate the session. The course gathered almost 20 heritage professionals from all over the Yukon to gain a better understanding of our role within heritage tourism. Subjects ranged from Heritage Interpretation to Program Design, and included a field trip to the Yukon Wildlife Preserve to sharpen observation and assessment skills of programs.



Field Trip to Yukon Wildlife Preserve  
Wendy Molnar

Overall the course was rated very high from participants. YHMA will be hosting courses and is looking for our members input. Please contact the office to share your ideas for upcoming course offerings. Contact Erin Wall at 667-4704 or by email at [yhma@northwestel.net](mailto:yhma@northwestel.net)

The next scheduled course will be on financial management in the fall.

## CYFN Basement Yields Unexpected Treasures

CYFN's recent move to new digs revealed a basement full of forgotten First Nation treasures. While packing boxes for the move to their new Second Avenue location in Whitehorse, CYFN officials unearthed hundreds of back issues of the *Yukon Indian News*, *Dännzäh'* and *Dänshâ*. They've sorted the old newspapers and sent duplicates to First Nations around the territory. Over one hundred issues arrived at the TH heritage office, last January, and have been on display since.

"Lots of citizens have been looking at them," said Glenda Bolt, Dänojà Zho Manager.

The unanticipated gift was timely as Sue Parsons, TH Collections Manager, was in the midst of a project compiling back issues of *Moosehide Trails*, the old TH newsletter and predecessor of the *Kënraq Tã□y*.

The CYFN windfall, however, has created a minor issue for Parsons.

"I have no clue how to organize these papers," she said, looking over a table's worth of newsprint. "CYFN has suggested we scan them all, but that would be a million-dollar project.

"I would like to photocopy the papers," she added, "and welcome any volunteers willing to help."

Citizens are also welcome to view the papers at the TH office. Parsons is also hopeful that any citizens who do come in will bring along any copies of the *Moosehide Trails* they might have stashed at home.

"I'm missing a few newsletters from my files," she said. "If anyone has issues of the TH newsletters from pre-1996, I'd love to hear from them."



## Dänojà Zho Cultural Centre presents an ‘Artful Exhibit’

There are a few sure signs of spring to which Dawson City residents have become accustomed: the Yukon River ice going out; the first tent going up in the North End Park; and construction of a new exhibit at the Dänojà Zho Cultural Centre.

The past two summers, DZCC exhibits have highlighted the signing of the Tr’ondëk Hwëch’in self-government and final agreements and the legacy of residential schools. This year, Glenda Bolt, Dänojà Zho Manager, is planning an exhibit with a more uplifting subject matter.

“It’s going to represent the joy of hands at work,” she says, peeling back protective paper from a beaded scissor case, “and the connection families have with beading and sewing.”

The as-of-yet-unnamed exhibit will feature handcrafted articles, both contemporary and traditional. Bolt hopes TH citizens will bring their family treasures to plump out the display.

“We’d gladly welcome any family treasures and beautiful objects citizens have under their bed that they’d like to loan,” says Bolt. “Any kind of beadwork, handcrafting or sewing, by family either living or passed on.”

“I’m hoping there is someone out there with spoons or tools with some design elements they’d like to share,” she adds. “I know they’re out there.”

Sue Parsons, Collections Manager, reaches into a box while Bolt speaks and, with gloved hands, picks up a beaded mukluk, an item that will be part of the exhibit. “They were worn by Bertha Harper and donated by Shirley Whitehouse-Reed,” says Parson, of the brightly beaded and fur-trimmed footwear. “They were created by either Clara Van Bibber Sr. or Lucy Woods.” The mukluks will no doubt be an eye-popping addition to the display, but Bolt wants guests of the centre to walk away with a deeper appreciation of what the mukluks and the other items in the exhibit represent.

“Quill, beadwork and embroidery brings a woman’s appreciation for beauty forward and exemplifies her devotion to family and friends,” she says. “Sewing and beadwork also brought women forward as equal participants in the new economy”.

“And by placing the contemporary items next to the traditional ones, we’ll make a connection between the past and the present and show the evolution of the artist,” she adds. “Like many other aspects of First Nation life, clothing and footwear styles and adornment have undergone many changes in both form and function.”

Along with the exhibit, there are plans for beading workshops, talks by Parsons on how to properly care for family objects and opportunities for people to try their hand at sewing using patterns of both men’s and women’s traditional clothing.

“We would love to have a creative person attempt to reproduce traditional clothing,” says Bolt. “We have lots of photographs and a database of old-style clothing and survival items that could be used as reference materials for anyone wanting to give it a try.”



Bolt will have help with the project, with Fran Green and Dolores Anderson assisting by gathering exhibit items and providing feedback.



"If people would like to loan us any items, they should contact myself, Fran or Dolores right away," says Bolt. "The exhibit is currently being put together."

Madeline deRepentigny joins Bolt and says she's working on a pair of slippers that might find their way into the exhibit.

"If they're not on somebody's feet," she adds, laughing, "and that person wants to give them up for the summer."

Bolt pricks up at the mention of the slippers, which sound exactly what she wants people to contribute. She has anticipated the issue facing deRepentigny and explains how she plans to deal with similar situations.

"If a person needs an item back for an important event, such as a dress for a wedding or a piece of regalia for a cultural event, we'll make arrangements for that to happen," says Bolt. "We realize

many of these family treasures are living objects and have a life of their own."

The exhibit will open in June in the DZCC gathering space and run until September. "This will be about *joy*," says Bolt, with a broad smile. "We are going to fill the cultural centre with life and colour. Much like First Nations in this part of the world have been doing for many years.

"The eyes become tired of monotony and long for a warmer tone," she says, quoting Kate Duncan's book on Athabaskan beading while staring out the window at a bitterly cold and grey February day. "That is surely the reason why all those who live in this country cherish some gay article of attire.

## FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

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YUKONHERITAGETRAININGFUND

**The next intake for the Yukon Heritage Training Fund is May 20, 2009 at 5:00 pm**

Yukon Heritage Training Fund Recipients – Last Intake February 2009

- YHMA Creating Experiences: Planning Programs for Heritage Workers
- Sylvie Binette UVIC Exhibit Design and Installation
- Casey McLaughlin UVIC Managing Cultural Organizations
- Patricia Cunning Frontiers of Discovery, Museums Based Research



The Yukon Historical & Museums Association, would like to thank Advanced Education, Government of Yukon for their continued support in making this fund a reality.

For more information on how to apply please visit <http://www.heritageyukon.ca/trainingfund.aspx> , call Erin Wall, HTF Advisor, at 667-4704 or stop in at 3126 Third Avenue, Whitehorse to pick up an application.

# MILES CANYON HISTORIC RAILWAY SOCIETY

1127 First Avenue, Whitehorse, YT Y1A 0G5 Phone: 867-667-6355

E-Mail: [mchrs@northwestel.net](mailto:mchrs@northwestel.net)

Website: [www.yukonrails.com](http://www.yukonrails.com)

Job posting

## Description – Curator/Supervisor

### **General**

The Miles Canyon Historic Railway Society (MCHRS) operates a small seasonal railway and mining museum, called the Copperbelt Railway and Mining Museum in Whitehorse, Yukon. The museum is located within the city limits and focuses on mining and rail history of the Yukon Territory.

We are seeking to hire an individual for a 17 week term (from early May-09 until September-09) to carry out a project to establish and implement a museum collections management function for the museum. As well the individual will supervise four students and ensure the museum runs smoothly during the summer tourist season. Generally it is expected that 1/3 of the incumbent's time will be of a leadership/supervisory nature and 2/3rds will be related to museum exhibit planning.

This is a 5 month term position, starting in May 2009. The salary will be commensurate with qualifications.

### **Job Objectives of the Curator/Supervisor are:**

- conduct an artefact inventory for the museum
- gather information on all artifacts
- document and number all artifacts
- investigate possible new donations
- ensure all artifacts are recorded in a database
- display artifacts and museum signs
- organize the public programming for the museum
- supervise students to ensure the museum is well run
- implement the MCHRS marketing plan
- assist with capital projects that will occur on site

### **Candidate Profile The MCHRS employee eligibility criteria for this position are as follows:**

A University degree in history, archaeology, library studies, archival studies, Canadian studies

Experience in public programming for a museum

Knowledge of the principles and methods of collections management and basic preventive conservation

Excellent people skills –an effective communicator

A valid driver's license

Be a Canadian citizen, permanent resident or have eligibility to work in Canada;

### **Orientation and Supervision expected to undertake:**

The Passport to Safety on-line training course, by the Yukon Workers' Health and Safety Board;

To Review and adhere to the MCHRS safety manual for the Copperbelt;

Review and adhere to the financial guidelines and schedule of authorities for the Society;

The position would report directly to the general manager of the Society.

2/3 position with museum collections work and 1/3 on supervisory tasks.

The employee would be expected to work with autonomy.

## Newsletter Submissions



Yukon Historical &  
Museums Association

The YHMA newsletter is the official newsletter of the Yukon Historical & Museums Association.

The newsletter is our way of fostering communications among the heritage community.

We welcome our members to submit articles, book reviews, project reports, pictures and other related announcements for publication in upcoming issues.

Submission deadlines for upcoming Newsletters are:

Summer: July 4, 2009  
Fall: October 3, 2009  
Winter: January 8, 2010

Please email submissions to  
[yhma@northwestel.net](mailto:yhma@northwestel.net)



## YHMA Membership

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Postal Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (H) \_\_\_\_\_

(W) \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

### Membership Dues (GST Not Included)

- Senior/  Student \$10.00  
 Individual \$20.00  
 Organization \$25.00  
 Family \$30.00  
 Corporate \$100.00

**Total Amt. Due: \$** \_\_\_\_\_

Payment Method: Cheque: \_\_\_\_\_ Cash: \_\_\_\_\_ Invoice Me: \_\_\_\_\_  
Credit: \_\_\_\_\_

Visa \_\_\_ MC \_\_\_ Card # \_\_\_\_\_ Expiry Date: \_\_\_/\_\_\_

Name on Credit Card: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

### Committees:

Volunteers are always welcome and your skills are valuable to our organization. Please indicate below if you are interested in any of the following committees:

- Conference Planning       Heritage Buildings  
 Newsletter                       Museums  
 Fundraising                       Training  
 Other \_\_\_\_\_

### Tourism Industry Association Yukon Membership:

As a value added all YHMA members automatically become a member of TIA Yukon. For more information visit  
[2Hwww.tiayukon.com](http://2Hwww.tiayukon.com)

- Yes! I would like to become a TIA Yukon Member for no additional charge.  
 No thank you, please do not share my information with TIA Yukon.

### Making a Donation?

\$ \_\_\_\_\_

A charitable tax receipt will be provided.

Thank you for your support.