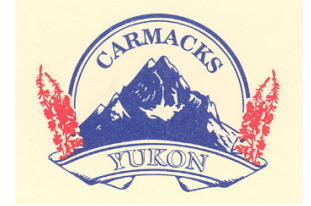


The Villager



Carmacks, Yukon

November 2003

Hello!

Welcome to the first edition of **The Villager**. *Why a separate newsletter?* Well, aside from it having been a promise, Mayor and Council wanted an easy way to communicate with residents, letting you know about progress and projects, issues and initiatives.

Also, most of the information in this newsletter doesn't belong in *The Hooter*. You don't pick up a copy of *The Hooter* to find out what Council's thinking in regard to sewage

So – this newsletter should give you an idea of some of the things that Council is dealing with, and hopefully, dispel any myths or head off any misinterpretations before they get out of hand. If you need more information, please, pick up the phone and give us a call 863-6271. (Feel free to call any of us at home. And as for calling at 4 AM, no problem, we'll be sure to call back at an equally convenient time.)

Your Council:

Mayor – Mick Larkin 863-5232

Deputy Mayor - Elaine Wyatt 863-6211

Councillor - Cory Bellmore 863-5088

Councillor - Doris Hansen 863-6009

Councillor- Stuart Harris 863-5014

Council Issues

Wastewater Treatment Plant – Council is exploring options to determine a workable solution to the existing opposition to the proposed Lot 32 site. We are seeking to find a balance between public opinion and fiscal responsibilities.

The Water Board will not change the deadline for our water license renewal application. As site selection and pre-design are vital components of the license, an early decision on the site selection is an absolutely must.

New School – The new school planning group is being assembled by the Minister of Education's office as required by the Intergovernmental Agreement signed between YTG and LSCFN. Village Council is deeply concerned about the scope of the agreement, our limited representation, and the potential impact on Village revenues should the site of the new school be located off YTG lands. The Mayor and CAO* met with Minister Edzerza on Nov. 21, discussed concerns, and are optimistic that these will be favorably addressed in the planning cycle.



Youth Group on Field Trip to Dawson

Visitor Kiosk – We have received \$65,000 from CDF* toward the \$85,000 construction cost of a highway pull-out and visitor kiosk on the right-of-way of the old Sunset Motel property. (Our thanks to Bob Mayer for having done the work on this one.) The two tenders will be let, aiming to promote local contractors and employment. The goal is to have the kiosk open for the coming tourist season.

Landfill Operation – A tender for landfill maintenance (compaction and coverage) has been advertised with a submission deadline of Dec. 5. Council is considering purchasing the recommended equipment and assigning the maintenance to Village staff. To make an informed decision, a feasibility study will be the next logical step.

Substance Abuse Committee – As a result of the Joint Council meeting, a Substance Abuse Committee was formed to address drug and alcohol concerns. The committee will be composed of members proposed by LSCFN and Village Councils along with representatives from the RCMP and Social Services. They will meet with interested parties and compile recommendations that will be presented to the joint councils for action. Councillors Wyatt and Harris will represent Council.

Highlights for November

Mayor met with LSCFN Deputy Chief and Implementation Director about sewer project and Lot 32 location.

Official Community Plan Committee to review land use and zoning issues, and prepare a new by-law by late spring.

Councillor Doris Hansen has been appointed as the council liaison to the Recreational Board.

The janitorial contract for the Office and Fire Hall has been awarded to Matthews Janitorial.

A smoking policy for municipal buildings is being developed and will be in place for March 1, 2004.

Council and CAO attended the AYC Newly Elected Officials Conference in Haines Junction, Nov. 21-23. The opportunity to meet other mayors and councillors, government bureaucrats, be inundated with volumes of truly relevant information and discuss issues was most useful.

The EMO's* Elected Officials presentation held on Nov. 13, was both informative and thought provoking. We anticipate our JEPP* application will be successful. The funds will be used to update our emergency response plans and provide additional training.

Remembrance Day – Thank you to Sgt. Murrell and the Rangers for putting on the excellent service.

Kudos to the Carmacks Entertainment Society for increasing the number of TV channels in town. Their efforts resulted in the City of Dawson donating their excess equipment to the Village of Carmacks.

Council voted to rent the Rec. Centre for \$1 to support LSCFN's alternative energy workshop. Be sure to attend on Dec.10 – it sounds extremely interesting.

Council will meet with Energy Solutions on Dec.10, to consider ways to achieve energy savings and reduce greenhouse gases within municipal buildings.

We have received an additional \$46,721 from Fire Smart to continue with the program. This will keep the crew of 6 employed until late February.

NOTE:

JEPP – Joint Emergency Preparedness Program
CAO – Chief Administrative Officer
CDF – Community Development Fund
EMO – Emergency Measures Organization
AYC – Association of Yukon Communities

Resolution Highlights

That the Village Administration Building be declared a smoke-free building and workplace January 1, 2004. (table this motion to the next working meeting.)

That Council appoint an Official Community Plan Review Committee to review land use and zoning issues, and the letter from Hotel Carmacks be referred to the Committee, and that Administration be directed to advertise a request for proposals to qualified applicants to prepare an Official Community Plan and Bylaw, ensuring community involvement and consultation.

That the Village advertise for bids for two projects, construction of a highway pullout and construction of a visitor information booth, as approved by the Community Development Fund, at a total cost not to exceed \$85,000.

That Administration and the consulting engineer continue to work with the appropriate agencies to finalise renewal of the Village's water licence.

That a letter be written to question the validity of an effluent sample taken in August 2003 and to reiterate the position that the Village has been in full compliance with discharge requirements since completing a sewer rehabilitation project in 2002.

That the Ministry of Community Services be requested to evaluate the process for the purchase of Lot 32.

That Administration seek a legal opinion as to the Village's liability for tenants on Lot 46, and if favourable to enter into rental or custodial agreements, and that tenants be notified of this decision as soon as possible.

That the Village donate a ham and a turkey to the Family Entertainment Society's Christmas Hamper Bingo December 14.



Merry Christmas!

***All the best to you
and yours!***