



YUKON HISTORICAL & MUSEUMS ASSOCIATION

# NEWSLETTER

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## FORTY MILE MANAGEMENT PLAN SIGNING



Chief Darren Taylor, Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in and Minister Brad Cathers, Yukon Government shake hands after signing the Forty Mile Management Plan



Remnants of life in the Yukon's first big Gold Rush town  
-Yukon Government Photos

On Sunday June 11, 2006 approximately 70 people gathered to witness the signing of the Forty Mile, Fort Cudahy, and Fort Constantine Historic Site Management Plan by Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in First Nation and the Yukon government.

Forty Mile, Fort Cudahy and Fort Constantine Historic Site is co-owned and co-managed by Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in and Yukon government. The management plan is a requirement under Chapter 13 of the Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in Final Agreement, which was signed in 1999. It is also the first step in the conservation of heritage resources at Forty Mile, Fort Cudahy and Fort Constantine.

Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in Chief Darren Taylor and Health and Social Services Minister Brad Cathers, representing the Yukon government, signed the agreement for their respective governments solidifying years of negotiations and hard work. "Forty Mile is vital to understanding the story of the Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in and the Yukon Territory," Chief Darren Taylor said. "We are happy to work with the Yukon government to protect and celebrate the value of this important historic site."

More information about Forty Mile can be found in the recently published booklet, *Archaeology at Forty Mile/Ch'ëdä Dëk*, an overview of archaeological studies that uncovered a history of occupation at Forty Mile dating back more than 2,000 years.

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## YHMA NEWS

Greetings from the new board and staff of the Yukon Historical & Museums Association! On June 13, 2006 YHMA held its Annual General Meeting at the Yukon Archives. The meeting was a fruitful event that saw several new members join the board. At the meeting, outgoing president, Julia Pike, presented the annual report and financial statements and nominations chair, Helen Couch, led the elections. YHMA's 2006-2007 board of directors includes:

Brent Slobodin- President  
Casey McLaughlin- Vice President  
Dave Sloan- Treasurer  
Colin Beairsto- Secretary  
Directors: Helen Couch, Anne Leckie, Betty Burns, Damien Burns, and Glenn Icton

A heartfelt thank you goes out to all the 2005-2006 board for their efforts over the past year. Outgoing board members, Julia Pike and Patricia Cunning were given a special thank you for their contribution to YHMA over the last several years. Both Julia and Patricia were instrumental in assisting with the joint marketing efforts of YHMA and the creation of the popular *Guide to Heritage Attractions*, both women were also tireless advocates for Yukon museums both locally and nationally. The remaining board and staff would like to extend their best wishes to them both as they continue on with their current projects. Patricia will be busy over the next year overseeing the expansion of MacBride Museum and Julia is moving on to a new position as the Executive Director of the PEI Cultural Human Resource Sector Council.

In addition to a new board of directors YHMA has hired two summer students to give the Historical Walking Tours of Whitehorse. Sarah Paton and Michal Wojcik have mastered their tours and have been busy filling the heads of our visitors with stories of Whitehorse's past. Paid members are invited to partake in a free tour of Whitehorse. Even those of us who have spent our entire lives in Whitehorse can learn a thing or two about the people who came before us. Also, you are encouraged to share your stories with the guides to

help provide them with first hand accounts of Whitehorse as it developed.

YHMA has remained focused this summer on the goals and priorities of the association despite the excitement that the summer brings. June 12-16, 2006 YHMA continued providing valuable training opportunities for Yukon Heritage workers with funding from the Yukon Heritage Training Fund. A Yukon College course, *Creating High Impact Web Pages*, showed 12 heritage workers the basics of creating web sites by using Photoshop and Dreamweaver. The course was well attended and YHMA received very positive feedback from the participants.

YHMA will continue to work with the heritage community to provide valuable local training that will meet the goals of the Heritage Training Fund by funding training which will advance and enhance heritage workers' capacity to obtain and create employment and to provide employers with a better trained heritage labour force. The application deadline for the next intake is August 16, 2006. For more information about the heritage training fund please contact the YHMA office.

YHMA is also currently planning *Discovering Northern Gold: A Yukon and Alaska Research Symposium*. The symposium is intended to bring to light the many hidden research projects that are underway by passionate and committed individuals. The planning committee consists of Ian Burnett, Lesley Buchan and Rebecca Jansen but we are always looking for more individuals wishing to help with the planning. If you are interested in learning more about the upcoming symposium or would like to help, please contact the YHMA office.



# THE PIONEER CEMETERY TOUR REVIEW

By Michal Wojcik

Tucked away, looking more like a city park than anything else, is the oldest cemetery in Whitehorse. All manners of people are buried here, including some of the founding members of our community. And this year you can take a guided tour about the tombstones.

Run from the Old Log church, the “Who Lies Beneath” Pioneer Cemetery Tour gives you a general overview of the most famous people buried in the cemetery since 1900. While the cemetery looks quite sparse, we soon learn that most of the bodies buried underneath have lost their markers. However, the tombstones left standing provide more than enough stories in order to keep one occupied for an hour or so.

My own experience was somewhat truncated, but enjoyable nonetheless. First comes a brief overview of the history behind the cemetery, and exactly how the many tombstones were lost. Afterwards, I was taken around the premises with an explanation of the various segments: the Stone Masons burial area, the military area, the Elks Lodge area etc. etc. But more interesting than all of these were the stories that came with each passing gravesite. From Martha Louise Black to many other famous residents of Whitehorse, I was given an interesting story about their lives, and somewhat amusing anecdotes about the not-so-famous members of town—including one who took a bet to drink two bottles of rum straight and, quite unsurprisingly, died of alcohol poisoning.

All in all it was an interesting tour, and provided a good amount of insight into the history of Whitehorse and the people behind it. If you are looking for a pleasant diversion for an hour with a specific interest in the stories and people of our community, then I would heartily recommend it.

Tours are \$2.00 a piece and start from the Old Log Church.



## Yukon Transportation Museum

The summer of 2006 is a summer of expansion, adventure, and education for those of us up at the Yukon Transportation Museum. For the first time in our history we will be hosting a summer camp in conjunction with the Beringia Center. Given its subject matter, the camp will suitably be called “It’s Your Move.” The festivities will include a variety of fun activities and competitions such as construction of paper airplanes, pop rockets, and windmill pencils. These projects will be used to teach the children lessons on the nature and principles of motion in a way that makes learning fun.



Also, our summer staff members are hard at work developing new multimedia learning tools. Soon our museum will feature PowerPoint presentations on the construction of the Alaska Highway, the early history of aviation in the Yukon, and the hiking of the Chilkoot Pass. These presentations will provide visitors with a fascinating new way to experience the trials and tribulations of life and transportation in the Yukon.

Besides these developments, the growth and enhancement of our museum collection is an ongoing production. Recently we hoisted “Suzy” to the rafters of our exhibit hall. Suzy is a plane built and flown by Yukon Transportation Hall of Fame member Herman Peterson; it will be a vibrant museum exhibit for years to come. Additionally, new pictures and stories are always popping up to greet the eyes of vigilant museum-goers.

Considering these new developments, we encourage young and old alike to crawl, walk, bike, drive, fly or hang-glide to the Yukon Transportation Museum. And if one is really lucky they may even catch a recital of Robert Service’s classic poem, “The cremation of Sam McGee.”



## Summer at the Old Log Church Museum

Best wishes to everyone for a great summer season. **The Old Log Church Museum is open daily 10am to 6pm.**

Stop by and meet some of our interesting missionaries such as: Rev. J.W. Ellington who was driven to madness by a few unscrupulous gold miners; Bishop Isaac O. Stringer who was forced to eat his boots and; The reclusive Bishop William Carpenter Bompas who shunned his English upbringing

We also exhibit a number of First Nations and Inuvialuit cultural material and vestments made for the Anglican clergy. Our regular video presentations, "*The Bishop Who Ate His Boots*" audio program, and "*Explore Herschel Island*" interactive computer program are offered daily.

### Summer Programmes

We are delighted to have Barb Forsyth back this summer to deliver her interpretive program "*In Journeys Often*", the **Sadie Stringer story**. Last summer Barb's performances were well received by our visitors. Barb will be appearing as Sadie during the month of July beginning on Canada Day. Performances are scheduled Monday through Thursday at 2:00 pm. This program is included with the admission fee to the museum.

***Who Lies Beneath*, guided walking tours of Pioneer Cemetery** will be offered June – August Monday through Friday at 11:00am & 4:00 pm. Learn about the ordinary and extraordinary people who contributed to our city's past. Tour price \$2.00 per person or \$5.00 which includes admission to the museum.

### Longest Days Street Fair

Don't miss the Street Fair activities taking place on the side yard at the Old Log Church Museum. From June 21st – July 21<sup>st</sup> artists will be demonstrating their crafts daily from 2:30 pm -5:00 pm.

While at the museum, check out our gift shop for northern books and locally made crafts.

Our sincere thanks to the City of Whitehorse and the Government of Yukon for their financial support.



### Magic Lantern Show

MacBride Museum invited Professor Lindsay Lambert, from Ottawa, to present the return of the Magic Lantern which was enjoyed by over 60 people on June 30<sup>th</sup> and July 1<sup>st</sup>. Prof. Lambert gave a fun history lecture on the lantern and amazed locals and visitors alike in magic behind the lantern. The workshop prior to the show was educational and entertaining.



### Summer Activities

It has been a busy summer already MacBride Museum on June 8<sup>th</sup> launched the 'Aurore of the Yukon'. A book written by Keith Halliday, this charming book captures the imagination of any age.

On June 13<sup>th</sup> MacBride Museum had its official launch of 'The Force in the North' website through the Virtual Museum of Canada.

## Upcoming

August 8<sup>th</sup> Dick Miller the author of 'Wires in the Wilderness' will join MacBride Museum in the lecture series to talk about his book and the research he has done on the telegraph lines in the Yukon.

## New Slide Shows

The Force in the North  
Klondike Kate  
Yukon Sternwheelers

## Music @ MacBride schedule

July 17, 19, 21 Barbara Chamberlin

July 24, 26, 28 Gary LaChance

August 4, 7, 8 Danette Readman

August 9, 10, 11 Brenda Berezan

August 14, 16, 18 Caroline Watt



## Children's Activities

July 11 Improv for Kids day camp 6-10 years

July 17-20 Aurore of the Yukon Kids Camp

August 7-10 Aurore of the Yukon Kids Camp

## **VISIBLE STORAGE IS HERE!**

By Julia Pike



As you know, we have been working on a new Visible Storage exhibit this year. On June 9th, in celebration of Tourism Week, I was thrilled to officially launch the new exhibit with the help of Yukon Tourism and Culture.

Visible storage itself is a relatively new method of displaying the objects in a museum's collection. The term "visible storage" is typically understood as taking a large group or several large groups of artifacts and displaying them in clusters, as opposed to highlighting single pieces within traditional exhibits.

The evening started with some words from Sally Shepard the Deputy Minister of Tourism. She congratulated the Museum staff for the hard work and dedication that went into the project. After the Deputy spoke Nancy McCarthy, the exhibit designer, and force behind the exhibit took the opportunity to thank the Museum for giving her the chance to work on this project. She also thanked the people that assisted her throughout the months that she worked on the project.

Once we opened the exhibit to the public it was clear that everyone was extremely impressed with the work. Nancy did a wonderful job! I invite our members to drop by and visit the new display which is now a permanent exhibit.

What you will see in our visible storage is quite an eclectic collection of objects from glasses and stunning dishes to smoking paraphernalia, silverware, jewelry, tools and everything in between.

I want to take this opportunity to thank our funders both YTG Heritage Branch and the Community Development Fund. YTG funded much of the planning of this exhibit. Once we had a plan in place, I applied to CDF and was successful in receiving \$56,000 of the \$75,000 that it took to complete the work.

I also want to thank those that were involved in the project in one way or another from lifting massive display cases to offering advice. Thank you: Tim Gunter the contractor on this project. Tim put in many hours of work perfecting the cabinets and dealing with the problems that come with working on a historic building. Mark DeMone who completed the conservation treatment on the silver wear and assisted with other duties, Andy Crowther our cataloguer, Drew Ball and Valery Monahan from YTG who are always there to offer assistance not just during this project but at all times, and finally to those that volunteered their time to lift and move some of the very heavy objects: Jay Armitage, Bob McCauley and Gerry Grenon.

The evening wrapped up with a Tourism Week celebration BBQ. I was happy to see that lots of visitors and locals came out for the BBQ, cake and goodies. It was a memorable evening.



## Yukon Heritage Resources Board

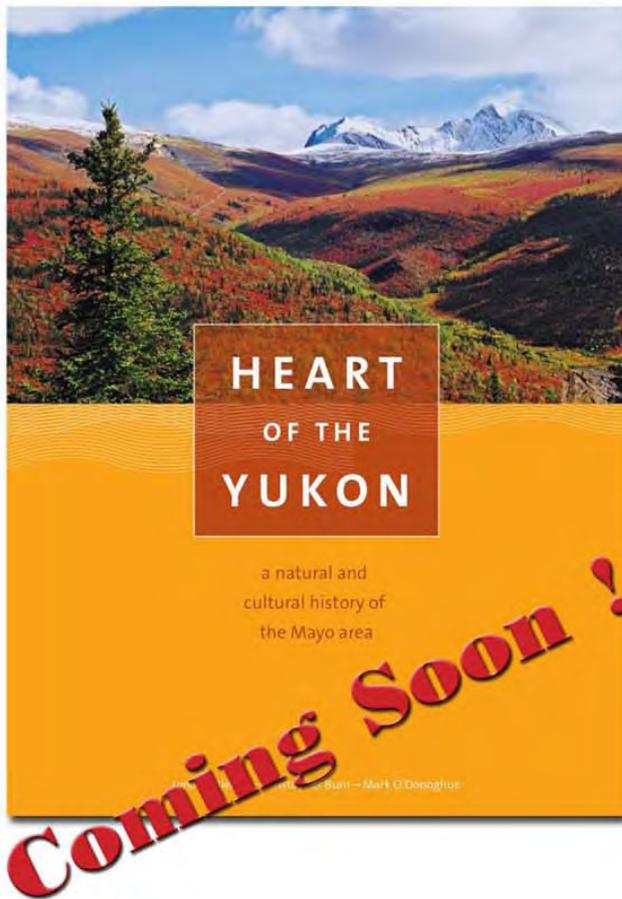
By Loree Stewart, Executive Director

The Yukon Heritage Resources Board held a two-day Board meeting in June. Since YHRB's submission to the Spring 2006 Newsletter, YHRB has focused on the following work and activities:

- Final review of the Board's strategic plan with revisions sent to the consultant for a final draft by August 31.
- The Board has been advised that interest from the Yukon Historic Resources Fund available for projects in 2006/07 is \$21, 981.00. The next intake for applications to the fund is October 15, 2006.
- YHRB Chair Ingrid Johnson attended the first meeting of the Museum Advisory Committee on May 11. The initial meeting of the group focused on the Museums Special Project Assistance program. YHRB continues to support the future development of an implementation plan for the Museum Strategy.
- YHRB Chair and a member attended the June 19 meeting of the Council for Yukon First Nations' Yukon First Nations Language Caucus, who propose to convene all Yukon language initiatives into one entity to protect, promote and preserve Yukon First Nation languages.
- In April, the Board recommended that the Legion Hall in Mayo be designated as a Yukon Historic Site. Minister Taylor responded in May that she had notified the First Nation of Na-Cho Nyak Dun, as property owner, of the intention of the Government of Yukon to designate the Mayo Legion Hall as a Yukon Historic Site.
- YHRB was happy to note that Minister Taylor stated in the House this spring that the Yukon government has "adopted the standards and guidelines [*Standards & Guidelines for the Conservation of Historic Places in Canada*] the federal government has formally adopted or initiated and implemented. It was recommended by the Heritage Resources Board that the Yukon government adopt those standards and guidelines."
- YHRB wrote to Minister Edzerza in strong support of the continuation of funding for the Heritage Training Fund administered by YHMA
- YHRB has been a long time supporter of the Yukon Historical Fairs - on May 4, YHRB Chair spoke at the closing ceremonies of the Yukon Regional Historical Fair; a board members judged at the event and YHRB's executive director sits as a steering committee member; the committee will meet start organizing for the 2007 Fair in September, 2006 and is always looking for new members
- On June 11, YHRB Chair and three members attended the Forty Mile Management Plan signing at Forty Mile. The Management Plan is a joint effort of the Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in and Yukon Governments to provide guidance for the cooperative management of the cultural and natural resources at Forty Mile, Fort Cudahy and Fort Constantine Historic Site. In spite of the blistering heat at Forty Mile, Board members enjoyed the signing ceremony and meeting with Tr'ondek Hwech'in and Yukon government representatives as well as the public interested in the preservation of this site

We welcome the opportunity provided by YHMA to inform the Yukon heritage community of Yukon Heritage Resources Board recent activities.

The Yukon Heritage Resources Board office is located at 412 Main Street in the Taylor House, Whitehorse, phone #: 668-7150 and email: [yhrb@northwestel.net](mailto:yhrb@northwestel.net)



Introducing a new book on the natural and cultural history of the Mayo area, *Heart of the Yukon*. Christopher Burn, Mark O'Donoghue and Lynette Bleiler provide a comprehensive collection of information, photographs, maps, and charts covering such topics as: Landscape, Rocks and Minerals, The Ice Ages, Climate, Permafrost, Landforms, Rivers and Lakes Vegetation, Fish, Amphibians, Birds, Mammals, the Ancient Past of the Na-Cho Nyak Dun Traditional Territory, First nation history of the Na-Cho Nyak Dun, Early Prospectors and Traders, the Establishment of Mayo, Mayo's Golden Beginning, Silver Sustains the Region, Mayo: The Last Half of the Twentieth Century, A History of the Na-Cho Nyak Dun First Nation Land Claims and Mayo in the Twenty-First Century.

Don't miss out on this limited edition printing.

**Book Cost: \$25.00** (includes GST).

Postage and handling extra on books mailed out.

You are invited to attend the launching of this most informative new publication which is the authors contribution to Mayo's recent Centennial.

- **Mayo, July 26, 2006 at the J.V. Clark School from 7—9 p.m.**
- **Whitehorse, July 27, 2006 at 7 p.m. at the Westmark Klondike Inn, 2288 2nd Ave. Whitehorse.**
- **The authors as well as special guests will be in attendance.**
- **Refreshments will be served.**

For more information and to place orders contact:  
**VILLAGE OF MAYO,**  
 P.O. Box 160,  
 Mayo, Yukon Y0B 1M0  
 Phone: 867-996-2317  
 Email: [mayo@northwestel.net](mailto:mayo@northwestel.net)

## TRAINING & DEVELOPMENT

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### Canadian Museums Association Seminar Series

**Insurance Seminar-** Whitehorse, Yukon  
October 12, 2006

Are museums over-insured? Do you feel your institution pays too much for insurance? These are some of the questions this seminar will address. Join us to increase your knowledge of insurance products, including the various insurance models available to museums. This seminar will also help you develop a clear understanding of the advantages and complexities of insurance, risk analysis, and management. Don't miss out, space is limited! Register now!

For more information and to register, please contact Lyn Guérin at [lguerin@museums.ca](mailto:lguerin@museums.ca) or 613-567-0099 ext. 227.

### Canadian Heritage Information Network

As a follow-up to the launch of the Knowledge Exchange in Saint John, New Brunswick, we are happy to inform you that two new online courses have since been added. They are 'Digital Preservation Management' and 'Digitization Fundamentals', and you can visit them at [www.chin.gc.ca](http://www.chin.gc.ca).

To stay up-to-date with new additions to the CHIN Web site that enable museum professionals and volunteers to learn, collaborate and share online, be sure to subscribe to CHIN's free monthly electronic newsletter at

<http://www.chin.gc.ca/Reaction/news.cgi?lang=e>.

### University of Victoria- Cultural Resource Management Program

#### Upcoming Courses: At a Distance 2006

[Collections Management](#)

September 11 to December 10, 2006

[Museum Principles and Practices I: Communities, Curatorship and Collections](#)

September 11, 2006 to December 17, 2006

[Heritage Resource Management](#)

September 11, 2006 to December 17, 2006

[Determining Significance](#)

September 18 to December 17, 2006

[Building Community Relationships](#)

September 11, to December 17, 2006

#### Upcoming Courses: On-Campus 2006

[Exhibition Design and Installation](#)

September 18 to 23, 2006

[Heritage Conservation Planning](#)

October 16 to 21, 2006

[Building Knowledge: Museums and Research](#)

October 30 to November 4, 2006

[Leadership in Cultural Organizations](#)

November 6 to 10, 2006

For more information on these and other training opportunities visit <http://www.uvcs.uvic.ca/crmp/home.aspx>

## FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

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The Next Intake for the Yukon Heritage Training Fund is August 16, 2006. For more information on how to apply please visit <http://www.yukonalaska.com/yhma/yhtf.htm>, call Rebecca Jansen, HTF Advisor, at 667-4704 or stop in at 3126 Third Avenue, Whitehorse to pick up an application.

## Funding Increased For Preservation Of Historic Properties

WHITEHORSE - 2006 marks the 20th Anniversary of the Historic Properties Assistance program.

In recognition of this important anniversary, and of the need to preserve the important Yukon historic properties owned privately or by community-based organizations or First Nations, the Yukon government has increased its support to the Historic Properties Assistance Program, announced Tourism and Culture Minister Elaine Taylor.

"This year, the budget for this successful program has been increased to \$100,000 and the funding will assist Yukoners in the preservation of their unique history," Taylor said. "These treasured resources are more than just personal property; they are a link to the past that all Yukoners and visitors can enjoy."

Projects that have been funded include exterior restoration, cemetery stabilization, foundation replacement and roof repairs to a number of properties throughout Yukon. For approved projects, contributions of up to 50 per cent of the value of eligible project costs may be made available on a matching basis.

"On behalf of the Old Log Church Museum, I would like to thank the Yukon government for its commitment and financial support given to the museum through the Historic Properties Assistance Program," museum curator, Susan Twist said.

"As one of the oldest log structures in Whitehorse, this funding will allow us to replace the cedar shingles on the roof and maintain the historic value and architectural integrity of this wonderful old building that contributes to Yukon's unique cultural identity," Twist added.

The Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in will receive funding for the Moosehide Cemetery preservation and restoration project.

"With the support of the Historic Properties Assistance Program and the Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in, we can begin work this summer on the Moosehide Cemetery preservation and restoration project. This is timely because it coincides with the bi-annual Moosehide Gathering," Director of Strategic Initiatives, Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in Gary Wilson said.

For further information on program criteria and guidelines, contact the Heritage Resources Unit at 667-3463 or email

[Heritage.Resources@gov.yk.ca](mailto:Heritage.Resources@gov.yk.ca).



***DISCOVERING NORTHERN GOLD***  
**A YUKON AND ALASKA RESEARCH SYMPOSIUM**  
**October 13-15, 2006**  
**Whitehorse, Yukon**

“Discovering Northern Gold” foregrounds our theme of uncovering and bringing to light the many “hidden” research projects that are underway by Yukon and Alaskans with a passion for the past. Much interesting work – on a variety of topics is being undertaken quietly, out of the spotlight by interested and committed people. These avocational researchers have a wealth of knowledge and expertise about their own very specific topic areas. The purpose of the symposium is to provide a venue where these non-academic historians could bring the results of their labours to the attention of a wider audience.

**October 12, 2006-** 7pm-9pm ~ Opening Reception

**October 13-14, 2006-** 9am to 4pm ~ Presentation of Papers, Interactive Sessions and Case Studies

**October 15, 2006-** Genealogy Workshop

Travel bursaries will be available to rural Yukoners wishing to attend the symposium.

For more information or to register please contact Rebecca Jansen at the Yukon Historical & Museums Association, 3126 Third Avenue, Whitehorse, Yukon Y1A 1E7 (867) 667-4704 or email [yhma@northwestel.net](mailto:yhma@northwestel.net)

**NEWSLETTER  
SUBMISSIONS**

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

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

Submission deadlines for upcoming Newsletters are:

Fall: October 6, 2006

Winter: January 12, 2007

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

**YHMA MEMBERSHIP**

Please support the Yukon Historical & Museums Association by purchasing a membership. Your support is needed!

Type of Memberships available:

Senior/Student: \$10.00

Individual: \$20.00

Organization: \$25.00

Family: \$30.00

Corporate: \$100.00

\*prices do not include GST

**Interested in becoming a volunteer?**

YHMA is always seeking volunteers willing to provide their skills and knowledge to our organization. If you are interested in any of the following committees please call Rebecca Jansen at 667-4704 or Email

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

- **Conference Planning**
- **Heritage Buildings**
- **Newsletter**
- **Museums**
- **Fundraising or Training**