

# Yukon Rural Review

Rural Secretariat | Rural Team Yukon

Spring 2009

## *The Community Access Program (CAP) – Yukon wide!*

The Community Access Program (CAP) provides users across Canada with affordable access to computers and the Internet. In the Yukon, Industry Canada and the Yukon Government's Department of Economic Development have worked together to bring 20 CAP sites to 15 different communities.

CAP sites are used in many ways. Communicating with friends, family and business contacts through email and instant messaging is the most common, but there are other ways these sites are important to Yukoners. Many have acquired basic computer skills, while others have been able to further their education through distance learning in a variety of fields that is available on-line. Some log on just to access the wide range of on-line government services, such as applying for social benefits or filing income taxes. Even some small business owners are found to use their local CAP site on a regular basis to do their accounting or to update their Web sites.

Local residents make up the highest number of users, but this can change dramatically during the tourist season. In the summer months, many CAP site administrators are visited by travelers who stop in to check their emails or have on-line chats with friends or family back home.

### **CAP sites in the Yukon:**

Beaver Creek	Youth Drop-in Centre
Burwash Landing	First Nation Bldg
Carcross	Carcross Community Library Bldg
Carmacks	Little Salmon First Nation Admin Bldg
Dawson	Robert Service School Bldg
Faro	Del Van Gorder School Bldg
Haines Junction	Government Admin Bldg
Mayo	Nacho Nyak Dun First Nation Bldg
Mayo	JV Clark School Bldg
Old Crow	Chief Zzeh Gittlit School Bldg
Pelly Crossing	Eliza Van Bibber School Bldg
Ross River	Ross River School Bldg
Tagish	Tagish Community Association Bldg
Teslin	First Nation Administration Bldg
Teslin	Administration Bldg
Watson Lake	First Nation Administration Bldg
Watson Lake	Town Administration Bldg
Whitehorse	11 Nisutlin Dr
Whitehorse	5 O'Brien Pl
Whitehorse	302 Strickland St

There are also partnership possibilities for those interested in implementing programs that promote CAP's objective of "contributing to the foundation for electronic access to government services; encouraging on-line learning and literacy; fostering the development of community based infrastructure; and, promoting Canadian e-commerce." (Industry Canada)

**For more information on CAP and/or possible partnership opportunities, please contact:**  
Yukon Government Department of Economic Development  
Strategic Industries Branch  
(867) 456-3920 or 1-800-661-0408 local 3920

### *Canadian community information at your fingertips!*

Community Information Database

CID



The **Community Information Database (CID)** is an easy-to-use, free, on-line tool which provides a detailed statistical overview of Canadian communities. It incorporates facts and figures from Statistics Canada's 1996, 2001 and 2006 censuses, with more than 700 indicators, such as education, income, population, age, employment rate, immigration and citizenship, language, crime, health, resource reliance, and much more!

The CID is a reliable, innovative tool for community groups, private or non-profit organizations, government policy makers, businesses, academics or individuals wanting to make a difference in their community. The CID allows you to:

- compare your community with other similar-sized communities;
- research and analyze population and other changes;
- create and download maps;
- tables and charts;
- create your own community and regional profiles.

**www.cid-bdc.ca**

*Discover more about your community and how you can use the information to support local and regional development.*

### *In this issue...*

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(YG Photo by R. Postma)  
Kluane National Park (YG Photo)

Canada

## Basic training for your board, council or committee members

The Yukon Volunteer Bureau offers a variety of training opportunities to First Nations governments, school councils and committees, organizations, and community groups throughout the Yukon. These training sessions provide basic information on how to: start a project; apply for funding; organize boards and committees, and more.

### Services include:

**Lunch and Learns** – Short presentations, in person or via video-conferencing that cover a variety of board development and volunteer management issues.

**Evening Board Leadership Training Sessions** – Held in Whitehorse, these two-hour sessions cover six board development issues:

- Finding and Keeping Board Members
- Board Roles and Responsibilities
- Strategic Planning
- Policy Development
- Effective Board Meetings
- Evaluating Success

For those living outside Whitehorse, contact the Yukon Volunteer Bureau to bring these training sessions into your community.

**Board Assessment Tool** – The Yukon Volunteer Bureau's Yukon Board Assessment Tool is designed to help board members understand how well their board is performing and to find ways in which they can improve.

**Training to meet specific needs** – The Yukon Volunteer Bureau can help individuals or organizations meet specific training needs as well.

### Creating capacity and motivation through Coaching, Mentoring and Facilitation Programs –

Through coaching, organizations and individuals are provided with one-on-one support to help them better understand their situations and recognize available options. Mentoring involves matching individuals and organizations with someone who has experienced success through similar challenges. Facilitation services involve helping a group work through an issue.

The Yukon Volunteer Bureau can also help connect you to a variety of professionals and consultants, which are listed according to 20 different categories. It is funded in part by the Tr'ondek Hwëch'in First Nation, Yukon Department of Education, and the Northern Strategy Trust Fund.

For more information on these training services, please contact:

**The Yukon Volunteer Bureau**  
**Mike Kramer, Training Manager or Jo Lukawitski, Training Coordinator, at: (867) 456-4304,**  
**via email at: [trainingmanager@volunteerbureau.yk.ca](mailto:trainingmanager@volunteerbureau.yk.ca)**  
**or visit our website at:**  
**[www.volunteerbureau.yk.ca](http://www.volunteerbureau.yk.ca)**



Photo credit: Kluane National Park (YG Photo)

## FOR INFORMATION ON GOVERNMENT OF CANADA PROGRAMS AND SERVICES:

Phone: 1-800-0-CANADA (1-800-622-6232)

TTY/TDD: 1-800-465-7735

Web: [www.canada.gc.ca](http://www.canada.gc.ca)

Service Canada Access Centres

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## Dawson's Francophones Coming Together

Since the time of the gold rush at the end of the 19th century, Francophones have lived in Dawson and throughout the Yukon. An estimated 175 French speaking Canadians live in the capital of the Klondike today. In recent years, a number have expressed interest in finding more ways to interact in their first language.

The Association franco-yukonnaise (AFY), operating in Whitehorse for more than 26 years, is answering that call. Although the AFY has participated in events such as Dawson's June 24 celebrations, the Dawson City Music Festival and the cabane à sucre (maple sugar shack) at the Old-Fashioned Christmas Party for years, the distance between Whitehorse and Dawson has always been a challenge.

In May 2008, through the Canadian Heritage Official Languages Support Program for Communities, the AFY was able to hire a Community and Economic Development Officer and open a new office in Dawson City. This new branch is promoting activities and projects, expanding and diversifying the AFY's range of partners, as well as increasing the participation of various groups in community events.

The need is particularly great in education. Raising children in an Anglophone environment while trying to ensure they master a second language is a huge task. Often French is spoken only at home and children generally don't realize the value of language. Francophones are hoping to see a French early childhood centre established for children ages three to five. By providing their children with an opportunity to interact in French, parents hope to help them understand that the language is another means of communication.

The community has made a number of other requests, such as reactivating the Francophone committee and pursuing more French-speaking social and cultural activities.

Monthly social meetings have been held for people to network and interact in French. These activities allow the AFY to take in new ideas, suggestions and comments, as well as recruit volunteers. Other activities include: monthly wine and cheese nights; "Francopen", a radio program broadcast every Thursday to promote French language and culture; and Francophone brunches every Saturday morning aimed at reaching French-speaking parents.

Dawson's Francophone population almost triples during the summer months. Many bilingual people go there to work in the tourism industry, but leave at the end of the season.

"We hope that our actions might lead these summer workers to stay in the city on a more permanent basis," says Sophie Delaigue, director of the AFY's Economic Development Branch.

When the Francophone community in Whitehorse was first organized, its numbers were small and services non-existent. Now Whitehorse has a Francophone school, a dynamic Francophone association, a school board, a women's group, a health agency, and several dozen businesses that provide services in French.

In Dawson, local partners (the city, the Dawson Chamber of Commerce, the Klondike Visitors Association, the recreation centre, the Robert Service School and government services such as the library) have responded positively to having an AFY office in the region. French has an increasingly visible presence in this part of the Yukon.

In order to contribute to the success of these initiatives and to the economic and cultural resurgence of this remarkable city, it is vital that the city's Francophones and Francophiles participate in activities organized by the AFY.

### For more information:

**Julie Leclerc, Economic and Community Development Officer in Dawson:**  
phone (867) 993-5009, e-mail [jleclerc@afy.yk.ca](mailto:jleclerc@afy.yk.ca)

**Sophie Delaigue, Director, RDÉE Yukon, Economic Development Branch of the AFY:**  
phone (867) 668-2663, extension 233; e-mail [sdelaigue@afy.yk.ca](mailto:sdelaigue@afy.yk.ca)  
Web site <http://www.afy.ca>

For more information, contact Rural Team Yukon/Yukon Federal Council at (867) 667-3813 or e-mail: [shannon.albisser@inac-ainc.gc.ca](mailto:shannon.albisser@inac-ainc.gc.ca)

Yukon Rural Review is a publication of the Rural Secretariat for residents of rural, remote and northern communities throughout the Yukon.

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