

Whitehorse Chamber of Commerce E-Bulletin

NOVEMBER 10TH, 2011

BI-WEEKLY



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GOVERNMENT



Yukon Government

Premier Pasloski and the new Government of Yukon Cabinet was sworn in last Saturday. All, but three, Yukon Party MLAs received were given a cabinet position. For a complete list of departments and the new minister in charge of the department go to

<http://www.legassembly.gov.yk.ca/members.html>

City By-Election

The City of Whitehorse has had many nomination papers picked up to run in the up-coming by-election to replace Doug Graham's spot on City Council. The deadline for submission is today, and a full list of candidates will be released later today.

The Whitehorse Chamber of Commerce will be holding an All Candidates Forum for the City's By-election on November 23rd, 2011 at 7pm at the Old Fire Hall

Business Training Fund

The Whitehorse Chamber of Commerce is in the final stages of organizing a new business training fund funded by the Department of Education, Advanced Education Branch. This program will offer opportunities for employers and Yukon workers to train and develop their expertise in order to take advantage of the economic activity we are experiencing.

The Training Fund will be coordinated by a committee set up by The Whitehorse Chamber of Commerce and may include the following:

- Training allowances
- Travel
- materials such as textbooks
- training courses (such as First Aid or WHMIS)

One example of how the fund may be used would be as follows. If you have an employee that shows exceptional potential for promotion but lacks some training and development that is required for promotion you could come to the Whitehorse Chamber of Commerce and the Training Fund committee to get that person ready to assume more responsibility.

If you have any ideas that you would like to share with the Chamber about this program please contact us at 667-7545 or business@whitehorsechamber.ca.

Request for Expression of Interest

The Government of Yukon is in an information collection stage currently for the development of affordable rental housing. The Yukon Government would like the submission of any ideas or barriers to the development of affordable rental housing. This may be used in the following RFP, if and when it is to be released. The Expression of interest is mainly targeted around lot 262 (Mountainview and Range).

For more information please go to:

http://www.emr.gov.yk.ca/lands/pdf/RFEI_affordable_rental_accommodation_nov2011.pdf

Yukon Energy Calculator

Trying to keep your energy cost down?

Yukon Energy has a new tool to help people manage their electricity usage/bills. With the assistance of Maritime Electric they have developed an energy calculator.

You can view it at: http://yukonenergy.ca/customer/tips_tools/calculator/

Advertisements

ATTENTION EMPLOYERS!

YOU MAY BE ELIGIBLE FOR A WAGE SUBSIDY OF \$7.20 PER HOUR

Through the
STUDENT TRAINING & EMPLOYMENT PROGRAM (STEP)

By offering a summer employment opportunity for a Yukon post-secondary student that:

- Pays a minimum of \$14.40 per hour
- Provides a minimum of 450 hours of summer employment
- Relates to a student's field of study
- Will benefit a student's future employability

For more information or a STEP application,
please visit our website at:

<http://www.education.govyk.ca/advanceded/employment/index.html>

or contact:

Department of Education
Advanced Education Branch
Ann Birnie, Employment Training
1000 Lewes Blvd., Whitehorse, YT
Phone: 1-867-667-5927
Toll Free 1-800-661-0408 ext. 5927
Email: ann.birnie@govyk.ca

PLEASE NOTE
CLOSING DATE TO APPLY:
November 18, 2011



The Canadian Payroll Association Presents: 2011 Year-end & New Year Requirements (1-day seminar)

A key installment in our Professional Development Series, this seminar helps participants win the year-end reporting race and get a head start on the New Year requirements. Participants will gain a thorough understanding of existing payroll legislation and practices to ensure their organization's current payroll is accurate, and will look ahead to expectations for the new year and beyond.

Date: Thursday, November 17

Location: Yukon Inn To

Register: [http://](http://www.payroll.ca/go/?wyt)

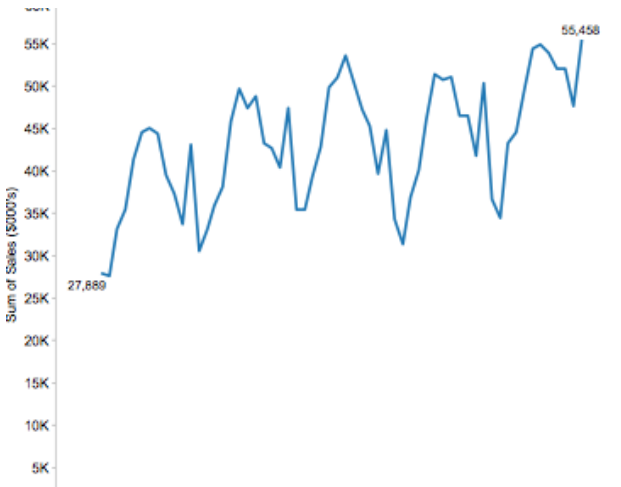
www.payroll.ca/go/?wyt

39th Annual Yukon Geoscience Forum & Trade Show

November 19 to 23

**High Country Inn & Yukon Convention Centre and Westmark
Whitehorse Hotel**

Yukon Bureau of Statistics - Retail



The annual value of Yukon's retail sales has increased each year since Yukon data became available in 1991, with the exception of two slight declines - one in 2004 (-2.0%) and the other 2009 (-1.5%).

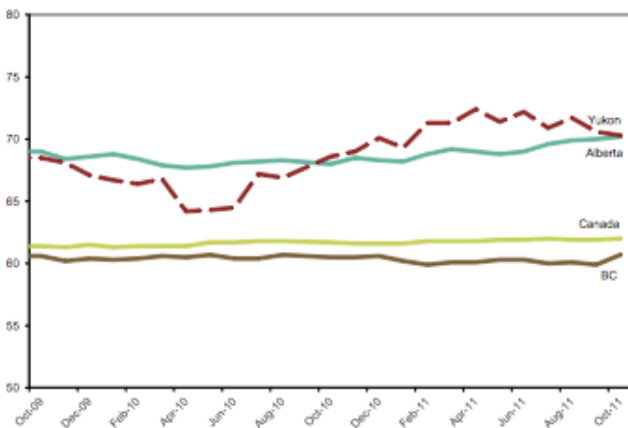
The annual sum of sales in 2010, \$578,435,000, was a 9.8% increase over the value of sales in 2009.

To read more, follow this link:

<http://www.eco.gov.yk.ca/stats/pdf/retail2010.pdf>

YUKON Bureau of Statistics - Employment

Employment Rate, Oct '09 - Oct '11



“ The Labour Force Survey estimates that 74.2% of Yukoners age 15 and over are employed or are seeking employment. This percentage is up from 72.8% in October 2010.

Yukon's participation rate began to decline in June 2011 as the percentage of Yukoners participating in the labour force declined from 77.2% in May to 74.2% in October. This decline follows a six-month period of increases (Dec '10 to May '11).

Yukon's labour market in terms of participation rate and employment rate tends to be similar to Alberta's; however, as is often the case with a small population base, our rates show a higher degree of volatility.”

To read the rest of the report log on to:

http://www.eco.gov.yk.ca/stats/pdf/employment_oct11.pdf

Chamber Members - Advertising Opportunities

Thank you to the

YUKON NEWS

1. As a member of the Whitehorse Chamber of Commerce take advantage of discounted advertising on the Whitehorse Chamber page in the Yukon News at the end of each month.

Advertisements are 2”X3” and only \$40! This is a discount of over \$30!

2. Free 1/4 page ad in the Wednesday edition of the Yukon News from January-March 2012

Contact the Chamber for more information at 667-7545

Porter Creek D Press Release

**Whitehorse Chamber of Commerce Supports
The City of Whitehorse
and the Yukon Government
in Moving Forward with Porter Creek D development**

November 9, 2011

The Whitehorse Chamber of Commerce is an active member of the Porter Creek “D” Working Group. As a member of the Working Group we would like to share what we see as key issues that have not been communicated fully to Whitehorse residents. While the Chamber recognizes that there are many values associated with the land in the Middle McIntyre Creek area, the need for extensive development throughout the Whitehorse area to accommodate short, medium and long-term housing needs is overwhelming.

Housing is the number one issue in all sectors of the economy; one of the primary concerns of the Chamber is that Whitehorse must anticipate and meet the needs resulting from continued growth. The question is not will the City’s population continue to grow, it is a question of how to create affordable accommodation for everyone wanting to call Whitehorse home.

Resolving the “affordable accommodation for everyone” question means restoring the mobility in the housing market. To this end, the Whitehorse Chamber of Commerce is in full support of moving Porter Creek “D” into a design/development phase so that *all* aspects of this project can be given careful review before decisions are made on how to proceed. There is a need to proceed, and we believe through due process any potential negative impacts that might result from development in this area can be mitigated.

As the process moves into the design/development stages, environmental and socio-economic impacts can be studied in-depth through the Yukon Environmental and Socio-economic Assessment (YESA) process. Significant impacts, many of which are known, can be carefully assessed and appropriate mitigations identified. This is why the process exists, to ensure that responsible development can occur. The proposed Porter Creek D development area currently maintains at least a one hundred meter buffer from McIntyre Creek at all times. This set-back zone beside the creek has also been designated as protected by the City. Through the YESA assessment period the size of the buffer zone and other environmental protection measures will be evaluated.

The Yukon Government has recognized the need for housing and has made it a priority to restore mobility within the marketplace by bringing affordable rental units to market. The Whitehorse Chamber supports both the Yukon Government and the City of Whitehorse in their efforts to create development opportunities for the private sector, while working to resolve our housing crisis. The Whitehorse Chamber of Commerce supports the City of Whitehorse in further work on Porter Creek “D” and would like to see this area move forward into the design/development stage as soon as possible.

All Candidates Forum - City By-Election

The Whitehorse Chamber of Commerce is holding an
All Candidates Forum

November 23rd

Old Fire Hall

6pm-9pm

**Mid-Arctic Technology Business
After Hours**

Air North Business After Hours

Tonight

November 10, 2011

206 Jarvis Street

5:00 - 7:00pm

mid arctic
technology services

December 1st, 2011

Air North Hangar

5:00-7:00pm



**Contact the Chamber to RSVP for any of these special events at business@whitehorsechamber.ca
or 667-7545**