



NEWSLETTER Fall 2018

Yukon Trappers Association
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visit us on Facebook!

Hello everyone!

It's hunting season already and soon you might head out into the bush to do some serious trapping. Make sure you get all your equipment well ahead. At the Depot we have, for example, Belisle 120SX, 330SX; MB750; snare materials, lures. Also, we have tanning solution and we have some leather needles and sinew.

President's message

The harvest moon is coming upon us shortly, this is the time of year when the fall air lights that fire inside of us bush folk and we start to gear up for our moose hunt and start preparing for another season on the land.

I want everyone to be safe and if you get the opportunity to take someone new out on the trail with you, please do and share our heritage industry with them. There is a lot about trapping that people don't understand. If we can take the time to share our passion with people who listen, more of the general population will understand - the more people who understand our culture, the more people will support us.

This season, harvest sustainably, keep track of your harvest accurately. Take the time to properly handle your furs. Get a copy of one of the Fur Handling magazines or stop by the Fur Depot and purchase the Commercial Fur Handlers manual. A \$30 investment will pay back on your first pelt more than likely.

And for a challenge try trapping a species that is in your area that you may have not attempted to before. So many Trapline have Beaver and Muskrats, yet there is such a low harvest count, these species make the best hats. Maybe think about harvesting a few just to have a new hat made as a gift or for yourself.

I want to thank all of our members for their continued support. We look forward to serving you and hearing your stories when you come in to the Fur Depot. If there's anything else we can do feel free to contact me personally.

Safe season,
and as my Gwich'in friends say: Massi Cho, Gwiinzii Edik'anaantii
Thank you very much and take good care of yourself.
Brian Melanson, President of Yukon Trappers Association

Current activity

Since April, we've been working on Clause 39 of the Lands policy, which indicates that trappers are required to return the land to its original condition if required by government. Brian Melanson is working to bring forward a proposal to change the wording of this regulation.

We also have a new board of directors. They are: President, Brian Melanson. Vice President, Grant Redfern. Secretary-Treasurer, Jackie Yaklin. Directors: Larry Barrett, Jim Haney, Paul Kloepfer, Mackenzie Mertz, Frank Mueller, Stanley Njootli Sr, Sonja Seeber, Vic Sokalski, Robert Stitt, and Terry Wilkinson. The Board is comprised from current members in good standing -- if you're interested in participating on the board, please let us know.

Fur Depot

Opening hours

Tuesday to Friday from 2pm to 5pm

Saturday from 11am to 4pm.

Closed Sundays and holidays.

If you arrive at other hours, check next door at the Match Girl Knitting Shop. If Jackie is there she can assist you with YTA business.

Our Fur Depot services include: free shipping to the auction house of your choice; export permits; sealing for lynx, wolverine and wolves; advances from the auction house; and operating hours include Saturday and most evenings until 7pm.

YTA buys good quality un-tanned furs directly. We pay the tanning fee and then sell the dressed furs at Our Store. Foxes and beavers are in high demand.

YTA continues to advocate on behalf of the trapping industry.

Greyhound closed their depot this year -- and have made an arrangement with Pacific NorthWest Freight. Greyhound is missed -- those guys knew us and always made a point of phoning when freight arrived, and were excellently reliable when we sent furs out. We negotiated a good rate with Manitoulin Transport and are sure that Manitoulin can provide our depot with our shipping requirements.

Mobile Fur Depot

We're looking for people that would want to bring trappers' fur from Watson Lake, Teslin, Mayo and Dawson City to the Depot. You'd pick up fur, deliver trapping supplies and connect with the trappers in small communities. You will be compensated for your efforts. If you're interested, please send an email or contact one of our board members.

Memberships

2018-2019 Memberships.

If you haven't done it yet, please renew your membership for this year. With a membership, you receive a 10% discount from Our Store, bulk tanning rates, paid shipping for furs, and you will be part

of an advocacy group interested in trapping. The Association relies on memberships as the number of members makes us a more representative Association.

When you join the YTA, you enjoy a 10% discount on products from Our Store – new lures, more traps, more snare materials; a cost-effective tanning service; and free workshops.

Yukon Fur Real.

The Board and Executive are considering the Yukon Fur Real project. You may have heard about it in the news. The project arose from a strategy session which followed the March 2018 UnFurLed project. The objective is to reduce dependency on the auction houses. Yukon Fur Real wishes to purchase green pelts directly from trappers; procure a tanning service and have an inventory of tanned pelts. A client would place an order for a finished product which includes fur. The fur is handed off to a fur artisan and a finished product is produced. The product is sold to the client. Funding for Yukon Fur Real is uncertain at this point and may come from shareholders.

Yukon Trappers Association is one of five corporate bodies being considered for the project.

At this time, the Board and Executive are requesting your feedback.

Wolf Incentive Program at YTA

The Board and Executive have considered that the YTA Wolf Incentive Program is no longer necessary because the Yukon Outfitters Association and the Renewable Resource Councils also offer incentives. This year, YTA will not be offering Our Store Gift Certificates. Any Gift Certificates that are not redeemed may be redeemed for purchases at Our Store and for your tanning orders. We thank you for your participation and look forward to honoring our certificates.

Wolf Incentive Program at YOA

Once again, the Yukon Outfitters Association has their Wolf Incentive Program running. You'll receive a check for \$200-- for each wolf, while funds are available. You need to provide them with the wolf seal and your Yukon Trappers License. Program closes April 30th, 2018 but allows the extra 30 days for trappers to process and apply. Please note their new address.

Contact:

Yukon Outfitters Association
Suite 302 #110, 303 Alexander St
Whitehorse, Yukon Y1A 2L5
867.668.4118 office
867.668.4120 fax
info@yukonoutfitters.net

Last Receiving Dates & Auction Dates

2019 Auction Schedule FUR HARVESTERS

YTA Receiving Dates	Last Receiving Dates	Sale Dates
January 12, 2019	Sunday January 20, 2019	**March 8-15, 2019
April 6, 2019	Sunday April 14, 2019	*May 24-25, 2019
April 6, 2019	Sunday April 14, 2019	**June 10, 2019 (Lynx cats & Marten)
		**Sale will be held in Helsinki, Finland in conjunction with Saga Furs. *Sales will be held in North Bay, Canada.

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2019 Auction Schedule NAFA

YTA Receiving Dates	Last Receiving Dates	Sale Dates
December 31 st , 2018	January 7, 2019	Feb 26-March 4, 2019
March 18 th , 2019	March 25, 2019	May 30-June 5, 2019
*We will not be sorting any fresh wild fur for the August 2019 sale due to insufficient quantities.		Aug 23-27, 2019

Environment Yukon News

The Department of Environment is asking all trappers to submit Wolverine carcasses from the 2018-2019 season. A 50\$ stipend per carcass is available for your contribution to this research. Lynx carcasses are being collected from specific study areas. Concession holders within these areas will be contacted by mail with this request. If you are not contacted, please do not submit any carcasses. For more information about the lynx study and carcass collection, call toll-free 1-800-661-0408, ext. 5464.

The Department of Environment's Trapper Education Program is looking for a limited amount of furs in the round (frozen whole) for workshops. Furs must be clean, not shot, not spoiled, not freeze-dried. Contact Trapper Education Coordinator Ryan Sealy at 393-6273 for more details.

New tags for recording details about the fur you harvest will be available at your local Department of Environment office this fall. These durable tags are free of charge and will be especially helpful when

it comes time to seal your fur. They can also help with recording your harvest for when it comes time to apply for renewal of your concession. And if you haven't picked up a map of your trapping concession area yet, visit one of our offices to get one.

Please ensure that you keep track of your snares this season. This summer, Conservation Officers dealt with several instances of wildlife unintentionally caught in snares that were not closed off or removed at the end of the season. Springing or removing your traps (including snares) at the end of the trapping season for the species that they were set for is a legal requirement under the Wildlife Act. A notebook/map/GPS can help you keep track of where you have set traps and how many you have set.

Is the use of your trapline reviewed by a Renewable Resources Council? Do you know what the local RRC expects of you as a trapper? Contact them to get the latest versions of their Trapping Guidelines. These documents set out what the RRCs are looking for when they meet to make recommendations about renewing your trapping concession. Each RRC has different guidelines, so be sure to get in touch with them. If you're not sure if your trapline activities are subject to RRC review or not, or if you have any other questions about your trapline, contact Mark Callan, the Department's Program Advisor for the Fur and Outfitting Industries - 1-800-661-0408, ext. 8403 or mark.callan@gov.yk.ca.

Upcoming Events

2018/19 Winter Workshops

Brian Melanson and Mackenzie Mertz are planning a schedule of fur handling workshops. If you want a workshop near you, please let us know. We will need a supply of fur in the round and can either purchase outright or borrow, your choice. Our workshops are determined by the kind of furs we have and we're striving for variety: wolf, marten, beaver, muskrat, coyote, fox.

Happy trails,

the Board of Directors