



NEWSLETTER Spring/Summer 2023

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President's Message

Special Times

By Brian Melanson

For many this winter has been a slow season for bringing in furs. It's been overly mild, with lots of rain in the fall causing many creeks and meadows in the alpine to flood and freeze. Late freeze-up, high water levels just didn't make for ideal conditions in November. While on January 27th I was driving back from Whitehorse, between Takhini River and Otter Falls cut off, I observed about 30-40 muskrats in several spots crossing the highway. Going down-stream, at all these locations the creeks had overflowed and it was a mild day. Very dangerous for them, but definitely a "March of the Muskrats" in this area. With mass migrations of deliciousness like that, prime for the picking, it's no doubt the predator species have not been tempted to the lure of a cubby or bait station.

It's been a good winter to just spend extra time out on the line. Just listening to the small birds and the wind in the trees. It's been amazing having my Mom and Dad here to go out on the land with, and for them to spend it with their grandchild. It's not so much focused on the harvest, as it is about the time together and building good wholesome memories. I can not forget to mention my wife, Megan. She helped carry the other ends of the logs that we built our base camp with. Toughest it out with me in a 8x16 cabin 100 miles from Mayo. After Tasin was born, Megan told me: "You trap furs for me, and I'll sew for us". Sew she does, with her own inspirations drawn from our life away from a road. I know many of you have similar stories. It would be nice to hear a short one from people. Funny incidents, family value building, tough times in deep snow. We all can have a good laugh from an overflow story. Feel free to submit a story to Sonja to have put in our next newsletter.

I hope that everyone is able to appreciate the connection we all have to the land. It true is a place with many feet on the ground. As Annie Ned said 50 years ago: "let the kids dance; let them ALL Dance". Meaning all the kids, moving forward together. We all have the spirit in us and we all need to have open arms. It is with this spirit moving forward we need to come together. To celebrate, to unite, to stand hand in hand and say "I respect you". The fur history is deeply entrenched in the history of this land. This history belongs to all of us, also this year as we celebrate our 50th anniversary. Lets remember that when we are together as a group, we have fun, our families have fun, and it's always a good time. I look forward to this 50th and another 50 Years of Supporting Yukon Trappers with the ever changing world of the Fur Industry.

Fur Depot

by Jackie Yaklin

Tanning Services

The Association provides an excellent tanning service for our members. We negotiated a bulk tanning rate, an exceptional shipping rate; we ship regularly; we're organized; we provide the seals, get the export permit, and pay expenses to our suppliers.

When your tanning order returns, you are notified. Yes, sometimes the notification is not received, but we do leave messages.

The Association does not earn a large income from the tanning fees.

Fur in the Round

The Association is looking for fur in the round of species foxes, coyotes, wolves, marten, beaver. We intend to use them for our workshops. At the end, we'll send the fur for tanning and sell it at a Fur Sale or at Our Store.

These particular furs are difficult to keep in stock, in part because of the limited quantity. And in part, because they are Yukon furs. There is high demand for Yukon furs. When we sell these furs, we can provide information about the furs – where they came from, when they were harvested.

Fur Depot

Opening hours: Tuesday to Friday from 2pm to 5pm; Saturdays from 11am to 4pm. Closed Sundays and holidays. Phone 1-867-668-5648 for additional hours.

Fur depot services include: shipping to the auction house; export permits; sealing for lynx, wolverine and wolves.

Memberships

All memberships expire on June 30th. Members receive the following benefits: 10% discount on purchases from Our Store; tanning services; fur depot services. The Association advocates on behalf of its members for specific issues as they arise and for general issues that apply to all trappers.

The Association relies on memberships as the number of members makes us a more representative Association. Please join us. Thank you.

Fur Harvesters' 2023 Auction Date: May 28-30, 2023-RESULTS

As of today we only have the US Dollar Auction Results:

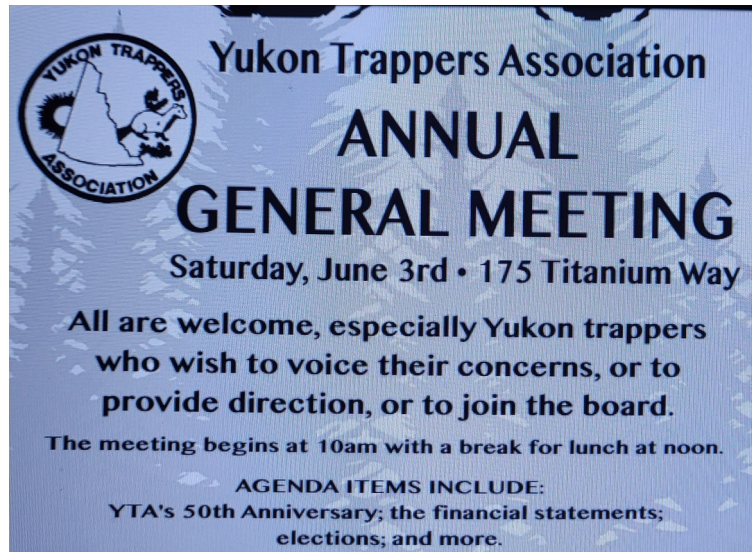
<https://www.furharvesters.com/results/2023/May/may23us.pdf>

Check back with <https://www.furharvesters.com/> later on to read Mark's report on this last auction of the season.

Upcoming Events

AGM

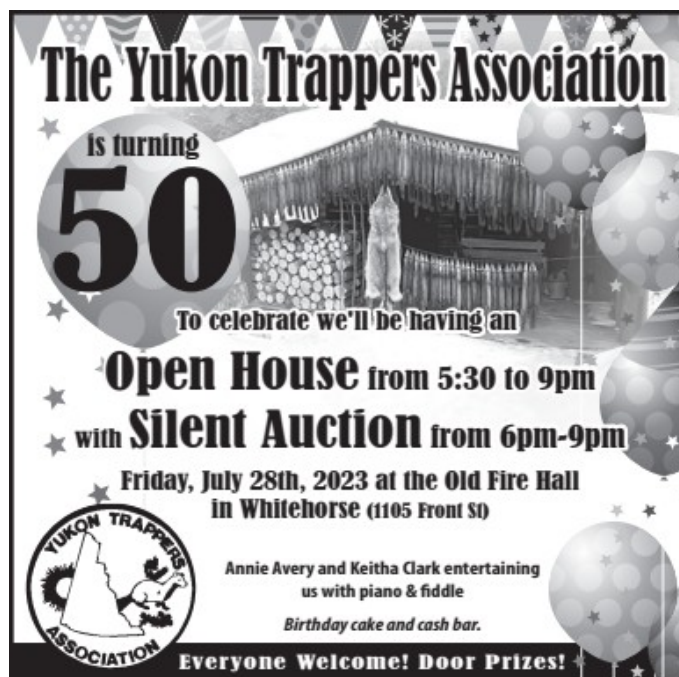
Come see us at 175A Titanium Way in Whitehorse on June 3rd, 2023 for our AGM. Start time is 10am til finished. Get onto the board and have your say.



Gun Show

Jackie and Vic will once again have a table at the Gun Show at the Best Western Gold Rush Inn in Whitehorse. Come see us and the gorgeous tanned furs, get your infos and memberships. See you there on Saturday, July 22nd, 2023, from 10 to 4pm.

YTA's 50th anniversary BIRTHDAY BASH



You are all invited to come out and attend our Open House on Friday, July 28, 2023, at the Old Fire Hall in Whitehorse. Birthday cake for the ones with a sweet tooth, to wash it down with a cup of coffee followed by a cold one, then dance your shoes off with Annie Avery on the piano and Keitha Clark on the fiddle.

Not only is it a party, it's also a Silent Auction. Come on out and bid on the numerous wonderful donated items. Wear your furry jewelry and clothes, tell interested locals and tourists a story and let's have a good time.

FIC AGM



FUR INSTITUTE OF CANADA | **INSTITUT DE LA FOURRURE DU CANADA**

40th Anniversary Celebration – Mark Your Calendars!

This year we mark our 40th anniversary, which calls for a special celebration! We will be holding our 2023 AGM in Whitehorse at the Sternwheeler, July 28-29, and cordially invite all Fur Institute members to join us. For details contact: 613 231-7099; info@fur.ca; www.fur.ca

Past Events

Past President Robert Stitt's Message

Once again Jackie, Shannon, and I attended the Dawson Fur Show on behalf of the YTA. Jackie had a busy day receiving furs from trappers for shipment to either the tannery in Winnipeg or to auction in North Bay. In addition she sold approximately \$4,000.00 worth of tanned fur to crafts people.

I had a great deal of interest in my marten skinning and pelt preparation demonstration. A large number of furs were entered this year in the pelt handling competition. Lots of nice prizes were awarded to winners in each category - wolf, marten, lynx, fox, and wolverine. I entered a lynx and 3 bundles of 3 marten in the competition. I won 3rd in lynx, 2nd and 3rd in marten. There were lots of nicely prepared furs entered this year making the judges' decision quite difficult I am sure. In mid afternoon a delicious moose stew and Bannock were available to all attendees.

The Dawson Fur Show is a pleasant social event! A great place to meet other members of the trapping community, to exchange tips and tricks of the trade. I would like to personally thank the DDRRC for organizing this event.

Miscellaneous

Looking for an opportunity to assist on a trapline for the 2023/24 season. I have some trapping experience, have completed the course, and have lots of bush experience (I have been working for outfitters for a number of years). I have a reliable 2019 yamaha VK540, a couple skimmers, 4x4 truck with a trailer, my own saws, etc. Please contact Stephen at: asla.stephenW@gmail.com, Home: 867-667-2377, Cell: 613-857-7521.

Engageyukon.ca

Give your input! Take part in and find the results from Government of Yukon engagement projects. Please check out <https://yukon.ca/en/engagements> once in a while in order to find Yukon Government surveys for you to participate in.

Do the same by checking out Yukon Fish and Wildlife Management Board' webpage at <https://yfwmb.ca/conservation-topics/>.

Then check out the Yukon Fish and Game Association at <https://yukonfga.ca/> to stay on top of important issues.

The Yukon Conservation Society's five current priorities are mining, energy, conservation, outdoor education, and climate change. Check out <https://www.yukonconservation.ca/conservation>.

Hope to see you all at the Open House and wishing you and yours a fantastic and healthy Summer – make sure to make a list of the things you'll need for the next trapping season and get them before it's too late!

Sincerely,
the Board of Directors