



OPENING DOORS

Watson Lake opens applications for grants to build new housing units under the Government of Canada's Housing Accelerator Fund.

A BIG THANK YOU!

Updates on Inground Infrastructure Upgrades

For the last couple of months, sections of Frank Trail, Adela Trail, and the streets of Tintina Way have been undergoing critical water and sewer upgrades as the previous infrastructure has shown its age. Norcope and the group of contractors handling these upgrades have been hard at work seeing the construction through. The Town of Watson Lake would like to thank you for bearing with us as we take this big leap toward the sustainable future we envision for the community.

At the time of writing, testing of the new waterline on Adela Trail has been completed, and it is now hooked back up from the temporary waterline to the main inground waterline. Construction is still ongoing on Frank Trail, while water content testing is still being finalized on Tintina Way.

Water is vital for everyone's use, whether for necessities

or as a means of freshening up in the summer season. Having significantly less water pressure in the last two months has indeed been challenging, but we extend a big thank you for your understanding, your patience, and for bearing with the inconvenience this might have brought you. Thank you for your contribution to making Watson Lake a better place to live.



PHOTO BY: Cassandra Hancher

NL Certified: Swim Safer

The Town of Watson Lake would like to congratulate three of our lifeguards for recently attaining the National Lifeguard Certification.

This means that the town will be able to start offering more water-related activities in terms of hours and scheduling.

The town is always on the lookout for passionate people like them, if you think there is a skill you can hone with the town, talk to us!

ANNOUNCEMENT

There is a Public Hearing for amendments to be made on the Zoning Bylaw

Do you have suggestions that you want the council to take into consideration? Attend and voice your thoughts!

THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, AUGUST 6TH, 2024



Ready. Set. Build.

Housing Accelerator Fund Applications Open for Watson Lake Residents

The town of Watson Lake opens applications for the Housing Accelerator fund initiative from the Government of Canada that provides funding directly to municipal governments in order to fast-track building more housing units. From the budget awarded to the town by the Federal government, a pool of \$400,000 will be allocated to residents who apply through the grant program to build infill dwelling units. Learn more about the process below.

The Grant Program

This program provides property owners with access to grants to develop housing on property that they own or in the process of purchasing through an agreement for sale. If granted to you, the funding can be used to build single family homes, suites or multi-family units. \$40,000 will be awarded per new dwelling, and an applicant can be awarded up to a maximum of \$120,000 if aiming to build multi-family housing.

Applications Ongoing

The applications for the program is currently ongoing, and will be due by 4:30pm on August 16, 2024. You may scan the QR code in the infographic below to download the application forms, and once filled out, you may submit these by

emailing housing@watsonlake.ca.

Do I Qualify?

1. Your property must be within the municipal boundary of the Town of Watson Lake.
2. Applicants own the property on which the dwelling will be constructed or have an Agreement for sale with the Yukon Government for a lot.
3. The proposed development complies with the Town's Official Community Plan, Zoning By-law and National Building Code.
4. Property must be in good financial standing with the town, meaning all outstanding fees and taxes must be paid off to be eligible for said grant.

DEVELOPING HOMES

The Watson Lake Housing Accelerator Fund aims to build at least 10 new dwellings in town and

105
HOUSES OVER 10 YEARS

Download your application form by scanning this QR code



Municipal Elections: You as an Elector

Municipal elections are around the corner, and you've got a superpower: your right to vote! To be an elector in Yukon, you must be a resident, at least 18, and a Canadian citizen. This is like your golden ticket to the municipal elections.

Your residence is more than just where you live—it's where your vote counts. What if you can't make it on election day? No problem! Apply for a special ballot and vote in advance.

Seeing your name on the list of electors is like spotting your name in movie credits. Check the list to make sure you're all set to vote.

Your vote is your superpower. Each elector gets one vote, and together, these votes shape the future of Watson Lake. Use it wisely to influence the town to go to the direction you want.

Election day is your moment to shine. Be part of the excitement and experience the thrill of democracy in action.

Being an elector is a lifelong role where you continually influence

the direction where your community is heading. As an elector, you're a vital part of Watson Lake's future. Exercise your right to vote and make your mark.

Know your rights as an elector, know the leaders and use your votes wisely.





WATSON LAKE

REMINDERS

HOUSEHOLD

HAZARDOUS

WASTE DAY

GET A CHANCE TO DISPOSE OF YOUR HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTES AT NO COST TO YOU BY BRINGING OILS, SPRAY CANS, BATTERIES, ETC. TO THE RECYCLING AND LANDFILL CENTRE ON

SEPTEMBER 14, 2024
10AM - 5PM



SCAN THE QR CODE FOR MORE INFORMATION

ANNOUNCEMENTS

get ready for a

VET VISIT



A Veterinarian will be visiting Watson Lake SOON!

If your pet needs to get checked up, or if you would like to schedule them for shots or to be neutered or spayed you should:

SECURE YOUR SLOT TODAY!

BY VISITING BYLAW-CONNIE AT THE TOWN OFFICE

Dust Control: Calcium Chloride Capping on Frank and Auburn Trail

We extend our heartfelt thanks to the Yukon Government and Don Magun for partnering with Public Works to treat the roadways with calcium chloride on Auburn Drive and Frank Trail, from the Weigh Scales to the RCMP, for dust control.

Calcium chloride is known for its moisture-absorbing properties, which significantly reduce dust, improving road safety and comfort for residents. This treatment

has a lifespan of up to two years, ensuring long-lasting benefits for our community. Your collaborative efforts have made a noticeable difference in enhancing the quality of our roads and the overall living environment. We truly appreciate your dedication and hard work in making our town a cleaner and safer place to live. Thank you for your continued support and commitment to improving our community's roads and overall well-being.

Your efforts have made a lasting impact, and we look forward to seeing more positive changes in the future.



Progress in the Pipeline

Watson Lake's Big Leap Forward on Vision for Development

Watson Lake is excited to share that the Frances Lift Station and Frances Avenue extension projects are making significant progress. The head of operations reports that these essential infrastructures have their progresses back on track and slated for completion by mid-September. There have been a few delays, but these ensures that both current needs and future developments are met with reliable services.

Collaborations with the Liard First Nation, the Government of Yukon, and the Town of Watson Lake highlight a strong commitment to essential infrastructure projects. These partnerships are pivotal in laying the groundwork for future development, supporting both immediate needs and long-term plans for the community.

The expansion of the wastewater collection system is a testament to the proactive measures being taken to accommodate growth and

improve residents' quality of life.

The completion of these projects is just around the corner, representing significant strides Watson Lake has made in fulfilling its vision. Advancing to the next phases of development marks the potential for Watson Lake to expand in collaboration with our First Nation partners. Completing these initiatives opens up opportunities for everyone, truly making the Gateway to the Yukon a welcoming place in a growing, thriving community.

Public Waste Drop-off: A More Efficient, Sustainable Way of Disposing Garbage

Watson Lake is pleased to announce that we have reached the final stages of our ongoing waste management project.

We will be announcing when the new public waste drop-off area will be fully operational, along with instructions on disposing your garbage to the landfill featuring roll-off trailers with three bin compartments for better disposal of smaller loads. Residents can still drive large loads

directly to the landfill as usual. Additionally, new equipment in the department will enhance landfill processes, making them more efficient.

These improvements streamline waste disposal, to reduce environmental impact, and contribute for a healthier, sustainable Watson Lake.

DID YOU KNOW?

The Watson Lake Landfill takes measures to efficiently manage dropped off waste by compacting. This process minimizes the airspace used and maximizes the utilization of every square inch of the dumpsite.

Recently, the town has acquired a new crawler-loader unit to enhance the transportation and management of compacted waste. This machine not only helps in moving the compacted waste but also ensures it is properly covered with a layer of 4 inches of dirt. This covering process is crucial as it prevents waste from being exposed to the open air, reducing the risk of environmental contamination and improving the overall cleanliness and safety of the landfill.



EDITOR'S DOCK

Community Mail

DEAR TOWN OF WATSON LAKE,

Just wanted to say a big thank you for the community newsletter! It's awesome to see all the exciting stuff happening around town.

The updates on the water and sewer projects and the Frances Avenue Extension are great. It's clear a lot of work is going into making our town better (lots of delays though but it's much appreciated).

The section on community events was a highlight. Camps, and environmental activities, there's something for everyone. And thanks for the heads-up on the upcoming elections. It's important for all of us to stay involved.

I also noticed the new rates and programs at the Rec Centre. It's good to see so many options for staying active and having fun. And the Housing Accelerator Funds and Urban Visitor's Sign Program sound like fantastic initiatives for growth and development.

A couple of suggestions though: maybe consider adding a section for local business spotlights in future newsletters? It would be cool to learn more about what our local shops and services offer. Also, I think there should be something about elections where we talk about the voters and exercising our right to vote.

Thanks for keeping us in the loop,
WATSON LAKE RESIDENT

Do you want to share or be featured?
Scan the QR code and share your thoughts with us!

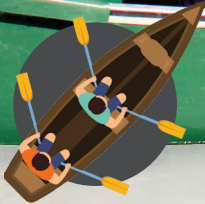




COMMUNITY EVENTS & PROGRAMS

EVENTS & PROGRAMS

REC UPDATES



FLATWATER NORTH PRESENTS WATSON LAKE CANOE CAMP

DAILY, AUGUST 12-16
9.30AM-3.00PM



QUEER YUKON

QUEER YUKON HOSTS PRIDE MONTH
EVENTS IN WATSON LAKE THIS
AUGUST

Pride Month honors the 2SLGBTQIA+ community's diversity and achievements. While June is the official month, many events occur in August, promoting acceptance and unity. Watson Lake community members are invited to join the August events to celebrate love and diversity. Embrace and respect all forms of diversity.



DISCOVERY DAY PARADE

AUGUST 17, 2024 **PARADE: 11AM, WYE LAKE PARK BBQ: 12 PM**



PHOTO BY: Tasha Stewart

LIARD FIRST NATION KASKA DAY

AUGUST 16 ONWARDS

Kaska Day in Watson Lake celebrates the Kaska Dena people's culture, history, and community. This event promotes cultural exchange, understanding, and respect among all community members, highlighting the importance of preserving indigenous traditions.



WATSON LAKE RECREATION CENTRE

EXTENDED HOURS

WEEKDAYS: 8.00AM-8.00PM
WEEKENDS: 9.00AM-6.00PM

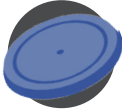
TRY OUT:



PICKLEBALL
UPDATES COMING SOON!



ROLLERBLADES
REC CENTRE ARENA



DISC GOLF
KITS NOW AVAILABLE

TOWN CALENDAR AUGUST 2024

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	28	29	31	01	02	03
		POOL, PICKLEBALL	POOL	POOL, PICKLEBALL, DISC GOLF	POOL, ADULT SOFTBALL	LUCKY LAKE WATERSLIDE*/POOL PICKLEBALL
04	05	06	07	08	09	10
DISC GOLF		TOWN COUNCIL MEETING/ PUBLIC HEARING FOR ZONING BYLAW POOL, PICKLEBALL	POOL	HONEY HARVEST (11AM-2PM) POOL, PICKLEBALL, DISC GOLF	POOL, ADULT SOFTBALL	LUCKY LAKE WATERSLIDE*/POOL PICKLEBALL
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
DISC GOLF		CANOE CAMP DAY 1 POOL, PICKLEBALL	CANOE CAMP DAY 2 POOL	CANOE CAMP DAY 3 POOL, PICKLEBALL, DISC GOLF	KASKA DAY CANOE CAMP DAY 4 (PICKUP) POOL, ADULT SOFTBALL	DISCOVERY DAY PARADE (11AM) LUCKY LAKE WATERSLIDE*/POOL PICKLEBALL
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
DISC GOLF	DISCOVERY DAY	TOWN COUNCIL MEETING POOL, PICKLEBALL	POOL	POOL, PICKLEBALL, DISC GOLF	POOL, ADULT SOFTBALL	LUCKY LAKE WATERSLIDE*/POOL PICKLEBALL
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
DISC GOLF		POOL, PICKLEBALL	POOL	POOL, PICKLEBALL, DISC GOLF	POOL, ADULT SOFTBALL	LUCKY LAKE WATERSLIDE*/POOL PICKLEBALL

LEGEND: TOWN OF WATSON LAKE RECREATION PROGRAMS DEADLINES HOLIDAYS



ANSWER THE CALL

EMERGENCY READY

Under the guidance of the new Director of Protective Services and the Captains, Watson Lake is holding regular training sessions every second Thursday at various locations like the Fire Hall. These sessions train local recruits in emergency response, equipment usage, and operating sprinkler trailers to effectively resist fire spread.

Fight Fires, Save Lives. Watson Lake Fire Department are Recruiting Volunteers

Are you ready to make a real difference in your community? Volunteering as a firefighter is more than just a job; it's a calling. As a volunteer firefighter, you'll be at the forefront of emergency response, protecting lives and property while building strong bonds with fellow team members. This role offers a unique opportunity to develop essential skills, gain valuable experience, and be part of a dedicated team committed to serving our community with courage and compassion.

Why Volunteer?

In addition to the rewarding experience of helping others, our volunteer firefighters have the chance to earn paid call incentives. This means you can make a positive impact on your community and receive financial compensation for your time and dedication. Whether you're looking to give back, build new skills, or simply be part of something

bigger while earning extra income, we welcome all who have the heart and commitment to serve. Training and support will be provided to ensure you're prepared for every challenge that comes your way. Join us and be a vital part of our team - your community needs you!

How to Get Involved

If you would like to make a meaningful difference in people's

lives, contact the Fire Department by [phone at \(867\) 536-6754](tel:867-536-6754), by [email at fire@watsonlake.ca](mailto:fire@watsonlake.ca), or stop by the Fire station. The Watson Lake Fire Department is always eager to share valuable training experience to aspirants who are willing to take the first step towards community service.

Do You Have What It Takes?

Firefighters train for emergency response when citizens in your community call. The call may come anytime, 24 hours a day, in every situation, under emergency and stressful circumstances. It is the ultimate community service for those in need. Despite this, our firefighters tell us about the

tremendous rewards that come with their work. We know there are others with the same courage, commitment, and compassion.



Director of Protective Services Aims to Improve Emergency Management Plan

Watson Lake is strengthening its emergency management plan under the leadership of the new Director of Protective Services. Recognizing the threat of recent wildfires in nearby communities, the town is committed to updating its preparedness strategies.

Key updates will focus on improving wildfire response protocols, enhancing communication systems, and conducting regular training and drills. These measures ensure that residents are well-prepared and informed about potential risks.

Watson Lake is dedicated to protecting its community by staying prepared and aware. By taking proactive steps, the town aims to safeguard the well-being of its residents and ensure a swift, coordinated response to any emergencies.

Be Smart, FireSmart

Firefighters battle direct fire spread, but you can do your part by protecting your property from flankers—airborne embers responsible for 30% of new fires.

Clear combustible materials like dry leaves, branches, and mulch within a 10-meter radius of your home. Be sure to trim trees and shrubs, and store flammable items away from structures. Additionally, keep gutters clean and consider using non-combustible landscaping materials such as gravel or stone. Regular inspection for vulnerabilities are also recommended. By taking these proactive measures and maintaining your property diligently, you can significantly reduce the risk of fires starting on your property, ensuring a safer environment for you and our Watson Lake community.

INFOGRAPHICS

FIRES SPREAD MECHANISMS

SOURCE: Government of Yukon Wildfires Service Branch

DIRECT FIRE SPREAD
Fires that burn along the forest floor, spreading quickly through ground fuels especially in dry conditions.

OTHER SPREAD MECHANISMS
Radiant heat, preheating nearby vegetation. Convection, the hot air rising from fire. Topography, landscape slope influencing fire spread.

AIRBORNE EMBERS
Carried by the wind from an active fire. These travel significant distances and start new fires when they land on combustible material.

WILDFIRE SPREAD

In Yukon, wildfires spread primarily through direct fire (50%), flankers (30%), and other sources (20%). Direct fire involves surface and crown fires, while flankers are airborne embers causing spot fires far from the main blaze.