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## **Wednesday, April 7, 2021**

### **CBC interviews, 12 to 1 p.m.**

12:10 D. McNevin, Seniors Action Yukon, "Seniors Action Yukon says it's please with how all three parties will address seniors' issues"  
 12:20 B.R. Koe, Western Arctic Youth Collective, "New youth collective focuses on teaching traditional jigging to a new generation"  
 12:50 E. Howarth, University of East London, "New study examines the effects intimate partner violence has on children"

### **Territorial news**

**Despite no active cases in Yukon, Dr. Brendan Hanley says there are still enough Yukoners that aren't vaccinated that could potentially cause an outbreak, so vigilance is required (CKRW 12 p.m.)**

While the rest of Canada deals with a third wave of COVID-19 caused by variants of concern, Yukon remains in a much better position. Chief Medical Officer of Health Dr. Brendan Hanley says there are no active cases of COVID-19 in the territory and that the first Yukoners to become infected by variants of concern have now recovered. Dr. Hanley says that while he is confident that the vaccines and public health measures will help end the pandemic, opening up now isn't safe. "No matter how much ice and snow we have now, spring and summer will get here and so will the end to this pandemic. We're all looking forward to enjoying the Yukon summer and even to rediscovering places beyond. Let's stick together for the next few weeks. Keep up with the vaccinations and I promise we will get there." Hanley says the P-1 variant first identified in Brazil is particularly concerning due to its ability to reinfect those who previously recovered from the virus. He says there are still enough Yukoners that aren't vaccinated that could potentially cause an outbreak, so vigilance is required.

**Yukon Party Whitehorse Centre candidate Eileen Melnychuk says addressing systemic issues of violence against women and LGBTQ2S+ people is a priority for her and for the Yukon Party (CKRW 12 p.m.)**

The Yukon Party is back on the campaign trail today and has announced plans to address community violence if elected to form government. A Yukon Party Whitehorse Centre candidate Eileen Melnychuk says addressing systemic issues of violence against women and LGBTQ2S+ people is a priority for her and for the Yukon Party team. The party says if elected, their government would take steps to implement the Yukon Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls Two Spirit people plus strategy and implement Clare's Law

legislation that would ensure in defined circumstances that people at risk of domestic violence are notified of their partners previous history. They also announced plans to commit \$1 million in new funding to combat sexual assault and provide services to survivors of sexual violence.

**The Yukon NDP has received an endorsement from former Mayo-Tatchun MLA Don Hutton relating to a party announcement on drug and alcohol supports (CKRW 12 p.m.)**

The Yukon NDP has received an endorsement from former Mayo-Tatchun MLA Don Hutton relating to a party announcement on drug and alcohol supports in Yukon. The NDP announced a plan to build a new land-based addictions treatment centre, double the number of beds available at the Whitehorse Withdrawal Management Centre and improve efforts at addiction prevention. Kate White says the Yukon Liberals don't have a good record on addictions and opioids, so Yukon's NDP will work with the Yukon Medical Association, Yukon Pharmacists Association and interested First Nation parties to provide healthcare and help people who use drugs. "People suffering addictions are people, and they deserve better. We will bring in an approach that tackles addiction related harms and the root of addictions to make the Yukon a safer, kinder and more evidence-based place to live. So here's a radical idea. Let's not punish people for having this kind of healthcare problem, but actually treat them as people who we know." Hutton says he knows he isn't the only person who feels let down by the Liberal government and that Yukon's communities deserve better than what they've been given.

**Yukon's Chief Medical Officer of Health says it's too early to say when COVID-19 related restrictions will be lifted (CBC 12:30 p.m.)**

Yukon's Chief Medical Officer of Health says it's too early to say when COVID-19 related restrictions will be lifted. Dr Brendan Hanley said this morning that variance and new versions of COVID-19 are especially a concern. "We have to face the reality that we are not through this yet. I think we are getting close. But Canada and most of the world has a rough period to go through first, and we can't be completely insulated from that harsh reality." Hanley said the Moderna COVID-19 vaccine available in Yukon is effective against variants of COVID-19. However, he said vaccine uptake has been slowing and he is urging people to get their vaccine.

**The Yukon Party says if elected, it would support safer communities (CBC 12:30 p.m.)**

The Yukon Party says if elected, it would support safer communities. It says it wants to expand the community safety program to more communities. And to do this, the party will make sure the RCMP are resourced to meet the needs of Yukon communities and have enough staff. That Yukon Party also wants to transition from Ottawa selecting a chief firearms officer to Yukon making that selection.

**There are no active cases in the Yukon but COVID-19 variants remain a concern (CHON 12:30 p.m.)**

Chief Medical Officer of Health Dr. Brendan Hanley reported no new cases of COVID-19 in the Territory at today's COVID-19 update. Dr. Hanley says the two most recent cases have recovered and there are no active cases in the Yukon. He went on to say that more is now known about variants. "They spread more easily from one person to another. It is now clear that they cause more severe illness. They have much more affinity for younger people and they can reinfect people previously infected with covid and some various may be more resistant to vaccines." Dr. Hanley says that current vaccines are effective against the B-117 variant, but the effectiveness against the P-1 variant is unknown. He says the best protection is following public safety measures and getting vaccinated. Dr. Hanley went on to say that previously he said the goal is to get 75 percent of the eligible population vaccinated, but he would like to see that number higher. Currently, 68 percent of the population is vaccinated. Dr. Hanley also says that there are resurgent plans in place if things get worse but he is optimistic about relaxing restrictions in the future. He says his team is working through some considerations for the next government with regards to opening the borders. Dr. Hanley wrapped up by saying that COVID-19 will be with us for some time. "I expect that we will be living with COVID for years to come. I think all indications are that it will become an endemic infection. I think just as it will be with us for years to come, I think it will be added to the armamentarium of regular vaccines, both for children and for adults."

**Seniors Action Yukon asked the three political parties what their positions are on elder care (CHON 12:30 p.m.)**

Earlier this month Seniors Action Yukon asked the three political parties what their position is on the *Aging in Place Action Plan*, the *Putting People First* final report and private for profit facilities for senior citizens. Seniors Action Yukon found that all parties agreed to support the 56 recommendations in the *Aging in Place Action Plan*. When it comes to the *Putting People First* final report, the Liberals and the NDP say they support all the recommendations, while the Yukon Party says they support the goals of the report but they have concerns about some of the recommendations. They say it will require further evaluation in consultation with healthcare system leaders. On the issue of private for profit facilities for senior citizens, the Yukon Party says they support them. The Liberals say they support them where the facilities don't overlap with government health care mandates. The NDP say they support public, not private, healthcare, including long term care facilities. They say it is not appropriate for businesses to profit from caring for our seniors and elders.

**The Yukon Party says if they form the next government, they will take steps to address community violence (CHON 12:30 p.m.)**

The Yukon Party says if they form the next government, they will take steps to address community violence. The party issued a press release this morning saying if elected, they will commit \$1 million in new funding to combat sexual assault and provide services to survivors of sexual violence. They also say they will take steps to implement the Yukon's Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women, Girls and Two Spirit Plus People Strategy. The release also says that a Yukon Party government will implement Clare's Law legislation to ensure that in defined circumstances, people at risk of domestic violence may be notified of their partners' previous history of domestic violence or violent acts. As well, they will work with Queer Yukon to make the Yukon Pride Centre a reality.

**Yukon NDP Leader Kate White held a press conference along with independent Don Hutton this morning to discuss the party's plan to address addictions and the opioid crisis (CHON 12:30 p.m.)**

Yukon NDP Leader Kate White held a press conference along with independent Don Hutton this morning to discuss the party's plan to address addictions and the opioid crisis in the territory. Here's what White had to say. "We're going to implement the recommendations from the Strategies to Reduce Alcohol-Related Harms and Costs in Canada report because those are evidence-based policies that will make Yukoners healthier, happier, and safer. We're going to build and staff the On the Land Addictions Treatment Centre people have been asking for. And we're going to make sure it's culturally safe and appropriate for people so they can feel comfortable to ask for and receive the help that they need. And we're going to double the number of beds in Withdrawal Management or detox so that the minute someone decides that they need help, they don't have to go to the hospital and they don't have to go it alone." White went on to say that an NDP government will open the Yukon's first managed alcohol program. As well, they will open a safer consumption program and start a safe supply program. White also says her party will open a multidisciplinary chronic pain clinic to reduce reliance on opioids.

**Not the time to ease COVID-19 restrictions, says Yukon's top doctor (CBC online)**

Yukon's chief medical officer says it's not yet time to ease COVID-19 restrictions, even as the territory has no active cases and a majority of the eligible population has received at least their first vaccine shot. [full story](#).

## **Yukon election 2021: where the Yukon Party, NDP and Liberals stand on climate and energy issues (The Narwhal)**

A provincial election campaign is well underway in Yukon, and the outcome at the polls on April 12 could have serious impacts for the environment in the territory. [full story](#).

## **National news**

### **Indigenous Services Minister Marc Miller says COVID-19 case rates continue to fall in First Nation communities (CKRW 12 p.m.)**

Indigenous Services Minister Marc Miller says COVID-19 case rates continue to fall in First Nation communities. While there has been a strong acceptance of vaccines in many, Miller acknowledges that there are some communities where it's been difficult to convince band members to get an inoculation. He says when the department works with those communities to address the hesitancy, there have been positive outcomes.

### **The president of the Arctic Winter Games International Committee says choosing dates for the next games was a tough job (CBC 12:30 p.m.)**

The president of the Arctic Winter Games International Committee says choosing dates for the next games was a tough job. John Flynn says the committee settled on January 29th to February 4th, 2023, in an attempt to work around other games scheduled for that period. Normally, the Arctic Winter Games are held during March break to accommodate the athletes who are still in school. Flynn says the committee will adjust to other aspects of the event based on the state of the world at the time. But one change has already been decided. "We are going to put in more coaches to watch athletes and, you know, the safety and the well-being of our young athletes coming in from our circumpolar area is our main concern." The next games will be held in Wood Buffalo, Alberta.

### **Environment Canada says more snowfall records in Whitehorse will likely be broken over the next several weeks (CBC 12:30 p.m.)**

Environment Canada says more snowfall records in Whitehorse will likely be broken over the next several weeks. With more snow in the forecast, meteorologists say records set decades ago are likely to fall. As of late yesterday, the city had about 66 centimetres of snow on the ground as measured at the airport. Dave Miller is a retired Environment Canada weather specialist. He says although we may see some warm days ahead, cooler temperatures are more likely. "It can change quite rapidly this time of the year. We can get quite warm weather, although the forecast right now, and for the rest of the month, they're calling for below normal temperatures so this snow is going to be slow going, which is actually what we need to prevent major flooding in the southern lakes area right now." Environment Canada says this winter's snowfall in Whitehorse is nearing record breaking territory. It's the most snow the city has seen since 1972. The snow began to pile up in the first few days of November when a winter storm hit. That record breaking snowfall was more than 40 centimetres. It has snowed a lot since then with no substantial melt.

### **Fisheries and Oceans Canada will begin consultations this fall on ringed seals (CBC 12:30 p.m.)**

Fisheries and Oceans Canada will begin consultations this fall on ringed seals. The department is studying whether to list the animal under the Species at Risk Act. That's primarily because sea ice loss threatens ringed seals habitat. Sam Stephenson is a species at risk biologist with the department. "Listing a species under special concern does not include any kind of restrictions at all. So, in other words, if people are hunting now, you can continue to hunt it." The Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada designated ringed seals as a special concern in November 2019. Fisheries and Oceans will start consultations with hunters and trappers organisations this fall. After that, it will be up to the federal environment minister to decide whether ringed seals should be listed.

### **Local residents save young moose from northern BC lake (CBC 12:30 p.m.)**

And finally, a young moose that had been trapped for days on a lake in northern BC has been rescued by local residents. Betsy Trumpener has the details. A video of the moose rescue shows a long legged 800 pound calf stuck on a frozen lake, struggling and stumbling on ice, too slippery to walk on. Officials said nature would have to take its course, but several local men came to the rescue. "On the fifth day we went out there and saved it." Ross Duncan skated out to the moose. Others brought an ATV. They brought lettuce, apples and branches to feed the moose, then lassoed it with ropes. Wading through freezing water, the men managed to wrangle the moose closer to shore. Clapping their hands, they urged the animal to move. The moose finally ran free to the shore and into the forest.

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- [An Elder in Fort Good Hope in the Northwest Territories says he's concerned about flooding \(CBC 4:30 p.m.\)](#)
- [A mental health worker in the north says during the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, it's more important than ever to take care of ourselves \(CBC 4:30 p.m.\)](#)

[Thursday, April 8, 2021](#)

[CBC interviews, 6 to 8:30 a.m.](#)

[CHON-FM interviews, 6 to 9 a.m.](#)

### [Local news](#)

- [Whitehorse City Councillors will vote on a zoning amendment for a proposed drive-thru on April 13th \(CBC 6:30 a.m.\)](#)

### [Territorial news](#)

- [Chiefs of Kwanlin Dün First Nation and Ta'an Kwäch'än Council voice support for keeping restrictions in place \(CBC 6:30 a.m.\)](#)
- [Political Leaders pitch their plans for dealing with Yukon's addiction crisis \(CBC 6:30 a.m.\)](#)
- [Queer Yukon says all of Yukon's political parties have committed to long term funding for the Yukon Pride Centre \(CKRW 7 a.m.\)](#)
- [Yukon Contractors Association calls for meaningful consultation on the Yukon First Nation procurement policy \(CKRW 7 a.m.\)](#)
- [Yukon Liberals have recommit to combating climate change \(CKRW 7 a.m.\)](#)
- [REPEAT: Chiefs of Kwanlin Dün First Nation and Ta'an Kwäch'än Council voice support for keeping restrictions in place \(CBC 7:30 a.m.\)](#)
- [NDP Leader Kate White said voters have been telling her it's an election about the basic needs of people \(CBC 7:30 a.m.\)](#)
- [The Yukon Party says it wants to address community violence \(CBC 7:30 a.m.\)](#)
- [The Yukon Liberal Party has pledged to fully implement its climate change strategy if re-elected \(CBC 7:30 a.m.\)](#)
- [There are no active cases in the Yukon but COVID-19 variants remain a concern \(CHON 12:30 p.m.\)](#)
- [Seniors Action Yukon asked the three political parties what their positions are on elder care \(CHON 12:30 p.m.\)](#)
- [The Yukon Party says if they form the next government, they will take steps to address community violence \(CHON 12:30 p.m.\)](#)
- [Yukon NDP Leader Kate White held a press conference along with independent Don Hutton this morning to discuss the party's plan to address addictions and the opioid crisis \(CHON 12:30 p.m.\)](#)
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- [Yukon high school students are returning to full-time classes. Will N.W.T. follow suit? \(CBC online\)](#)
- [Campaign trail notes: Here's what Yukon's political parties had to say in the last week \(CBC online\)](#)

#### National news

- [Prime Minister reminds provincial and territorial leaders the federal government has delivered more than 10 million doses of vaccines \(CKRW 7 a.m.\)](#)
- [Ontario issues new stay at home order to fight an alarming surge in COVID-19 cases \(CKRW 7 a.m.\)](#)
- [Federal officials are set to deliver an update on vaccine deliveries today \(CKRW 8 a.m.\)](#)

#### International news

- [US Centres for Disease Control says B117 has become the predominant form of the virus in the United States \(CKRW 8 a.m.\)](#)

### **Wednesday, April 7, 2021**

#### **CBC interviews, 4 to 6 p.m.**

- 4:08 B. Sellery, Money Columnist, CBC, "Sellery talks about psychedelics as a trendy new market for investors to take a chance on"
- 4:15 J. Osler, Reporter, CBC, "Osler interviews people on the street about how they feel about seeing pandemic life on TV"
- 4:21 M. Bruck, Communication Director, Foundation for Genocide Education, "Bruck talks about the need for holocaust education"
- 4:38 Debate: S. Silver (Leader of the Yukon Liberal Party) & K. White (Leader of the Yukon NDP) & C. Dixon (Leader of the Yukon Party) "CBC Yukon's political leadership debate, ending at 6 p.m."

#### **Local news**

##### **Original city hall could be demolished (Yukon News)**

A portion of Whitehorse City Hall would be demolished if plans proposed to council April 6 move forward. [full story](#).

##### **City staff recommend against rezoning for drive-thru (Yukon News)**

City of Whitehorse staff are recommending council defeat a proposed zoning change to a drive-thru on Range Road, just off the Alaska Highway. [full story](#).

##### **Victoria Gold contributes \$1 million to First Nation of Na-cho Nyak Dun (Yukon News)**

Victoria Gold Corp. has contributed \$1 million to the First Nation of Na-cho Nyak Dun in accordance with the company's benefits agreement. [full story](#).

##### **Ice expert says Yukon break-up conditions tough to predict (CBC online)**

While ice jams are a normal occurrence in the Yukon, each spring the risk they pose varies. [full story](#).

##### **'We don't have the money right now': councillor (Whitehorse Star)**

Concerns were expressed at city council's meeting Tuesday about the rising cost of building a new city hall. [full story](#).

##### **No one hurt after roof collapses (Whitehorse Star)**

A large section of roof on the Riverdale Super A Foods building collapsed last Friday afternoon, forcing the closure of the store. [full story](#).

##### **Green Shirt Day celebrated (Whitehorse Star)**

On April 6, 2018, of 29 passengers on a bus in Saskatchewan, 16 lost their lives and 13 will bear physical and emotional scars for life. [full story](#).

#### **Territorial news**

##### **Yukon's Chief Medical Officer of Health says it's too early to say when restrictions will be lifted (CBC 4:30 p.m.)**

Yukon's Chief Medical Officer of Health says it's too early to say when COVID-19 related restrictions will be lifted. Dr. Brendan Hanley said this morning that variants and new versions of COVID-19 are a special concern. "We have to face the reality that we are not through this yet. I think we are getting close but Canada and most of the world has a rough period to go through first, and we can't be completely insulated from that harsh reality." Hanley said the Moderna COVID-19 vaccine available in the Yukon and other parts of the north is effective against variants of COVID-19. However, he said vaccine uptake has been slowing and he is urging people to get their vaccine.

##### **Getting to know the candidates in Mount Lorne – Southern Lakes (Yukon News)**

A series of popular Yukon lakes and the communities near their shores make up the riding of Mount Lorne – Southern Lakes. [full story](#).

##### **Getting to know the candidates in Watson Lake (Yukon News)**

Watson Lake is one of the Yukon's oldest ridings. It contains the communities of Watson Lake and Upper Liard, and is situated on the traditional territory of the Ross River Dena Council and Liard First Nation. [full story](#).

##### **No active COVID cases in Yukon (Yukon News)**

Yukon Chief Medical Officer of Health Dr. Brendan Hanley is encouraging Yukon to continue following health regulations, noting that while Yukoners can be optimistic about changes coming, it could still be some time before changes to restrictions are made. [full story](#).

#### **Party leaders debate priorities at First Nations candidates forum (Yukon News)**

Housing, energy, education and justice were points of discussion at the all-leaders forum on Yukon First Nations issues on April 1. [full story](#).

#### **Party leaders meet for CBC Yukon's territorial election debate (CBC online)**

There were no real heated exchanges at Wednesday's CBC Yukon election debate — in fact, the mood was downright chummy at times as the three party leaders parried questions about the pandemic, affordable housing, mining royalty rates and more. [full story](#).

#### **Liberals tout positive work with First Nations (Whitehorse Star)**

The Yukon Liberal Party has reaffirmed its commitment to working with Yukon First Nations — although it couldn't resist taking a shot at the Yukon Party as the April 12 election campaign heats up. [full story](#).

#### **Officials review NDP's voting system concerns (Whitehorse Star)**

The territorial New Democrats have fired off a letter to the Yukon Elections Office calling for equal access to voting in all Yukon communities. [full story](#).

#### **Contractors group seeks dialogue on procurement (Whitehorse Star)**

The Yukon Contractors Association (YCA) is requesting "meaningful consultation" on the Yukon First Nations procurement policy with the next territorial government and to "directly engage with Yukon First Nation businesses and governments to develop a policy that can be successfully implemented." [full story](#).

#### **Medical group gives diagnosis on what's needed (Whitehorse Star)**

The Yukon Medical Association (YMA) is wading into the territorial election with some demands for candidates. [full story](#).

#### **Man charged with child pornography offences (Whitehorse Star)**

A 43-year-old man was arrested March 30 in Whitehorse for suspected child pornography offences, the RCMP say. [full story](#).

### **National news**

#### **A presumptive case of COVID-19 has been reported at the Ekati Diamond Mine (CBC 4:30 p.m.)**

A presumptive case of COVID-19 has been reported at the Ekati Diamond Mine in the Northwest Territories. In a statement, a spokesperson for the mine owner, Arctic Canadian Diamond Company, says the case was caught during a test on Tuesday for outbound workers. The person was immediately isolated in the quarantine wing of the mine site, and close contacts have also been identified and quarantined. The statement says the affected employee has no symptoms and is feeling well and the mine remains in operation. The company says it will work with the Northwest Territories' Chief Public Health Officer and carefully monitor the situation.

#### **Coronavirus variants have become a leading concern among health officials in BC (CBC 4:30 p.m.)**

Coronavirus variants have become a leading concern among health officials in British Columbia. There's been a recent surge of them in the Vancouver Coastal Health Region. Variants now account for about 20 percent of hospitalisations in BC. "There's a whole landscape of these different variants that we're following." Provincial Health Officer Dr. Bonnie Henry announced another 207 variants of concern. All but one were in Vancouver Coastal Health. Overall, though, she says Fraser Health is still the region with the vast majority of variant cases. "About 2,500 of all of the VOCs are people who live in Fraser Health and 1,128 are in Vancouver Coastal." Currently of the 328 British Columbians hospitalised, 63 are with variant cases. One third of them are the P-1 variant originating in Brazil and two thirds are the B-117 originating in the UK. And that one is clearly emerging as the predominant strain. "Usually one strain will out-compete the others at any one period of time. And for us right now, that is the UK strain." That variant now makes up about one third of all of these cases. Tanya Fletcher, CBC News, Vancouver.

#### **The next Arctic Winter Games will be held in Wood Buffalo, Alberta (CBC 4:30 p.m.)**

The President of the Arctic Winter Games International Committee says choosing dates for the next games was a tough job. John Flynn says the committee settled on January 29th to February 4th, 2023, in an attempt to work around other games scheduled for that period. Normally, the Arctic Winter Games are held during March break to accommodate athletes who are still in school. Flynn says the committee will adjust other aspects of the event based on the COVID-19 situation at the time. But one change has already been decided. "We are going to put in more coaches to watch athletes and, as you know, the safety and the well-being of our young athletes coming in from our circumpolar area is our main concern." The next Arctic Winter Games will be held in Wood Buffalo, Alberta.

#### **An Elder in Fort Good Hope in the Northwest Territories says he's concerned about flooding (CBC 4:30 p.m.)**

An Elder in Fort Good Hope in the Northwest Territories says he's concerned about flooding this year. John T'selie says he's never seen so much thick, broken up ice along the shorelines of the MacKenzie River. The 70 year old says he's not the only one who's concerned about conditions. But this jumble rough ice, it's going to be harder for it to break up. So it means the water has to go higher before it moves. So the upper end of the rampart is going to back up and force it to go higher. So I think there's danger of flooding." T'selie says the rough ice can damage snowmobiles and he's concerned about people's access to country food. He says moose don't like the rough ice and will avoid islands where hunters normally find them. River break up season typically begins at the end of April in the Sahtu region.

#### **A mental health worker in the north says during the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, it's more important than ever to take care of ourselves (CBC 4:30 p.m.)**

A mental health worker in the north says during the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, it's more important than ever to take care of ourselves. Roslyn Meno [sp?] is a Mental Health Facilitator and Teacher in the Northwest Territories, and she says the number of COVID-19 cases in the north has been relatively low, but it's still important to pay attention to mental health. Meno says that can be as simple as checking in with yourself before you start your day. "Making sure you had breakfast and that sort of thing, but we have to get ourselves emotionally ready for the day, regardless of whether we're leaving our home or not. There is number one." Meno says living in the north makes her feel hopeful during the pandemic. She says many people are positive and want to take care of each other.

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**Thursday, April 8, 2021**

### **CBC interviews, 6 to 8:30 a.m.**

- 6:14 K. McKinnon, Senior Editor, *Canadian Running Magazine*, "McKinnon talks about fitness habit slumps during the pandemic"
- 6:39 M. Selvarajah, Tech Columnist, CBC, "Selvarajah reports on the cultural resurgence of Stoicism"
- 6:49 D.T. Cochrane, Researcher, Canadians for Tax Fairness, "Cochrane talks about corporate tax reform"
- 7:19 Audio: K. White (Leader of the Yukon NDP) & S. Silver (Leader of the Yukon Liberal Party) & C. Dixon (Leader of the Yukon Party) "Clips from yesterday's All-Leaders Debate on CBC"
- 7:39 K. Pallett, President, Wilderness Tourism Association, "Pallett talks about wilderness self-isolation plans"
- 8:15 Audio: K. White (Leader of the Yukon NDP) & S. Silver (Leader of the Yukon Liberal Party) & C. Dixon (Leader of the Yukon Party) "Candidates respond to a question about implementing UNDRIP"
- 8:24 T. Ricci, Reporter, CBC, "Ricci reports on the Sisters of Life, nuns living near Lake Ontario"

### **CHON-FM interviews, 6 to 9 a.m.**

- 6:40 Audio: political candidates from the Porter Creek North riding share two-minute statements on why residents should vote
- 7:05 Audio: political candidates from the Porter Creek South riding share two-minute statements on why residents should vote
- 7:40 Audio: political candidates from the Riverdale North riding share two-minute statements on why residents should vote
- 8:05 C. Dixon, Yukon Party Leader, "Yukon Party team is looking forward to end of campaign"

### **Local news**

#### **Whitehorse City Councillors will vote on a zoning amendment for a proposed drive-thru on April 13th (CBC 6:30 a.m.)**

City of Whitehorse staff are recommending council vote against a zoning change for a proposed drive-thru restaurant. The restaurant would be built along Range Road just off the Alaska Highway and adjacent to the airport. At a council meeting on Tuesday, city officials say under current zoning, a restaurant could be built without a drive-thru attached. Mélodie Simard is the Planning and Sustainability Manager for the city. She read a six page public hearing report saying a drive-thru is not in line with the city's official community plan. "The proposed change in zoning may encourage small scale commercial uses on a large commercial lot, which is in short supply. It may also result in more people driving to use the establishment than an eating and drinking establishment without a drive-thru component." But not all councillors agree with the report. Councillor Laura Cabott says the report referred to a total of 14 submissions which expressed support and 11 opposing the rezoning. She says there was a letter with hundreds of signatures supporting the proposed drive-thru restaurant. City Councillors will vote on the zoning amendment on April 13th.

### **Territorial news**

#### **Chiefs of Kwanlin Dün First Nation and Ta'an Kwäch'än Council voice support for keeping restrictions in place (CBC 6:30 a.m.)**

Leaders of two Yukon First Nations are voicing support for travel restrictions and are calling to maintain self-isolation rules. The Kwanlin Dün First Nation and Ta'an Kwäch'än council point out that Indigenous people are amongst the most vulnerable populations when it comes to COVID-19. Because of this, they have voiced support for keeping restrictions in place. Yesterday, Dr. Brendan Hanley said he is concerned about variants which spread more easily. "They are increasing rapidly and that affects our susceptibility to a variant of concern making its way here and leading to rapid spread. Are enough of us vaccinated to prevent this? Not yet." While there are no active cases of COVID of any type in Yukon, cases related to these variants are rising in other parts of Canada. Doris Bill is Chief of the Kwanlin Dün First Nation. She says Council is unanimous in support for keeping the restrictions. "We've come this far because of the restrictions that we have put in place and I believe that those restrictions are keeping us all safe." Chief Kristina Kane says the Ta'an Kwäch'än Council agrees. "In terms of continuing to shut down the borders and keep our communities and families safe, I think that that's what's most important right now." Both Chiefs, Bill and Kane, stressed the importance of citizens getting vaccinated.

#### **Political Leaders pitch their plans for dealing with Yukon's addiction crisis (CBC 6:30 a.m.)**

It was one month ago when Don Hutton walked away from the Yukon Liberal caucus to sit as an independent. And on Wednesday he walked into the Yukon and NDP's office with a clear message. Don Hutton is not running in the race, but he is throwing his support behind the NDP, a party with a platform he says is comprehensive. "I was elected to be part of the Liberal government, but their time in office has been a deep disappointment to me and my community with their inaction on issues that our communities struggle with, in particular alcohol abuse and addictions." The NDP is promising a safer consumption program in Whitehorse, a place where drugs can be consumed with people trained to reverse the effects of overdoses. The party also promises a safe supply of drugs in the territory, which would mean prescriptions for regulated substitutes for unsafe street drugs. "We must not let inaction take any more of our friends or family or neighbours. We have a plan and our plan meets people where they're at." Five Yukoners have died of drug overdoses in the past three months. Yukon Liberal Leader Sandy Silver says if re-elected, his party would take more action to help people struggling with substance abuse. He and the other party Leaders took part in an All-Leaders Debate hosted by CBC Yukon yesterday. Silver says part of that effort will include introducing two new programs. "So we are implementing both a safe supply program and also we're building a wet shelter to address this crisis. And we need to act to address this very serious issue. This is impacting so many Yukoners and so safe supply will save lives and it will get rid of some of the worst folks, the drug dealers that we see providing these drugs." NDP Leader Kate White says she supports a safe supply program. White does say, however, that even more needs to be done to bring the opioid crisis under control. Yukon Party Leader Currie Dixon agrees with White. He says it's part of a bigger problem every community in Yukon is struggling with. Election Day in Yukon is on Monday.

#### **Queer Yukon says all of Yukon's political parties have committed to long term funding for the Yukon Pride Centre (CKRW 7 a.m.)**

The Yukon Pride Centre organization says all of Yukon's political parties running in the 2021 territorial election have committed to long

term funding for the Yukon Pride Centre. Acting president of Queer Yukon Society, Mona Luxion, says the society conducted a survey to see how committed each party would be toward supporting Yukoners in the LGBTQ2S+ community. "There's a real desire for support, entertainment, social spaces, basic services for our community, but also education for the general public." They say while all parties agreed to fund the Yukon Pride Centre initiative if forming a government, their platforms offer different strategies to achieve this goal.

**Yukon Contractors Association calls for meaningful consultation on the Yukon First Nation procurement policy (CKRW 7 a.m.)**

The Yukon Contractors Association is calling for meaningful consultation with the next territorial government about the Yukon First Nation procurement policy. The YCA says they would like to engage directly with Yukon First Nation businesses and governments to develop a successful policy on government procurement. YCA President Clint Teichroeb says that the YCA supports the objectives in the policy but feels that the process has failed to use the expertise in the contract and community. Teichroeb says having direct discussions with First Nations will give both sides a better understanding of achieving policy objectives and will help develop solutions that they can jointly provide to the government.

**Yukon Liberals have recommit to combating climate change (CKRW 7 a.m.)**

The Yukon Liberals have recommitted to combating climate change in a new party announcement, Mount Lorne Southern Lakes candidate John Streicker says the Yukon Liberals, if re-elected, will continue to implement the Our Clean Future Strategy. Starting with offering electric vehicles and electric bike rebates and more. "Install more electric vehicle charging stations in businesses and building developments. Work with British Columbia to electrify the highway from Vancouver to Tuktoyaktuk by 2025. Support climate change adaptation plans in all rural communities to ensure the Yukon is resilient and protected from climate hazards." The Liberals say they would partner with communities to develop low interest loans for residential and commercial energy retrofits. They also plan to mandate all new Yukon government buildings to use 35 per cent less energy than the target specified in the National Energy Code.

**REPEAT: Chiefs of Kwanlin Dün First Nation and Ta'an Kwäch'än Council voice support for keeping restrictions in place (CBC 7:30 a.m.)**

Leaders of two Yukon First Nations are voicing support for travel restrictions and are calling to maintain self-isolation rules. The Kwanlin Dün First Nation and Ta'an Kwäch'än Council point out that Indigenous people are amongst the most vulnerable populations when it comes to COVID-19. Because of this, they have voiced support for keeping restrictions in place. Yesterday, Dr. Brendan Hanley said he is concerned about variants which spread more easily. "They are increasing rapidly and that affects our susceptibility to a variant of concern making its way here and leading to rapid spread. Are enough of us vaccinated to prevent this? Not yet." While there are no active cases of COVID of any type in Yukon, cases related to these variants are rising in other parts of Canada. Doris Bill is Chief of the Kwanlin Dün First Nation. She says Council is unanimous in support for keeping the restrictions. "We've come this far because of the restrictions that we have put in place and I believe that those restrictions are keeping us all safe." Chief Kristina Kane says the Ta'an Kwäch'än Council agrees. "In terms of continuing to shut down the borders and keep our communities and families safe, I think that that's what's most important right now." Both Chiefs, Bill and Kane, stressed the importance of citizens getting vaccinated.

**NDP Leader Kate White said voters have been telling her it's an election about the basic needs of people (CBC 7:30 a.m.)**

Election Day in Yukon is days away that has political campaign teams ramping up their efforts to win over voters. The Leaders of Yukon's three political parties took part in an All-Leaders Debate hosted by CBC Yukon yesterday. That's where NDP Leader Kate White said voters have been telling her it's an election about the basic needs of people. "Across the territory housing is a real issue and focussing on successes like what we've seen with Development Corporations, so like Da Dagway in Whistle Bend and then making sure we're supporting private to individuals who do want to invest in long term housing and also into rental housing, I think it's really important. So there's lots of options and everybody knows that housing is critical." Yukon Party Leader Currie Dixon says the problem is a lack of land. He says without the land, there can be no new housing. Yukon Liberal Party Leader Sandy Silver says his government has done a lot to develop the land in the territory in its first term. He says if re-elected, the Liberals will continue to work with First Nations and others to improve the situation.

**The Yukon Party says it wants to address community violence (CBC 7:30 a.m.)**

The Yukon Party says it wants to address community violence if elected. In a news release, the party says it wants to address the systemic issue of violence against LGBTQ2S+ people. The party also wants to commit \$1 million in new funding to help fight against sexual assault and to provide services for survivors of sexual violence. Another commitment is to implement Clare's Law legislation. This legislation allows, in certain circumstances, people at risk of domestic violence to possibly be notified of their partners' previous history of domestic violence or violent acts. The Yukon Party wants to work toward implementing Yukon's Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls and Two Spirit Plus People Strategy.

**The Yukon Liberal Party has pledged to fully implement its climate change strategy if re-elected (CBC 7:30 a.m.)**

The Yukon Liberal Party has pledged to fully implement its climate change strategy if re-elected. John Streicker is the Liberal incumbent in Mount Lorne Southern Lakes. He says the cost of doing nothing is too great. "Yukoners are seeing the effects of climate change every day and want a government that will take action to mitigate impacts in our communities and to adapt to the changes that we already feel." The climate change strategy is called *Our Clean Future*. It aspires to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 30 percent by 2030. The strategy includes ramping up renewable energy capacity and rebates for electric vehicles. The strategy was released last September.

**There are no active cases in the Yukon but COVID-19 variants remain a concern (CHON 12:30 p.m.)**

Chief Medical Officer of Health Dr. Brendan Hanley reported no new cases of COVID-19 in the Territory at today's COVID-19 update. Dr. Hanley says the two most recent cases have recovered and there are no active cases in the Yukon. He went on to say that more is now known about variants. "They spread more easily from one person to another. It is now clear that they cause more severe illness. They have much more affinity for younger people and they can reinfect people previously infected with covid and some variants may be more resistant to vaccines." Dr. Hanley says that current vaccines are effective against the B-117 variant, but the effectiveness against the P-1 variant is unknown. He says the best protection is following public safety measures and getting vaccinated. Dr. Hanley went on to say that previously he said the goal is to get 75 percent of the eligible population vaccinated, but he would like to see that number higher. Currently, 68 percent of the population is vaccinated. Dr. Hanley also says that there are resurgent plans in place if things get worse but he is optimistic about relaxing restrictions in the future. He says his team is working through some considerations for the next government with regards to opening the borders. Dr. Hanley wrapped up by saying that COVID-19 will be with us for some time. "I expect that we will be living with COVID for years to come. I think all indications are that it will become an endemic infection. I think just as it will be with us for years to come, I think it will be added to the armamentarium of regular vaccines, both for children and for adults."

**Seniors Action Yukon asked the three political parties what their positions are on elder care (CHON 12:30 p.m.)**

Earlier this month Seniors Action Yukon asked the three political parties what their position is on the *Aging in Place Action Plan*, the



*Putting People First* final report and private for profit facilities for senior citizens. Seniors Action Yukon found that all parties agreed to support the 56 recommendations in the *Aging in Place Action Plan*. When it comes to the *Putting People First* final report, the Liberals and the NDP say they support all the recommendations, while the Yukon Party says they support the goals of the report but they have concerns about some of the recommendations. They say it will require further evaluation in consultation with healthcare system leaders. On the issue of private for profit facilities for senior citizens, the Yukon Party says they support them. The Liberals say they support them where the facilities don't overlap with government health care mandates. The NDP say they support public, not private, healthcare, including long term care facilities. They say it is not appropriate for businesses to profit from caring for our seniors and elders.

**The Yukon Party says if they form the next government, they will take steps to address community violence (CHON 12:30 p.m.)**

The Yukon Party says if they form the next government, they will take steps to address community violence. The party issued a press release this morning saying if elected, they will commit \$1 million in new funding to combat sexual assault and provide services to survivors of sexual violence. They also say they will take steps to implement the Yukon's Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women, Girls and Two Spirit Plus People Strategy. The release also says that a Yukon Party government will implement Clare's Law legislation to ensure that in defined circumstances, people at risk of domestic violence may be notified of their partners' previous history of domestic violence or violent acts. As well, they will work with Queer Yukon to make the Yukon Pride Centre a reality.

**Yukon NDP Leader Kate White held a press conference along with independent Don Hutton this morning to discuss the party's plan to address addictions and the opioid crisis (CHON 12:30 p.m.)**

Yukon NDP Leader Kate White held a press conference along with independent Don Hutton this morning to discuss the party's plan to address addictions and the opioid crisis in the territory. Here's what White had to say. "We're going to implement the recommendations from the Strategies to Reduce Alcohol-Related Harms and Costs in Canada report because those are evidence-based policies that will make Yukoners healthier, happier, and safer. We're going to build and staff the On the Land Addictions Treatment Centre people have been asking for. And we're going to make sure it's culturally safe and appropriate for people so they can feel comfortable to ask for and receive the help that they need. And we're going to double the number of beds in Withdrawal Management or detox so that the minute someone decides that they need help, they don't have to go to the hospital and they don't have to go it alone." White went on to say that an NDP government will open the Yukon's first managed alcohol program. As well, they will open a safer consumption program and start a safe supply program. White also says her party will open a multidisciplinary chronic pain clinic to reduce reliance on opioids.

**Yukon Liberals announce \$50 million to support Yukon's green economy, if elected (CHON 7:30 a.m.)**

The Yukon Liberal party announced yesterday afternoon, if re-elected, they will spend \$50 million to support Yukon's green economy. The party says they will provide a rebate of \$5,000 for the purchase of an electric vehicle and \$750 for an e-bike. They will also install more electric vehicle charging stations and work with British Columbia to electrify the highway from Vancouver to Tuktoyaktuk by 2025. The Liberals also say they will mandate all new Yukon government buildings to use 35 per cent less energy than target specified in the National Energy Code. As well, they will support the transition of home heating systems to renewable sources with the goal of 1,300 homes on smart electric heating by 2030. When it comes to the territory's energy needs. The party will implement Yukon Energy's 10-year renewable electricity plan, which includes purchasing hydropower from the Atlin Hydro Plant and constructing a new pumped storage facility at Moon Lake to store extra power for use in the winter.

**UPDATE: Queer Yukon says all of Yukon's political parties have committed to long term funding for the Yukon Pride Centre (CKRW 8 a.m.)**

Yukon Pride Centre organization has announced that all three political parties running in the 2021 territorial election have committed to fund the design and construction of the Yukon Pride Centre. Acting president of Queer Yukon Society, Mona Luxion, says it is fantastic to see that start to systemic changes needed to make a better future for LGBTQ2S+ Yukoners. "A physical location with programming is overwhelmingly a need that LGBTQ Yukoners have identified." In a survey conducted by Queer Yukon, each party detailed how they would support the society and LGBTQ2S+ Yukoners.

**UPDATE: Yukon Contractors Association calls for meaningful consultation on the Yukon First Nation procurement policy (CKRW 8 a.m.)**

The Yukon Contractors Association is calling on the next Yukon government to engage in meaningful consultation about the Yukon First Nation procurement policy. In a statement, the YCA says they would like to engage directly with Yukon First Nation businesses and governments to develop a successful policy on government procurement. YCA President Clint Teichroeb says the YCA supports the objectives in the policy, but feels that the process has failed to use the expertise in the contracting community. Teichroeb says having direct discussions with First Nations will give both sides a better understanding of achieving policy objectives and will help develop solutions that they can jointly provide to the government.

**UPDATE: Yukon Liberals have recommit to combating climate change (CKRW 8 a.m.)**

The Yukon Liberals have renounced their plans for tackling climate change and helping Yukon into a cleaner future. Mount Lorne Southern Lakes candidate John Streicker says the Yukon Liberals, if re-elected, will continue the work started with the Our Clean Future: Climate Change, Energy and Green Economy Strategy. "An ambitious Yukon wide strategy to address our changing climate in a comprehensive and sustainable way with clear targets and tangible actions to reach them, the strategy marks an important turning point for the Yukon as we collectively take steps toward a more resilient future for our territory." The Liberals promise to make buying electric vehicles and e-bikes more affordable by providing rebates of \$5,000 for an ebb and \$750 for an e-bike. They also announced plans to mandate all new Yukon government buildings to use 35 per cent less energy than the target specified in the National Energy Code.

**Yukon high school students are returning to full-time classes. Will N.W.T. follow suit? (CBC online)**

Students at Sir John Franklin High School in Yellowknife have now spent six months with part-time classes. [full story](#).

**Campaign trail notes: Here's what Yukon's political parties had to say in the last week (CBC online)**

All three major parties had policy announcements this week ahead of the Yukon territorial election on April 12. Here's a roundup of those promises. [full story](#).

## **National news**

**Prime Minister reminds provincial and territorial leaders the federal government has delivered more than 10 million doses of vaccines (CKRW 7 a.m.)**

Prime Minister Justin Trudeau and the country's Premiers held their weekly consultations yesterday on all things COVID. The Canadian

Press as Rob Westgate as the details. According to the readout provided by the Prime Minister's office, the PM reminded the provincial and territorial leaders the federal government has delivered more than 10 million doses of vaccines. It also noted that they talked about working together to reinforce the safety and efficacy of vaccines, including the Oxford AstraZeneca shot. Everyone agreed to collaborate on potential adjustments to border measures, adding that any changes will be based on scientific evidence once it's safe. In short, now is not the time to adjust any such measures or make changes to travel restrictions.

**Ontario issues new stay at home order to fight an alarming surge in COVID-19 cases (CKRW 7 a.m.)**

Ontario has issued a new stay at home order to fight an alarming surge in COVID-19 cases fuelled by variants of the virus. Premier Doug Ford says while the situation in the province's hospitals is dire, better days will come as more people get vaccinated. "Based on the vaccines we expect to receive from the federal government. So as long as they come through, I'm expecting that we will be able to have 40 per cent of Ontario adults vaccinated by the end of the four week stay at home order." The province's solicitor general says the emergency order will be enforced, with stores providing essential goods allowed to remain open.

**Federal officials are set to deliver an update on vaccine deliveries today (CKRW 8 a.m.)**

Federal officials are set to deliver an update on vaccine deliveries today. Ottawa has delivered more than 10.1 million doses to the provinces and territories so far, and they have used almost 69 per cent of their supply of shots. Health Canada anticipates a total of 36.5 million doses from Pfizer BioNTech, Moderna and the AstraZeneca vaccine from the Serum Institute of India will have arrived in the country by the end of June. Two per cent of Canadians are now fully vaccinated against COVID-19. As vaccination programs are ramping up, new COVID-19 restrictions are being imposed in Alberta, Ontario and Quebec to try and combat the rising tides of infections.

## **International news**

**US Centres for Disease Control says B117 has become the predominant form of the virus in the United States (CKRW 8 a.m.)**

The US Centres for Disease Control says the U.K. coronavirus variant, known as B117 has become the predominant form of the virus in the United States. Reporter Elizabeth Schulze has more from Washington. Health experts fear it's helping fuel a fourth surge of the virus. COVID hospitalisations are on the rise in at least 16 states. In Michigan, cases nearly tripling in the last three weeks. CDC teams now on the ground there, hospitals overwhelmed once again. Nearly half of the nation's new COVID cases are in just five states. Many of the patients, younger people who have yet to be vaccinated." Dr. Gosia Gasperowicz with the faculty of nursing at the University of Calgary, said cases related to the B117 variant are doubling in Calgary every week.

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[A former Whitehorse City Councillor is asking for a city anti-racism committee to be re-established \(CBC 12:30 p.m.\)](#)

[Former Whitehorse councillor calls for anti-racism committee to be re-established \(Yukon News\)](#)

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[Fossil fuel subsidies are a 'disgrace', Greta Thunberg tells US House panel \(CKRW 12 p.m.\)](#)

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## Thursday, April 22, 2021

### CBC interviews, 12 to 1 p.m.

12:13 H. Jones (Yukon's Coroner) & B. Hanley (Yukon's Chief Medical Officer of Health) "Jones and Hanley talk about the continued opioid overdose crisis in Yukon"

12:26 M. Swasey, Alaska Public Media, "Alaska's side of the Chilkoot Trail will be open this summer, but hikers have to turn around at Canada"

12:50 J. Quarton, President, Whitehorse Community Thrift Store, "Quarton talks about needing volunteers and promotes thrifting as a way to reduce waste"

### Local news

**The Victoria Gold Yukon Student Encouragement Society is kicking off a new campaign to help students stay active and attend school (CKRW 12 p.m.)**

The Victoria Gold Yukon Student Encouragement Society is kicking off a new campaign to help students stay active and attend school. The Every Student, Every Day water break photo challenge is a contest that goes territory-wide, providing all Yukon students with a branded water bottle through their school. Students can then take selfies with the water bottle while engaging in their favourite sport, a hobby or activity, and submit it to try and win a prize. Society President Tara Christie says the contest was created to encourage the territory's students to pursue healthy habits which contribute to increasing engagement in learning. The entry deadline is September 30, with winners being selected in October.

**A former Whitehorse City Councillor is asking for a city anti-racism committee to be re-established (CBC 12:30 p.m.)**

A former Whitehorse City Councillor is asking for a city anti-racism committee to be re-established. Among other things, the committee advised councillors and administration on ways to eliminate racism and discrimination in areas like planning and operations. The committee was suspended temporarily in October 2017 and then disbanded. Mike Gladish told councillors that something that's needed now more than ever. "There are people waiting to take part on an advisory committee so that no decision will be made about them without them. They would like to help you make a more inclusive community. As a former Councillor, I see this as an opportunity to engage with citizens who are eager to share their knowledge and experience." Councillor Jocelyn Curteanu agrees. She was a member of the former advisory committee. Curteanu says the issues of race and discrimination are important to the future wellbeing of the community. "Definitely this is a conversation that needs to happen amongst Council and administration, but particularly strategic planning so that we can actually have a sort of a black and white plan going forward and allocate the resources necessary for it." Both the City of Whitehorse and Dawson City say the issue is of such importance that they plan to submit a joint anti-racism resolution to next month's annual meeting of the Association of Yukon Communities. The resolution would commit the AYC to provide its members with anti-racism and related training and education on an annual basis.

**Former Whitehorse councillor calls for anti-racism committee to be re-established (Yukon News)**

Focused on countering racism, discrimination. [Full story](#)

**Lane closure proposed to make way for new services building, city hall (Yukon News)**

First reading will come forward April 26. [Full story](#)

## **Territorial news**

**Yukon officials call for overdose prevention sites (CKRW 12 p.m.)**

Yukon's Chief Medical Officer of Health spearheaded a news conference about opioid-related deaths in the territory this morning, calling on the next Yukon government to pilot an overdose prevention site within the next six months. This morning's conference was made up of a panel of experts who deal with drugs in the territory. The Chief Coroner, Heather Jones, confirmed that two additional opioid overdoses were recorded earlier this month. Whitehorse RCMP detachment commander Inspector Lindsay Ellis says the Yukon RCMP are working to recognize and understand what it's like to live with an addiction and how to help and when to help. "I feel that the steps that we're taking with Blood Ties and Four Directions to help our frontline colleagues understand this will only lead us better into reducing those barriers when we're responding or meeting with or dealing with or having any dealings with folks who suffer from addiction." Dr. Hanley says it's time to update the Opioid Action Plan to include improvement, treatment and support services for those who are struggling.

**Two more Yukoners have died from opioid overdoses (CBC 12:30 p.m.)**

Two more Yukoners have died from opioid overdoses. The latest deaths were confirmed this morning by Yukon's Chief Coroner. Heather Jones says seven people have died the same way this year. The latest numbers add to what she calls a crisis in Yukon. Overall, since 2016, opioids have killed 40 people in the territory. "From what we're seeing, the drug supply in the Yukon is becoming more and more unstable and deadlier. So often as we walk in the brutal pain that comes with these deaths, we hear from families and friends and colleagues. They tell us over and over and over again that their loved one was not a bad person, that they were suffering." Yukon's Chief Medical Officer of Health, Dr. Brendan Hanley is also calling for change. He recommends harm reduction, drug testing and a supervised site for drug use. Hanley also called for decriminalisation. The plan is supported by Chief Doris Bill, the Kwanlin Dün First Nation and the Executive Director of Blood Ties Four Directions. A representative from the RCMP says drug related cases in Whitehorse have increased this year. Detachment Commander Lindsey Ellis says officers have used naloxone kits 26 times over the course of the last year.

**MLAs from the Yukon Party were sworn in this morning (CBC 12:30 p.m.)**

MLAs from the Yukon Party were sworn in this morning. The party won eight seats in this month's territorial elections. MLAs were sworn in in separate groups, and that's because of COVID-19 restrictions. The ceremony was limited to friends, family and media only. Also this hour, Yukon Party Leader Currie Dixon is laying out his priorities for the next legislative session.

**The former Chair of the Yukon Chamber of Commerce is pleased with the \$30 billion over five years in the federal budget for early learning and childcare services (CBC 12:30 p.m.)**

The Yukon Chamber of Commerce says it's happy a federal budget has finally been delivered. Rich Thompson is the Chamber's past Chair. He says the chamber is pleased with the \$30 billion over five years to help offset the cost of early learning and childcare services. "It unlocks the performance of the whole economy. And I think that's probably a good feature of the budget. There's a lot of individually targeted spending in there. So it's I think quite obviously an election budget that is aimed at having a little bit of something for everyone." Thompson says the Yukon Chamber is still concerned with government spending, but says there's a need to help out the economy because of the pandemic. Federal Finance Minister Chrystia Freeland unveiled the first federal budget in two years on Monday.

**A new poll suggests Yukoners want to see more action to protect the environment (CBC 12:30 p.m.)**

A new poll suggests Yukoners want to see more action to protect the environment. The poll was commissioned by the Yukon chapter of the Canadian Parks and Wilderness Society and the Yukon Conservation Society. Chris Rider is Executive Director of CPAWS. "The politicians should definitely not forget that this is something we want from them. We want to see them take action and we want to see leadership from this new government. And I'm delighted to see these strong results." Rider says 78 percent of respondents support strong land and water protection in Yukon. The survey also illustrates that roughly 70 percent of Yukoners believe more needs to be done to clean up mines when they shut down. Data Path Systems conducted the poll. It interviewed 425 adults. The poll is considered accurate to within 4.8 percentage points.

**One new case of COVID-19 has been reported in the territory (CHON 12:30 p.m.)**

One new case of COVID-19 has been reported in the territory. The new case is an adult and is associated with international travel. The person tested positive on return to Canada and completed self-isolation before returning to the Yukon. They are now recovered so they will not be included in the Territory's active case count. There were no exposures in the Yukon because the case was not infectious in the territory. The new case is number 78.

**Yukon officials call for swift action in response to the opioid crisis in the territory (CHON 12:30 p.m.)**

This morning, Chief Medical Officer of Health Dr. Brendan Hanley, alongside Yukon's Chief Coroner Heather Jones, Whitehorse RCMP detachment Commander Inspector Lindsay Ellis, Kwanlin Dün First Nation Chief Doris Bill and Blood Ties Four Directions Executive

Director Bronte Renwick-Shields held a press conference to address the opioid crisis in the territory. They are calling for swift action in response to two additional opioid overdose deaths earlier this month. Jones started out by talking numbers. "Yukon — like many other Canadian jurisdictions — has suffered greatly under the strain of what has been deemed the opioid crisis, which found its way to us in the spring of 2016. Since that time and to date, 40 individuals in the Yukon have lost their lives due to opioids. 80 percent of these deaths have involved fentanyl. And as is well known, we saw a significant increase in opioid deaths in 2020 with a total of 10 deaths compared to the four investigated in 2019. If my numbers are right, this translates to 250 percent increase." Ellis provided a view from the Whitehorse RCMP's perspective. She says carfentanil is in the territory. "Two BC residents were found in downtown Whitehorse with a total of almost 11 grams of carfentanil mixed with caffeine, packaged for distribution to our communities. The two were based out of a Whitehorse hotel to simply conduct drug transactions and only had been in the Yukon for three weeks. Well, that is not new. What is new is that we have confirmed the presence of carfentanil through our investigations." Carfentanil is approximately 100 times more toxic than fentanyl, 4,000 times more potent than heroin and 10,000 times more toxic than morphine. Dr. Hanley says sometimes it can feel like a losing battle, but progress has been made. "There's little doubt that the opioid crisis here would have been much worse if it weren't for the implementation and the expansions of interventions. So, for example, medical treatment for opioids, including development of the Suboxone program, a significantly expanded OATS or opioid agonist treatment program has improved substantially the treatment that the, the array of treatments available for individuals." Hanley says past efforts are not enough, though. He says the next government should look into a safe supply, overdose prevention sites and decriminalization of drugs as a way to prevent opioid deaths. Hanley says he wants to see a renewed opioid response plan that is budgeted and has goals and timelines.

#### **The new Yukon Party caucus has been sworn in to Yukon's Legislative Assembly (CHON 12:30 p.m.)**

The new Yukon Party caucus has been sworn in to Yukon's Legislative Assembly. "I, Wade Istchenko, do swear that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth the II. I, Wade Istchenko, do solemnly and sincerely promise and swear that I will duly and faithfully and to the best of my skill and knowledge, execute the powers and trust reposed in me as a member of the Yukon Legislative Assembly. So help me God." That's Kluane MLA Wade Istchenko taking the oath of allegiance and the oath of office. The new party caucus is made up of Istchenko; party leader, Currie Dixon; Lake LaBerge MLA, Brad Cathers; Copperbelt South MLA, Scott Kent; Pelly-Nisutlin MLA, Stacey Hassard; Watson Lake MLA, Patti McLeod; Porter Creek MLA, Geraldine Van B bber and Porter Creek Centre MLA, Yvonne Clarke.

#### **Time to try safe consumption sites to fight opioid crisis, says Yukon's top doctor (CBC online)**

'The pace of opioid deaths is continuing at a terrifying rate,' said Dr. Brendan Hanley. [Full story](#)

#### **Yukon officials call for overdose prevention sites, decriminalization (National Post)**

WHITEHORSE — Health officials, Indigenous leaders and police are calling on the incoming Yukon government to take "urgent steps" to combat the worsening opioid crisis. [Full story](#)

#### **Yukon to vaccinate returning students, seasonal workers during their 14-day isolation (National Post)**

WHITEHORSE — Students and seasonal workers travelling to Yukon will be eligible for COVID-19 vaccination as they self-isolate, while the territory pushes for a less restrictive summer. [Full story](#)

#### **Yukon officials call for overdose prevention sites, decriminalization (Toronto Star)**

WHITEHORSE - Health officials, Indigenous leaders and police are calling on the incoming Yukon government to take "urgent steps" to combat the worsening opioid crisis. [Full story](#)

### **National news**

#### **More vaccine delivery delays can be expected before June (CKRW 12 p.m.)**

The soldier, who's heading Canada's COVID-19 vaccine distribution program, says more vaccine delivery delays can be expected before June. Major General Danny Fortin says the escalating case numbers in India mean shipments of the Oxford AstraZeneca vaccine from that country are temporarily on hold. "We will not see doses this month as the situation in India continues to be the way it is." India reported a global record of more than 314,000 new infections in the last day, with deaths increasing by over 2,100 over that 24 hour period.

#### **Canada is vaccinating people more than twice as fast as it was a month ago (CKRW 12 p.m.)**

Canada is vaccinating people more than twice as fast as it was a month ago. And while more than 10 million Canadians have now received at least one dose of a COVID-19 vaccine, less than one million have received the required two doses. Second doses are being delayed up to four months so more people can get their first dose earlier.

#### **Highway mapping project between Inuvik and Tuktoyaktuk nearly complete (CBC online)**

The project was done in part to test new and safer ways to surveil the Arctic. [Full story](#)

#### **Guilty verdict in George Floyd's murder just the start: BACupNorth President (CBC online)**

'Not over yet' as sentencing comes forth, systemic change on the horizon. [Full story](#)

### **International news**

#### **Fossil fuel subsidies are a 'disgrace', Greta Thunberg tells US House panel (CKRW 12 p.m.)**

International climate activist Greta Thunberg has urged Congress to end fossil fuel subsidies at a US House Oversight Committee hearing on the issue. Thunberg was one of several activists and policy experts who testified at the hearing. "It is the year 2021. The fact that we are still having this discussion and even more that we are still subsidising fossil fuels directly or indirectly using taxpayer money is a disgrace. It is clear proof that we have not understood the climate emergency at all." The hearing took place at the same time that the Biden administration convened a summit of world leaders to discuss taking action to curb greenhouse gas emissions.

#### **A \$13,000 flute that went missing nearly a decade ago reappears (CHON 12:30 p.m.)**

A \$13,000 flute that went missing nearly a decade ago is back with its owner after police recovered it from a Boston music store. The instrument was reported missing in 2012 after its owner left it in a taxi. The cold case heated up again recently when a man took the flute to a music store where a worker said the person wanted to get it appraised. The worker took the customer's contact info and took a photo

of the flute and its serial number. The worker later realized it might be the flute that was reported missing in 2012 and called the police. When the customer was tracked down, he told police he had bought the flute from someone he didn't know. But police say the man was actually the driver of the taxi where the instrument first went missing. It's unclear whether the man will face charges in the case.

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- [Yukon Anti-Poverty Coalition introduces a new gardening program, Ground Share \(CBC 6:30 a.m.\)](#)
- [Lumel Studios has signed a memorandum of understanding to partner with the NGO community in the Yukon to build an NGO hub in Whitehorse \(CKRW 7 a.m.\)](#)
- [Yukon RCMP investigations have led to arrests for child luring and possession of child pornography \(CHON 7:30 a.m.\)](#)
- [The Whitehorse RCMP have arrested a suspect after an assault \(CHON 7:30 a.m.\)](#)
- [Whitehorse RCMP have assisted in locating a missing seven year old child \(CHON 7:30 a.m.\)](#)
- [The Whitehorse Chamber of Commerce says the federal budget will help local businesses \(CBC 7:30 a.m.\)](#)
- [Caribou RV Park says thank you to Yukon health care workers by offering free camping in May \(CBC 7:30 a.m.\)](#)
- [REPEAT: Lumel Studios has signed a memorandum of understanding to partner with the NGO community in the Yukon to build an NGO hub in Whitehorse \(CKRW 8 a.m.\)](#)

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- [Dr Hanley calls for decriminalisation after two more Yukoners die from opioid deaths \(CBC 6:30 a.m.\)](#)
- [Yukon Party leader says it appears the Liberals are only interested in working with the NDP \(CBC 6:30 a.m.\)](#)
- [People may have been exposed to COVID-19 infection if they were at Wykes Independent Grocer in Whitehorse on Saturday, April 10th \(CKRW 7 a.m.\)](#)
- [REPEAT: People may have been exposed to COVID-19 infection if they were at Wykes Independent Grocer in Whitehorse on Saturday, April 10th \(CKRW 8 a.m.\)](#)
- [Canada's Minister of Northern Affairs and the MP of Yukon discussed how \\$25 million will help the government of Yukon achieve climate change priorities \(CKRW 7 a.m.\)](#)
- [Yukon's Chief Medical Officer of Health is recommending changes to the way people self-isolate \(CHON 7:30 a.m.\)](#)
- [UPDATE: Dr Hanley calls for decriminalisation after two more Yukoners die from opioid deaths \(CBC 7:30 a.m.\)](#)
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## National news

- [NWT MLA says he and a family member tested positive for COVID-19 in Yellowknife \(CBC 6:30 a.m.\)](#)
- [The Trudeau government has suspended all commercial and private passenger flights from India and Pakistan \(CKRW 7 a.m.\)](#)
- [Justin Trudeau's minority Liberal government has survived the second of three confidence votes on the massive federal budget \(CKRW 7 a.m.\)](#)
- [The BC government will give more details about travel restrictions \(CKRW 7 a.m.\)](#)
- [NWT relaxes some travel restrictions around COVID-19 this week, but some say more needs to be done \(CBC 7:30 a.m.\)](#)
- [Yukon MP says the territory will benefit from a number of promises in the budget \(CBC 7:30 a.m.\)](#)
- [REPEAT: The Trudeau government has suspended all commercial and private passenger flights from India and Pakistan \(CKRW 8 a.m.\)](#)
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- [COVID-19 testing site to be set up in Iqaluit to speed contact tracing \(CBC online\)](#)
- [1 new COVID-19 infection in Yellowknife, 40 contacts identified \(CBC online\)](#)
- [MLA Steve Norn identifies himself as one of 2 COVID-19 cases in Yellowknife \(CBC online\)](#)
- ["I know who I am": Labrador MP defends Inuk identity after Nunavut MP's questions \(CBC online\)](#)
- [N.W.T. remote tourism operators can host out-of-territory visitors this summer. Here's how it works \(CBC online\)](#)
- [Who have provinces pegged to receive COVID-19 vaccines in the coming weeks? \(Toronto Star\)](#)

## International news

- [A man in California survived a rattlesnake bite \(CHON 7:30 a.m.\)](#)

## Thursday, April 22, 2021

### CBC interviews, 4 to 6 p.m.

- 4:07 T. Kachur, Science Columnist, CBC, "Kachur talks about the physics of skipping stones"
- 4:19 N. Rivers, Associate Professor, University of Ottawa, "Rivers talks about criticism of Canada's commitment to reduce greenhouse gas emissions"
- 4:38 C. Dixon, Leader of the Yukon Party, "Dixon talks about being sworn in and his first press conference following the election"
- 4:47 Audio: O. Alghabra, Minister of Transport, "Alghabra announces suspending flights from India and Pakistan"
- 4:51 G. Maratos, Reporter, CBC, "Maratos reports on the recent press conference about Yukon's opioid overdose crisis"
- 5:07 L. Welchman, Executive Director, Klondike Institute of Art and Culture, "Welchman talks about taking over as KIAC's ED"
- 5:18 C. Lubrin, Poet, "Lubrin talks about her book *The Dyzgraphxst*"
- 5:38 K. Fogerty, Author, "Fogerty talks about her book *Murder on the Inside* about the riot at the Kingston Penitentiary"
- 5:51 K. Ross, Director, Farmers for Climate Solutions, "Ross talks about Earth Day and the federal budget's proposed investments in environmental practices for agriculture"

## Local news

### **Spring shred: Snowmobiles gather on Mount Sima for 2021 Uphill Challenge (Yukon News)**

The 2021 Yukon Yamaha Mount Sima Uphill Challenge took place on April 17, with more than 50 riders competing in the spring snowmobile race up Mount Sima. [Full story](#)

### **Burning permits will be revoked April 25 (Yukon News)**

The City of Whitehorse has issued a reminder to residents that fire permits for open burning will be revoked as of April 25 with the fire ban in place until Oct. 1. [Full story](#)

## Territorial news

### **Two new cases of COVID-19 have been confirmed in the Yukon (CBC 5:30 p.m.)**

Two new cases of COVID-19 have been confirmed in the Yukon. The territory's Chief Medical Officer says both cases are adults in Whitehorse and are in the same household. Dr. Brendan Hanley says they are self-isolating and recovering at home. He says the source of the infection is under investigation. Hanley also issued a public exposure notice. Anyone who was at Wykes Your Independent Grocer, on Saturday, April 10th, between 12:30 and 3:30 p.m. should monitor for covid symptoms and arrange to get tested. This brings the total number of confirmed cases of COVID in Yukon to 80.

### **The Chief Coroner, Blood Ties Four Directions Executive Director, and Dr. Brendan Hanley are calling for decriminalisation, testing of illegal drugs and a supervised site for drug use in Yukon (CBC 5:30 p.m.)**

The Chief Coroner has confirmed two new deaths related to opioids in Yukon. This year alone, the territory has lost seven people to overdose. That has sparked a call for change from health officials and community leaders. Since 2016 in Yukon, 40 Yukoners have died due to opioid overdose. Heather Jones is Yukon's Chief Coroner. "From what we were seeing, the drug supply in the Yukon is becoming more and more unstable and deadlier." It is the acceleration of cases that is most worrying. Bronté Renwick-Shields is Executive Director of Blood Ties Four Directions, a harm reduction and support group. "We need to take urgent action to address this crisis and to save lives." She and others today called for decriminalisation, testing of illegal drugs and a supervised site for drug use in Yukon. All of these measures are recommended by Dr. Brendan Hanley, Yukon's Chief Medical Officer of Health. "What happens is that overdoses are prevented and people do get connected to supports, medical care, counselling and access to treatment." Chief Doris Bill of the Kwanlin Dün First Nation added her voice to that call for harm reduction. "Let's work together so we never have to meet like this again."

### **Yukon Party Leader Currie Dixon says the Liberals are only interested in working with the NDP (CBC 5:30 p.m.)**

The Yukon Party says the territory has been left without leadership for a month and a half because of the territorial election. The party

wants the Liberal government to recall the legislature and table a budget. Currie Dixon is the Leader of the Yukon Party. He says the Liberals are only interested in working with the NDP. "Since the election, the Yukon Party has not heard a word from Sandy Silver. By not even reaching out to the Yukon Party, it's clear to me that his preference is to form a left wing coalition with the NDP." Yukon Party MLAs were sworn in today. Dixon says the Yukon Party is willing to work with the Liberals, but he says there needs to be a conversation. Dixon says the Yukon Party still does not support the budget they voted against six weeks ago. The Liberals and the Yukon Party each finished with eight seats in April 12th's territorial election, the NDP with three.

#### **Yukon confirms 2 new cases of COVID-19, exposure notice issued in Whitehorse (CBC online)**

Yukon health officials have confirmed two new cases of COVID-19 in the territory, and said the source of the infection is still under investigation. [Full story](#)

#### **Hanley planning for vaccinations during isolation periods (Whitehorse Star)**

Dr. Brendan Hanley, the Yukon's medical officer of health, is introducing a plan to vaccinate seasonal workers and residents returning from out-of-territory – such as post-secondary students – during their self-isolation periods. [Full story](#)

#### **Additional opioids deaths spark demands for action (Whitehorse Star)**

More opioid fatalities have medical, law enforcement and social support organizations calling on the incoming Yukon government for more action. [Full story](#)

#### **Tool kit issued to help small custodians with HIPMA obligations (Whitehorse Star)**

Diane McLeod-McKay, the territory's Information and Privacy Commissioner (IPC), has developed a new resource to help small custodians navigate the territory's Health Information Privacy and Management Act (HIPMA). [Full story](#)

#### **Yukoners' interest in environment is high: poll (Whitehorse Star)**

A new poll from the local DataPath Systems company is indicating that Yukoners have an abiding and intense interest in environmental and conservation issues. [Full story](#)

#### **Yukon officials call for overdose prevention sites, decriminalization (National Post)**

Health officials, Indigenous leaders and police are calling on the incoming Yukon government to take "urgent steps" to combat the worsening opioid crisis. [Full story](#)

### **National news**

#### **The Department of Fisheries and Oceans is nearing the end of a five year project to map the Inuvik-Tuktoyaktuk Highway (CBC 5:30 p.m.)**

The Department of Fisheries and Oceans is nearing the end of a five year project to map the Inuvik-Tuktoyaktuk Highway. Researchers used a drone to take aerial photos of the highway and a portion of the Dempster. It was a partnership between Transport Canada, the government of the Northwest Territories and the University of Alaska Fairbanks. They're hoping to use the data to monitor the impacts of climate change and offer another option for patrolling Canada's Arctic. Andrew Wentworth was Chief Pilot and Deputy Program Manager for the mission. "All of our previous mapping missions had been smaller stuff with smaller unmanned aircraft. So we ran into an enviable problem of how do we manage all of this data. Before we processed smaller amounts of data. And there was a challenge of figuring out how to eat the elephant, so to speak." Carolyn Bakelaar is with the Department of Fisheries and Oceans and she was in charge of the project. She says it's unique. "Because this had not taken place before. It took a lot of visionary leadership and commitment to carry out this mission. There are so many people involved and so many organisations to get the bird in the air. And that was really exciting to be part of." Bakelaar hopes to have the collected data released this summer.

#### **8 days or 14? Here's what changes to N.W.T.'s self-isolation rules mean for territorial residents (CBC online)**

If you're fully vaccinated against COVID-19, and have travelled outside of the N.W.T. but have not left Canada, you can now potentially shorten your isolation period upon return from 14 days to eight. [Full story](#)

#### **N.W.T. judge overturns rental office decision on YWCA housing (CBC online)**

Transitional housing programs run by the Northwest Territories YWCA are not subject to the law that sets out the rules for all landlords and tenants. [Full story](#)

#### **Highway mapping project between Inuvik and Tuktoyaktuk nearly complete (CBC online)**

A project to map a Northwest Territories highway between Inuvik and Tuktoyaktuk is nearly wrapped up. [Full story](#)

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### **Friday, April 23, 2021**

#### **CBC interviews, 6 to 8:30 a.m.**

- 6:15 S. McNichol, Author, "Author says amendments to the Copyright Act have impacted income for children's authors"
- 6:25 O. Alghabra, Minister of Transport, "Canada announces flight ban from India and Pakistan for 30 days"
- 6:40 M. Selvarajah, CBC Technology Columnist, "New Cryptocurrency Token ELONGATE Pledges a Total of \$1 million to Various Charities"
- 6:45 S. Rayale, Oxfam Canada, "People Vaccine Alliance calls on pharmaceutical companies to share COVID vaccine technology to help produce more vaccines"

- 6:50 S. Oetli, Mount Sima, "Whitehorse Ski Report"  
 7:15 S. Regehr, CBC Sports Reporter, "CBC Sports Report"  
 7:20 L. Baker-Johnson, Lumel Studios, "Lumel Studios owners commit to building new four-storey NGO office space"  
 7:25 B. Legris, Alberta Hamster Rescue, "A berta woman encourages more to adopt the humble hamster"  
 7:40 S. Blyth, Overdose Prevention Society, "Overdose Prevention Society run two overdose sites in Vancouver"  
 7:50 B. Sanderson, CBC Halifax Reporter, "Haligonians are hopeful the world will be a better place in 2030"  
 8:15 H. Zimmering, Yukon Anti-Poverty Coalition, "Whitehorse man reaches Engineer Creek on the Dempster Highway, expects to finish his wa k next week"  
 8:25 E. Glasner, CBC Film Columnist, "The Falcon and the Winter Soldier drops its season finale today on Disney+"

### **CHON-FM interviews, 6 to 9 a m**

No interviews.

### **Local news**

#### **Local business owners plan to build new office space for NGOs in Whitehorse (CBC 6:30 a.m.)**

More office space for not for profit organisations in Whitehorse is on the way. As Julien Gignac reports, the people behind the plan say there's a void they want to fill. "Yeah, so this is lovely. It reminds us of when we got married." Luann Baker-Johnson and Mel Johnson are feeling the same excitement as they prepare to sign their plans for a new downtown Whitehorse building. The building will provide office space for NGOs. Luann says there's been an appetite for more space for years. "We are going to keep the leasing as low as we possibly can. Everyone knows, we all, it's a community effort. It's for NGOs. It's not for government offices." Sue Edelman is the co-chair of the steering committee. She says NGOs are the poor cousin of the business sector. Edelman says this plan will help them financially. "And it also is an opportunity for all of us to work together. And that's the most important thing of all." The new building will go up next year to Baker-Johnson's glassblowing studio. The studio also houses a cafe. She says the new building will make expanding the cafe possible.

#### **Yukon Anti-Poverty Coalition introduces a new gardening program, Ground Share (CBC 6:30 a.m.)**

And finally, the Yukon Anti-Poverty Coalition is introducing a new program called Ground Share. It connects gardeners who have nowhere to grow produce with landowners who have space to share. The first phase of the program is currently recruiting participants. Then it will find a suitable match to begin growing. George Green with the Anti-Poverty Coalition says it's like a garden dating service. He says the project has endless potential. "If we keep encouraging this and promoting it, this is just going to keep happening. And we will go from 10 to 20 to 100. And when you look at a hundred new garden plots, when you add that up at the end of two, three, four years, you're talking something significant in terms of local production. So I think this is very exciting." Green says since the program started last month, 10 gardeners and 10 landowners have signed up. Currently, the program is only offered in Whitehorse, but it could expand to the communities in the future.

#### **Lumel Studios has signed a memorandum of understanding to partner with the NGO community in the Yukon to build an NGO hub in Whitehorse (CKRW 7 a.m.)**

Lumel Studios has signed a memorandum of understanding to partner with the NGO community in the Yukon to build an NGO hub in Whitehorse. The NGO hub will provide a physical space for the NGOs in the territory to collaborate, to strengthen the sector, to meet the needs of Yukoners. Mel Baker Johnson, the co-owner of Lumel Studios, says the design of the building will include all parties involved in the process. "We're not going to do this in a vacuum. We're going to do this very openly and transparently, working with the NGOs, working with the public as well." The building will be constructed adjacent to Lumel Studios in downtown Whitehorse. Construction is expected to begin in early 2022.

#### **Yukon RCMP investigations have led to arrests for child luring and possession of child pornography (CHON 7:30 a.m.)**

Yukon RCMP investigations have led to arrests for child luring and possession of child pornography in Canada and the United States. According to a press release from yesterday morning, last year, Yukon RCMP received multiple reports of child luring from local victims. Because of the reports, the Yukon RCMP Internet Child Exploitation Investigator with the help of the United States Department of Homeland Security, identified five suspects in various locations across Canada and the U.S. Investigative files with information received directly from the victims were shared with the agencies of jurisdictions who used the info to arrest and charge four suspects for offences including child luring and possession of child pornography. One of the investigations is still ongoing.

#### **The Whitehorse RCMP have arrested a suspect after an assault (CHON 7:30 a.m.)**

The Whitehorse RCMP have arrested a suspect after an assault on Main Street. On April 17th at approximately 6:30 p.m. Whitehorse RCMP responded to a report of an assault with a weapon on Main Street in Whitehorse. The victim was treated at Whitehorse General Hospital for their injuries and later released. The suspect was arrested by police and held for court charges of aggravated assault. The assault is believed to be a targeted event, and there is no concern of risk to the general public.

#### **Whitehorse RCMP have assisted in locating a missing seven year old child (CHON 7:30 a.m.)**

Whitehorse RCMP have also assisted in locating a missing seven year old child on April 7th, around seven 7:30 p.m. The child was separated from their family while running dog sled teams at Fish Lake, according to a press release from yesterday morning, the RCMP immediately activated Yukon Search and Rescue, contracted helicopter support, and deployed snowmobiles for the search. The pilot flying the helicopter observed the child and was able to lead the RCMP to the location. The child was then transported via helicopter to be cleared medically and returned to their family. The child had been trained in winter survival and knew to stay in one place. They tied off the dog sled team, put on extra layers of clothing, sought shelter, and waited to be found.

#### **The Whitehorse Chamber of Commerce says the federal budget will help local businesses (CBC 7:30 a.m.)**

Meanwhile, the Whitehorse Chamber of Commerce says the federal budget will help local businesses. The chamber says while some businesses are doing well, others are suffering. Lars Hartling is the chair of the Chamber of Commerce. He says it's crucial that investment from the budget helps businesses get through the pandemic. "The WCC supports federal investment in economic recovery. The extension of the relief funding and the new initiatives proposed by the federal budget. Those will be a big help in exiting this COVID time." Hartling says micro-grants announced by the federal government, rather, will also help small businesses in Whitehorse. He says two thirds of the chamber's membership are businesses with five or fewer employees.

**Caribou RV Park says thank you to Yukon health care workers by offering free camping in May (CBC 7:30 a.m.)**

And finally, the owners of Caribou RV Park near Whitehorse are saying thank you to Yukon health care workers by offering them a free weekend of camping next month. Co-owner Sandra Jost says she and her husband are grateful for what these workers have done through the pandemic. "A lot of people try to give health care workers something back and we thought, why not do the same then, to do something for people up here in the Yukon. We haven't been hit so badly as most other places in the world. But, yeah, that's something we really want to do." Jost says spots are being reserved quickly. She says bookings are on a first come, first served basis. Their offer is available on the weekends before and after the May long weekend.

**REPEAT: Lumel Studios has signed a memorandum of understanding to partner with the NGO community in the Yukon to build an NGO hub in Whitehorse (CKRW 8 a.m.)**

Lumel Studios has signed a memorandum of understanding to partner with the NGO community in the Yukon to build an NGO hub in Whitehorse. The NGO hub will provide a physical space for the NGOs in the territory to collaborate, to strengthen the sector, to meet the needs of Yukoners. Mel Baker Johnson, the co-owner of Lumel Studios, says the design of the building will include all parties involved in the process. "We're not going to do this in a vacuum. We're going to do this very openly and transparently, working with the NGOs, working with the public as well." The building will be constructed adjacent to Lumel Studios in downtown Whitehorse. Construction is expected to begin in early 2022.

**Territorial news**

**Dr Hanley calls for decriminalisation after two more Yukoners die from opioid deaths (CBC 6:30 a.m.)**

Two more Yukoners have died from opioid overdoses. The latest deaths were announced Thursday morning by Yukon's chief coroner. Heather Jones says seven people have died in the same way this year. The latest numbers add to what she's calling a crisis in Yukon. Overall, since 2016, opioids have killed 40 people in the territory. "From what we are seeing, the drug supply in Yukon is becoming more and more unstable and deadlier. Often as we walk in the brutal pain that comes with these deaths, we hear from families and friends and colleagues. They tell us over and over and over again that their loved one was not a bad person, that they were suffering." Yukon's chief medical officer of health Dr Brendan Hanley called for change. He recommends harm reduction, drug testing and a supervised site for drug use. Hanley also called for decriminalisation. The plan is supported by Chief Doris Bill of Kwanlin Dün First Nation and the executive director of Blood Ties Four Directions. A representative from the RCMP said drug-related cases in Whitehorse have increased this year. Detachment Commander Lindsey Ellis said that officers have used naloxone kits to revive someone 26 times over the course of the last year.

**Yukon Party leader says it appears the Liberals are only interested in working with the NDP (CBC 6:30 a.m.)**

The last of the MLAs elected in Yukon's general election will be sworn into office today. The eight Liberal MLAs, including Premier Sandy Silver, will take their oath of office this afternoon. Yesterday, Yukon Party MLAs were sworn in. The three NDP MLAs were sworn in on Tuesday. After being sworn in, Yukon Party leader Currie Dixon said it appears the Liberals are only interested in working with the NDP. "Since the election, the Yukon Party has not heard a word from Sandy Silver. By not even reaching out to the Yukon Party, it's clear to me that his preference is to form a left wing coalition with the NDP." Dixon says if that is the plan the Liberals want to take, the Yukon Party will not support it. He says the Yukon Party is willing to work with the Liberals.

**People may have been exposed to COVID-19 infection if they were at Wykes Independent Grocer in Whitehorse on Saturday, April 10th (CKRW 7 a.m.)**

Yukon's Chief Medical Officer of Health has announced that two more cases of COVID-19 have been confirmed in Yukon. Dr. Brendan Hanley says cases number 79 and 80 are both Whitehorse adults of the same household, and the source of infection is currently under investigation. The two individuals are at home recovering and contact tracing is underway. There was one public exposure notice given. Dr. Hanley says people may have been exposed to COVID-19 infection if they were at Wykes Independent Grocer in Whitehorse on Saturday, April 10th, between twelve 12:30 and 3:30. Anyone feeling ill with symptoms of COVID-19 should self-isolate and schedule to be tested.

**REPEAT: People may have been exposed to COVID-19 infection if they were at Wykes Independent Grocer in Whitehorse on Saturday, April 10th (CKRW 8 a.m.)**

Yukon's Chief Medical Officer of Health has announced that two more cases of COVID-19 have been confirmed in Yukon. Dr. Brendan Hanley says cases number 79 and 80 are both Whitehorse adults of the same household, and the source of infection is currently under investigation. The two individuals are at home recovering and contact tracing is underway. There was one public exposure notice given. Dr. Hanley says people may have been exposed to COVID-19 infection if they were at Wykes Independent Grocer in Whitehorse on Saturday, April 10th, between twelve 12:30 and 3:30. Anyone feeling ill with symptoms of COVID-19 should self-isolate and schedule to be tested.

**Canada's Minister of Northern Affairs and the MP of Yukon discussed how \$25 million will help the government of Yukon achieve climate change priorities (CKRW 7 a.m.)**

Yukon's MP Larry Bagnell and Canada's Minister of Northern Affairs, Daniel Vandal, came together in a virtual roundtable to discuss climate change and the twenty twenty one federal budget. Vandal and Bagnell discussed how the allotted \$25 million in 2021-2022 will assist with the government of Yukon in achieving its climate change priorities in collaboration with Crown Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada and Environment and Climate Change Canada. Bagnell says the new investments proposed in the budget for 2021 will directly support Yukon's strategy to combat climate change, create opportunities for Yukoners and grow the economy out of the pandemic. He says the budget earmarked \$40.4 million in funding that could advance projects such as the Atlin Hydro Expansion Project in Yukon and help provide clean power to Yukoners.

**Yukon's Chief Medical Officer of Health is recommending changes to the way people self-isolate (CHON 7:30 a.m.)**

Yesterday's COVID-19 update brings good news for returning students and seasonal workers, as well as long term care residents. Chief Medical Officer of Health Dr. Brendan Hanley announced that students and seasonal workers returning to the Yukon will be able to temporarily leave quarantine to get vaccinated. Before receiving the vaccine they will have to make an appointment at the COVID Testing and Assessment Centre for Rapid Testing. If the test comes back negative, they will be sent to the immunisation clinic for their shot. After being vaccinated, they will have to return to isolation to finish their two weeks, Dr. Hanley says this is not a get out of self-isolation early card. Dr. Hanley is also recommending changes to the way people self-isolate. The recommendation comes as COVID variants spread across Canada. He says more caution is needed. "From now on if you are returning from travel, I'm strongly recommending one of the two options for self-isolation. Option one, if you're travelling alone or with other people, you can self-isolate alone or with your travel

companions only. This means you must self-isolate separately from your receiving hosts. You can stay in a legal suite, a vacation home or an Airbnb or a hotel somewhere apart from the ones from the receiving hosts. If you're planning to self-isolate upon arrival with your hosts or family in a shared household setting, then everyone in the household needs to self-isolate together and to follow the rules of self-isolation." Dr. Hanley says the self isolation laws are still the same, but he is strongly encouraging that people follow his recommendations. He says there will be increasing follow ups to make sure people are self-isolating and to provide guidance. Dr. Hanley went on to say that the government has accepted recommendations to lift some restrictions within long term care. Long term care facilities will be able to work towards community outings being safely planned and increasing the number of social visitors for residents starting the week of May 3rd. Dr. Hanley also mentioned that if more young people get vaccinated, restrictions could be eased this summer.

**UPDATE: Dr Hanley calls for decriminalisation after two more Yukoners die from opioid deaths (CBC 7:30 a.m.)**

The death toll from opioids in Yukon has been growing. Since the new year, seven people have died in the territory from overdose. Yukon's chief coroner says that 40 people have died from opioid overdose in Yukon in the last five years, but that toll could have been even higher. Yesterday, inspector Lindsay Ellis, detachment commander of the Whitehorse RCMP, shared numbers regarding how often officers have been using naloxone kits. "RCMP and Yukon have observed a 100 per cent increase from last year on occasions that our members have administered naloxone to members of the general public. Saving lives on those 26 separate occasions, that is the RCMP alone." No numbers are available as of yesterday for emergency medical personnel and others who have used naloxone kits. As a response to increasing numbers of opioid deaths, Yukon's chief medical officer of health has called for drug testing, decriminalisation and a legal and supervised space for drug consumption in Yukon.

**UPDATE: Canada's Minister of Northern Affairs and the MP of Yukon discussed how \$25 million will help the government of Yukon achieve climate change priorities (CKRW 8 a.m.)**

Yukon's MP and Canada's Minister of Northern Affairs participated in a virtual roundtable to discuss climate change and clean energy projects from the 2021 federal budget. Daniel Vandal and Larry Bagnell discussed how investing in hydroelectricity and grid interconnection projects across the north will play an important role in reducing reliance on diesel for electricity and heating. Vandal says Indigenous and Northern communities are among the most affected by climate change because of their relationship with the natural world, traditional lifestyles and geographic location. He says the budget for 2021 is making significant investments to help Indigenous and northern communities transition to clean energy, create jobs, and enhance resilience.

**Yukon Party leader to Liberals: Get on with governing already (CBC online)**

Yukon Party Leader Currie Dixon threw down a gauntlet of sorts on Thursday, saying it's time for Liberal Leader Sandy Silver to end a "vacuum of leadership" by forming a government, recalling the assembly and tabling a budget — preferably by the end of the month. [Full story](#)

**Yukon Liberals set to be sworn-in as party aims to form minority government (Globe and Mail)**

Members of the Yukon Liberals will be sworn-in today as the party aims to form a minority government. [Full story](#)

**Yukon Liberals set to be sworn-in as party aims to form minority government (Toronto Star)**

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## **National news**

**NWT MLA says he and a family member tested positive for COVID-19 in Yellowknife (CBC 6:30 a.m.)**

An MLA in the Northwest Territories says he and a family member tested positive for COVID-19 in Yellowknife. Steve Norn says he tested positive on Wednesday. He says he had gone to Alberta in early April for a family emergency after filing a self-isolation plan. Norn says he decided to get tested after COVID-19 was detected in Yellowknife wastewater. Norn says a family member has the second recent case of COVID-19 in Yellowknife, which was announced yesterday. Public Health says 40 contacts have been identified and the individual is involved with a school in Yellowknife. Health officials say their investigation so far does not indicate an outbreak.

**The Trudeau government has suspended all commercial and private passenger flights from India and Pakistan (CKRW 7 a.m.)**

The last plane for 30 days from India and Pakistan has landed at Toronto's Pearson Airport. The Trudeau government has suspended all commercial and private passenger flights from those countries to control spread of the new variants of COVID-19. Transport Minister Omar Alghabra yesterday said the measure is meant to stop travellers coming from countries where the new strains are on a rampage. Alghabra also said the government's response to the pandemic is guided by science and they won't hesitate to add other countries to the prohibited list if the science bears that out.

**Justin Trudeau's minority Liberal government has survived the second of three confidence votes on the massive federal budget (CKRW 7 a.m.)**

Justin Trudeau's minority Liberal government has survived the second of three confidence votes on the massive federal budget. A Conservative amendment calling for the budget to be revised was defeated yesterday by a vote of 213 to 120. A Bloc Québécois sub-amendment was also easily defeated Wednesday. The government had informed opposition parties that it would consider both votes to be matters of confidence, meaning the government would fall if either of them passed. A third opportunity to pass judgement on the budget comes Monday, when the House of Commons will vote on the main motion to approve the government's general budgetary policy.

**The BC government will give more details about travel restrictions (CKRW 7 a.m.)**

The BC government will give more details about travel restrictions that could take effect as early as today. The rules are aimed at limiting movement within the province in order to curb the surge of COVID-19 cases. Public Safety Minister Mike Farnworth has suggested there might also be traffic roadblocks to stop people from crossing from one health region to another, but the RCMP has expressed doubts about being able to make that work.

**NWT relaxes some travel restrictions around COVID-19 this week, but some say more needs to be done (CBC 7:30 a.m.)**

The Northwest Territories relaxed some travel restrictions around COVID-19 this week, but some say there is still more that needs to be done. Some people in the Beaufort Delta region are pushing for a travel bubble with Yukon. Mackenzie Scott reports. Scott: For tourism operator Lawrence Neyando, the relaxing of some travel restrictions was good news, but he's still not going to be able to operate his business this season. He runs Arctic Motorcycle Adventures and Apparel. Neyando says what's needed is a travel bubble between the Beaufort Delta and the Yukon. "Yellowknife definitely benefits more, especially for leaders that live out there. It's easy for them to make these rules, they're in the land of the living. They can still go out to restaurants and other things. They definitely got a better setup than



somebody in Inuvik or Fort McPherson." Ken Kyikavichik is Grand Chief of Gwich'in Tribal Council. He says it's been especially difficult for loved ones to be separated by the border during times of sickness or death. He's been advocating for a Yukon travel bubble. "And have the ability to travel into the Yukon to be able to not only purchase the items they need, but also to see some of their close friends and family."

**Yukon MP says the territory will benefit from a number of promises in the budget (CBC 7:30 a.m.)**

Yukon MP Larry Bagnell joined the Minister of Northern Affairs at a meeting with territorial leaders yesterday. Bagnell and Dan Vandal spoke with representatives from First Nations, the territorial government and Yukon Energy. They laid out details regarding money in the federal budget to combat climate change and to promote clean energy. Bagnell says Yukoners are leaders in energy. He says Yukon will benefit from a number of promises in the budget. "There's a lot for adaptation and resilience for infrastructure. Huge amounts for infrastructure, and that's very necessary even more for us. As all of you know, I've been saying for a couple of decades now that climate change affects us more than anywhere else." The federal budget sets aside \$25 million for Yukon's climate change plans. There is more than \$40 million earmarked for hydroelectricity and power grid projects in the North. As well, nearly \$99 million for the conservation of Pacific salmon, which are important to many Yukon First Nation.

**REPEAT: The Trudeau government has suspended all commercial and private passenger flights from India and Pakistan (CKRW 8 a.m.)**

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**COVID-19 testing site to be set up in Iqaluit to speed contact tracing (CBC online)**

Nunavut announced nine new cases of COVID-19 on Friday, of which two are in Kinngait and seven are in Iqaluit, bringing the respective case numbers to four in Kinngait and 33 in Iqaluit. [Full story](#)

**1 new COVID-19 infection in Yellowknife, 40 contacts identified (CBC online)**

The N.W.T. Office of the Chief Public Health Officer confirmed a case of COVID-19 in Yellowknife Thursday evening. [Full story](#)

**MLA Steve Norn identifies himself as one of 2 COVID-19 cases in Yellowknife (CBC online)**

A member of the N.W.T. Legislature says he and a family member are the two people with COVID-19 in Yellowknife. [Full story](#)

**'I know who I am:' Labrador MP defends Inuk identity after Nunavut MP's questions (CBC online)**

Labrador member of parliament Yvonne Jones is defending her ancestry after Nunavut MP Mumilaq Qaqqaq reiterated her position that Jones is "not an Inuk," and southern Labrador is "not an Inuit region." [Full story](#)

**N.W.T. remote tourism operators can host out-of-territory visitors this summer. Here's how it works (CBC online)**

Remote tourism operators in the Northwest Territories can now host out-of-territory visitors this summer. [Full story](#)

**Who have provinces pegged to receive COVID-19 vaccines in the coming weeks? (Toronto Star)**

As COVID-19 vaccine supplies ramp up across the country, most provinces and territories have released details of who can expect to receive a shot in the coming weeks. [Full story](#)

## **International news**

**A man in California survived a rattlesnake bite (CHON 7:30 a.m.)**

A Southern California man says he feels he dodged a bullet after surviving a rattlesnake bite. Authorities in Corona say the man spotted the rattlesnake near his home and worried it might come into contact with children. But when he tried to grab the snake with a pair of tongs, the poisonous snake turned on him and sank its fangs into his hand. The man was treated at a hospital and released. Animal control came along to gather up the snake, which was later euthanized.

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- [The Yukon Trappers Association held its Spring Fur and Craft Sale in Whitehorse \(CBC 6:30 a.m.\)](#)
- [People in Dawson City can sign up to get vegetable deliveries this summer \(CBC 6:30 a.m.\)](#)
- [Yukon RCMP investigate a structure fire on 10th Street South in Watson Lake \(CKRW 7 a.m.\)](#)
- [REPEAT: Yukon high school and post-secondary students spent part of their weekend testing their skills for a chance to compete in the Skills Canada Virtual National Competition \(CBC 7:30 a.m.\)](#)
- [REPEAT: The Yukon Trappers Association held its Spring Fur and Craft Sale in Whitehorse \(CBC 7:30 a.m.\)](#)
- [Watson Lake RCMP say no one was injured in last week's structure fire \(CHON 7:30 a.m.\)](#)
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- [Premier Sandy Silver says a safe drug consumption site in Yukon is a priority \(CBC 7:30 a.m.\)](#)

- [The Yukon Liberal caucus has been sworn in to the Legislative Assembly, Friday \(CHON 7:30 a.m.\)](#)

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- [Alberta teachers now have a new interactive tool to use when it comes to incorporating Indigenous literature \(CBC 6:30 a.m.\)](#)
- [TIAY calls the 2021 federal budget a step in the right direction for tourism in the Yukon \(CKRW 7 a.m.\)](#)
- [The federal government says it expects Canada to receive around 1.9 million doses of COVID-19 vaccine this week \(CKRW 7 a.m.\)](#)
- [The House of Commons Defence Committee are seeking further hearings to investigate retired Gen. Jonathan Vance \(CKRW 7 a.m.\)](#)
- [The COVID Secretariat of the Northwest Territories has apologised to after the information of hundreds of self-isolating travellers was breached \(CBC 7:30 p.m.\)](#)
- [Nunavut now has 41 active cases of COVID-19: 35 in Iqaluit, four in Kinngait and two in Rankin Inlet \(CHON 7:30 a.m.\)](#)
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- [President Biden says America will help India as it grapples with the surge in coronavirus cases \(CKRW 7 a.m.\)](#)
- [Police consider pressing charges against a New Hampshire couple over use of explosives during gender reveal party \(CHON 7:30 a.m.\)](#)
- [US Vice President is expected to tell the United Nations today that now is the time for global leaders to develop a response plan for the next global pandemic \(CKRW 8 a.m.\)](#)
- [Social media SOS messages reveal the extent of panic in India \(CKRW 8 a.m.\)](#)

### **Friday, April 23, 2021**

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- 4:19 T. Bogler, Chair of Family Medicine, St. Michael's Hospital, Toronto, "Bogler explains why pregnant women in Ontario have been prioritized for vaccinations"
- 4:39 S. Silver, Premier of Yukon, "Silver talks about being sworn in again as Premier"
- 4:45 J. Gignac, Reporter, CBC, "Gignac covers the petition to declare Vuntut Gwitchin's election results invalid on residency grounds"
- 4:56 S. Dar, MBA Student, "Dar speaks about the COVID-19 crisis unfolding in India"
- 5:07 A. O'Grady, Program Director, School of Visual Arts in Dawson City, "O'Grady talks about pandemic adaptation at SOVA"
- 5:14 N. Hyatt, Yukon Musician originally from Windsor Ontario, "Francophones in Windsor, Ontario, have their own way of speaking, a detail featured in Hyatt's new speech music album"
- 5:27 G. Baril, Harpist, "Baril talks about touring with her harp in her van that doubles as her mobile performance stage"
- 5:39 S. Digweed, Animal Behavior Professor, MacEwan University, "Digweed talks about red squirrel behavior"
- 5:48 J. Osler, Reporter, CBC, "Osler talks about revenge bedtime procrastination"
- 5:52 P. Hiscock, Fo Klorist, "Hiscock talks about the legend of St. Patrick's partner Sheila and her association with the last snow of winter"

#### **Local news**

##### **The Whitehorse Chamber of Commerce says the federal budget will help local business (CBC 5:30 p.m.)**

The Whitehorse Chamber of Commerce says the federal budget will help local business. The Chamber says while some businesses are doing well, others are suffering. Lars Hartling is Chair of the Chamber of Commerce. He says it's crucial that investment from the budget helps businesses get through the pandemic. "The WCC supports federal investment in economic recovery, extension or relief funding, and the new initiatives proposed by the federal budget. Those will be a big help in exiting this COVID time." Hartling says micro-grants announced by the federal government will also help small businesses in Whitehorse. He says two thirds of the Chamber's membership are businesses with five or fewer employees.

##### **There soon could be more office space for not for profit organisations in Whitehorse (CBC 5:30 p.m.)**

There soon could be more office space for not for profit organisations in Whitehorse. Plans for a new downtown building were signed yesterday. Luann Baker-Johnson is behind the project. She says office space for NGOs is sorely needed in the city. "Because it's an NGO building. We are going to keep the leasing as low as we possibly can. Everyone knows it's a community effort. It's for NGOs. It's not for government offices." The plan calls for a three storey building. It will include space for entrepreneurs and a cafe. Construction is expected to be complete by 2024.

##### **The Caribou RV Park near Whitehorse is offering a free weekend of camping for health care workers next month (CBC 5:30 p.m.)**

The Caribou RV Park near Whitehorse is saying thank you to Yukon health care workers. The owners are offering a free weekend of camping for health care workers next month. RV Park co-owner Sandra Jost says she and her husband are grateful for what health care workers have done throughout the pandemic. "A lot of people try to give health care workers something back and we thought, why not do the same do something for people up here in the Yukon and we haven't been hit so badly as opposed to other places in the world. But, yeah, that's something we really want to do." Jost says spots are being reserved quickly. She says bookings are on a first come, first serve basis. And the offer of free camping for health care workers is available on the weekends before and after the May long weekend.

##### **Yukon Asian Market brings new and familiar offerings to the territory (Yukon News)**

Inside the Yukon Asian Market on downtown's Wood Street, owner Shirley Chua-Tan describes the shop as a "labour of love" that has already garnered affectionate support from the Whitehorse community. [full story](#).

**Yukon businesses reported lost revenue, obstacles in 2020: YBS (Yukon News)**

One in four Yukon businesses experienced a decline in revenue of 30 per cent or more in 2020, according to the Yukon Bureau of Statistics. [full story](#).

**City news, briefly (Yukon News)**

The City of Whitehorse has released its 2020 asset management report. [full story](#).

**100 Homes campaign will continue (Yukon News)**

Close to a month after the 100 Homes campaign was set to wrap up, officials are continuing with the work of finding homes for vulnerable people in the city. [full story](#).

**Reports of child luring led to arrests (Yukon News)**

Yukon RCMP say that multiple reports of child luring throughout 2020 have resulted in arrests and charges across the country and in the United States. [full story](#).

**Every year, thousands of trumpeter swans flock to McClintock Bay, Yukon (CBC online)**

While it may not look like it to many Canadians, the arrival of an unmistakable bird heralds spring for Yukoners. Trumpeter swans are North America's largest species of waterfowl, and on their annual migration to their breeding grounds in Alaska, they make a stopover at Marsh Lake, south of Whitehorse. [full story](#).

**Yukon animal welfare group packs it in, citing pandemic woes (CBC online)**

Jordi M keli-Jones says it just became too difficult to keep things going at Kona's Coalition, especially once the pandemic hit. This month, she announced that the animal advocacy non-profit she helped start eight years ago was shutting down. [full story](#).

**Whitehorse entrepreneurs pitch 4-storey NGO 'hub' (CBC online)**

Luann Baker-Johnson says she always figured the parking lot adjacent to her Whitehorse business, Lumel Studio, could be something more. [full story](#).

**Choir looks on the bright side for spring concert (Whitehorse Star)**

The Whitehorse Community Choir is thrilled to be presenting its first concert since December 2019. [full story](#).

**Territorial news****Premier Silver says talks continue with the other two parties to find ways to work together (CBC 5:30 p.m.)**

Premier Sandy Silver says he plans to speak with the Yukon Party this weekend. Silver is working to form a government in a legislative assembly where the Liberals and Yukon Party both have eight seats. Yesterday, Yukon Party Leader Currie Dixon said he had not heard from the Liberals. Silver says he wants to meet with all party Leaders. "Yeah, Yukon Party needs to check their phone. Definitely did reach out to him as well. And you know, I'm going to be meeting with Currie this weekend and yes, we've been also in conversations with the NDP as well." Silver says there has been little downtime since last Monday's election. He met with the Commissioner earlier this week to tell her he plans to form a government and Silver says talks continue with the other two parties to find ways to work together. Earlier today, Liberal MLAs who were sworn into office and now all MLAs have taken their oath.

**Former Liberal MLA Pauline Frost is contesting the election outcome in the riding of Vuntut Gwitchin (CBC 5:30 p.m.)**

Former Liberal MLA Pauline Frost is contesting the election outcome in the riding of Vuntut Gwitchin. She has filed a petition to the Supreme Court of Yukon and it says election results in Vuntut Gwitchin are invalid. Jim Tucker is the lawyer representing Frost. "We intend to prove that two people voted in the electoral district of Vuntut Gwitchin when they were not qualified to do so and their votes were counted. On that basis we will argue that the election does not represent the actual will of the citizens who live there." Frost and the NDP's Annie Blake each finished with 78 votes on election night. Those numbers were later confirmed by a recount. Blake won the riding when her name was randomly drawn from a box this week.

**The Yukon's Chief Medical Officer of Health says the territory should try to set up a safe consumption site within six months (CBC 5:30 p.m.)**

The Yukon's Chief Medical Officer of Health says the territory should try to set up a safe consumption site within six months. Dr. Brendan Hanley says such a facility is needed to prevent overdose deaths. But one BC advocate says the safe consumption site can be set up much faster. Sarah Blyth is with the Overdose Prevention Society in Vancouver. She says all that's needed is a few supplies in a place where drug users are welcome. "You can have one tomorrow if you really wanted to. But people are dying at a really alarming rate. You can just set up a medic tent like they do in the military and make sure that people can come and just have someone observe them using. It doesn't have to be really complicated." Blyth says safe consumption sites don't encourage drug use. She says they make it easier for people to access treatment and counselling and medical care in case of overdose. Seven Yukoners have died this year because of opioid overdoses.

**Scott Design Build countersuing for \$7.5 million over Carmacks arena project (Yukon News)**

Scott Design Build Inc. has filed a statement of defence and counterclaim in response to a lawsuit filed against them in February. [full story](#).

**Yukon Party calls on premier to resume legislature and pass budget (Yukon News)**

As the new members of the legislative assembly were sworn in this week, Yukon Party leader Currie Dixon called on the premier to form a government as quickly as possible. [full story](#).

**Pauline Frost files legal challenge against Vuntut Gwitchin election results (Yukon News)**

The Yukon Liberal Party and former MLA Pauline Frost have launched a legal challenge asking for the election results to be declared invalid due to two voters who allegedly cast a ballot without living in the Vuntut Gwitchin riding. [full story](#).

**Officials call for renewed opioid action plan (Yukon News)**

The Yukon's chief medical officer of health is calling on the next territorial government to update the territory's Yukon Opioid Action Plan,

which ended in 2020. [full story](#).

#### **Yukonomist: Doug Bell, A Life Lived (Yukon News)**

It could have been a scene out of a 1940s movie: the tongue-tied young airman goes on a double date and falls head over heels for the prairie girl. [full story](#).

#### **Three new cases of COVID-19 confirmed in Yukon (Yukon News)**

Three new cases of COVID-19 confirmed in Yukon. [full story](#).

#### **Yukon NDP win in Vuntut Gwitchin 'invalid,' says Liberal Pauline Frost in petition to court (CBC online)**

Former Liberal MLA Pauline Frost is contesting the outcome of Yukon's election in the Vuntut Gwitchin riding, which she lost this week in a random draw. [full story](#).

#### **Frost challenges two voters' eligibility (Whitehorse Star)**

Defeated Liberal party candidate Pauline Frost is asking the Supreme Court of Yukon to declare the April 12 election in the Vuntut Gwitchin riding as invalid. [full story](#).

#### **Dixon launches vigorous attack on Liberals (Whitehorse Star)**

Currie Dixon wants to be back in the legislature. [full story](#).

#### **Yukoners' interest in environment is high: poll (Whitehorse Star)**

A new poll from the local DataPath Systems company is indicating that Yukoners have an abiding and intense interest in environmental and conservation issues. [full story](#).

#### **ArcticPharm 'super-excited' about cannabis venture (Whitehorse Star)**

With April 20 no longer being the occasion it once was, it seems only appropriate the Yukon's first licence holder for the cultivation and processing of cannabis under the Cannabis Act of Canada was announced on Tuesday. [full story](#).

#### **Yukon officials call for overdose prevention sites, decriminalization (The National Post)**

Health officials, Indigenous leaders and police are calling on the incoming Yukon government to take "urgent steps" to combat the worsening opioid crisis. [Full story](#)

### **National news**

#### **Fighting the feedback loop: why scientists are sounding the alarm on Canada's melting permafrost (The Narwhal)**

River banks have slumped, forests have been lost and buildings have shifted and cracked on soft ground. Lakes and ponds have drained in some places and formed in others where once-solid land has collapsed. [Full story](#)

#### **An Ontario company built Canada's best vaccine booking system ... for Nova Scotia (Toronto Star)**

On Monday, I booked a vaccine appointment for my 41-year-old spouse in Ontario and then for my 60-year-old mother in Nova Scotia. [Full story](#)

#### **Today's coronavirus news: Bernier, Hillier charged with breaching stay-home-order; Rates of hospitalization, ICU admissions rising across Canada; Toronto reporting 1,276 new cases, six more deaths (Toronto Star)**

Alex Kopacz says he's never felt so close to the grave. [Full story](#)

#### **The latest numbers on COVID-19 in Canada for Sunday, April 25 2021 (Toronto Star)**

There are 1,178,986 confirmed cases in Canada. [Full story](#)

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### **Monday, April 26, 2021**

#### **CBC interviews, 6 to 8:30 a.m.**

6:15 Audio: "Excerpt of *Black on the Prairies*, a new CBC podcast"

6:25 Audio: "*Cross-Country Checkup* callers talk about requiring police body cameras"

6:39 S. Vulra-Miller, Clinical Pharmacologist, "Vulra-Miller talks about how severe the COVID outbreak in India has become"

6:51 D. Guzik, Business Columnist, "Guzik talks about recent financial news"

7:21 H. Ashthorn, Executive Director, Wildwise Yukon, "Ashthorn talks about what to expect in bear country this year as bears are now active"

7:39 F. McCormick, Former Clerk of the Yukon Legislature, "McCormick talks about an earlier recount in the riding of Vuntut Gwitchin"

7:51 A. Wong, Tax Associate, "Wong explains the new proposed tax credit for travel including the self-employed"

7:54 B. Sanderson, Reporter, CBC, "Sanderson covers how truckers are needed yet feared during the pandemic"

8:16 K. MacArthur, Organizer, Ice Pool Lottery, "MacArthur talks about the Yukon River break-up Ice Pool Lottery"

8:26 E. Dredge, Environmental Educator, "Dredge talks about signs of spring and the *Hello Spring* social media campaign"

#### **CHON-FM interviews, 6 to 9 a.m.**



No Interviews.

## **Local news**

### **Yukon high school and post-secondary students spent part of their weekend testing their skills for a chance to compete in the Skills Canada Virtual National Competition (CBC 6:30 a.m.)**

Yukon high school and post-secondary students spent part of their weekend testing their skills for a chance to compete in the Skills Canada Virtual National Competition. Trades represented in Saturday's competitions included robotics, welding, cooking, and hairstyling. Downstairs at the Yukon University, four judges watched as three competitors inspected engines and worked on equipment. The judges scores were based on proper use of tools, safety and how participants followed procedures. At the end of the day, Nick Guinet first, Kiona McLaughlin placed second and Steven Kratt placed third. McLaughlin is a second year university student studying to become a heavy equipment technician. He says this experience is more than just the competition. "I just think it's really important for youth nowadays and people my age to be getting into trades because it gives you a focus and it gives you a purpose at your workplace and you gain so much more respect for yourself." Upstairs, high schooler Trent Blackjack and his partner were bringing a robot to life. This is blackjack's second time competing. "Actually, the most satisfying part was probably the assembly and I ke sitting down and watching Edsil and Bruce and myself do everything with creating the robot and seeing it on the floor for the first time." The Skills Canada virtual national competition takes place in June.

### **The Yukon Trappers Association held its Spring Fur and Craft Sale in Whitehorse (CBC 6:30 a.m.)**

On Saturday, the Yukon Trappers Association held its Spring Fur and Craft Sale in Whitehorse. More than 10 vendors were at the Mount McIntyre Recreation Centre, selling everything from furs to berry picking pouches and hats. Yukon trapper Shannon Pearson says the trapping season varied for many trappers this year. She says with record amounts of snow, some trappers were unable to get onto their trap lines, whereas others had their best season yet. Pearson says the pandemic created some challenges for sellers. "Some people didn't trap this year because of the international market being so hampered by COVID without buyers being able to come in and touch the furs. Buying fur online and with pictures is just not as lucrative. So COVID has been a problem." Pearson says trappers are trying to adjust. Many are branching out and making their own garments to sell on a local level.

### **People in Dawson City can sign up to get vegetable deliveries this summer (CBC 6:30 a.m.)**

People in Dawson City can sign up to get vegetable deliveries this summer. Sun North Ventures is offering a new vegetable subscription program. Subscribers will get 13 weeks worth of locally grown vegetables. Owner Becky Sadlier says if it works well, she'll take it to the next step. "The goal is to expand that to where I have a roof so I can be offering vegetables all winter, but the root cellar is still in the planning stage up in our heads. I mean, it might eventually even make it into some kind of summer subscription and a winter subscription." Sadlier says she came up with the idea when the COVID-19 pandemic started, when concerns about food security were being discussed. Sadlier says she'll have enough vegetables to take on 30 subscribers. They'll get \$30 worth of produce each week, including salad greens, peas, carrots and potatoes. The first deliveries are expected by mid June.

### **Yukon RCMP investigate a structure fire on 10th Street South in Watson Lake (CKRW 7 a.m.)**

Last Tuesday, the Watson Lake RCMP responded to the report of a structure fire on 10th Street South in Watson Lake. Both police officers and firefighters were dispatched to the scene. Firefighters were not able to save the building, but no injuries were reported. Police are asking anyone with information on this fire to contact the Watson detachment or call Crimestoppers if they want to remain anonymous. Watson Lake RCMP are continuing to investigate the fire.

### **REPEAT: Yukon high school and post-secondary students spent part of their weekend testing their skills for a chance to compete in the Skills Canada Virtual National Competition (CBC 7:30 a.m.)**

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### **Watson Lake RCMP say no one was injured in last week's structure fire (CHON 7:30 a.m.)**

There were some anxious moments in Watson Lake last week. On April 20th, around 1:50 p.m., Watson Lake RCMP received a report of a structure fire on 10th South Street. Officers and firefighters attended, however, they were unable to save the building. No injuries were reported.

### **Ashley Fewer named City of Whitehorse's Volunteer of the Year (CHON 7:30 a.m.)**

Here at home, the City of Whitehorse has announced Ashley Fewer as their Volunteer of the Year. Fewer is credited with creating and maintaining the Yukon Helper's network Facebook group. The city says the group has become a valuable resource and a welcoming space for community members to seek out help. Fewer was nominated by the Rendezvous Rotary Satellite Club and was chosen from an impressive group of 31 nominees. The Yukon Helper's network just celebrated its first birthday, and her community is thankful to Ashley

Fewer and this initiative, her nomination reads. Ashley logs about 100 hours per week and on average connects with about 30 members per day. She is passionate about managing and maintaining community needs in any way she can.

**REPEAT: Yukon RCMP investigate a structure fire on 10th Street South in Watson Lake (CKRW 8 a.m.)**

Last Tuesday, the Watson Lake RCMP responded to the report of a structure fire on 10th Street South in Watson Lake. Both police officers and firefighters were dispatched to the scene. Firefighters were not able to save the building, but no injuries were reported. Police are asking anyone with information on this fire to contact the Watson detachment or call Crimestoppers if they want to remain anonymous. Watson Lake RCMP are continuing to investigate the fire.

## **Territorial news**

**Premier Sandy Silver says a safe drug consumption site in Yukon is a priority (CBC 7:30 a.m.)**

Premier Sandy Silver says a safe drug consumption site in Yukon is a priority. Silver was responding to sobering statistics on the number of drug-related deaths in Yukon. Yukon's Chief Medical Officer of Health says a safe consumption site is needed to prevent further overdose deaths. Silver says his new government is committed to the idea. "We developed an opioid action plan during our last mandate that increased exports and interventions and we want to build on that. You know in our campaign, we committed to safe supply and also supervised consumption sites. So this is absolutely a priority." Last week, health officials and people who work in harm reduction updated the death toll from opioids in Yukon. Already this year, seven people have died from overdose and 40 people have died from an opioid overdose in the last five years.

**The Yukon Liberal caucus has been sworn in to the Legislative Assembly, Friday (CHON 7:30 a.m.)**

Looking at politics now, the new Yukon Liberal caucus has been sworn in to the Legislative Assembly. I, Sandy Silver, do solemnly and sincerely and truly declare and affirm that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to her majesty, Queen Elizabeth II. I, Sandy Silver, do solemnly, sincerely and truly declare and affirm that I will duly and faithfully, to the best of my skills and knowledge, execute the powers and trust reposed in me as the member of the Yukon Legislative Assembly." That's party leader Sandy Silver taking the oath of allegiance and the oath of office on Friday afternoon. The new caucus is: Silver; Riverdale North MLA, Nils Clark; Mountain View MLA, Jeanie McLean; Riverdale South MLA, Tracy-Anne McPhee; Whitehorse West MLA Richard Mostyn; Mount Lorne Southern Lakes MLA; John Streicker; and Mayo-Tatchun MLA Jeremy Harper. The Liberal party's former health minister Pauline Frost filed a petition in the Yukon's Supreme Court on Thursday to declare the results in the riding of Vuntut Gwitchin as invalid. Pauline Frost finished in a tie with her NDP opponent, Annie Blake, and the riding before Blake was chosen as the winner after drawing lots. The petition alleges that two voters in the riding were ineligible to cast ballots.

## **National news**

**Alberta teachers now have a new interactive tool to use when it comes to incorporating Indigenous literature (CBC 6:30 a.m.)**

Alberta teachers now have a new interactive tool to use when it comes to incorporating Indigenous literature in the classroom. It was created by two professors. Aubrey Hanson and Erin Spring, professors at the University of Calgary are excited to share what they have been working on. It's called *Books to Build On: Indigenous Literatures for Learning*. Hanson, a member of the Metis Nation of Alberta, says the online database has more than 250 different texts and more than 150 different teaching and learning ideas. "Stories are so powerful as a tool for learning. And we hope that people will just find something that they can be inspired by and build on." Erin Spring says it's a user friendly resource. "You can search by keyword or by subject area or by theme or topic or by resource type. So we have things like picture books, graphic novels, podcasts, music." Calgary Elementary Teacher Onya Dressler has been involved in the project since the beginning. "The idea especially of using the picture books at this age or at any age is gorgeous and you read the book and you can have discussions or you can make projects off of it." The database is available across the province.

**TIAY calls the 2021 federal budget a step in the right direction for tourism in the Yukon (CKRW 7 a.m.)**

The Tourism Industry Association of Yukon is calling the 2021 federal budget a step in the right direction for tourism in the Yukon. TIAY Yukon executive director Blake Rogers says that while there isn't a clear path out of the pandemic, the organisation was pleased to see the extension of relief programs to support local businesses this year. Rogers also praised the territorial government's plans for benefiting Yukon travellers. "The fact that the Yukon is launching a local campaign and putting money towards Yukoners travelling and seeing Yukon, I think it's a really good synergy with what the feds are putting forward with that travel credit. So, we're looking for anything like that that can kind of sync up and provide the maximum benefit for operators." TIAY Yukon says that without the continuation of federal and territory relief programs, the future of tourism in the Yukon would be uncertain.

**The federal government says it expects Canada to receive around 1.9 million doses of COVID-19 vaccine this week (CKRW 7 a.m.)**

The federal government says it expects Canada to receive around 1.9 million doses of COVID-19 vaccine this week, including its very first shipment of single dose shots from Johnson & Johnson. The Canadian Press' Michelle McQuigge has the details. Ottawa says the country will get about 300,000 of the single dose jabs from J&J in the coming days. That's in addition to more than a million shots from Pfizer-BioNTech and about 650,000 doses from Moderna. But Canada is not currently expecting any more deliveries of the coveted Oxford AstraZeneca vaccine. Those doses have been in high demand ever since the eligible age for the shot was lowered to 40 plus in several provinces. Last week, Federal Public Procurement Minister Anita Anand said she was trying to secure some extra supplies from the United States. US President Joe Biden has indicated he might be willing to share some shots from his country's massive stockpile.

**The House of Commons Defence Committee are seeking further hearings to investigate retired Gen. Jonathan Vance (CKRW 7 a.m.)**

Conservatives on the House of Commons Defence Committee are seeking further hearings into the Liberals handling of a misconduct allegation against now retired Gen. Jonathan Vance. The Canadian Press' Geri Smith has more. Opposition members on the panel say it's not clear who knew what when after testimony last week from a former senior PMO adviser suggesting the prime minister's chief of staff was aware three years ago of an issue with regard to the then chief of defence staff. Testimony appears to contradict the sequence of events laid out by Defence Minister Harjit Sajjan and raises new questions about what Justin Trudeau knew about the allegation before Global News reported it in February. Conservatives are expected this week to press for Katie Telford to appear before the committee.

**The COVID Secretariat of the Northwest Territories has apologised to after the information of hundreds of self-isolating travellers was breached (CBC 7:30 p.m.)**

The COVID Secretariat of the Northwest Territories has apologised to after the information of hundreds of self-isolating travellers was

breached. The breach took place on April 19 and involved an email sent to travellers isolating between March 31st and April 17th, the email told travellers of COVID-19 traces in Yellowknife's wastewater and recommended they get a test. The problem? The personal email addresses of the travellers, over 1,200 of them were mistakenly made public to the list. In a letter, the GNWT apologised for the mistake, which they said was an employee error and that they've reported the breach to the territory's privacy commissioner. A spokesperson for the secretariat says that they've updated their process for when emails are sent out and now any mass emails will be reviewed by a Director, Supervisor or Manager before they are distributed.

**Nunavut now has 41 active cases of COVID-19: 35 in Iqaluit; four in Kinngait and two in Rankin Inlet (CHON 7:30 a.m.)**

To COVID news now, two people with COVID-19 were quickly isolated in Rankin Inlet, Nunavut after they arrived on a flight from the territory's capital. Nunavut chief public health officer says both were identified as close contacts of positive cases in Iqaluit only after the flight took off on Friday. Dr Michael Patterson says shortly after the plane arrived in Rankin Inlet, public health staff found the infected passengers. They were tested and put in isolation. Nunavut now has 41 active cases of COVID-19: 35 in Iqaluit; four in Kinngait and two in Rankin Inlet.

**Congress of Aboriginal Peoples says the federal budget doesn't include money for off-reserve, non-status, Metis and Inuit communities (CHON 7:30 a.m.)**

Last week's tabling of the federal budget included \$13 billion for the support of strong Indigenous communities, but the Congress of Aboriginal Peoples, or CAP, says not a single dollar has been allocated for the people they represent off-reserve, non-status, Metis and Inuit communities. Those communities make up 70 per cent of Indigenous peoples in Canada. CAP says other national Indigenous organisations will receive funding from this year's budget, but they are being excluded. "No matter how we look at our budget, it's very disturbing for the off-reserve, the non-status and the Metis off-reserve. It's very disturbing to say that the government said they're going to reconcile with all Aboriginal groups. In my eyes, that's one of the biggest broken promises that I could see that they did." That was CAP National Chief Elmer St. Pierre. The National Chief says it'll be an uphill battle to get money for off-reserve, non-status, Metis and Inuit communities. CAP will meet with the minister of Crown Indigenous relations, Carolyn Bennett, at the end of the month to discuss the matter.

**REPEAT: The federal government says it expects Canada to receive around 1.9 million doses of COVID-19 vaccine this week (CKRW 8 a.m.)**

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## **International news**

**President Biden says America will help India as it grapples with the surge in coronavirus cases (CKRW 7 a.m.)**

US President Joe Biden says America is determined to help India as it grapples with the surge in coronavirus cases. Biden tweeted that his government will help India in its time of need, just as the South Asian country did when it sent assistance to the US early in the pandemic. But he did not offer specifics. Dr Ashish Jha of Brown University School of Public Health says the US should send vaccine doses. "We are sitting on a lot of vaccines that we don't need in this country and I'm hoping the US government is going to ship those vaccines to India because it could be very, very useful in India." The White House said yesterday that the US is working to deploy drug treatments and rapid diagnostic COVID-19 testing kits to India. The US is also sending ventilators and personal protective equipment.

**Police consider pressing charges against a New Hampshire couple over use of explosives during gender reveal party (CHON 7:30 a.m.)**

Finally, people throw gender reveal parties to let family members and close friends know what's going on as far as pregnancy is concerned. But some people in New Hampshire had gender reveal event that left people several towns away and as far as Massachusetts wondering what was going on. Police in Kingston got reports of a loud blast last week. Someone thought it was an earthquake. The sound was traced to a quarry where police found people using explosives for a gender reveal. No one was hurt. Police are considering pressing charges.

**US Vice President is expected to tell the United Nations today that now is the time for global leaders to develop a response plan for the next global pandemic (CKRW 8 a.m.)**

US Vice President Kamala Harris is expected to tell the United Nations today that now is the time for global leaders to develop a response plan for the next global pandemic. Her speech will be co-hosted by UN permanent representatives from Argentina, Japan, Norway and South Africa. Harris will outline the need for countries to improve accessibility to health systems, invest in science, health workers and the well-being of women, and boost manufacturing capacity for PPE, vaccines and tests.

**Social media SOS messages reveal the extent of panic in India (CKRW 8 a.m.)**

As staggering numbers of Indian families deal with death and serious illness because of COVID-19, social media is filled with frantic people searching for oxygen cylinders, hospital beds, ambulances and critical drugs. The Associated Press Charles De Ledesma has the details. The SOS messages reveal the extent of panic in a country where infections are at their peak, aided and enabled by political dysfunction and widespread disregard for social distancing and mask wearing. The situation remains particularly grim in unbearably full hospitals, where doctors scramble to expand critical care units and stock up on dwindling supplies of oxygen. For the fifth straight day, India has set a global daily record for new infections. That surge is undermining the government's premature claims of victory over the pandemic.

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- [UPDATE: Former Commissioner of Yukon celebrated at Taylor House yesterday \(CKRW 8 a.m.\)](#)

### National news

- [BC health officials have confirmed a baby died earlier this year from complications arising from COVID-19 \(CBC 6:30 a.m.\)](#)
- [The Supreme Court of Canada ruled that members of the Sinixt First Nation who live in the United States have constitutional Indigenous rights in Canada \(CBC 6:30 a.m.\)](#)
- [Prime Minister and Canada's top public health officials deliver a pandemic update today \(CKRW 7 a.m.\)](#)
- [Three teams of Canadian Armed Forces nurses and medical technicians deployed to Ontario \(CKRW 7 a.m.\)](#)
- [Justin Trudeau's minority Liberal government survives the last of three confidence votes on the federal budget \(CKRW 7 a.m.\)](#)
- [A BC hobby farmer is welcoming people on Haida Gwaii to pet and play with her seven baby goats \(CBC 7:30 a.m.\)](#)
- [Mass immunisation clinics open in 100 Ontario neighbourhoods \(CKRW 8 a.m.\)](#)
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- [Beaufort Delta residents, leaders push for northern N.W.T. bubble with Yukon \(CBC online\)](#)

- [Prioritize 'safe supply' in opioid crisis, says Yukon harm-reduction group \(CBC online\)](#)
- [Who have provinces pegged to receive COVID-19 vaccines in the coming weeks? \(Toronto Star\)](#)

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- [Some countries lift pandemic restrictions, while others see surges of COVID-19 cases \(CKRW 8 a.m.\)](#)

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### **Monday, April 26, 2021**

#### **CBC interviews, 4 to 6 p.m.**

- 4:08 I. Gorfinkle, Vaccine Researcher, "Gorfinkle talks about vaccine side effects"
- 4:19 K. Lee, CEO, Canadian Homebuilders Association, "Lee explains why lumber prices are so high"
- 4:39 B. Renwick-Shields, Executive Director, Blood Ties Four Direction, "Renwick-Shields talks about the need for safe supply in addition to safe consumption sites"
- 4:52 D. Korzinski, Research Director, Angus Reid Institute, "Korzinski talks about the gradual growth of vaccine willingness in Canada"
- 5:08 R. Dixon, Musician, "Dixon promotes upcoming performance and his new music"
- 5:22 C. Weeks, Reporter, Globe and Mail, "Weeks reports on a 13 year old dying of COVID"
- 5:41 "Excerpt from *Black on the Prairies* podcast"
- 5:49 J. Osler, Reporter, CBC, "Osler covers the topic of revenge bedtime procrastination"

#### **Local news**

##### **A company in Watson Lake has been fined \$60,000 for environmental damage (CBC 5:30 p.m.)**

A company in Watson Lake has been fined \$60,000 for environmental damage. The charges date back to 2019. Environment Yukon says Northern Enviro Services pleaded guilty to two charges under the Environment Act. The department says the company did not have a permit to burn solid waste and also says the company discarded waste contrary to the Environment Act. A company profile online says Northern Enviro Services works in mining exploration and development, general contracting and waste management.

##### **A Yukon First Nation woman has been named to head a prestigious program at Simon Fraser University (CBC 5:30 p.m.)**

A Yukon First Nation woman has been named to head a prestigious program at Simon Fraser University. Alexia McKinnon is taking charge of the Indigenous business programs at the university's Beedie School of Business. McKinnon is a citizen of the Champagne and Aishihik First Nation. She says she's thrilled to take on the new challenge. She says it's an opportunity for her to build on existing business skills in First Nation communities. "We always teach students to have a big, audacious goal, and I have a big audacious goal. Like, what would it look like to decolonize wealth? What would it look like to change the metric for shareholder value? And what would it look like for those to be inclusive of Indigenous ways of knowing, being, and doing?" McKinnon takes on her new role after several years at the Centre for the Arts, working on Indigenous programs.

##### **Plans unveiled for NGO hub in downtown Whitehorse (Yukon News)**

A new office hub for NGOs in the territory is one step closer to reality after Volunteer Bénévoles Yukon signed a memorandum of understanding with the owners of Lumel Studios on April 22 to build a four-storey office building in downtown Whitehorse. [full story.](#)

##### **Yukon fur and craft sale smaller, with more local focus due to pandemic (CBC online)**

The Yukon Trappers Association's latest fur and craft sale was a little smaller than normal — but organizers say there are benefits to keeping it local. [full story.](#)

##### **City unveils Volunteer of the Year (Whitehorse Star)**

Ashley Fewer is the City of Whitehorse Volunteer of the Year because of her extraordinary efforts in creating and maintaining the Yukon Helpers Network Facebook group, and supporting Whitehorse residents. [full story.](#)

##### **MOU signed for community volunteer hub (Whitehorse Star)**

A hub (building) will be constructed adjacent to Lumel Studios on the waterfront to provide non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and service providers with some space. [full story.](#)

##### **Firm fined for offences related to burning, discarding of waste (Whitehorse Star)**

A Watson Lake company has paid \$60,000 after being charged with violating the Environment Act. [full story.](#)

##### **City asked to reactivate anti-racism committee (Whitehorse Star)**

City council has been asked to reactivate the Advisory Committee on Racism and Discrimination. [full story.](#)

##### **Simapalooza ends downhill skiing season (Whitehorse Star)**

The ski season at Mount Sima wrapped up over the weekend with Simapalooza. [full story.](#)

#### **Territorial news**

##### **Bears are waking up and hungry (CBC 5:30 p.m.)**

The bears are waking up and they're hungry. That means it's time for Yukon residents to take steps to prevent bear encounters. Heather Ashtorn with Wildwise Yukon says bears are even attracted to things that aren't foods such as engine oil or plastic. "They will see almost anything as food, absolutely almost anything, they're very adaptable. They will change what they're eating. If one food source disappears, they will change their route. If they're blocked through one area, if one neighbourhood has all of its attractants secured, they'll move on to the next one." Ashtorn urges anyone travelling in the bush to pack bear spray, and she says Wildwise Yukon offers help to chicken owners who want to put up electric fences around their coops.



#### **There's been a second COVID-19 related death in the territory (CBC 5:30 p.m.)**

Yukon's Chief Medical Officer of Health says there's been a second COVID-19 related death in the territory. Dr. Brendan Hanley says the person had unrelated health conditions, but he says the person contracted COVID-19 near the time of death. Hanley says therefore the case is considered related to COVID-19. Health officials are releasing few details about the case, and they say that's out of respect for the family. But a source tells CBC News the person was outside the territory when they contracted the disease. That means there's no exposure risk from the case. This marks the 81st case of COVID-19 in the Yukon. The person is the second Yukoner to die of COVID-19.

#### **New Vuntut Gwitchin MLA Annie Blake can keep doing her job despite a court challenge (CBC 5:30 p.m.)**

New Vuntut Gwitchin MLA Annie Blake can keep doing her job despite a court challenge of the election's results in her riding. That's according to former Legislative Assembly Clerk Floyd McCormick. Blake won the riding for the NDP after a recount confirmed an election night tie. Blake's name was then drawn from a box, making her the winner. Former MLA Pauline Frost is challenging the election. She's asking a judge to declare the vote in Vuntut Gwitchin invalid because she claims ineligible people cast ballots. McCormick says despite the legal uncertainty, Blake is still an MLA. "She's still entitled to perform all the duties of the member as a member of the Legislative Assembly. So, you know, she's been sworn in and she's a member of the caucus, member of the Assembly. If the House should start sitting whenever that's going to happen, then she's fully entitled to take her seat and participate in those proceedings." McCormick says no matter the outcome of the court challenge, the L berals will still need opposition help to pass bills. The Liberals and Yukon Party each have eight seats in the assembly. The NDP has three.

#### **Yukon records second COVID-19-related death (Yukon News)**

Chief Medical Officer of Health Dr. Brendan Hanley has confirmed a second death of a Yukon resident with COVID-19. [full story](#).

#### **2nd Yukoner dies with COVID-19, officials say (CBC online)**

Yukon reported a "COVID-19 associated" death Monday, the second for the territory so far in the pandemic. [full story](#).

#### **Liberal MLAs officially sworn-in (Whitehorse Star)**

Eight Yukon L berals were sworn in as MLAs on Friday afternoon. [full story](#).

### **National news**

#### **Three people are dead after a helicopter crashed on Griffith Island in Nunavut (CBC 5:30 p.m.)**

Three people are dead after a helicopter crashed on Griffith Island in Nunavut near Resolute Bay. Two crew members and a wildlife biologist were on board the helicopter. The names of the victims have not been released. Chantal Dubuc has the latest. Dubuc: The aircraft is owned by Great Slave Helicopters in Yellowknife and was due to arrive late afternoon yesterday. When repeated communication with the aircraft failed, a Twin Otter was then dispatched. It located debris about 22 kilometres southwest of Resolute Bay. A ground search and recovery was initiated by the RCMP with the Joint Rescue Coordination Centre and the Canadian Rangers. At approximately 1:00 a.m., they found the remains of all three people. The Transportation Safety Board says it's preparing to send a team to the site. Nunavut RCMP say their investigation is ongoing.

#### **Canmore at a crossroads: proposal to double Alberta town's population worries residents (The Narwhal)**

One hundred kilometres west of Calgary, the peaks of Alberta's famed Three Sisters stand guard over some of the most desirable land in the province — sought after by humans and needed by bears, wolves and other wildlife to survive. [full story](#).

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### **Tuesday, April 27, 2021**

#### **CBC interviews, 6 to 8:30 a.m.**

- 6:19 C. Oguamanam, Law Professor, Centre for Law, Technology, and Society, University of Ottawa, "Oguamanam ta ks about vaccine passport implications"
- 6:22 R. Terfry, Producer, CBC, "Terfry looks back over the career of reggae/dub legend Lee Scratch Perry"
- 6:38 K. Kirkup, National Affairs Reporter, *Globe and Mail*, "Kirkup ta ks about Canada's vaccine rollout"
- 6:52 B. Renwick-Shields, Executive Director, Blood Ties Four Directions, "Renwick-Shields clarifies what a safe drug supply would look like"
- 7:20 B. McIver, Lawyer, "McIver talks about a landmark Supreme Court case dealing with American First Nation citizens seeking constitutionally protected Aboriginal rights in Canada"
- 7:38 G. Fray, Realtor, "Fray ta ks about the high cost of lumber and housing supply"
- 7:40 M. Perreault, President, Yukon Real Estate Association, "Perreault talks about the housing market in Yukon"
- 7:51 P. Karchut, Automotive Correspondent, CBC, "*Karchut on Cars* segment about user-based insurance apps"
- 8:14 A. Koss-Young, Senior Conservation Officer, Yukon's Department of Environment, "Koss-Young ta ks about why Northern Enviro Services has been fined \$60,000"
- 8:17 C. Jules, Teslin Community Reporter, "Jules reports on recent weather and events in the Teslin area"
- 8:27 A. Arden, Writer, "Arden ta ks about Black Indigenous erasure and internalized negative feelings around explaining her Blackness"

#### **CHON-FM interviews, 6 to 9 a.m.**

No interviews.

## **Local news**

### **A Yukon First Nation woman has been named to head a prestigious program at Simon Fraser University (CBC 6:30 a.m.)**

A Yukon First Nation woman has been named to head a prestigious program at Simon Fraser University. Alexia McKinnon is taking charge of the Indigenous business programs at the university's Beedie School of Business. McKinnon is a citizen of the Champagne and Aishihik First Nations. She says she's thrilled to take on the new challenge and says it's an opportunity for her to build on existing business skills in First Nations communities. "We always teach students to have a big, audacious goal, and I have a big audacious goal. Like, what would it look like to decolonize wealth? What would it look like to change the metric for shareholder value? And what would it look like for those to be inclusive of Indigenous ways of knowing, being, and doing?" McKinnon takes on her new role after several years at the Centre for the Arts, working on Indigenous programs.

### **A Watson Lake company has been hit with fines totalling \$60,000 (CBC 6:30 a.m.)**

A Watson Lake company has been hit with fines totalling \$60,000. The company pleaded guilty to two charges under Yukon's *Environment Act*. The offences in this case relate to the burning and improper disposal of industrial garbage. On several occasions, the company, Northern Enviro Services, blames subcontractors. But while the company says it did not direct the subcontractors to do these acts, it admits it could have had a better system in place to prevent the offences. The company says it's now written a better policy and will no longer work with the subcontractors who disposed of the trash. Environment Yukon says the pollution was spotted and called in by members of the public. Aaron Koss-Young works with enforcement and compliance. "Any time solid waste is earned improperly, or at all, for that matter, it releases certain toxins into the air." The total fine is \$60,000 to pay. "Without the public's assistance in this matter, we wouldn't have been able to conclude this investigation in the way we did."

### **Whitehorse City Council passes a new regulation bylaw for e-bikes in city limits (CKRW 7 a.m.)**

Whitehorse City Council has passed a new regulation bylaw for e-bikes, adapted mountain bikes and other electric mobility devices throughout the city limits. During last night's meeting, council heard from several delegates who held concerns about how the bylaw would change residents' use of e-bikes with issues taken around wording choices, changes to uses of e-bikes on city trails and definitions of what constitutes e-bikes. Councillor Steve Roddick says while he understands the concerns being raised, recorded data is needed before the city can act to make changes. "Any time a new technology comes out, it dissipates throughout the population, throughout our, in this case, transportation infrastructure. And it's kind of a shot in the dark in terms of how we are regulated." Council adopted the bylaw with a follow up by a law that would make various amendments adopted as well.

### **REPEAT: A Watson Lake company has been hit with fines totalling \$60,000 (CBC 7:30 a.m.)**

A Watson Lake company has been hit with fines totalling \$60,000. The company pleaded guilty to two charges under Yukon's *Environment Act*. The offences in this case relate to the burning and improper disposal of industrial garbage. On several occasions, the company, Northern Enviro Services, blames subcontractors. But while the company says it did not direct the subcontractors to do these acts, it admits it could have had a better system in place to prevent the offences. The company says it's now written a better policy and will no longer work with the subcontractors who disposed of the trash. Environment Yukon says the pollution was spotted and called in by members of the public. Aaron Koss-Young works with enforcement and compliance. "Any time solid waste is earned improperly, or at all, for that matter, it releases certain toxins into the air." The total fine is \$60,000 to pay. "Without the public's assistance in this matter, we wouldn't have been able to conclude this investigation in the way we did."

### **A washout closed the only road into and out of Telegraph Creek (CBC 7:30 a.m.)**

It has been almost two weeks since a washout closed the only road into and out of Telegraph Creek, BC. Wildfires in 2018 left the highway more vulnerable to floods and slides. Now the community of 250 people is relying on aircraft for essential supplies. Early snowmelt and a flooded lake caused a washout that shut down the only road between Telegraph Creek and the rest of BC. That was almost two weeks ago. So a helicopter and an aeroplane are making the trip, ferrying locals, essential workers, and supplies. Tahltan Chief Carmen McPhee: "Food getting freighted in by helicopter as well as fuel." McPhee says health professionals doing COVID testing are also flying in. Geotechnical experts are assessing what happened to the highway. This is not the first closure. Massive wildfires in 2018 destabilised the steep mountainous route. Last year the road was closed after a beaver dam burst. The year before, a rockslide blocked the road for several weeks. The Tahltan Nation wants the highway moved.

### **A construction company accused of abandoning the Carmacks Arena is counter suing the Yukon government (CBC 7:30 a.m.)**

A construction company accused of abandoning the Carmacks Arena is counter suing the Yukon government. Scott Design Build filed a statement of defence and counterclaim in the Yukon Supreme Court earlier this month. The Yukon government filed a \$17 million lawsuit back in February. It alleged Scott Design Build started building Carmacks arena, but refused to finish the job. Scott Design Build says that's not true and factors out of its control like design issues, weather and the COVID-19 pandemic delayed construction. It says it intended to finish the job, but the government terminated the construction contract. Scott Design Build alleges the contract termination happened without legal cause, and it's now countering the Yukon government for more than seven and a half million dollars in unpaid costs and lost profit. The case has not gone to trial yet.

### **Northern Enviro Services convicted of two offenses under the Environment Act (CHON 7:30 a.m.)**

Northern Enviro Services, a company operating out of Watson Lake, has been convicted of two offences under the Environment Act relating to the burning and discarding of solid waste without a permit. In January 2019, officials at the Department of Environment received information from the public about burning activities observed on a property in Watson Lake. After an investigation, officers from both Environmental Compliance and Inspections and Conservation Officer Services determined that Northern Enviro Services was disposing of solid waste by incineration, as well as discarding solid waste in contravention of the Environment Act, solid waste regulations and air emissions regulations. Northern Enviro Services pleaded guilty to one offence, each under the solid waste regulations and air emissions regulations. Following a joint submission to the court, the company was ordered to pay a penalty of \$60,000. The penalty includes a total fine of \$8,000 and two contributions of \$26,000 to the turn in poachers and polluters and the recycling fund.

### **The City of Whitehorse holds household hazardous waste days this week (CHON 7:30 a.m.)**

The City of Whitehorse would like to remind people that household hazardous waste days are happening this week. The event has been extended to provide Whitehorse residents more opportunity to safely dispose of household hazardous waste free of charge. Waste will be accepted at the waste management facility on the Alaska Highway, Friday, April 30th, from 12 p.m. to 5 p.m. and on Saturday, May 1st from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Household hazardous waste materials include motor oil and their containers, solvents, gasoline, barbecue starter, antifreeze, household cleaning products, compact fluorescent light bulbs, pesticides, aerosol cans and other containers under pressure,

such as bear spray and propane canisters. Commercial hazardous waste will not be accepted and regular tipping fees apply for all non household hazardous waste. Electronic and electrical waste will no longer be accepted and should be brought to Raven Recycling.

**UPDATE: Whitehorse City Council passes a new regulation bylaw for e-bikes in city limits (CKRW 8 a.m.)**

The City of Whitehorse has passed a bylaw to regulate and control the use of e-bikes, adapted mountain bikes and other electric mobility devices throughout the city limits. During last night's meeting, council heard from several delegates regarding concerns with the proposed bylaw, with residents taking issue around wording choices, usage of e-bikes on city trails and definitions of what constitutes e-bikes. Whitehorse resident Kirsten Bradley says the city's different treatment of a Class one and Class two e-bike is concerning. "It is counter to the public's wishes from your public engagement process. It discriminates against people who don't have over \$3,000 to spend on a bike. It discriminates against people who have injuries, low fitness level or poor range of motion." Council adopted the bylaw with a follow up bylaw making various amendments adopted as well.

## **Territorial news**

**There has been a second COVID-19 associated death of a Yukoner (CBC 6:30 a.m.)**

Yukon's Chief Medical Officer of Health announced yesterday there has been a second COVID-19 associated death of a Yukoner. Dr. Brendan Hanley says the death was caused by unrelated health conditions but he says the person contracted COVID-19 near the time of death and therefore the case is considered related to COVID-19. The health department says the person was outside of the territory when they contracted the disease. That means there is no local exposure risk from the case. The department says no further details are being released out of respect for the family. That brings Yukon's case count to 81 with two deaths and no known active cases.

**Yukon's chief medical officer of health has confirmed a second COVID-19 death in the territory (CKRW 7 a.m.)**

Yukon's chief medical officer of health has confirmed a second COVID-19 death in the territory. Dr. Brendan Hanley says the individual had other health issues unrelated to COVID-19. But he says because the individual had contracted COVID at near the time of their death is being counted towards the territory's death count. The territory's case count, including the deceased, now sits at 81 total cases, none of which are active.

**Former Commissioner of Yukon celebrated at Taylor House yesterday (CKRW 7 a.m.)**

A ceremony to celebrate the publication of former Commissioner of Yukon Doug Bell's final piece of writing was held at Taylor House yesterday. Bell, who passed away earlier this month, had completed his final book, *Sky Road North*, earlier this year. Copies of the book were presented by the Yukon Transportation Museum to Bell's daughter-in-law, Caroline Bell, and Commissioner of Yukon Angélique Bernard. Commissioner Bernard says she was honoured to have met Bell. "Being commissioner is a special assignment where, as you see from the beginning. So, I'm so honoured to be part of this beautiful family and to have met Doug and some of the former Commissioners of the Yukon." The book was financially supported by the Northern Governance Institute.

**The head of Blood Ties Four Directions says Yukon needs to adopt a safe supply drug program (CBC 7:30 a.m.)**

The head of Blood Ties Four Directions says Yukon needs to adopt a safe supply drug program. Bronté Renwick-Shields says it's a critical move if lives are to be saved. Last week, officials announced that seven people have died from drug overdoses. This year alone, Yukon's Chief Medical Officer of Health said it's time to try safe consumption sites. Renwick-Shields says that can be helpful, but it does not go far enough. "If we are to see substance use as a health issue rather than a criminal one, they don't necessarily have to be seen as hard drugs or illegal drugs. They are substances that someone has a dependency on and need access to a safe form in order to prevent overdose." Renwick-Shields says safe supply means providing regulated access to prescription drugs to substitute for street drugs like cocaine, heroin, and others. She says the drugs would be prescribed by a doctor or nurse practitioner.

**Yukon's chief medical officer of health confirms second related COVID-19 death (CHON 7:30 a.m.)**

Yukon's chief medical officer of health, Dr. Brendan Hanley, has confirmed a death in the territory related to COVID-19, bringing Yukon's COVID death toll to two. The person had unrelated health conditions that caused their death, but they contracted COVID-19 near the end of their life, so they're being considered a COVID-19 related death. The person is number 81 in the territory.

**REPEAT: Yukon's chief medical officer of health has confirmed a second COVID-19 death in the territory (CKRW 8 a.m.)**

Yukon's chief medical officer of health has confirmed a second COVID-19 death in the territory. Dr. Brendan Hanley says the individual had other health issues unrelated to COVID-19. But he says because the individual had contracted COVID at near the time of their death is being counted towards the territory's death count. The territory's case count, including the deceased, now sits at 81 total cases, none of which are active.

**UPDATE: Former Commissioner of Yukon celebrated at Taylor House yesterday (CKRW 8 a.m.)**

A tribute to former Commissioner of Yukon Doug Bell was held yesterday to commemorate the publication of his final piece of writing. Bell, who passed away earlier this month, had completed his final book, *Sky Road North*, earlier this year. Copies of the book were presented by the Yukon Transportation Museum to Commissioner Yukon Angélique Bernard and Bell's daughter-in-law, Caroline Bell. Kirk Cameron, a close friend of Bell's, spoke at the small ceremony yesterday. "I'm so delighted that I've also been able to contribute through my company to the production of Doug's last piece of writing that he's given to all of us as Yukoners." Cameron is the founder of the Northern Governance Institute, which provided financial support for publishing the book.

## **National news**

**BC health officials have confirmed a baby died earlier this year from complications arising from COVID-19 (CBC 6:30 a.m.)**

In BC, health officials there have confirmed a baby died earlier this year from complications arising from COVID-19. Dr. Bonnie Henry says it was a tragic loss. "An infant from the Interior Health Authority and was being treated at Children's Hospital and died. And the Coroner's investigation, which concluded last week, determined that COVID-19 was indeed a factor in this infant's death." She says the infant is the province's youngest victim of COVID-19.

**The Supreme Court of Canada ruled that members of the Sinixt First Nation who live in the United States have constitutional Indigenous rights in Canada (CBC 6:30 a.m.)**

A Vancouver lawyer says a recent Supreme Court of Canada decision could have implications for Yukon. Last week, the court ruled that members of the Sinixt First Nation who live in the United States have constitutional Indigenous rights in Canada. Bruce McIver is a lawyer

with the firm First Peoples Law. He says the Supreme Court determines the Constitution is not limited to Canadian Indigenous citizens. "Indigenous peoples were here as functioning nations when non-indigenous people showed up. Those are the Aboriginal peoples of Canada. The fact that the international border has now bisected their territory doesn't change that fact." McIver says the courts determined that modern treaties do not trump the Constitution. He says that could mean Indigenous people in areas neighbouring Canada, such as Alaska, may come knocking to access their Canadian constitutional rights.

#### **Prime Minister and Canada's top public health officials deliver a pandemic update today (CKRW 7 a.m.)**

Prime Minister Justin Trudeau, several cabinet ministers and Canada's top public health officials will deliver a pandemic update today. As of this morning, the provinces and territories have administered more than 12.3 million doses of COVID-19 vaccines. So far, only 2.7 per cent of Canadians are fully vaccinated. The first shipment of Johnson & Johnson single dose vaccine is expected to arrive in the country this week and will be sent to the provinces and territories starting early next month.

#### **Three teams of Canadian Armed Forces nurses and medical technicians deployed to Ontario (CKRW 7 a.m.)**

Three teams of Canadian Armed Forces nurses and medical technicians are being deployed in Ontario to help exhausted frontline healthcare workers, and a military aircraft left Newfoundland this morning carrying nine doctors and nurses who will go right to work on COVID-19. Patients in Toronto. Ontario is recording record breaking hospitalizations and admissions to ICUs in recent weeks. A field hospital set up at Toronto's Sunnybrook Hospital admitted its first patient yesterday.

#### **Justin Trudeau's minority Liberal government survives the last of three confidence votes on the federal budget (CKRW 7 a.m.)**

Prime Minister Justin Trudeau's minority Liberal government has survived the last of three confidence votes on the federal budget. The Canadian Press' Geri Smith has more. The House of Commons has approved the government's general budgetary policy. The vote 178 to 157. Liberals were joined by New Democrat MPs in voting in favour. NDP leader Jagmeet Singh had said he had no interest in an election during a pandemic. Conservative Bloc Québécois and Green MPs voted against. Votes on the budget were considered confidence matters, had all opposition parties voted it down, the government would have fallen and Canadians would be going to the polls.

#### **A BC hobby farmer is welcoming people on Haida Gwaii to pet and play with her seven baby goats (CBC 7:30 a.m.)**

A BC hobby farmer is offering locals some comfort during the COVID-19 pandemic. Harmonie Rose is welcoming people on Haida Gwaii to pet and play with her seven baby goats. "One big family came up and I just keep my pen open. The children just love the goats and the smiles are everywhere and everyone's taking pictures. It's impossible to not feel joy when you're holding or watching baby goats." Rose says there is nothing like watching goats leap, climb and nuzzle to brighten people's day.

#### **Mass immunisation clinics open in 100 Ontario neighbourhoods (CKRW 8 a.m.)**

Starting today, people aged 45 and up who live in more than 100 neighbourhoods in Ontario at high risk for COVID-19, can book a shot at a mass immunisation clinic. Child care workers and licenced facilities can start booking a shot on Thursday. Health care workers left Newfoundland this morning for Toronto, where they will be deployed to downtown hospitals. The Canadian Armed Forces is deploying three teams of nurses and medical technicians to help hospitals overwhelmed by COVID-19 patients.

#### **Nova Scotia's chief medical officer of health announces tighter restrictions across the province (CKRW 8 a.m.)**

There's been a big jump in COVID-19 infections in Nova Scotia. The province is reporting 96 new cases today, up from the previous record of 66 reported yesterday. All but six of them are in the Halifax area. Yesterday, chief medical officer of health Dr. Robert Strang announced tighter restrictions will return to all areas of the province, at least until May 20th.

#### **Beaufort Delta residents, leaders push for northern N.W.T. bubble with Yukon (CBC online)**

For Ken Kykavichuk, the announcement last week, that fully vaccinated people entering the N.W.T. only have to isolate for eight days before taking a COVID-19 test, was a step in the right direction. [full story](#).

#### **Prioritize 'safe supply' in opioid crisis, says Yukon harm-reduction group (CBC online)**

Providing a safe supply of prescription alternatives is "urgently needed" and should be the top priority in dealing with Yukon's opioid crisis, according to the executive director of Blood Ties Four Directions. [full story](#).

#### **Who have provinces pegged to receive COVID-19 vaccines in the coming weeks? (Toronto Star)**

As COVID-19 vaccine supplies ramp up across the country, most provinces and territories have released details of who can expect to receive a shot in the coming weeks. [full story](#).

## **International news**

#### **Some countries lift pandemic restrictions, while others see surges of COVID-19 cases (CKRW 8 a.m.)**

While some countries are looking at lifting pandemic restrictions, others are seeing staggering surges of coronavirus infections and deaths. ABC News' Ines de La Cuetara has more. In India, a catastrophic second wave causing hospitals to run out of oxygen and beds, while new data shows Latin American countries have four of the five highest death rates in the world. And Turkey now going into lockdown with people being told to stay home for nearly three weeks. The World Health Organisation has repeatedly warned that no one will be safe from COVID-19 until everyone is safe due to the increased risk for variants as cases continue to rise.

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## **Tuesday, April 27, 2021**

### **CBC interviews, 12 to 1 p.m.**

- 12:13 C. McPhee, Program and Community Outreach Coordinator, Yukon Literacy Coalition, "The Yukon Literacy Coalition is fundraising to have a Family Literacy Centre on Wheels: a retrofitted 24 passenger bus in which they can provide free family literacy programming."
- 12:43 C. Clarke, Founder and President, Digital Engine Technology, "Women's Column: Clarke talks about starting her own IT business during the pandemic."

### **Local news**

**A heavy duty operator working at Stuart Placer Ltd in the Dawson area was killed when his bulldozer rolled over on the Black Hills Creek Road (CKRW 12 p.m.)**

A man has died as the result of a fatal bulldozer rollover at a mining facility near Dawson. Chief Coroner Heather Jones confirmed that 41 year old Richard Matthew Cull was a seasoned heavy duty operator working at Stuart Placer Ltd in the Dawson area was killed when his D-10 Caterpillar bulldozer rolled over on the Black Hills Creek Road. Cull was attempting to traverse a patch of ice when his vehicle slid



off the road down two steep embankments and rolled over completely. He was found deceased in the cab of the bulldozer where it had come to a stop. The Coroner's Service, Yukon Workers Compensation Health and Safety Board, Occupational Health and Safety Branch, and Dawson City RCMP are all investigating the incident.

**Wildland Fire Management managed to stop a small human-caused fire near Deep Creek (CKRW 12 p.m.)**

Yukon Protective Services has announced that Wildland Fire Management managed to stop a small human-caused fire near Deep Creek. Fire Information Officer Mike Fancie says the Hootalinqua Fire Department, as well as one Wildland Fire team, were dispatched to deal with the 20 metre by 20 metre fire. Fancie says it was extinguished relatively quickly, but will serve as a reminder that fire season is upon us. "It's also an important reminder about the fact that we are in a fire season and we're in an especially vulnerable position right now because of the fact that as the snow melts, it reveals dead dry surface fuels like that grass from last year." Fancie says Yukoners should always remember that low fire danger is still fire danger.

**A Watson Lake-based company has been convicted of two offences under the *Environment Act* (CKRW 12 p.m.)**

A Watson Lake-based company has been convicted of two offences under the *Environment Act*. Northern Enviro Services was ordered to pay a total penalty of \$60,000 for burning and discarding of solid waste without a permit. Conservation Officer Aaron Koss-Young says illegal solid waste burning can potentially harm both people and the environment. "The burning and disposing of solid waste is regulated to ensure public health and the health of the environment. And when people don't have permits and they're not following conditions under those permits, there's potential for significant harm to human health and the environment's health." The \$60,000 penalty includes a total fine of \$8,000 and two contributions of \$26,000 to the Turn in Poachers and Polluters and Recycling Fund.

**A placer miner in the Dawson City area has died in a rollover accident (CBC 12:30 p.m.)**

A placer miner in the Dawson City area has died in a rollover accident. Yukon Coroner's Service says the incident happened over the noon hour on Friday. 41-year-old Richard Matthew "Red" Cull died when the bulldozer he was driving slid off an embankment and rolled. The coroner says Cull lost control of the vehicle on a patch of ice on the Black Hills Creek Road, 73 kilometres from Dawson City. The bulldozer slid about 700 feet down the embankment. The accident happened at the Stuart Placer Ltd. mine site. The Workers Compensation, Health and Safety Board, the coroner and the Dawson City RCMP continue their investigation.

**Richard Matthew "Red" Cull has died after the bulldozer he was driving slid off the road and rolled over near Stuart Placer Ltd (CHON 12:30 p.m.)**

Forty-one year old Richard Matthew "Red" Cull has died after the bulldozer he was driving slid off the road and rolled over. The news comes from a press release issued by Yukon's Chief Coroner Heather Jones this morning. The release reads "Yukon Coroner's Service, Dawson City RCMP and Yukon Workers Compensation, Health and Safety Board's Occupational Health and Safety Branch were notified of a placer mine fatality shortly after 12:45 p.m. on Friday, April 23rd. The incident had occurred near Black Hill Creek, approximately 73 kilometres from Dawson City at Stuart Placer Ltd. The driver of a D-10N Caterpillar bulldozer lost control of the vehicle while traversing a patch of ice on the Black Hills Creek Road as he travelled towards the camp. The vehicle slid off the road onto a steep embankment and rolled completely over. The vehicle continued to travel now in reverse, approximately 250 feet, sliding down a second embankment and travelling another 450 feet before coming to a stop. The driver of the D-10N was found deceased in the cab of the vehicle where it came to a stop. The Yukon Coroner's Service is investigating with assistance from the Yukon Workers Compensation, Health and Safety Board's Occupational Health and Safety Branch and the Dawson City Detachment of the RCMP."

**Construction company files \$7.5M counterclaim over Carmacks arena project (CBC online)**

A construction company the Yukon government has accused of leaving the Carmacks arena partially finished before abandoning the project is counter-suing for more than \$7.5 million. [Full story](#)

**Yukon company must pay \$60,000 environmental fine (CBC online)**

A company out of Watson Lake, Yukon, says it "no longer works" with unnamed subcontractors who it says are responsible for actions which led to a \$60,000 environmental fine. [Full story](#)

## **Territorial news**

**Two charges under the *Environment Act* have cost a Watson Lake company \$60,000 (CBC 12:30 p.m.)**

Two charges under the *Environment Act* have cost a Watson Lake company \$60,000. Aaron Koss-Young is with the enforcement and compliance branch of Environment Yukon. "Well, certainly this is a substantial fine in the Yukon. We haven't seen these kinds of fines under the *Environment Act* that I can remember in the Yukon. So I think this is a good message to send and trying to get that message out to people that we're trying to get companies to properly dispose of their solid waste." Koss-Young says the incidents were spotted by members of the public and reported to the department. Northern Enviro Services pleaded guilty to the charges, but says it was a subcontractor that burned the waste. The company says it no longer works with that subcontractor and says it has a better policy to prevent any future offences.

**The head of Blood Ties Four Directions says the Yukon needs to adopt a safe supply drug program (CBC 12:30 p.m.)**

The head of Blood Ties Four Directions says the Yukon needs to adopt a safe supply drug program. Bronte Renwick-Shields says it's a critical move to save lives. Last week, officials announced that seven people have died from drug overdoses this year alone. Yukon's Chief Medical Officer of Health says it's time to try safe consumption sites. But Renwick-Shields says such sites can be helpful, but they don't go far enough. "If we are to see substance abuse as a health issue rather than a criminal one, they don't necessarily have to be seen as hard drugs or illegal drugs or substances that someone has a dependency on and needs access to a safe forum in order to prevent overdose." Renwick-Shields says "safe supply" means providing regulated access to prescription drugs to substitute for street drugs like cocaine, heroin and others. She says the drugs would be prescribed by a doctor or a nurse practitioner.

**The promise of subsidies for registered day-care is good news for parents, but universal childcare doesn't help parents who can't find spaces for their kids (CBC 12:30 p.m.)**

The promise of subsidies for registered day-care is good news for parents, but universal childcare doesn't help parents who can't find spaces for their kids. Heather Menzies lives in Dawson City. She can't get her child into day-care. Menzie says he community lacks available day-care spaces. "It's great that it has been subsidized and that it's an affordable place to send your child. It's just a matter of having the space to send them to." Menzies says she's just one of the parents on the community's waiting list. She says the two day-care centres in Dawson City have a total capacity of 80 children and both are full.

#### **A second death brings Yukon's COVID death total to two (CHON 12:30 p.m.)**

Yukon's Chief Medical Officer of Health Dr. Brendan Hanley has confirmed a death in the territory related to COVID-19, bringing Yukon's COVID death total to two. The person had unrelated health conditions that caused their death, but they contracted COVID-19 near the end of their life so they are being considered a COVID-19 associated death. The person is case number 81 for the territory.

#### **Beaufort Delta residents, leaders push for northern N.W.T. bubble with Yukon (CBC online)**

For Ken Kykavich, the announcement last week, that fully vaccinated people entering the N.W.T. only have to isolate for eight days before taking a COVID-19 test, was a step in the right direction. [Full story](#)

### **National news**

#### **Health officials in NWT have identified a case of COVID-19 in Inuvik (CBC 12:30 p.m.)**

Health officials in the Northwest Territories have identified a case of COVID-19 in Inuvik yesterday evening. The new case prompted officials to declare a public exposure notice for a flight from Edmonton, which had multiple stops in the Northwest Territories. Anyone in seats on Canadian North Flight 5T244 on Saturday from Edmonton, with stops in Yellowknife, Norman Wells and Inuvik should contact public health. The affected rows on that flight include rows 14 to 20 from Edmonton to Yellowknife, rows seven to 13 from Yellowknife to Norman Wells, and rows seven to 13 from Norman Wells to Inuvik. The case is related to out of territory domestic travel. The infected person is self-isolating and doing well, officials say. There are now nine active cases of COVID-19 in the Northwest Territories. In addition to the one in Inuvik, six are in Yellowknife and two in Fort Smith.

#### **A helicopter crash has claimed three lives near Resolute Bay, Nunavut (CHON 12:30 p.m.)**

A helicopter crash has claimed three lives near Resolute Bay, Nunavut. RCMP received word of the missing chopper Sunday night after it didn't land at its scheduled time and a search and rescue team found the crash site Monday on Griffith Island. Yellowknife-based Great Slave Helicopters says two crew members and a wildlife biologist were on board and no one survived. Nunavut Premier Joe Savikataaq said his Environment Department had sent the trio to survey polar bear populations. The Transportation Safety Board will send investigators to help Mounties in the probe.

#### **National COVID Update (CHON 12:30 p.m.)**

Looking at the COVID situation across the country now, Nunavut is reporting eight new cases of COVID-19 and six recoveries today. There are now 49 active cases in the territory, 45 of them in Iqaluit. There are also two active cases in Kinngait and two in Rankin Inlet. Premier Joe Savikataaq says all the infected individuals are in isolation and doing well. Prime Minister Justin Trudeau says the Canadian Armed Forces is deploying 60 service members to help out at COVID-19 testing centres in Nova Scotia. Trudeau says the province asked for help as the number of COVID-19 cases has been rising quickly, especially in the Halifax region. This comes the day after the federal government confirmed it would be deploying military medical personnel to help Ontario's beleaguered health care system. Trudeau says the forces carried out its assessment of what Ontario needs on the ground Monday and that military personnel will be mobilised over the next few days. He says sending women and men in uniform to help and Ontario is a serious step and that Ottawa made this choice because the situation requires it. Trudeau says the federal government has also reached out to Alberta on what support the province may need. And Ontario is reporting 3,265 new cases of COVID-19 today and 29 more deaths linked to the virus. Health Minister Kirstine Elliott says there are 1,044 new cases in Toronto, 673 in the Peel region and 452 in the York region. She also says that there are 171 new cases in the Durham region and 150 in Ottawa. The Ministry of Health says 2,336 people are currently hospitalised. 875 patients are in intensive care and 589 are on a ventilator.

#### **Pedestrian killed in motor vehicle collision in Whale Cove (CBC online)**

RCMP say a woman was struck by a vehicle in Whale Cove, Nunavut, late Sunday night and died as a result of their injuries. [Full story](#)

#### **'Politicians are not allowed to break the law' says N.W.T. premier (CBC online)**

N.W.T. Premier Caroline Cochrane is doubling down on her comments that there are consequences for breaking COVID-19 protocols. [Full story](#)

#### **Defence in Hay River murder trial says accused was a reluctant participant (CBC online)**

The lawyer for a Hay River, Northwest Territories, man on trial for first degree murder suggested his client was a reluctant accomplice to a murder that had more to do with others' jealousy and drug addiction. [Full story](#)

#### **Acho Dene Koe First Nation posts preliminary election results (CBC online)**

Eugene Hope has been elected chief of the Acho Dene Koe First Nation in Fort Liard, N.W.T. [Full story](#)

#### **Man dead after bulldozer hits ice, slides down embankment at Yukon mining site (CBC online)**

A Yukon placer miner is dead after the bulldozer he was driving hit a patch of ice and rolled down a steep embankment. [Full story](#)

#### **Nunavut reports 8 new COVID-19 cases, 6 recoveries (CBC online)**

Nunavut reported eight new COVID-19 cases in the territory on Tuesday and six recoveries. [Full story](#)

#### **Who have provinces pegged to receive COVID-19 vaccines in the coming weeks? (Toronto Star)**

As COVID-19 vaccine supplies ramp up across the country, most provinces and territories have released details of who can expect a shot in the coming weeks. [Full story](#)

### **International news**

#### **A 32 year old Edmonton man is in custody in Montana on a charge of illegal entry into the U.S. and possession of a firearm and ammunition while prohibited (CKRW 12 p.m.)**

A 32 year old Edmonton man is in custody in Montana on a charge of illegal entry into the U.S. and possession of a firearm and ammunition while prohibited. The Mounties warned the Eureka Montana Border Patrol station earlier this month that a man might be trying to paddle across the border-straddling reservoir in a kayak. Last Thursday morning at the U.S. border, officials saw a beached kayak and a campsite. When approached, the man picked up a rifle and ran off. He was arrested after an eight kilometre chase through the woods.

**The federal government is ready to provide \$10 million of support to the Indian Red Cross (CKRW 12 p.m.)**

Foreign Affairs Minister Marc Garneau spoke with his counterpart in India earlier today about how Canada could best help the country struggling with the deadly surge in COVID-19 cases. Prime Minister Justin Trudeau says the federal government is ready to provide \$10 million of support to the Indian Red Cross. India has seen an explosion in COVID-19 cases that have overwhelmed the country's health system and left it in serious a short supply of things like PPE and oxygen.

**Eagles have been removed from the endangered species list in Vermont (CHON 12:30 p.m.)**

There's some good news for Eagles in Vermont. The state's population of bald eagles has grown to the point that they can be removed from the endangered species list. Vermont Public Radio reports no eagles had nested in the state for decades as hunting, habitat loss and pesticide poisoning pushed the birds of prey close to extinction. But now there are 52 breeding pairs being watched and they produced 64 chicks last year alone.

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- [Who have provinces pegged to receive COVID-19 vaccines in the coming weeks? \(Toronto Star\)](#)

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- [Yukon Liberals and Yukon NDP agree to work collaboratively as the Liberals form the next government \(CKRW 7 a.m.\)](#)
- [Dr. Hanley says immunisation clinics are facing a problem: no shows \(CHON 7:30 a.m.\)](#)
- [Placer miner mourned following worksite death in Dawson City \(CHON 7:30 a.m.\)](#)
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- [29 new guide dogs completed their CNIB training \(CBC 6:30 a.m.\)](#)
- [Epidemiologists say stricter quarantine measures for travellers are needed for Canada to curb COVID-19 cases \(CKRW 7 a.m.\)](#)
- [BC government aims to create its own sick leave plan requiring employers to fill in the federal gaps \(CKRW 7 a.m.\)](#)
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- [Erin O'Toole calls on the Prime Minister to ensure every adult has access to a COVID-19 vaccine by the May long weekend \(CKRW 8 a.m.\)](#)
- [The latest numbers on COVID-19 in Canada for Thursday, April 29, 2021 \(Toronto Star\)](#)

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- [President Biden says cabinet members will be very limited in granting exemptions to his Buy American rules \(CKRW 7 a.m.\)](#)
- [The only home on a small island in Rhode Island's Narragansett Bay is up for sale \(CHON 7:30 a.m.\)](#)
- [Number of new COVID-19 infections in the United States drops as the number of vaccinated Americans rises \(CKRW 8 a.m.\)](#)

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- 5:27 J. Osler, Reporter, CBC, "Osler interviews people about languishing"
- 5:39 E. O'Neill, Podcast Host, *Talk Media*, "O'Neill comments on recent scandals hounding Boris Johnson"
- 5:47 G. Lawrence, Producer, CBC, "Spotlight feature on Montreal band Pale Lips"
- 5:53 L. Martin, Columnist, *Globe and Mail*, "Martin comments on the first 100 days of the Biden administration"

#### **Local news**

##### **E-bike bylaw now in place for Whitehorse (Yukon News)**

Those who get around town by e-bike now have a new bylaw to refer to in determining which routes they can travel by. [full story](#).

##### **Swimmers make the plunge at weekend's Yukon Championships (Yukon News)**

The Whitehorse Glacier Bears hosted the Yukon Championships April 23 and 24 at the Canada Games Centre pool. [full story](#).

##### **Kona's Coalition closure called 'bittersweet' (Whitehorse Star)**

Kona's Coalition, a locally run animal advocacy group, is closing its doors for good in the wake of COVID-19. [full story](#).

##### **City to take action on waterlogged lane (Whitehorse Star)**

The city is mobilizing to begin pumping water out of Loganberry Lane in Hidden Valley, says the city's manager of engineering. [full story](#).

##### **Dystopian fantasy thriller wraps production; release set for 2022 (Whitehorse Star)**

Polaris, a Yukon-led feature film, has wrapped after two months of preparation and filming mostly outdoor scenes in the Yukon's winter environment. [full story](#).

##### **Fire being probed in Watson Lake (Whitehorse Star)**

A fire in Watson Lake is under investigation by the RCMP. [full story](#).

##### **Surveys launched for housing report (Whitehorse Star)**

Members of the Yukon Anti-Poverty Coalition are launching an update of A Home for Everyone: A Housing Action Plan for Whitehorse. [full story](#).

#### **Territorial news**

##### **Yukon Liberals are teaming up with the NDP to form a government (CBC 5:30 p.m.)**

Yukon Liberals are teaming up with the NDP to form a government. It's an agreement. It is not a coalition. We know that the discussions and negotiations started shortly after the result of the territorial election. And one of the things that keeps coming up is stability. Both the Yukon NDP and Yukon Liberals say this will bring Yukoners stability and it's a formal bridge where both parties have agreed to work together on several issues to basically ensure that they move forwards through the government process.

##### **Yukon officials are looking into easing some COVID-19 restrictions (CBC 5:30 p.m.)**

Yukon officials are looking into easing some COVID-19 restrictions. Premier Sandy Silver says he's been in discussions with Yukon's

Chief Medical Officer of Health. Options on the table include changing self-isolation requirements and increasing the size of gatherings. Silver says there's also the possibility of creating a travel bubble with the Northwest Territories. "These changes are only possible because of the response that Yukoners have had to getting vaccinated. As Dr. Hanley and others have said, vaccinating is one of our best weapons against COVID-19 and key also towards lifting restrictions." Silver did not say when any changes could go into effect. However, he says Yukoners can expect an announcement soon. Silver is encouraging Yukoners to continue getting vaccinated and he says to keep following public health measures, including wearing a mask and regular hand washing.

#### **The hours of the COVID-19 vaccination clinic in Whitehorse are changing (CBC 5:30 p.m.)**

The hours of the COVID-19 vaccination clinic in Whitehorse are changing. Starting this weekend, the clinic will only be open Tuesday to Friday, and the hours on those days are being reduced. Appointments can still be booked online and drop ins are welcome. Vaccines are still being provided in the communities at local health centres. On Mondays in May, the Whitehorse vaccine clinic will begin providing childhood immunisations. Details of the new clinic hours and how to book a vaccine are available on the Yukon government's website.

#### **The Yukon Anti-Poverty Coalition is working on updating its plan called *A Home for Everyone* (CBC 5:30 p.m.)**

The Yukon Anti-Poverty Coalition is working on updating its plan called *A Home for Everyone*. A similar report was released 10 years ago. It's meant to highlight issues and offer recommendations to help make sure everyone in Whitehorse has a place to live. Kristina Craig is the Anti-Poverty Coalition's Executive Director. She calls the housing situation a crisis and says now is a good time to look at the availability of housing in the capital. "We really want to make sure that all the decisions and solutions that are provided are really based in community and that we know what people's challenges and barriers are and what they see as recommendations and solutions." Craig says the survey will be distributed to every household in Whitehorse this week. She asks that people complete the survey by the end of next week. That's May 7th. A final report, including recommendations, is expected in June.

#### **COVID-19-related death took place outside the territory (Yukon News)**

The case count within the Yukon is once again at zero, and a recent COVID-19 case and death of a Yukon resident does not carry any risk of transmission within the territory. [full story](#).

#### **Yukon NDP pledges to support Liberals in Legislative Assembly until 2023 (Yukon News)**

Premier Sandy Silver and NDP Leader Kate White announced April 28 that they have negotiated an agreement to stabilize the minority Liberal government. [full story](#).

#### **Season's first wildfire blazes near Deep Creek subdivision (Yukon News)**

The season's first wildfire blazed on April 26. The Government of Yukon Wildland Fire Management branch responded to the fire near the Deep Creek subdivision, north of Whitehorse. [full story](#).

#### **Information and Privacy Commissioner creates tool kit for custodians to meet HIPMA obligations (Yukon News)**

Diane McLeod-McKay, the information and privacy commissioner (IPC) for Yukon, has created a resource to help small custodians navigate the territory's Health and Information Privacy and Management Act (HIPMA). [full story](#).

#### **Company fined \$60,000 for unauthorized burning in Watson Lake (Yukon News)**

Northern Enviro Services has been charged \$60,000 after subcontractors were found guilty of burning and dumping waste without a permit in Watson Lake. [full story](#).

#### **Yukon Liberals, NDP make deal to work together in government (CBC online)**

Yukon's Liberals and NDP have struck a deal to work together in the next Legislative Assembly — signalling that Yukoners will not be returning to the polls anytime soon. [full story](#).

#### **Missed COVID-19 vaccine appointments are wasting doses, says Yukon's top doctor (CBC online)**

Yukon's chief medical officer says some of the territory's doses of the Moderna COVID-19 vaccine are being wasted because people are missing appointments for their shot. [full story](#).

#### **Liberals, NDP announce their expected agreement (Whitehorse Star)**

The Yukon Liberal caucus and the Yukon NDP caucus have come to an agreement to work together to support a Liberal government until at least Jan. 31, 2023, it was announced Wednesday afternoon. [full story](#).

#### **Yukon Party asked to provide Deputy Speaker (Whitehorse Star)**

It appears old enmities die hard, even in the face of a minority government and a supposedly renewed commitment for all of the Yukon's political parties to behave and work together. [full story](#).

#### **School calendar dates released (Whitehorse Star)**

The first day of school for local students for the next academic year will be Aug. 23, the Department of Education announced Tuesday. [full story](#).

#### **Bison hunters set a record (Whitehorse Star)**

A record number of 272 bison were harvested this past hunting season, a senior wildlife biologist with Environment Yukon said this week. [full story](#).

#### **Yukon workers remembered today (Whitehorse Star)**

Each year, the Day of Mourning pays tribute to the lives of the workers lost to work-related incidents or occupational disease, and to those who have been injured on the job. [full story](#).

#### **First-past-the-post failed Yukon (Whitehorse Star)**

The Yukon's election has delivered "a stark lesson in the failings of first-past-the-post system and a golden opportunity for action on electoral reform in a minority legislature," Fair Vote Canada said recently from Kitchener, Ont. [full story](#).

#### **'My emotions exploded': Canadian climbers become first all-women team to summit our third-highest peak (National Post)**

Two Canadians have just made history as the first all-women team to reach Canada's third-highest peak. [full story](#).



### **Yukon Liberals, NDP strike agreement to govern after tight election finish (Toronto Star)**

The Yukon Liberals and New Democratic Party have reached an agreement to work together to govern after this month's election left all three major parties short of a majority, the two party leaders announced Wednesday. [full story](#).

### **Yukon Liberals, NDP strike agreement to govern after election tie (Globe and Mail)**

The Yukon Liberals and New Democratic Party have reached an agreement to work together to govern after this month's election left all three major parties short of a majority, the two party leaders announced Wednesday. [full story](#).

## **National news**

### **John Ivison: Ongoing paid sick leave issue should have been resolved a year ago (National Post)**

As the pandemic gripped Canada last year, the Yukon government introduced a simple sick leave policy for workers in the territory that offered a maximum of 10 days wages per employee or 14-days to cover an isolation period. [full story](#).

### **Who have provinces pegged to receive COVID-19 vaccines in the coming weeks? (Toronto Star)**

As COVID-19 vaccine supplies ramp up across the country, most provinces and territories have released details of who can expect to receive a shot in the coming weeks. [full story](#).

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## **International news**

### **Yesterday alone, India recorded 323,000 new COVID-19 cases (CBC 5:30 p.m.)**

One Yukoner is keeping a close watch on India as the pandemic worsens there. Yesterday alone, India recorded 323,000 new COVID-19 cases. Inderjeet Singh is a board member with the Yukon Sikh Society. His family lives in Karnal in northern India. Singh says conditions vary, but overall the situation there is dire. "All the hospitals are full. You cannot even go in. Even if you are tested positive. You cannot get proper treatment at this time. They don't have enough, you know, ventilators. They don't have enough oxygen in the hospitals." Singh says many people in India are doing their best to avoid spreading the virus but he says governments there haven't done enough. By comparison, Singh says, the Yukon has done a good job controlling COVID-19.

### **Alaska's governor offers vaccines to B.C. and Yukon residents (CBC online)**

Alaska Governor Mike Dunleavy says he wants to offer vaccines to residents in Stewart, B.C. in the hopes that it might permit Canada and the U.S. to reopen the international border sooner. [full story](#).

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## **Thursday, April 29, 2021**

### **CBC interviews, 6 to 8:30 a.m.**

- 6:14 K. Bahen, Managing Director, Charity Intelligence Canada, "Bahen talks about Charity Intelligence Canada's recommendations for the sector"
- 6:37 M. Selvarajah, Tech Columnist, CBC, "Selvarajah talks about how saturated the podcast market is"
- 6:47 N. Chhinzer, Professor of Human Resources, University of Guelph, "Chhinzer talks about the economics of paid sick leave"
- 6:54 M. Dunleavy, Governor of Alaska, "Dunleavy talks about why Alaska has shared vaccines with border towns in BC"
- 7:18 Audio: T. Berger, Lawyer, "Archival audio of the late Thomas Berger talking about consulting in the north for the landmark Berger Inquiry"
- 7:26 R. Ahmed-Haq, Workplace Columnist, CBC, "Ahmed-Haq talks about efforts to mandate paid sick leave in Canada"
- 7:38 Audio: K. White, Leader of the NDP, "Excerpt from the joint press conference announcing that the Yukon NDP and the Yukon Liberals have struck an agreement to work together"
- 7:41 S. Silver, Premier of Yukon, "Silver explains the purpose of the agreement with the NDP to work together in government"
- 8:14 S. Cameron, Information Officer, Yukon Parks, "Cameron talks about campgrounds opening in Yukon"
- 8:21 C. Johnston, Haines Junction Community Reporter, "Johnston reports on upcoming events in the Haines Junction area"

### **CHON-FM interviews, 6 to 9 a.m.**

No interviews.

## **Local news**

### **Residents of Mayo are preparing to remember Murdered and Missing Indigenous Women (CBC 6:30 a.m.)**

Residents of Mayo are preparing to remember Murdered and Missing Indigenous Women. It's all part of Red Dress Day next Wednesday. The idea is to acknowledge and remember the women by hanging red dresses in public spaces in the community. Joella Hogan is a Na-Cho Nyäk Dun citizen. She says it's an issue that should be important to everyone. "We feel very lucky, I guess, that we have not lost people to that in our recent time. But we certainly felt throughout our greater Yukon family that we all have connections to women who have been murdered or who have gone missing. Like it might not be super close, but indirectly we're all connected." Hogan says she is still looking for more dresses to hang and for people to hang them. She says if people want more information about her efforts, they can reach her through the Mayo Yukon Events Facebook page.

### **Whitehorse-based brewery offers Yukoners a free pint of beer if they get their first dose of the COVID-19 vaccine (CKRW 7 a.m.)**

A Whitehorse-based brewery is offering Yukoners a free pint of beer if they get their first dose of the COVID-19 vaccine. Polarity Brewing founders Eric and Ki Miller have put forward a promotion that aims to increase vaccine uptake and ultimately see health restrictions relaxed in the territory. Ki Miller says this initiative is completely worth it, even if they lose money. "If it means that we can ease our public health restrictions and fill our room after pre-COVID levels, it'll have been worth every penny and then some. Not to mention, if it keeps Yukoners safe, even if we lost money on it, it would be completely worth it." The Millers say the offer is only available within the first 24

hours after getting a first dose.

**REPEAT: Whitehorse-based brewery offers Yukoners a free pint of beer if they get their first dose of the COVID-19 vaccine (CKRW 8 a.m.)**

A Whitehorse-based brewery is offering Yukoners a free pint of beer if they get their first dose of the COVID-19 vaccine. Polarity Brewing founders Eric and Ki Miller have put forward a promotion that aims to increase vaccine uptake and ultimately see health restrictions relaxed in the territory. Ki Miller says this initiative is completely worth it, even if they lose money. "If it means that we can ease our public health restrictions and fill our room after pre-COVID levels, it'll have been worth every penny and then some. Not to mention, if it keeps Yukoners safe, even if we lost money on it, it would be completely worth it." The Millers say the offer is only available within the first 24 hours after getting a first dose.

## **Territorial news**

**Yukon Liberals and the NDP have reached a formal agreement to work together (CBC 6:30 a.m.)**

Yukon Liberals and the NDP have reached a formal agreement to work together that comes after the Liberals ended up with a minority government following the territorial election. Liberal Party Leader Sandy Silver and NDP Leader Kate White signed the agreement yesterday. It's not a coalition. The Liberals still have a minority government. But what they also have now is a confidence and supply agreement with the Yukon NDP. The two caucuses are promising to work and vote together in good faith. They want to hit ambitious goals like creating a territory-wide dental care plan, capping rent increases, and opening a safe consumption site. Silver says the agreement, effective until January 2023, gives the government and Yukoners stability. "This agreement creates a more formal bridge between our two caucuses, and we'll put these ideas into action." White says she knows that there are things the parties won't agree on, but they've also found lots of common ground and that ultimately the Liberals and NDP are there for the same reason. "We're both here to work for Yukoners."

**Yukoners took time yesterday to remember people who were injured or killed on the job. (CBC 6:30 a.m.)**

Yukoners took time yesterday to remember people who were injured or killed on the job. The Yukon Federation of Labour joined people across the country to mark the day of mourning. More than 1,400 Yukoners were injured and two people died on the job in 2020. Ron Rousseau is president of the Yukon Federation of Labour. "Global COVID-19 has been for over a year now. The world has focussed on the unprecedented upheaval due to COVID-19. The virus and variants wrought havoc on our society and made a clear, troubling lack of protection for workers. Every year on the day of mourning, we mourn the dead and recommit fighting for the living." Rousseau says because of the pandemic, there need to be more protections for vulnerable employees who could be exposed to the virus. The pandemic forced organisers to move the annual day of mourning ceremony online this year.

**Yukon Liberals and Yukon NDP agree to work collaboratively as the Liberals form the next government (CKRW 7 a.m.)**

Yukon Liberals and Yukon NDP have an agreement in place to work collaboratively as the Liberals form the next government. The deal will be in effect through January 31st, 2023. It establishes a basis for the NDP to provide confidence in a minority Liberal government. Premier Sandy Silver says this is a confidence and supply agreement, not a coalition. "It's not. It's a minority Liberal government and there's an agreement on some items. And in those items, there's parts that we've already agreed upon, things like successor legislation, things like the *Putting People First*." NDP leader Kate White spoke about how the deal will make life more affordable for Yukoners. "We also know that the economy doesn't work when people can't make ends meet on a full-time job or have to move away because they can't afford housing. This deal will ensure that work pays what it should, and that is an important step to make sure that housing is within reach for everyone." One of the terms of the agreement is that the Premier cannot request dissolution of the Legislative Assembly except following the defeat of a motion of confidence. Liberals will hold eight seats in the House, while the NDP will hold three.

**Dr. Hanley says immunisation clinics are facing a problem: no shows (CHON 7:30 a.m.)**

Premier Sandy Silver joined Chief Medical Officer of Health Dr. Brendan Hanley for this morning's COVID-19 update for the first time since the territorial action was toppled last month. Silver started things off by offering his condolences to the family of the latest COVID-19 related death announced earlier this week. Dr. Hanley also offered his condolences. He says no more information on the death will be released to protect the family's privacy. Dr. Hanley went on to encourage those who have not yet been vaccinated to do so. He said immunisation clinics are facing a problem: no shows. "I want to make sure people realize what impact this has on our vaccine program and supply. This isn't quite the same as, say, missing a rendezvous friend. Keep in mind that Moderna vaccines are kept frozen at minus 20 degrees. When we book an appointment our team of immunizers thaw a set number of vials. The dose needs to be used within a day or it has to be thrown out. Our team is very careful to thaw just the right amount so we don't waste a single dose. However, if a large number of people do not show up, then many doses may need to be discarded. So people, please show up and please if you can't keep your appointment, we totally understand, but please do contact our team, and cancel your point or reschedule." 63 per cent of Yukon's eligible adult population are now fully vaccinated. Hanley says that reaching 75 per cent vaccine uptake does not necessarily mean herd immunity. He says the more people get vaccinated, the better. He would like to see a 75 per cent vaccination rate across all age groups. Hanley says progress is being made though. Dr. Hanley says as we inch closer to the summer, we are on track to easing some restrictions. He has had conversations with the Premier on one of the territory's next steps should be and the sunny weather could bring in increased gatherings sizes. "Stay with us, Yukoners. We will see changes shortly. In order to be successful with easing restrictions, we do need to ensure our foundation is strengthened to maintain and protect the health of all Yukoners. That means ongoing vaccination and a careful observance of self-isolation measures, particularly within households to prevent transmission. It also means continuing to abide with public health measures." Dr. Hanley is looking to recent outbreaks in Nunavut and Nova Scotia as examples of what could happen if we let our guard down. But he applauded Yukoners for their continued efforts to fight the virus.

**Placer miner mourned following worksite death in Dawson City (CHON 7:30 a.m.)**

Yesterday was a national day of mourning. The day is meant to honour workers who have died or injured and became ill from their job. The Yukon Employees Union says the day is even more poignant this year with the death of Richard Matthew Cull just five days ago. Cull died when the bulldozer he was driving hit a patch of ice and then slid off the road. Premier Sandy Silver spoke to the media and offered his condolences. Silver: "Yesterday, we heard the devastating news that a placer miner died while working in the Black Hills Creek area. This is a truly tragic event. Our condolences go out to the deceased man's family, friends, co-workers and loved ones. Most Yukoners know that the placer community is a very tight knit community, tight knit family, really. And this news is absolutely devastating. My thoughts are with everybody that are grieving in the Klondike right now."

**The Council of Yukon First Nations Chiefs says procurement, education and mining are top priorities (CHON 7:30 a.m.)**

The Council of Yukon First Nations Chiefs have laid out what they want to see when it comes to advancing with the government post-election. They have come up with a list of priorities that they say highlight the importance of collaboration and coordination between Yukon First Nations and the Yukon government. The priority areas identified are the implementation of the Yukon First Nations Procurement Policy, development of new territorial land and mineral management legislation and addressing Yukon First Nation concerns relating to K-12 education and supporting Yukon First Nation children and families. The Council of Yukon First Nation will meet with each party leader this week to discuss the matter.

#### **Golden Predator submits renewal applications for water use licence at Brewery Creek (CHON 7:30 a.m.)**

According to Golden Predator Mining Corp, the Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in First Nation has submitted letters of support for the renewal of the company's Brewery Creek water licence and quartz mining licence with the Yukon Water Board and the Yukon Environmental and Socioeconomic Assessment Board. Brewery Creek currently holds valid quartz mining and water use licences, which expire on December 31st, 2021. The company has submitted renewal applications on existing terms and conditions for 10 year extensions of the group's mining licence and water use licence. The mine is located 55 kilometres east of Dawson City. It operated from 1997 to 2001 and is one of the largest local mines ever constructed in Yukon. Golden Predator took over ownership of the Brewery Creek mine in 2012. The company is now responsible for completing the reclamation enclosure activities within the mine. A feasibility study is being conducted by Kappes and Cassidy Associates of Reno, Nevada, which will include a multi-year mine plan for the advancement of the Brewery Creek project.

#### **UPDATE: Yukon Liberals and the NDP have reached a formal agreement to work together (CBC 7:30 a.m.)**

The Yukon Liberals and the NDP have signed an agreement to work together in government. Liberal Party Leader Sandy Silver and NDP Leader Kate White made the announcement yesterday. The agreement says the two caucuses will work together in good faith. It lays out a number of joint goals, such as introducing a safe drug supply, increasing the minimum wage, and addressing climate change. White says the agreement is good news for Yukoners. She says it offers stability and a way forward. "You know, I think not even just looking at in the Yukon context, but looking at a national and a Canadian context, we're going to try something here that hasn't been tried in this way before. And watch out, Canada, because I think we've got some pretty cool things coming." The Liberal NDP agreement is in effect until the end of January 2023. Under its terms, the Liberals will not request to have the assembly dissolved before then, and the NDP promises not to move or vote on a non-confidence motion. Silver is scheduled to be interviewed by Elyn Jones on Yukon morning in about 10 minutes. Meanwhile, Prime Minister Justin Trudeau released a statement this morning about the election results. He congratulated Silver and said, amongst other things, together they can make progress on tackling the impacts of climate change in the north and delivering on affordable housing and child care.

#### **Three First Nations are working together to help salmon in the Southern Lakes region (CBC 7:30 a.m.)**

Three First Nations are working together to help salmon in the Southern Lakes region. They are in the middle of solidifying the plan for it. The goal is to bolster stewardship restoration in tributaries around the region. Kwanlin Dün First Nation, Carcross-Tagish First Nation and Ta'an Kwäch'än Council are involved. Brandy Mayes is with Kwanlin Dün. She says salmon numbers were once so plentiful, the rivers ran red. Mayes says salmon numbers have plummeted in recent years. She says this plan will help change that and something more. "Not only just bring back salmon, but to re-establish that connection and what salmon mean to us because the way it's looking, it might be one day that we don't even have salmon coming through here." Each First Nation has conducted restoration and monitoring projects for years. Mayes says this plan will bring some of that work under one umbrella. Cheyenne Bradley is also with Kwanlin Dün. "Of course, we need to all come together and work together to help support salmon because we can't do this by ourselves." The plan is slated to be done in the summer or fall.

#### **Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in First Nation is putting its support behind the Brewery Creek Mine (CBC 7:30 a.m.)**

Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in First Nation is putting its support behind a project to revive a gold mine near Dawson City. Golden Predator is applying for long term licences for its Brewery Creek Mine. Simon Nagano is Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in's Deputy Chief. He says the company has always worked in good faith with the First Nation. "With larger mining projects, you know, the potential economic and other benefits for TH, local Dawson and Yukon residents can be enormous." Nagano says he's hopeful the Yukon Environmental and Socio Economic Assessment Board and the Yukon Water Board will issue licences soon. Golden Predator's current licences expire in December. The company says it has applied for 10 year licences that are based on existing terms and conditions.

#### **Yukon Liberals and Yukon NDP agree to work collaboratively as the Liberals form the next government (CKRW 8 a.m.)**

Yukon Liberals and Yukon NDP have a formal agreement in place to work collaboratively as the Liberals form the next Yukon government. The deal, which is officially being dubbed a confidence and supply agreement, will be in effect through January 31st, 2023. Premier Sandy Silver says the Liberals and NDP focused on similar issues during the election, including those outlined in the *Putting People First* report. "That document has a mention of dental and pharmacare. And so, what we're seeing here is not only the things that we can agree upon, but also an expedited process towards the things we can agree upon. But there are also things in the agreement that were definitely things that the NDP campaigned on and that we didn't." NDP leader Kate White spoke about some of the NDP election promises, which will still be goals as part of this new agreement. "We're going to take meaningful action on the housing crisis by capping rent increases to the rate of inflation. We're going to give frontline minimum wage workers a well-earned raise to \$15.20 an hour, and we're going to deliver a safe supply and a supervised consumption site for those struggling with addictions to reduce preventable deaths in our community." One of the terms of the agreement is that the Premier cannot request the dissolution of the Legislative Assembly except following the defeat of a motion of confidence. The Liberals will hold eight seats in the House, while the NDP will hold three.

## **National news**

#### **Thomas Berger, the Vancouver-based lawyer and judge is perhaps best known across the North for the Berger Inquiry, has died (CBC 6:30 a.m.)**

Thomas Berger has died. Berger represented Yukon First Nation and environmental groups in their Supreme Court fight against the Yukon government. The court agreed with their arguments that the government ignored the recommended land use plan for the Peel Watershed region. In a tweet, the Yukon chapter of the Canadian Parks and Wilderness Society called Berger "a brilliant man who has left an enormous legacy." The Vancouver-based lawyer and judge is perhaps best known across the North for the Berger Inquiry. In 1974, he headed the commission that recommended against construction of the Mackenzie Valley pipeline in the Northwest Territories. The Berger Inquiry's report highlighted issues associated with unresolved land claims in the north. Thomas Berger died of cancer in Vancouver on Wednesday. He was 88.

**29 new guide dogs completed their CNIB training (CBC 6:30 a.m.)**

People across Canada, including a former Yukoner, are celebrating a special graduation. 29 dogs just completed a two year program. They'll now work as guide dogs for people with visual impairment. Louise Michaud used to live in Whitehorse. She says her service dog just plays an important role in her life, especially in the winter. "The thing that I have found most valuable with Jess is when we are walking together is her ability to help me navigate the ever changing landscape that is winter. Snow shovelling, snow falls, etc.. So with Jess, I'm able to move around the city in all seasons." The guide dog program is run by the CNIB, Canada's largest organisation that helps people with visual impairment. It says service dogs are especially in demand these days in Canada. That's because COVID-19 related border restrictions have made it harder to bring service dogs in from the U.S.

**Epidemiologists say stricter quarantine measures for travellers are needed for Canada to curb COVID-19 cases (CKRW 7 a.m.)**

Epidemiologists say stricter quarantine measures for travellers are needed for Canada to curb COVID-19 cases and variants entering the country. Susanne Gulliver, an epidemiologist at Newfoundland's Newlab Clinical Research, says the entire quarantine period should be supervised. She says the Atlantic bubble has worked well because travel restrictions were accompanied by quick government action to lock things down in case of an outbreak. Data from the Public Health Agency of Canada shows more than 2,000 people returning to Canada have tested positive for COVID-19 since February 22nd and more than a quarter of them were infected with a variant of concern.

**BC government aims to create its own sick leave plan requiring employers to fill in the federal gaps (CKRW 7 a.m.)**

The BC government is aiming to create its own sick leave plan requiring employers to fill in the gaps of what Premier John Horgan has called a disappointing federal program. Laird Cronk, president of the BC Federation of Labour, says workers shouldn't have to choose between staying home to protect their health and going to work for a paycheck when they could be ill with an infectious disease. The sick leave plan needs careful consideration. "During COVID, workers should have up to 10 days and that should be paid by their employer. And then the government should assist companies that during COVID, in the short term, can show the government that they've had financial hardships." Laird is calling for 75 per cent of an employer's cost to be subsidized by the government.

**REPEAT: 29 new guide dogs completed their CNIB training (CBC 7:30 a.m.)**

People across Canada, including a former Yukoner, are celebrating a special graduation. 29 dogs just completed a two year program. They'll now work as guide dogs for people with visual impairment. Louise Michaud used to live in Whitehorse. She says her service dog just plays an important role in her life, especially in the winter. "The thing that I have found most valuable with Jess is when we are walking together is her ability to help me navigate the ever changing landscape that is winter. Snow shovelling, snow falls, etc.. So with Jess, I'm able to move around the city in all seasons." The guide dog program is run by the CNIB, Canada's largest organisation that helps people with visual impairment. It says service dogs are especially in demand these days in Canada. That's because COVID-19 related border restrictions have made it harder to bring service dogs in from the U.S.

**Erin O'Toole calls on the Prime Minister to ensure every adult has access to a COVID-19 vaccine by the May long weekend (CKRW 8 a.m.)**

Conservative leader Erin O'Toole is calling on Prime Minister Justin Trudeau to ensure every adult has access to a vaccine against COVID-19 by the May long weekend. He says to achieve that goal, Trudeau should look to get doses of the Oxford AstraZeneca shot that United States President Joe Biden says the country can give away. "We need the prime minister to fight for those vaccines so that we can help move past this health crisis and economic crisis and catch up to countries like the United States." Canada's shipment of vaccine from Pfizer-BioNTech is set to ramp up. And Trudeau has said every adult who wants a vaccine will be able to access one by September.

**The latest numbers on COVID-19 in Canada for Thursday, April 29, 2021 (Toronto Star)**

The latest numbers of confirmed COVID-19 cases in Canada as of 4 a.m. ET on Thursday, April 29, 2021. [full story](#).

**International news****President Biden says cabinet members will be very limited in granting exemptions to his Buy American rules (CKRW 7 a.m.)**

US President Joe Biden says cabinet members will be very limited in granting exemptions to his Buy American rules. He says the protectionist doctrine will be the guiding principle of his \$2.2 trillion American jobs plan. Canadian suppliers and contractors have been hoping to avoid being cut out of the long-term effort to resurrect the US economy as the COVID-19 pandemic eases. Biden has told Congress that, quote, American tax dollars are going to be used to buy American products made in America to create American jobs.

**The only home on a small island in Rhode Island's Narragansett Bay is up for sale (CHON 7:30 a.m.)**

This gives new meaning to the term home alone. If you're someone who wants lots of little room for just your elbows, This is the place for you. The only home on a small island in Rhode Island's Narragansett Bay is up for sale. The selling price is \$399,000, a relatively small price for solitude. The Newport Daily News reports the seasonal cottage on Patience Island is off the electrical grid. It has about 600 square feet that holds two bedrooms, a kitchenette, a half bath, and a front porch.

**Number of new COVID-19 infections in the United States drops as the number of vaccinated Americans rises (CKRW 8 a.m.)**

The number of new COVID-19 infections in the United States is dropping as the number of vaccinated Americans rises. ABC News Brian Clark has the details. Policy Lab at Children's Hospital of Philadelphia says there is clear evidence coronavirus community transmission is falling and will continue to fall in most regions of the United States. The New York City metropolitan area saw the biggest weekly decline. Policy Lab credits increased vaccination numbers for the big drop off, but warns of a vaccination plateau, saying areas with fewer vaccinated people could be more susceptible to coronavirus spread this fall.

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- [British Columbia has recorded a second case of blood clots stemming from the AstraZeneca COVID-19 vaccine \(CBC 6:30 a.m.\)](#)
- [Only 40 percent of Canadians over the age of 18 have received their first vaccine dose \(CKRW 7 a.m.\)](#)
- [Experts say Ontario will need to leverage clarity and collaboration to reach its vaccination goal \(CKRW 7 a.m.\)](#)
- [Ontario says it's keeping its stay at home order in place until at least June 2nd and Quebec has become the latest province to stop giving Oxford AstraZeneca's COVID-19 shot as a first dose \(CHON 7:30 a.m.\)](#)
- [REPEAT: Experts say Ontario will need to leverage clarity and collaboration to reach its vaccination goal \(CKRW 8 a.m.\)](#)
- [The federal Fisheries Department says it will respond to a letter alleging it didn't do enough to prevent racist violence against Mi'kmaq fishers \(CKRW 8 a.m.\)](#)
- [The latest numbers on COVID-19 in Canada for Friday, May 14, 2021 \(Toronto Star\)](#)
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- ['Their priorities are elsewhere': Flood volunteers frustrated with quiet response from N.W.T., Ottawa \(CBC online\)](#)
- [Essential workers struggle with childcare as Iqaluit lockdown continues \(CBC online\)](#)
- [Nunavut officials scold Iqalumiut as parties continue to spread COVID-19 \(CBC online\)](#)

### **Thursday, May 13, 2021**

#### **CBC interviews, 4 to 6 p.m.**

- 4:07 T. Kachur, Science Columnist, "Kachur talks about recent brain-computer interface research"
- 4:19 G. Lawrence, Host, *Searchlight 2021*, "Lawrence promotes *Searchlight 2021*"
- 4:38 D. O'Donovan, Director, Yukon Emergency Measures Organization, "O'Donovan talks about 9-1-1 service being disrupted and restored in Yukon"
- 4:45 S. Silva, Reporter, CBC, "Silva interviews Yukoners on the street about what they did to entertain themselves during the Internet outage"
- 4:48 J. Lawford, Executive Director, Public Interest Advocacy Centre, "Lawford encourages Yukoners to provide their feedback about telecommunications service satisfaction"
- 5:07 D. Golemi-Kotra, Microbiologist, York University, "Golemi-Kotra talks about the unintended consequences of incentive programs or vaccines"
- 5:14 "Teens in Saskatchewan weigh in on their opportunity to get vaccinated"
- 5:21 J. Osler, Reporter, CBC, "Osler covers research of using videogames like Neurotracker for therapy"
- 5:39 N. Barlow, Project Lead, Birds Canada, "Barlow talks about gardening with bird habitat conservation in mind"
- 5:48 Audio: H. Njoo, Deputy Chief Public Health Officer, "Njoo talks about Canada's vaccine coverage targets this summer"
- 5:52 B. Povolo, Director of Advocacy and Media Relations, Food Allergy Canada, "Povolo talks about recent studies of allergen bans in schools"

#### **Local news**

##### **New plaques at Yukon U commemorate the people who had a role in Yukon College (CBC 5:30 p.m.)**

You might call it a who's who of Yukon U. It is a new piece of artwork that was revealed today at Yukon University. It's a series of plaques that feature more than 800 names. They cover every person who worked at Yukon College from 1988 until last year when it became Yukon University. At today's unveiling ceremony, former College and University President Karen Barnes said it recognises every person who had a role in the College. "It was built by you and so we wanted to make sure that people in the future knew who you were and knew the part you'd played. And I want to make sure that you were all acknowledged for the work you do." Barnes says the artwork includes instructors, students, support workers and janitors. The mural also features new art from Selkirk First Nation artist Eugene Alfred. It shows a bright red salmon cut out of metal plates.

##### **A new project seeks to learn more about Whitehorse fox populations (Yukon News)**

A new project to monitor and improve the understanding of urban foxes living in Whitehorse will begin this year. The project is a collaboration between the Yukon's Fish and Wildlife Branch, the Animal Health Unit, and the Conservation Officers Services branch. [full story](#).

##### **KDFN business park subdivision approved (Yukon News)**

Work on the ground for the second phase of a new business park in Marwell is anticipated to begin in 2022 after the reconstruction of Tlingit Street is finished this year. [full story](#).

##### **Haines Junction hits 81% vaccination rate, highest in Yukon (CBC online)**

Haines Junction, Yukon, already boasts some of the most spectacular scenery in the territory — now it can also boast its impressive COVID-19 vaccination rate. [full story](#).

##### **Whitehorse woman to serve 2.5 years more for killing Greg Dawson (CBC online)**

A Whitehorse woman has been sentenced to five years in prison for killing her common-law partner, Greg Dawson, in their Riverdale apartment in 2017. [full story](#).

##### **Another damaged cable, another services outage (Whitehorse Star)**

Thousands of people in the Yukon and northern B.C. lost communications and cable television services Wednesday after a crucial fibre optics cable was damaged during road construction north of Fort Nelson, B.C. [full story](#).

##### **Grads to be celebrated with virtual convocation (Whitehorse Star)**

Yukon University has partnered with Northwestel Community TV to celebrate degree, diploma and certificate graduates from 2020 and 2021 virtually on Friday. [full story](#).



## **Territorial news**

### **The Liberal minority government has tabled its revised budget (CBC 5:30 p.m.)**

The Liberal minority government has tabled its revised budget. Premier Sandy Silver says it's similar to the one tabled in March, but there are some exceptions. The annual deficit is projected to decrease from \$12.7 million to \$6.6 million. It appears to be largely driven by federal funds for public health initiatives and COVID-19 response. "The revised 2021-22 budget shows a government continuing to invest in the health and wellbeing of Yukoners in response to COVID and beyond, while supporting families and Yukon's green economy." The confidence and supply agreement between the Liberals and the NDP is reflected in the budget. The agreement includes \$1 million to develop a safe drug supply program to help to stem the opioid crisis. The budget also includes \$500,000 for a publicly-funded dental program.

### **Yukon's Community Services Minister is defending a pending cap on rent increases (CBC 5:30 p.m.)**

Yukon's Community Services Minister is defending a pending cap on rent increases. Richard Mostyn says the move is needed to control rising rents, but it's raising fears that landlords will impose major rent hikes ahead of the May 15th deadline. Mostyn says that won't be allowed. "Anybody who put in a rent increase, you have to give three months notice of a rent increase. If the rent increase didn't come in before the 15th of May. Under the current Landlord and Tenant Act, then rents will be capped at one percent." The move has come under fire from landlords and the Yukon Party. They say there wasn't enough consultation and that the one percent limit on rent increases will hamper landlords trying to maintain properties.

### **The widespread communications outage in the north has been repaired (CBC 5:30 p.m.)**

9-1-1 service across the north has been restored. It had been knocked out in many parts of the territories and northern BC after a widespread communications outage. It was caused by damage to a fibre optic line north of Fort Nelson, BC. Chief Superintendent Scott Sheppard is the Commanding Officer of the Yukon RCMP. He says the outage presented a serious safety risk. "You know, we've got a long ways to go just to get a regular 9-1-1 service here that's reliable. And I think one of our biggest challenges is probably, you know, having more than one access point to Internet. As you know, there's that one fibre line that is an ongoing source of concern." Sheppard says on any given night, one one service in Whitehorse will field anywhere from 60 to 80 calls. He says rural communities can average 20 to 30 calls a night. Sheppard says it will take police as much as a day to catch up on calls that may not have gone through as a result of the outage. No Internet last night meant people had to find other things to occupy their time. Jasmine El-Rab lives just outside of Whitehorse. "In lieu of lack of Internet, I chose to read a book. Not much else to do. Hang out with people, use words, communicate, spend time not looking at a screen, all the good stuff." El-Rab says she just wrapped up her two week period of self-isolation yesterday.

### **Nordenskiöld, Klondike rivers see rising water levels; advisory issued (Yukon News)**

There has been a high streamflow advisory issued for two Yukon rivers – the Nordenskiöld River and tributaries of the Yukon River around Carmacks and the Klondike River and tributaries of the Yukon River around Dawson City. [full story](#).

### **Editorial: There's momentum for mining reform (Yukon News)**

The Yukon's mining laws were enacted over a hundred years ago. Despite minor updates, they haven't kept pace with the scale of mining seen today, or with the territory's social, political, and legal landscape. I had hoped the development of the Mineral Development Strategy would provide a blueprint for bringing the territory's mining laws into stride with 21st century expectations and realities. [full story](#).

### **Yukon adds opioid and dental help in post-election budget, while deficit falls (National Post)**

The newly elected Yukon government has tabled a revised 2021-22 budget after the Liberals squeaked into office in last month's election. [full story](#).

### **Yukon Liberals table new budget, with some NDP flavour and lower deficit (CBC online)**

Premier and Finance Minister Sandy Silver tabled a revised Yukon budget Thursday with new spending and a new, smaller forecast deficit of \$6.6 million. [full story](#).

### **Mechanism for rent caps plan remains unclear (Whitehorse Star)**

The rent caps the Yukon government has slated to come into effect on Saturday remain a mystery. [full story](#).

### **Vaccines come under scrutiny in legislature (Whitehorse Star)**

The question of how to handle so-called COVID-19 vaccine hesitancy was on the mind of NDP Leader Kate White on Wednesday. [full story](#).

## **National news**

### **A Canadian heritage organisation is being gifted an important collection of Gwich'in research and records (CBC 5:30 p.m.)**

A Canadian heritage organisation is being gifted an important collection of Gwich'in research and records. The documents contain more than 25 years worth of research from the Gwich'in Tribal Council and Gwich'in Social and Cultural Institute. They're being given to the Canada Memory of the World Register. It's an initiative to help safeguard documentary Heritage. Sharon Snowshoe is with Gwich'in Tribal Council. She says the materials are priceless. "This material is collected over all those years and it's very unique and rare and cannot be reproduced again because most of our elders have passed away. We wanted to share this knowledge with future generations of the Gwich'in." The Register says it promotes diversity by documenting the heritage of the land from past to present. The Metis nation river settlement maps were also acquired.

### **Donations flown into Fort Simpson, N.W.T. flood evacuees (CBC online)**

About two tons of donations arrived in Fort Simpson, N.W.T., for the roughly 500 people who saw their homes flooded by the Mackenzie River. [full story](#).

### **1 new COVID-19 case, 20 recoveries reported in Yellowknife (CBC online)**

Northwest Territories public health officials confirmed one new case of COVID-19 in Yellowknife on Thursday, bringing the total number of confirmed cases related to the city's outbreak to 64. [full story](#).

**Nunavut reports 12 new COVID-19 cases, all in Iqaluit (CBC online)**

There are 12 new COVID-19 cases reported in Nunavut Thursday and seven recoveries. [full story](#).

**Some N.J. Macpherson parents ready to send their children back to school Monday (CBC online)**

Rob Warburton had to isolate with his family because of the COVID-19 outbreak at N.J. Macpherson School. He said he trusts the testing being done and is not worried about his children returning to school on Monday. [full story](#).

**Fraud case against N.W.T. RCMP officer moves to Alberta (CBC online)**

A fraud case against a Northwest Territories RCMP officer has moved to Alberta. [full story](#).

**Water recedes after homes in Little Buffalo River flood (CBC online)**

Some homes and roads in Little Buffalo River, near Fort Resolution, N.W.T., were flooded Thursday, but by Thursday evening flood waters were already receding. [full story](#)

**Repeat sex offender who targets children back in jail (CBC online)**

A man who police feared was likely to hurt more youth is again accused of sexually assaulting a minor. [full story](#).

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**Friday, May 14, 2021****CBC interviews, 6 to 8:30 a.m.**

- 6:15 J. Liu, University of Montreal, "Canadian researcher says we should prepare for the worst -- because another global pandemic is all too likely"
- 6:20 M. Wiens, CBC Toronto Reporter, "Children in Toronto talk about the little things that bring them joy during the pandemic"
- 6:25 P. DeMont, CBC Business Reporter, "CBC Business Report"
- 6:40 J. Norwell, CBC Kamloops Reporter, "Eighteen-year-old BC man builds a double bass banjo"
- 6:50 J. Empson, CBC Winnipeg Reporter, "Vegan squirrel restaurant marks one year feeding furry friends in Winnipeg — picnic table and all"
- 6:55 E. Abdelmohammed, Pop Chat, "NBC announces it will not air the Golden Globes this year due to lack of representation"
- 7:15 S. Regehr, CBC Sports Reporter, "CBC Sports Report"
- 7:20 K. Wirsig, Environmental Defense Canada, "Environmental Defense Canada says Canada's decision to list plastic as a toxin will see a national ban on some plastics"
- 7:40 K. White, Yukon NDP leader, "Yukon government's rent cap comes into force on Saturday, despite unclear details"
- 7:50 J. Gignac, CBC Whitehorse Reporter, "Yukon Legislative Assembly began the 35th session this week"
- 8:15 B. Phelps, Whitehorse Resident, "A whitehorse runner completes an interesting challenge -- running the length of every street in the city"
- 8:20 E. Glasner, CBC Film Columnist, "Barry Jenkin's Underground Railroad drops on Amazon Prime"

**CHON-FM interviews, 6 to 9 a.m.**

- 8:01 S. Silver, Premier of Yukon, "Breakfast with the Premier segment about the confidence and supply agreement, the revised budget, the rent cap and more"
- 8:43 "Techtrends segment about two-factor authentication"

**Local news****A Whitehorse woman sentenced to five years in prison for killing Greg Dawson (CBC 6:30 a.m.)**

A Whitehorse woman has been sentenced to five years in prison for killing Greg Dawson in 2017. But with credit for time already served, Connie Thorne will only spend about two and a half years behind bars. Jackie Hong reports. Hong: Justice Edith Campbell said the sentence is not a reflection of the value of Dawson's life and that no sentence could ever bring him back. Thorne beat Dawson to death in their Riverdale apartment in 2017. Dawson was 45, a Ta'an Kwäch'än Council citizen with close ties to Kwanlin Dun. His death rocked both communities. Thorne was originally charged with murder, but pleaded guilty to the lesser charge of manslaughter. She was too intoxicated to remember what happened, but accepted that she killed Dawson. She will serve the rest of her sentences in a federal institution. The judge recommends that Thorne, who is Metis, attend an Indigenous healing lodge in the Saskatchewan or Alberta.

**A Whitehorse runner has completed an interesting challenge -- running the length of every street in the city (CBC 6:30 a.m.)**

And finally, a runner in Whitehorse has completed an interesting challenge. He has run the length of every street in the city. That means every highway, every cul de sac, even every back alley in every neighbourhood. Blair Phelps says his run was a way to celebrate moving back to Whitehorse from Alberta last year. "I'm just so thankful that I had the opportunity to come back to Whitehorse to live here and be part of the community. It's such an incredible location. Going on these long runs by myself with Mount Sima in the background is a pretty exceptional place to live." Phelps says the challenge took him four months to complete from January to April. He tracked his progress on an electronic map. The total distance he covered was about 650 kilometres.

**Yukon University is honouring past employees with a new art display (CKRW 7 a.m.)**

Yukon University is honouring past employees with a new art display outside the campus in Whitehorse. The new art display was unveiled yesterday afternoon and is comprised of five metal plaques, three featuring 850 names, one with the Yukon College logo and one of commissioned work by Selkirk First Nation artist Eugene Alfred. President Emerita Dr. Karen Barnes conceived the idea behind the display and says the concept was finding a way to recognise the work done over the years to get the University where it is now. "We made the decision to start with the College in 1988 because there were no records that could go all the way back to 1963. But we decided that the life of the actual College was the one to really commemorate. That's the work that we must never forget, that that work was done." All of the names are made up of staff who worked at the college and university between July of 1988 and June of 2020. The art

display can be found on the exterior wall of the T-wing facing the main quad of the campus.

**UPDATE: A Whitehorse woman sentenced to five years in prison for killing Greg Dawson (7:30 a.m.)**

A Yukon judge has sentenced a woman to five years in prison for manslaughter. But with credit for time served, Connie Thorne will only spend two years and six more months behind bars and pleaded guilty earlier this year to beating 45-year-old Greg Dawson to death in their Riverdale apartment in 2017. But she was not arrested until 2019. Noel Sinclair is the crown attorney on the case. He acknowledges the case took a long time to get to court. But Sinclair thanked members of the community who came forward with information. "From the prosecution service, I'm grateful to all of those people in the community that had the courage to speak up and to provide important evidence to the police. Even if they didn't know exactly how it fit in." Thorne will serve the remainder of her sentence at a federal institution. The judge recommended she be sent to and Indigenous Healing Lodge in Saskatchewan or Alberta.

**National advocacy group says Yukoners should speak up about this week's major Internet disruption (7:30 a.m.)**

The head of a national advocacy group says Yukoners should speak up about this week's major Internet disruption. A cut to a fibre optic line in northern BC on Wednesday made Internet service unusable for many in Yukon and also affected phone service. Northwestel is currently in the midst of a hearing with Canadian Radio and Telecommunications Commission to determine its future operating plans. John Lawford is the executive director of the Public Interest Advocacy Centre. He says one of the things Northwestel is asking for is permission to charge market rates for its services. Lawford says he worries that it could lead to higher costs and reduced services. "It does make it difficult for people in areas that may give them less money on the market to ensure that they have this essential service. And that's where I'm going to see if the CRTC can square the circle and make Northwestel offer services at these rates, but also allow some competition in where it makes sense and make the whole thing safe and affordable." Lawford says the CRTC hearing into Northwestel's future could go on for another year or so. He says Yukoners still have time to look at what the company is asking for and provide their comments.

**Whitehorse grocery store says it lost 40 to 50 per cent in sales due to Wednesday's internet outage (CBC 7:30 a.m.)**

The outage made things difficult for many business owners and their customers. For some, credit and debit payments were rarely going through, if at all. Ella Commons is a manager at Riverside Grocery in Whitehorse. She says some customers could not buy groceries because they did not have cash on them. "Well, nobody was really too frustrated. I think we were kind of all over the place as well, because sometimes if it's like our problem, we're trying to fix it really quickly. But, yeah, like we're all kind of in the same boat. And some people are really nice and like putting their groceries back on the shelves for us." Commons says some customers who only had cards left and then returned with cash. She estimates during the Internet outage, sales were down between 40 and 50 per cent.

**A new piece of art at Yukon University recognizes people who worked at the campus when it was a college (CBC 7:30 a.m.)**

And finally, a new piece of art at Yukon University's Whitehorse campus recognizes people who worked there when it was known as Yukon College. For some people, there is a family connection. Randy Spinks works as the university's manager of facilities. The new artwork includes the name of his father's Cecil, who worked at the college for 15 years. "It's awesome to see, you know, a couple of generations, both of us on the plaque. Plus my wife also works here at the university, so she's also on the plaque. And then to see a lot of my team over the years. I've been here for 21 years, so a lot of the department have retired and passed over in the years. So, it's nice to see all them on the plaques and be recognized." Silva: Former President Karen Barnes and her husband, Dean McKay, donated the funds to install the new artwork. Barnes says it was their way of thinking everyone who had any role on staff at Yukon College. The new installation also features a bright red salmon by Selkirk First Nation artist Eugene Alfred.

**REPEAT: Yukon University is honouring past employees with a new art display (CKRW 8 a.m.)**

Yukon University is honouring past employees with a new art display outside the campus in Whitehorse. The new art display was unveiled yesterday afternoon and is comprised of five metal plaques, three featuring 850 names, one with the Yukon College logo and one of commissioned work by Selkirk First Nation artist Eugene Alfred. President Emerita Dr. Karen Barnes conceived the idea behind the display and says the concept was finding a way to recognise the work done over the years to get the University where it is now. "We made the decision to start with the College in 1988 because there were no records that could go all the way back to 1963. But we decided that the life of the actual College was the one to really commemorate. That's the work that we must never forget, that that work was done." All of the names are made up of staff who worked at the college and university between July of 1988 and June of 2020. The art display can be found on the exterior wall of the T-wing facing the main quad of the campus.

**Whitehorse condo corp. sues over water drainage in Whistle Bend development (CBC online)**

A Whitehorse condo corporation that owns the Summerhill development in Whistle Bend is suing the builder, city and Yukon government over water drainage issues it claims have plagued residents since 2015. [full story](#).

## **Territorial news**

**Yukon Water Resources says anticipated warm and wet weather in central Yukon will cause snow to melt at higher elevations (CBC 6:30 a.m.)**

Many areas across Yukon can expect to see higher than average water levels in the coming weeks. The latest report from Yukon Water Resources says anticipated warm and wet weather in central Yukon will cause snow to melt at higher elevations. It says it is closely monitoring water levels in Carmacks, Rock Creek, Upper Liard, Ross River, Pelly Crossing and Mayo. Flood advisories will be issued if necessary. The water resources branch says the combination of a higher snowpack and a delayed melt increases the probability of higher than average lake levels this summer.

**The Yukon government's revised budget earmarks \$1 million for efforts to combat the opioid crisis (CBC 6:30 a.m.)**

The Yukon government's revised budget earmarks \$1 million for efforts to combat the opioid crisis. The revised territorial budget was tabled in the Legislative Assembly yesterday. It includes money to develop a safe drug supply program and safe consumption options. The initiative is part of the agreement struck between the Liberals and the NDP to sustain the minority government. NDP leader Kate White says she has been advocating for such programs for years. "We know that this year we've lost seven people due to overdoses so far and that's too many. So, I am, you know, really pleased and really proud to know that not now. Not only is the government saying that they're looking into it, but now it's got a budgetary line item." White says specifics of the drug programs have not been hammered out yet, she says she's leaving that to community experts. The revised budget also earmarks money for a publicly funded dental program, another initiative promoted by the NDP in last month's election.

**Yukon's Premier has tabled a revised 2021-2022 territorial budget (CKRW 7 a.m.)**

A revised budget for the 2021-2022 fiscal year was tabled in the Yukon Legislative Assembly yesterday. Premier Sandy Silver announced some of the revisions in his budget address, which include an increase in operations and maintenance spending and a \$1 million increase in the investment for a safe supply to address the opioid crisis. Silver says the budget will help the territory move forward and out of the pandemic. "Over the past four budgets, we've laid a strong financial background, an economic foundation, and this allows us to mitigate some of the effects of COVID-19 moving forward." The revised budget also included a \$500,000 increase in the investment to help a Territory wide dental program.

**Yukon Energy is providing an update to its peak water level forecast for May (CKRW 7 a.m.)**

Yukon Energy is providing an update to its peak water level forecast for May. President and CEO Andrew Hall says the forecast shows higher than normal water levels on Marsh Lake this summer, mainly due to snowmelt entering the basin sooner than expected. "You know, unfortunately, we are not able to access that extra 10 centimetres at this time because the freshet of the mountains has come earlier than we were expecting." Hall says the forecast for Marsh Lake is 56 centimetres lower than peak water levels during the 2007 flood and shouldn't rise above that threshold at all. He says the water levels are more comparable to this time last year.

**Legislative Report (CHON 7:30 a.m.)**

Day three of the Yukon Legislative Assembly began with all parties paying tribute to the Yukon Francophone Day. MLA for Porter Creek Centre, Yvonne Clarke, spoke on behalf of the Official Opposition Yukon Party. "The Francophone community presence is strong in our territory and as is the language. For over 30 years since the adoption of the Language Act in 1988, the government of Yukon has made gainful strides in delivering programs and services in French and actively offering bilingual service across departments." All parties also paid tribute to Joella Hogan and the Yukon Soaps Company. MLA for Vuntut Gwitchin Annie Blake spoke on behalf of the NDP. "Innovation isn't always about creating new things. Innovation sometimes involves looking back to our old ways and bringing them forward to this new situation. These words ring true for the work happening in Northern Tutchone territory by the Yukon Soaps Company. Joella is an incredible storyteller with deep roots within the Heritage Department of the Na-Cho Nyäk Dun First Nation and is a strong advocate for entrepreneurs." In question period, Yukon Party Leader Currie Dixon again took aim at the rent cap policy that is to take effect this weekend. "Mr. Speaker, we're less than 36 hours from this policy coming into force. The government has done no consultation, they have no communication plan, and they have no implementation plan. This absence of leadership has done real harm to Yukon's housing market. Eviction notices have been issued, rental units are going up for sale, landlords are throwing up their hands and throwing in the towel. And yesterday, the Minister told us this was all intended to cool the housing market and increase the supply of rentals. Well, unfortunately, the opposite has happened, Mr. Speaker. Will this government admit that they got this one wrong and halt this ill-conceived policy?" Minister of Community Services, Richard Mostyn, responded on behalf of government. "In the aftermath of the election, the Yukoners were very clear. They wanted us to work together. We reached out to the Yukon Party. We reached out to the NDP and it was the NDP that said, yes, we're going to provide a stable government for Yukoners in the face of our recovery efforts out of COVID in the face of the pandemic. And we appreciate that offer of support. So we struck the agreement. And one of the things the New Democrat caucus wanted us to fulfil was a rental cap. That was something that was very important to them. And we are going to live by the terms of the agreement. The agreement was on our website and is very clear to anybody who wants to read it. Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker." Construction of the Whistle Bend school, mining site remediation and security deposits, yesterday's Internet outage and the Dempster fibre line and individual education plans were also discussed in question period.

**The year's final snow bulletin and the water supply forecast has been released (CHON 7:30 a.m.)**

The year's final snow bulletin and the water supply forecast has been released. According to the bulletin, current snow conditions suggest that many areas across Yukon will see higher than average water levels. Warm and wet weather in central Yukon over the next week will cause snow to melt at higher elevations for several days in a row. Water levels are being closely monitored for communities with open water flooding potential including Carmacks, Rock Creek, Upper Liard, Ross River, Pelly Crossing and Mayo. If communities need to be aware of flood risk, advisories will be issued through the Emergency Coordination Centre. Weather conditions in the coming weeks will influence spring snowmelt peak flows, while conditions during the next three months will influence peak lake levels. The forecast is released in March, April and May by the Department of Environment's Water Resources Branch. It provides a summary of winter meteorological and streamflow conditions for the Yukon. The information is used to evaluate the potential for spring flooding caused by break up ice jams and large spring snowmelt flows. Following up on the forecast, Yukon Energy Corporation updated its own forecast for peak water levels in each of the watersheds that feed hydro reserves. Yukon Energy continues to forecast higher than normal water levels on Marsh Lake this summer. Since March 1st, 2021, Yukon Energy has lowered water levels on Marsh Lake by more than 1.25 metres and to levels comparable to this time last year. The inflow model suggests that water from spring melt started to enter Marsh Lake around May 7th this year, about two weeks earlier than normal. On April 28th, the Yukon Water Board approved Yukon Energy's application to lower water levels on Marsh Lake this spring, 10 centimetres lower than the low supply level permitted in its water use licence. Unfortunately, because of the early break-up and with water from the spring melt already entering Marsh Lake, it is unlikely that Yukon Energy will be able to reach this new reduced level this spring.

**UPDATE: The Yukon government's revised budget earmarks \$1 million for efforts to combat the opioid crisis (7:30 a.m.)**

The Liberal minority government has tabled its revised budget. Premier Sandy Silver says it's similar to the one tabled in March, but there are some exceptions. The annual deficit is projected to decrease from \$12.7 million to \$6.6 million. It appears to be largely driven by federal funding toward public health initiatives and COVID-19 response efforts. "The revised 2021/2022 budget shows a government continuing to invest in the health and well-being of Yukoners in response to COVID and beyond, while supporting families and Yukon's green economy." The confidence and supply agreement between the Liberals and the NDP is reflected in the budget. That agreement includes \$1 million to develop a safe drug supply program to help stem the opioid crisis. The budget also includes \$500,000 for a publicly funded dental program. NDP leader Kate White will be on Yukon morning for an interview in a few minutes to talk about and other parts of that agreement, rent caps and not long after that. The CBC's Julien Gignac will give us the highlights of the spring sittings, so far.

**REPEAT: Yukon Energy is providing an update to its peak water level forecast for May (CKRW 8 a.m.)**

Yukon Energy is providing an update to its peak water level forecast for May. President and CEO Andrew Hall says the forecast shows higher than normal water levels on Marsh Lake this summer, mainly due to snowmelt entering the basin sooner than expected. "You know, unfortunately, we are not able to access that extra 10 centimetres at this time because the freshet of the mountains has come earlier than we were expecting." Hall says the forecast for Marsh Lake is 56 centimetres lower than peak water levels during the 2007 flood and shouldn't rise above that threshold at all. He says the water levels are more comparable to this time last year.

**UPDATE: Yukon's Premier has tabled a revised 2021-2022 territorial budget (CKRW 8 a.m.)**

Yukon's Premier has tabled a revised 2021-2022 territorial budget. The new budget includes \$1.36 billion in operating and maintenance spending and a net financial debt of \$169.6 million. Premier Sandy Silver says the revised budget also contains an annual deficit of \$6.6

million, which has been lowered from \$12.7 million in the budget tabled in March. "This is largely driven by our government's commitment to economic and public health responses to support Yukoners through the pandemic." Also included in the budget was a \$1 million increase in spending for a safe supply to help address the opioid crisis.

## **National news**

### **British Columbia has recorded a second case of blood clots stemming from the AstraZeneca COVID-19 vaccine (CBC 6:30 a.m.)**

British Columbia has recorded a second case of blood clots stemming from the AstraZeneca COVID-19 vaccine. There have been close to 30 cases across Canada. As Tanya Fletcher reports, this comes as the province releases new data about infection rates among people who have already been vaccinated. Another British Columbian has been hospitalised with viz or blood clotting after receiving the AstraZeneca vaccine. This patient is a man in his 40s. He's in stable condition, receiving treatment in the Fraser Health Region. It's BC's second such case in less than a week. A woman in her 40s is recovering after being hospitalized in Vancouver Coastal Health. Here's the provincial health officer Dr Bonnie Henry. "For some reason, in some people, the vaccine seems to stimulate an immune response that develops antibodies against our platelets." She also presented new data that shows COVID infections are very rare in those who've been immunised. People who've been vaccinated with one dose for at least two weeks accounted for less than two per cent of new cases. Since the end of December, there have been a total of 120 cases among those who've had two doses. And overall there have been 30 deaths amongst vaccinated people. Almost all of them elderly. Twenty-six of them had received one dose, while four had two doses.

### **Only 40 percent of Canadians over the age of 18 have received their first vaccine dose (CKRW 7 a.m.)**

Only 40 percent of Canadians over the age of 18 have received their first vaccine dose. Dr. Howard Njoo, Deputy Chief Public Health Officer, says that offers good but not maximum protection. In the U.S., more than a third of Americans are now fully vaccinated. That prompted the U.S. Centres for Disease Control and Prevention to issue new guidance yesterday. It says people who are fully vaccinated no longer need to wear a mask outdoors and in most indoor settings but the CDC says states will make the final decisions.

### **Experts say Ontario will need to leverage clarity and collaboration to reach its vaccination goal (CKRW 7 a.m.)**

Experts say Ontario will need to leverage clarity and collaboration to reach its goal of fully immunising all willing adults against COVID-19 by mid-September. Premier Doug Ford announced his goal of a two-dose summer yesterday, aiming to have all willing adults fully immunised by September 22nd. Meanwhile, University of Toronto Epidemiologist Ashley Tuite says the government should clarify its plan for second doses, given what she calls the confusing, piecemeal vaccination campaign thus far. And Dr. Samantha Hill, President of the Ontario Medical Association, says family doctors want more involvement in the process, especially in addressing possible patient concerns about the vaccines.

### **Ontario says it's keeping its stay at home order in place until at least June 2nd and Quebec has become the latest province to stop giving Oxford AstraZeneca's COVID-19 shot as a first dose (CHON 7:30 a.m.)**

Ontario says it's keeping its stay at home order in place until at least June 2nd and Quebec has become the latest province to stop giving Oxford AstraZeneca's COVID-19 shot as a first dose. Ontario Premier Doug Ford says public health measures are driving down cases, but restrictions need to continue a few weeks longer so that the province can return to some degree of normal this summer. Ontario recorded more than 2,700 new cases yesterday, along with 31 deaths. Meanwhile, Quebec cites concerns over a rare blood clotting condition as its reason for pausing the AstraZeneca shot. Health officials say people who have already received one shot of that vaccine will have the choice to get it as a second dose or to receive a different one. Quebec is reporting 781 new COVID-19 infections and five more deaths.

### **REPEAT: Experts say Ontario will need to leverage clarity and collaboration to reach its vaccination goal (CKRW 8 a.m.)**

Experts say Ontario will need to leverage clarity and collaboration to reach its goal of fully immunising all willing adults against COVID-19 by mid-September. Premier Doug Ford announced his goal of a two-dose summer yesterday, aiming to have all willing adults fully immunised by September 22nd. Meanwhile, University of Toronto Epidemiologist Ashley Tuite says the government should clarify its plan for second doses, given what she calls the confusing, piecemeal vaccination campaign thus far. And Dr. Samantha Hill, President of the Ontario Medical Association, says family doctors want more involvement in the process, especially in addressing possible patient concerns about the vaccines.

### **The federal Fisheries Department says it will respond to a letter alleging it didn't do enough to prevent racist violence against Mi'kmaq fishers (CKRW 8 a.m.)**

The federal Fisheries Department says it will respond to a letter alleging it didn't do enough to prevent racist violence against Mi'kmaq fishers in southwest Nova Scotia last fall. The department says it will respond to a letter requesting information about the allegations that was sent by the United Nations Committee on the Elimination of Racism. A spokeswoman says the DFO condemned the violence that broke out last year related to an Indigenous governed lobster fishery. A UN committee has given Canada until mid-July to respond to allegations that it has breached treaty rights and not done enough to protect fishers.

### **The latest numbers on COVID-19 in Canada for Friday, May 14, 2021 (Toronto Star)**

There are 1,312,408 confirmed in Canada. [full story.](#)

### **A look at COVID-19 vaccinations in Canada on Friday, May 14, 2021 (Toronto Star)**

In Canada, the provinces are reporting 334,975 new vaccinations administered for a total of 17,239,587 doses given. [full story.](#)

### **'Their priorities are elsewhere': Flood volunteers frustrated with quiet response from N.W.T., Ottawa (CBC online)**

Melaw Nakehk'o drove more than a thousand kilometres from Yellowknife to Jean Marie River and back Wednesday night to bring a tent to a displaced elder. [full story.](#)

### **Essential workers struggle with childcare as Iqaluit lockdown continues (CBC online)**

Essential workers in Iqaluit are missing work as they struggle to manage childcare while daycares and schools remain closed due to an outbreak of COVID-19. [full story.](#)

### **Nunavut officials scold Iqalumiut as parties continue to spread COVID-19 (CBC online)**

Nunavut officials used their opening statements at Friday's COVID-19 news conference to heavily scold Iqaluit residents for not following public health rules. [full story.](#)

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## **Thursday, June 10, 2021**

### **CBC interviews, 12 to 1 p.m.**

12:13 A. Fredericks, Bylaw Officer, City of Whitehorse, "Fredericks talks about leaving pets in parked vehicles during the summer"  
 12:24 P. Morin, Reporter, CBC, "Morin reports live from the vigil outside the Whitehorse community mosque"  
 12:45 K. Halliday, Board Member, Yukon Fund, "Halliday talks about recruiting new board members to serve on the Yukon Fund board"  
 12:52 M. Scott, Reporter, CBC, "Scott reports from the solar eclipse viewing in Inuvik"

### **Local news**

#### **Dawson City RCMP have arrested a dangerous man in the downtown area (CKRW 12 p.m.)**

Dawson City RCMP have arrested a dangerous man in the downtown area of Dawson City. On the morning of June 5, Dawson City RCMP responded to calls of a man chasing someone with a machete in the downtown area. And when police arrived, they found several victims who had been attacked with bear spray. Police located the man who appeared to be wielding a sword and arrested him after a brief foot chase. The Whitehorse man is charged with 16 offences, including six counts of assault with a weapon, assaulting a peace officer, uttering threats, several other weapon-related offences and a breach of probation. Nobody was injured beyond minor bear spray exposure.



**A vigil was gathered in Whitehorse to honour the members of the Afzaal family who were killed in London, Ontario, on Sunday (CBC 12:30 p.m.)**

This hour in Whitehorse, dozens of people are gathering in the parking lot outside of the mosque on Second Avenue. They are remembering the members of the Afzaal family who were killed in London, Ontario, on Sunday. The vigil was organized by Muslim members of the Whitehorse community. Meanwhile, the 20-year-old man charged in the attack made a virtual court appearance today. Nathaniel Veltman is charged with four counts of first degree murder and one count of attempted murder. His charges were not read out and he did not enter a plea. He's expected back in court on Monday.

**A Whitehorse man faces 16 charges after an incident in Dawson City (CBC 12:30 p.m.)**

A Whitehorse man faces 16 charges after an incident in Dawson City on Saturday. RCMP says they got a report of a man chasing someone with a machete late that night. They say officers arrived to find multiple victims exposed to bear spray. Police also say they saw a man holding what appeared to be a sword. They say after a foot chase, the man confronted officers with a metal pipe. Officers use a taser to subdue him. Police say there were no serious injuries. The suspect is charged with six counts of assault with a weapon and one of assaulting an officer, among other charges.

**RCMP reporting an unusual attack in Dawson City (CHON 12:30 p.m.)**

The RCMP is reporting an unusual attack in Dawson City. On June 5 at approximately 11:30 p.m. police received a call about a man chasing someone with a machete in the downtown area. RCMP arrived on scene to find multiple victims who had been exposed to bear spray. They then observed a man holding what appeared to be a sword. When the man saw the cops he immediately fled on foot. After chasing him through the El Dorado Hotel and back outside, the man confronted RCMP members with a metal pipe. After another brief chase, the man was subdued with a taser and taken into custody. Rodney Bailey of Whitehorse was arrested and charged with 16 offences, including six counts of assault with a weapon, assaulting a peace officer, uttering threats, breach of probation and several other weapons offences. Bailey will appear in court and Whitehorse on June 16.

**RCMP will conduct three days of training in Watson Lake (CHON 12:30 p.m.)**

If you are in Watson Lake, you could be seeing an increased police presence next week. RCMP will be doing training exercises from June 14th to 16th. Police will be using the Lake View apartments over the three days to conduct team drills. You might hear loud noises or explosions coming from the area and see police officers in the community. Training frequently allows members of the critical incident program to maintain their skills. Our goal is to be able to respond efficiently when called in order to keep Yukon communities safe, says Inspector Rob Mason, District Officer of the Yukon RCMP. The Mounties say the exercises will be done in a controlled manner by professionals with no risk to the public.

**Carcross-Tagish First Nation to establish a territory-wide committee of Yukon First Nation Citizens to form a Choooutla Residential School memorial committee (CHON 12:30 p.m.)**

Carcross-Tagish First Nation is working to establish a territory-wide committee of Yukon First Nation Citizens to form a Choooutla Residential School memorial committee. They are reaching out to all Yukon First Nation Chiefs to bring people together to mourn, grieve, acknowledge and find a way forward and to properly give closure to victims, their families and the communities at large. They are also seeking a representative from each First Nation to create a working group.

**Man arrested in Dawson City after foot-chase through hotel following machete, bear spray incident (CBC online)**

Rodney Bailey, from Whitehorse, is facing 16 charges. [Full story](#)

**RCMP will conduct three days of training in Watson Lake (Yukon News)**

Lakeview Apartment in Watson Lake will be used for RCMP training. [Full story](#)

**Machete-wielding man arrested after a brief foot chase, stand off with Dawson RCMP (Yukon News)**

RCMP arrested Rodney Bailey on June 5. [Full story](#)

## **Territorial news**

**Yukon NDP calls for Yukon government to cancel decision to transfer a mental health nurse positions from communities to Whitehorse (CKRW 12 p.m.)**

The third party is calling on the Yukon government to reverse course and cancel the decision to transfer a mental health nurse positions from the communities to Whitehorse. The Yukon NDP is calling on the Liberal government to reverse its decision to relocate three mental health nurse positions from the communities to Whitehorse in wake of the auditor general's report on mental health in Yukon communities. Health Minister Tracy-Anne McPhee denied the move was happening when asked in Question Period. The NDP says this decision needs to be reversed and highlights that the understaffing, lack of cultural awareness and lack of monitoring at the mental health hubs in the communities have been ongoing since their launch.

**The third instalment of learning during COVID-19 surveys have been launched by the Yukon government (CKRW 12 p.m.)**

The third instalment of learning during COVID-19 surveys have been launched by the Yukon government. The survey gathers feedback from students, families and school staff on their experiences during school in the pandemic. It includes new questions on how the pandemic has affected mental health and wellness and what type of mental health and wellness services are being accessed and awareness of support services, as well as preferences for accessing them. Minister of Education Jeanie McLean says the government intends to use the survey feedback to ensure supports are meeting the needs of all students and their families as well as school staff.

**The Yukon government plans to reassign three community-based nursing positions to Whitehorse (CBC 12:30 p.m.)**

The Yukon government plans to reassign three community-based nursing positions to Whitehorse. Internal emails obtained by CBC say the positions are located in Haines Junction, Ross River, and Watson Lake. The emails show the government is struggling to fill the positions. They also say more support is needed for Whitehorse-based patients grappling with psychiatric issues and opioid use. Yukon NDP Leader Kate White says the decision will leave a gap in services in rural Yukon. "The challenge is that these hubs were created to support communities, but part of that support also included supporting professionals that were there to give those services." A recent report from the auditor general says the Yukon government has improved access to mental health supports in rural areas, but it also says there's much more work to do. The audit recommended the government address outstanding recruitment and retention problems in communities. Government accepted that recommendation.

#### **A two day virtual public health dialogue on the overdose crisis in Yukon wraps up today (CBC 12:30 p.m.)**

A two day virtual public health dialogue on the overdose crisis wraps up today. Yukon's Blood Ties Four Directions Centre and the Canadian Drug Policy Coalition are hosting it. Donald MacPherson is the Executive Director of the Coalition. He says one topic that came up was the Yukon government's plan to introduce a safe drug supply within six months and to open a supervised consumption site in Whitehorse by the end of August. "I think it's heartening for us to see that this discussion is taking place in the Yukon that these types of innovations are being considered as they are in most other jurisdictions in the country." In the past five years, nearly 40 people have died from opioid use in Yukon.

#### **Yukon has nine active cases of COVID-19 (CHON 12:30 p.m.)**

There are two new cases of COVID-19 in the Yukon. One is a probable case that was announced on Tuesday and is now confirmed. That brings the total active cases to nine. Five of them are the P1 variant. There are also new public exposure notices. You may have been exposed to COVID-19 if you are at Save On Foods on Thursday, June 3, between 2 p.m. and 3 p.m. or Bigway Foods between 3 p.m. and 3:45 p.m.. Anyone experiencing symptoms should arrange to get tested.

#### **Yukon discovers one new case of COVID-19, confirms a probable case (Yukon News)**

The territory now has 9 active cases. [Full story](#)

### **National news**

#### **Manitoba launches COVID-19 reopening plan (CKRW 12 p.m.)**

Premier Brian Pallister says Manitoba's reopening plan is cautious, but will give people hope for some freedoms to return this summer. The plan will loosen restrictions on gatherings and businesses if enough people are vaccinated by certain dates. The first immunization target is to have over 70 percent of Manitobans 12 and over the first dose and over 25 percent with the second dose by Canada Day. "Summer's coming and the vaccines are here and it's time for Manitobans to get their freedoms back and enjoy a summer that we all want and we all deserve." More gradual lifting of restrictions will be tied to vaccination rates by the August long weekend and Labour Day in September.

#### **Federal Liberals table bill to make criminal pardons easier (CKRW 12 p.m.)**

The Federal Liberals have introduced legislation to make it easier for some Canadians to obtain pardons for criminal convictions. But Public Safety Minister Bill Blair says people convicted of the most serious offences won't qualify for the pardon. "For the first time, for example, terrorism offences for which a sentence of 10 years or more has been imposed will become ineligible for pardon. And for life and indeterminate sentences as well as sexual offences against children ineligibility will in fact remain." The Liberals say the proposed law will help reduce systemic discrimination in the justice system.

#### **BC's Premier talks about lifting provincial travel restrictions (CBC 12:30 p.m.)**

Now to British Columbia, where more and more people are getting their COVID-19 vaccinations and the result has been a decrease in the number of new infections. BC premier John Horgan says that bodes well as the province prepares for the next step in the government's COVID restart plan. Brend: John Horgan says many people and businesses in BC are eager to welcome back tourists, but he says that won't happen until it's safe. "British Columbians have worked really hard to get to where we are with respect to case counts and hospitalisations and all of the sacrifices that have been made. We don't want to throw those away just for a couple of tourists to come earlier than we have anticipated." Almost 75 percent of eligible adults in BC have now had at least one dose of COVID-19 vaccine. And the province is preparing to enter phase two of its reopening plan next week. It's expected it will include a lifting of provincial travel restrictions. "I would encourage British Columbians that they go and visit those parts of British Columbia that they haven't been able to get to until now." Horgan says travellers in BC won't have a lot of international competition for popular destinations, and news will come soon enough that BC is open to the world.

#### **Biden and Trudeau to talk plan for Canada-U.S. border at G7 (CHON 12:30 p.m.)**

In national news, Prime Minister Justin Trudeau's first overseas trip and more than a year will include a meeting with U.S. President, Joe Biden. Trudeau is set to arrive in Cornwall, England for the G7 Summit later today. A New York congressman says the two leaders will discuss plans to re-open the Canada-U.S. border when they meet on the margins of the gathering. Democrat Brian Higgins has confirmed Trudeau and Biden will discuss the border either today or tomorrow. Brian Higgins says the White House has confirmed the two leaders will discuss the matter either later today or tomorrow. Higgins is one of the most vocal U.S. critics of the ongoing border restrictions and is taking part in a panel discussion on the issue alongside Liberal MP Wayne Easter. Ottawa says as of early July, Canadian citizens and permanent residents who have been fully vaccinated against COVID-19 will only have to be isolated until the tests they take on arrival comes back negative instead of the mandatory 14 day quarantine that's now in effect. Easter says that doesn't go far enough and that certain U.S. residents who have completed a full course of the vaccine should also be exempted from the quarantine requirement.

#### **Public asked to avoid Yellowknife's Glick Court area after house fire Thursday morning (CBC online)**

No injuries have been reported. [Full story](#)

#### **N.W.T. health officials defend lingering COVID-19 restrictions (CBC online)**

Dr. Kami Kandola says N.W.T. won't fully lift self-isolation requirements until national case count drops. [Full story](#)

### **International news**

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- [Vigil held in Whitehorse for Muslim family attacked in London, Ont. \(CBC online\)](#)
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- [There are now 13 active COVID-19 cases in Yukon \(CBC 5:30 p.m.\)](#)
- [Yukon's two day virtual public health dialogue on the overdose crisis wraps up today \(CBC 5:30 p.m.\)](#)
- [Yukon dialogue on opioid crisis wraps up with calls for change \(CBC online\)](#)
- [3 new COVID-19 cases announced in Yukon, along with extended public exposure notices \(CBC online\)](#)
- [Total COVID case count rises to 92 \(Whitehorse Star\)](#)
- [Residential School Memorial Committee planned \(Whitehorse Star\)](#)
- [Committees to oversee implementation of major policies \(Whitehorse Star\)](#)
- [Yukon confirms three new cases of COVID-19, two people medevaced to Outside hospitals \(Yukon News\)](#)
- [Fate of Yukon's Dawson region hangs in coming land-use plan \(The Narwhal\)](#)

### [National news](#)

- [BC is on pace to move to the next phase of reopening as scheduled \(CBC 5:30 p.m.\)](#)
- [1 new COVID-19 case identified in non-resident worker in Yellowknife \(CBC online\)](#)
- [Northerners headed out to see the solar eclipse. Here's how it turned out \(CBC online\)](#)
- [Headed to Yukon? Keep checking the COVID-19 situation there, says N.W.T.'s top doc \(CBC online\)](#)
- [Igloodik mayor charged with sexual assault \(CBC online\)](#)
- [Public asked to avoid Yellowknife's Glick Court area after house fire Thursday morning \(CBC online\)](#)
- [OPINION: Ford is trampling on our rights again. Ontarians should not forget or forgive \(Toronto Star\)](#)
- [The latest news on COVID-19 developments in Canada \(National Post\)](#)
- [The latest numbers on COVID-19 in Canada for Friday, June 11, 2021 \(National Post\)](#)
- [A look at COVID-19 vaccinations in Canada on Friday, June 11, 2021 \(National Post\)](#)

[Friday, June 11, 2021](#)

[CBC interviews, 6 to 8:30 a.m.](#)

[CHON-FM interviews, 6 to 9 a.m.](#)

### [Local news](#)

- [People in Whitehorse pay their respects to the members of a Muslim family killed in London, Ontario \(CBC 6:30 a.m.\)](#)
- [Whitehorse Airport trail closed due to erosion from heavy rain and snowfall \(CBC 6:30 a.m.\)](#)
- [Porter Creek Centre MLA Yvonne Clarke is calling on the City of Whitehorse and the Minister of Community Services to take care of the Whistle Bend Pond algae problem \(CKRW 7 a.m.\)](#)
- [The airport trail in Whitehorse has been closed by the city due to a recent cliff slide \(CKRW 7 a.m.\)](#)
- [Rodney Bailey of Whitehorse was arrested and charged with 16 offences after some armed attacks in Dawson City \(CHON 7:30 a.m.\)](#)
- [RCMP will be doing training exercises in Watson Lake from June 14th to 16th \(CHON 7:30 a.m.\)](#)
- [CYFN launches community impact statement pilot project \(CBC 7:30 a.m.\)](#)
- [Wife of Travis Adams sues occupants of the vehicles involved in crash \(CBC 7:30 a.m.\)](#)
- [Whitehorse bylaw officer says animals left in cars should have ventilation, water and space \(CBC 7:30 a.m.\)](#)
- [Whitehorse hockey play given exceptional status by BC hockey, third in history \(CBC 7:30 a.m.\)](#)
- [REPEAT: Porter Creek Centre MLA Yvonne Clarke is calling on the City of Whitehorse and the Minister of Community Services to take care of the Whistle Bend Pond algae problem \(CKRW 8 a.m.\)](#)
- [REPEAT: The airport trail in Whitehorse has been closed by the city due to a recent cliff slide \(CKRW 8 a.m.\)](#)

### [Territorial news](#)

- [The Yukon government says there are now 13 known active cases of COVID-19 \(CBC 6:30 a.m.\)](#)
- [Yukon government asks Yukon students, their families and school staff to participate in third education survey \(CBC 6:30 a.m.\)](#)

- [The active COVID-19 case counting the Yukon has risen to 13 \(CKRW 7 a.m.\)](#)
- [The Council of Yukon First Nations has announced the creation of a Yukon First Nations Community Impact Statement pilot project \(CHON 7:30 a.m.\)](#)
- [Carcross-Tagish First Nation is spearheading the establishment of a Yukon-wide Choooutla Residential School Memorial Committee \(CHON 7:30 a.m.\)](#)
- [REPEAT: The active COVID-19 case counting the Yukon has risen to 13 \(CKRW 8 a.m.\)](#)

#### National news

- [BC government says the province is well on track to move to the next phase of its restart plan \(CBC 6:30 a.m.\)](#)
- [The federal NDP is calling for an independent inquiry into the military's handling of potential war crimes in Iraq and Afghanistan \(CKRW 7 a.m.\)](#)
- [Ontario enters the first stage of its latest economic reopening plan today \(CKRW 7 a.m.\)](#)
- [A school district in BC has issues apology over racist social studies exam question \(CBC 7:30 a.m.\)](#)
- [The federal government is bringing in a new coal policy \(CKRW 8 a.m.\)](#)
- [There's now a shortlist of potential candidates to become Canada's next Governor General \(CKRW 8 a.m.\)](#)
- [Yellowknifers rally for victims of hate-motivated attack in London, Ont. \(CBC online\)](#)
- [Yellowknife kickboxing coach selected to help lead Canada's national team \(CBC online\)](#)
- [OPINION: Seeking greener pastures: The pandemic is spurring a millennial back-to-the-land movement \(Globe and Mail\)](#)

#### International news

- [G7 leaders will be taking part in a special session focusing on how the health and economic recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic \(CKRW 7 a.m.\)](#)
- [The U.K. will share 100 million doses of COVID-19 vaccines with struggling countries around the world \(CKRW 8 a.m.\)](#)

### **Thursday, June 10, 2021**

#### **CBC interviews, 4 to 6 p.m.**

- 4:08 T. Kachur, Science Columnist, CBC, "Kachur explains a spider silk-inspired biodegradable product to potentially replace plastic"
- 4:21 M. Wiens, Reporter, CBC, "Wiens interviews kids about their favourite freezies"
- 4:42 C. Chishti, Vigil Organizer, "Chishti is happy about the turnout at the vigil for the Afzaal family"
- 4:43 I. Ahmed, Vigil Organizer, "Ahmed talks about standing united against hate"
- 4:49 H. Often, Psychiatrist, "Often talks about fatphobia in the healthcare industries"
- 5:12 W. McKenna, Hockey Player Gavin McKenna's Dad, "McKenna talks about his son's exceptional status to be moved up into a higher tier league"
- 5:25 E. Withey, Journalist, CBC, "Withey's feature article about magpies"
- 5:41 T. Caulfield, Canada Research Chair in Health Law and Policy, University of Alberta, "Caulfield talks about vaccine incentive programs"
- 5:49 R. Masson, Chairman, World Petroleum Council, "Masson talks about the cancellation of the Keystone XL pipeline"

#### **Local news**

##### **Today in Whitehorse there was a vigil for the four people killed and prayers for a nine year old boy who survived the recent anti-Muslim terror attack in Ontario (CBC 5:30 p.m.)**

In Whitehorse people gathered to express their grief and shock after a deliberate attack on a Muslim family in London, Ontario. Today, there was a vigil for the four people killed and prayers for a nine year old boy who survived. The events are horrific and Kasim Qadir described them asking why and how someone could do this. "There was a grandmother. There were two parents. There was a daughter. He killed them all. And the only boy that survived was nine years old. He was recovering in the hospital and has got no immediate family left to go home to." A few dozen people attended the vigil held outside the Whitehorse mosque. Speakers called the killings an act of terrorism and expressed their wish for humanity to one day grow beyond hatred. Israr Ahmed said he appreciated people's presence and prayers. "It is very heartening to see people come out in such a significant number and express their grief and sorrow and share the grief of the Muslim community." Police in London, Ontario, say the 20 year old driver planned the killings and would have picked the family deliberately because of their faith.

##### **Bylaw officers remind Whitehorse residents that animals in cars need ventilation, water, and space (CBC 5:30 p.m.)**

With this hot weather, there's a lot of panting pets in the territory today, especially if they are in vehicles. Adam Fredericks is a Bylaw Officer with the City of Whitehorse. He says there are three requirements you must meet if you have your pet in your car. That includes ventilation, clean drinking water for the animal and space. "The animal has to have room to move around. So it has to have twice their body in all directions. So that it can freely move." If those needs are not met, a pet owner could be fined between \$75 and \$200.

##### **Vigil held in Whitehorse for Muslim family attacked in London, Ont. (CBC online)**

Dozens of people gathered in front of the mosque in downtown Whitehorse at noon on Thursday for a vigil for members of a Muslim family in London, Ont., who were targeted in a fatal truck attack on Sunday. [Full story](#)

##### **Dawson City RCMP arrest dangerous man (Whitehorse Star)**

A Whitehorse man faces 16 charges after an incident that took place last Saturday in Dawson City. [Full story](#)

##### **Mayor declares Yukon Pride Month (Whitehorse Star)**

Mayor Dan Curtis has declared the month of June as Yukon Pride Month in the City of Whitehorse. [Full story](#)

##### **Work set for Robert Campbell Bridge (Whitehorse Star)**

The Robert Campbell Bridge will be reduced to single-lane vehicle traffic between 9 p.m. and 6 a.m. beginning Friday, until July 1, weather permitting, the city said Wednesday. [Full story](#)

### **Ivan Coyote on their new book and postpandemic life (Globe and Mail)**

Ivan Coyote did a rough count, and figures they have probably spoken to more than half a million students over the years. [Full story](#)

## **Territorial news**

### **There are now 13 active COVID-19 cases in Yukon (CBC 5:30 p.m.)**

There is a bit of COVID news that just came through this hour in the Territory here in Yukon. The Territory's Chief Medical Officer of Health, Dr. Brendan Hanley, has announced three new cases of COVID-19 and one probable case. The news release from the territorial government says that means there are now 13 active cases in the territory. Five of these are the P-1 Gamma variant of concern. Yukon's total case count is 96 now. There are also two extensions to previous exposure notices. The Casa Loma Motel Bar Monday, May 31st, between 9 p.m. to 11 p.m. and Whiskey Jacks Pub and Grill, Monday, May 31st, between 6 p.m. and 9 p.m.

### **Yukon's two day virtual public health dialogue on the overdose crisis wraps up today (CBC 5:30 p.m.)**

A two day virtual public health dialogue on the overdose crisis wraps up today. Yukon's Blood Ties Four Directions Centre and the Canadian Drug Policy Coalition hosted it. Donald MacPherson is the Executive Director of the Coalition. He says the Yukon government's plan to introduce a safe drug supply within six months came up, and the plan to open a supervised consumption site in Whitehorse by the end of August was also discussed. "I think it's heartening for us to see that this discussion is taking place in the Yukon that these types of innovations are being considered as they are in most other jurisdictions in the country." In the past five years, nearly 40 people have died from opioid use in Yukon.

### **Yukon dialogue on opioid crisis wraps up with calls for change (CBC online)**

A drug policy expert says the Yukon government's promise to implement a supervised drug consumption site and safe drug supply policy are "heartening." [Full story](#)

### **3 new COVID-19 cases announced in Yukon, along with extended public exposure notices (CBC online)**

Yukon officials have announced three new confirmed cases of COVID-19 in the territory and one more probable case. [Full story](#)

### **Total COVID case count rises to 92 (Whitehorse Star)**

The Yukon has two more COVID-19 cases. [Full story](#)

### **Residential School Memorial Committee planned (Whitehorse Star)**

The Carcross/Tagish First Nation announced Thursday it's working to establish a Choutla Residential School Memorial Committee involving citizens of all Yukon First Nations. [Full story](#)

### **Committees to oversee implementation of major policies (Whitehorse Star)**

Two committees have been established to oversee the implementation of the Putting People First and Our Clean Future plans. [Full story](#)

### **Yukon confirms three new cases of COVID-19, two people medevaced to Outside hospitals (Yukon News)**

The Yukon has three new confirmed cases of COVID-19 and one new probable case. [Full story](#)

### **Fate of Yukon's Dawson region hangs in coming land-use plan (The Narwhal)**

A draft of the much-anticipated land-use plan for the Yukon's 40,000 square-kilometre Dawson regional planning area — a sensitive and vibrant northern landscape of cultural importance to the Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in First Nation — is due to be released June 15 by the Dawson Regional Planning Commission. [Full story](#)

## **National news**

### **BC is on pace to move to the next phase of reopening as scheduled (CBC 5:30 p.m.)**

And now to British Columbia, where the province is on pace to move to the next phase of reopening as scheduled. Health officials presented the latest COVID modelling today, and the data is signalling positive trends. "I am optimistic in a way that I have not been for a long time." And Provincial Health Officer Dr. Bonnie Henry says that has to do with how well the vaccines are working. One of the most positive indicators is BC's reproductive rate, which shows transmission decreasing in all regions. "We are trending downwards. We're below one, which means on average, people are transmitting the virus to less than one person every time somebody is infected, and this is across the board for the first time in many, many weeks." The trajectory showed that even if social contacts revert to 80 percent of normal, the curve goes up only slightly. "Over the next few weeks, we are likely to see more cases arise, but they're not going to be widely transmitted in our communities the way that we have seen before. So we are confident now that we can manage a slight increase in cases as we move forward over the next few weeks." And she says that means BC is on track to ease more restrictions as planned next week.

### **1 new COVID-19 case identified in non-resident worker in Yellowknife (CBC online)**

A new case of COVID-19 was confirmed Thursday in a non-resident worker in Yellowknife. [Full story](#)

### **Northerners headed out to see the solar eclipse. Here's how it turned out (CBC online)**

Northerners went out to catch a glimpse of a burning ring of fire in the sky during the recent solar eclipse early Thursday morning. [Full story](#)

### **Headed to Yukon? Keep checking the COVID-19 situation there, says N.W.T.'s top doc (CBC online)**

Looser restrictions may be in place when it comes to travel between Yukon and the Northwest Territories, but people should still be cautious, says the N.W.T. chief public health officer. [Full story](#)

### **Igloodik mayor charged with sexual assault (CBC online)**

Igloodik's mayor Merlyn Recinos has been charged with one count of sexual assault and one count of forcible confinement. [Full story](#)

### **Public asked to avoid Yellowknife's Glick Court area after house fire Thursday morning (CBC online)**



Plumes of smoke rose near École St. Joseph School in Yellowknife after a house fire erupted at a Glick Court residence. [Full story](#)

**OPINION: Ford is trampling on our rights again. Ontarians should not forget or forgive (Toronto Star)**

Premier Doug Ford is using a tool that no other Premier in Ontario's history has every used to override Canada's Charter of Rights and Freedoms. [Full story](#)

**The latest news on COVID-19 developments in Canada (National Post)**

Yukon has announced three new confirmed cases of COVID-19 and one probable infection in the territory. [Full story](#)

**The latest numbers on COVID-19 in Canada for Friday, June 11, 2021 (National Post)**

There are 1,398,274 confirmed cases in Canada. [Full story](#)

**A look at COVID-19 vaccinations in Canada on Friday, June 11, 2021 (National Post)**

In Canada, the provinces are reporting 471,196 new vaccinations administered for a total of 27,715,799 doses given. [Full story](#)

**Friday, June 11, 2021**

**CBC interviews, 6 to 8:30 a.m.**

- 6:15 A. McGinn, Good Night Sleep Site, "Experts say stress and anxiety from the pandemic are affecting Canadians sleep"
- 6:20 K. Stevenson, Revelstoke Resident, "Revelstoke resident turns his backyard shed into a paradise style pub"
- 6:25 P. DuMont, CBC Business Reporter, "CBC Sports Report"
- 6:35 Audio: Minister of Public Safety and Emergency Preparedness, Bill Blair, addresses when Canada-U.S. border will open
- 6:40 B. Sanderson, CBC Halifax Reporter, "Haligonians address the etiquette of asking if someone's been vaccinated"
- 6:45 J. Byers, Canadian Travel News, "Many Canadians prepare for summer of road trips"
- 7:15 S. Regehr, CBC Sports Reporter, "CBC Sports Report"
- 7:20 M. Yu Schott, Yukon Libraries, "Yukon Libraries celebrate First Nations History Month"
- 7:25 R. Terfry, CBC Music, "Rearview Mirror: Behind the making of Queen's *Another One Bites the Dust*"
- 7:40 B. Hanley, Yukon chief medical officer, "Yukon has 13 active COVID cases in the territory"
- 7:50 J. Gignac, CBC Whitehorse Reporter, "Internal government emails show three community nurse positions will be moved to Whitehorse"
- 8:15 E. Glasner, CBC Film Columnist, "Marvel drops its new Loki series today"

**CHON-FM interviews, 6 to 9 a.m.**

- 8:04 S. Silver, Premier of Yukon, "*Breakfast with the Premier* segment featuring discussion of the recent Yukon Forum and more"

**Local news**

**People in Whitehorse pay their respects to the members of a Muslim family killed in London, Ontario (CBC 6:30 a.m.)**

People in Whitehorse gathered yesterday to pay their respects to the members of a Muslim family killed in London, Ontario. At a noon hour vigil, they also said prayers for a nine-year-old boy who survived. Whitehorse resident Isra Ahmed says the attack was intended to make Muslims afraid. "It was very heartening to see people come out in such a significant number and express their grief and sorrow and share the grief of the Muslim community and also stand up against hate, against all forms of racism." A few dozen people attended yesterday's vigil. Some brought flowers to lay outside the Whitehorse mosque. Officials are treating the vehicle attack in London as a quadruple murder. Police say the 20-year-old driver planned the killings and picked the family deliberately because of their faith.

**Whitehorse Airport trail closed due to erosion from heavy rain and snowfall (CBC 6:30 a.m.)**

And finally, people who use a trail around Whitehorse Airport will have to find a detour. A part of the trail is closed until further notice. A recent slide on one section of the escarpment has caused erosion almost to the airport fence. Taylor Eshpeter is the manager of engineering services with the City of Whitehorse. He says groundwater has made the slope unstable. "So my best guess of the cause of this activity is a few years of higher than normal precipitation. And that, combined with this winter of a very large snowpack creating some groundwater conditions that were, you know, higher than normal." Eshpeter says, he does not know how long before that section of the airport trail can reopen. City officials have blocked the site with barricades and signs. People are asked to stay away from the area.

**Porter Creek Centre MLA Yvonne Clarke is calling on the City of Whitehorse and the Minister of Community Services to take care of the Whistle Bend Pond algae problem (CKRW 7 a.m.)**

Porter Creek Centre MLA Yvonne Clarke is calling on the City of Whitehorse and the Minister of Community Services to take care of the Whistle Bend Pond algae problem. Clarke has written a letter to Mayor Dan Curtis and Community Services Minister Richard Mostyn calling for a solution to the smelly and displeasing issue of pond algae, a problem that returns each year despite multiple efforts to deal with the growth. Clarke says she hopes that the Minister and the Mayor can come up with a solution that actually works. "These issues are not new, and it seems we are going around in circles. I wrote a letter to the Mayor and the Minister in charge urging them to come up with a permanent solution and even before. We really need a plan to address this issue and mitigated going forward." In the letter, she also calls for better communication with residents about what will be done to deal with the pond and what kind of timelines residents can expect.

**The airport trail in Whitehorse has been closed by the city due to a recent cliff slide (CKRW 7 a.m.)**

The airport trail in Whitehorse has been closed by the city due to a recent cliff slide. The city says they're actively monitoring the trail after a section of the path was impacted when the escarpment gave way, blocking off the site with barricades and signage. A public announcement about the status of the trail will be released when more information becomes available.

**Rodney Bailey of Whitehorse was arrested and charged with 16 offences after some armed attacks in Dawson City (CHON 7:30 a.m.)**

The RCMP is reporting an unusual attack in Dawson City. On June 5th at approximately 11:30 p.m., police received a call about a man chasing someone with a machete in the downtown area. RCMP arrived on scene to find multiple victims who had been exposed to bear spray. They then observed a man holding what appeared to be a sword. When the man saw the cops, he immediately fled on foot. After



chasing him through the El Dorado Hotel and back outside, the man confronted RCMP members with a metal pipe. After another brief chase, the man was subdued with a taser and taken into custody. Rodney Bailey of Whitehorse was arrested and charged with 16 offences, including six counts of assault with a weapon, assaulting a peace officer, uttering threats, breach of probation and several other weapons offences. Bailey will appear in court and Whitehorse on June 16th.

**RCMP will be doing training exercises in Watson Lake from June 14th to 16th (CHON 7:30 a.m.)**

If you are in Watson Lake, you could be seeing an increased police presence next week. RCMP will be doing training exercises from June 14th to 16th. Police will be using the Lakeview Apartments over the three days to conduct team drills. You might hear loud noises or explosions coming from the area and see police officers in the community. "Training frequently allows members of the Critical Incident Program to maintain their skills. Our goal is to be able to respond efficiently when called in order to keep Yukon communities safe," says Inspector Rob Mason, District Officer of the Yukon RCMP. The Mounties say the exercises will be done in a controlled manner by professionals with no risk to the public.

**CYFN launches community impact statement pilot project (CBC 7:30 a.m.)**

A pilot project aims to get First Nations communities a voice when the harm or loss from a crime is assessed. The Council of Yukon First Nation has hired a staff to gather statements from communities impacted by crime. Shadelle Chambers is the executive director of CYFN. She says community impact statements are used by the judge in sentencing procedures. "A community impact statement project is really focussed on Yukon First Nation communities and working together with the community to identify the impacts that crimes have on the community. So, the community impact statement is one tool for the community to ensure their voice." The Community Impact Statement project was started this past December and will continue until this December. It has submitted three community impact statements to date.

**Wife of Travis Adams sues occupants of the vehicles involved in crash (CBC 7:30 a.m.)**

A lawyer representing the wife of a motorcycle rider killed in a highway crash says the loss is still fresh for the family. Jennifer DeHart is the wife of Travis Adams. Adams died last summer in a crash involving two other vehicles near Marsh Lake. This week, DeHart filed a negligence claim against the occupants of those vehicles. Lawyer Mark Kazmierski (sp) says DeHart knows that money cannot make her family whole again. "Unfortunately, there's no amount of money that compensates for that loss, truly or fully, but that's the best that our system has. Jennifer is fortunate to be surrounded by a loving family and friends and had an enormous amount of support from everyone in the community." DeHart did not want to speak to the media directly, but she's asking people to join a Facebook memorial page for Travis Adams. The CBC has not been able to reach any of the defendants in the case. The lawsuit has not yet been tested at trial.

**Whitehorse bylaw officer says animals left in cars should have ventilation, water and space (CBC 7:30 a.m.)**

With this recent hot weather, there are a lot more panting pets in the territory these days, especially if they are in vehicles. Adam Fredericks is a bylaw officer with the City of Whitehorse. He says there are three requirements you must meet if you have your pet in your car: ventilation; clean drinking water for the animal; and space. "The animal has to have room to move around. So it has to have twice its body length in all directions so that it can freely move." He says if those needs are not met, a pet owner could be fined between \$75 and \$200.

**Whitehorse hockey play given exceptional status by BC hockey, third in history (CBC 7:30 a.m.)**

And finally, Yukon may have another hockey star on the rise. Yukoners have watched Dylan Cozens make it from Whitehorse minor hockey to the NHL. But a Whitehorse team has done something no other Yukon player has done before. 13-year-old Gavin McKenna has been given exceptional status by BC hockey. Gavin's dad, Willy, says it's a big deal. "Just to put it into perspective, in the history of the CSHL, there's only been two others that have gotten this status. So, Gavin would be the third. It's a pretty big accomplishment for Gavin and we're all very proud of him." McKenna says exceptional status means Gavin is entitled to move up to play in U18 leagues this season. This season, Gavin is playing for the U18 team in Kelowna. He'll be eligible for the WHL draft next year.

**REPEAT: Porter Creek Centre MLA Yvonne Clarke is calling on the City of Whitehorse and the Minister of Community Services to take care of the Whistle Bend Pond algae problem (CKRW 8 a.m.)**

Porter Creek Centre MLA Yvonne Clarke is calling on the City of Whitehorse and the Minister of Community Services to take care of the Whistle Bend Pond algae problem. Clarke has written a letter to Mayor Dan Curtis and Community Services Minister Richard Mostyn calling for a solution to the smelly and displeasing issue of pond algae, a problem that returns each year despite multiple efforts to deal with the growth. Clarke says she hopes that the Minister and the Mayor can come up with a solution that actually works. "These issues are not new, and it seems we are going around in circles. I wrote a letter to the Mayor and the Minister in charge urging them to come up with a permanent solution and even before. We really need a plan to address this issue and mitigated going forward." In the letter, she also calls for better communication with residents about what will be done to deal with the pond and what kind of timelines residents can expect.

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## **Territorial news**

**The Yukon government says there are now 13 known active cases of COVID-19 (CBC 6:30 a.m.)**

The Yukon government says there are now 13 known active cases of COVID-19 in Yukon. It announced three new cases and one probable case yesterday, but did not disclose the locations. Two cases are close contacts of previous cases. Of the three people with COVID-19 who have been hospitalised, two have been medevaced to hospitals outside of Yukon. Two public exposure notices for locations in Whitehorse are being extended. They are Whisky Jack's Pub and Grill on May 31st, between 6 and 9 p.m., and at Casa Loma Motel Bar, also on May 31st, between 9 and 11 p.m.. The government says people who were at those locations at those times and have symptoms should look into getting tested. It says of the 13 cases in Yukon right now, 12 of those people were not fully vaccinated.

**Yukon government asks Yukon students, their families and school staff to participate in third education survey (CBC 6:30 a.m.)**

Yukon students, their families and school staff are being asked again about their perspective on learning. It's the third instalment of the Yukon government's survey of experiences with learning during the pandemic. The latest survey relates to health and safety during the last half of the school year. It includes questions on how the pandemic has impacted mental health and wellness. Feedback from the

survey will help plan for the next school year. Parents and school staff were sent a link to the survey by email. The survey is open until June 23rd.

**The active COVID-19 case counting the Yukon has risen to 13 (CKRW 7 a.m.)**

The active COVID-19 case counting the Yukon has risen to 13 after three more cases plus an additional probable case was confirmed last night. Chief Medical Officer of Health Dr. Brendan Hanley says 12 out of the 13 cases that have been confirmed since Saturday have not been fully vaccinated and that two out of the three people that have been hospitalised with COVID-19 since Saturday have been medevaced outside of the territory. Five of these cases are the P-1 Gamma variant of concern. There are two extensions to previous exposure notices. Casa Loma Motel Bar's extension is Monday, May 31st between 9 p.m. to 11 p.m. and Whiskey Jacks Pub and Grill on Monday, May 31st, between 6 p.m. and 9 p.m.. Anyone experiencing symptoms could arrange for testing.

**The Council of Yukon First Nations has announced the creation of a Yukon First Nations Community Impact Statement pilot project (CHON 7:30 a.m.)**

The Council of Yukon First Nations has announced the creation of a Yukon First Nations Community Impact Statement pilot project through funding provided by the Yukon government's Crime Prevention and Victim Services Trust Fund. According to the Department of Justice, a community impact statement is a written statement that describes the harm or loss that an offence has caused to a community. They allow the community to explain to the court and the offender how the crime has affected them. CYFN says the project enables them to develop a Yukon First Nations Community Impact Statement program by hiring a dedicated staff member to gather statements from communities affected by crimes. Grand Chief Peter Johnston says oftentimes the justice system is focussed on the offender. "A big portion of the missing piece is the community and how it affects communities, especially when there is a delay when it comes to dealing with the necessary court cases within our communities, the schedule for the territorial court circuit. All of these work against us coming to a conclusion when it comes to community conflict so I'm very excited the fact that now we have an opportunity to close some of the gap once again when it comes to, like I said, supporting particularly on this case, supporting the community and how they're, how they're feeling, and how this impacts not only the community dynamic, but also the healing process." The pilot project is taking place from December 2020 to December 2021 and has submitted three community impact statements so far.

**Carcross-Tagish First Nation is spearheading the establishment of a Yukon-wide Choooutla Residential School Memorial Committee (CHON 7:30 a.m.)**

Carcross-Tagish First Nation is working to establish a Territory-wide committee of Yukon First Nation citizens to form a Choooutla Residential School Memorial Committee. They are reaching out to all Yukon First Nations Chiefs to bring people together to mourn, grieve, acknowledge, and find a way forward and to properly give closure to victims, their families, and the communities at large. They are also seeking a representative from each First Nation to create a working group.

**REPEAT: The active COVID-19 case counting the Yukon has risen to 13 (CKRW 8 a.m.)**

The active COVID-19 case counting the Yukon has risen to 13 after three more cases plus an additional probable case was confirmed last night. Chief Medical Officer of Health Dr. Brendan Hanley says 12 out of the 13 cases that have been confirmed since Saturday have not been fully vaccinated and that two out of the three people that have been hospitalised with COVID-19 since Saturday have been medevaced outside of the territory. Five of these cases are the P-1 Gamma variant of concern. There are two extensions to previous exposure notices. Casa Loma Motel Bar's extension is Monday, May 31st between 9 p.m. to 11 p.m. and Whiskey Jacks Pub and Grill on Monday, May 31st, between 6 p.m. and 9 p.m.. Anyone experiencing symptoms could arrange for testing.

## **National news**

**BC government says the province is well on track to move to the next phase of its restart plan (CBC 6:30 a.m.)**

It appears British Columbia is well on track to move to the next phase of the government's restart plan next week. The number of new COVID-19 infections continues to decline. The hospitalisation rate has dropped and more and more British Columbians have been vaccinated. Tanya Fletcher reports. "We will be in a good position to continue safely moving forward with our restart plan." There are three benchmarks that must be met before entering the next phase as planned on June 15th: declining cases; declining hospitalisations; and 65 per cent of the adult population with at least one dose of vaccine. BC is on pace with each metric giving provincial health officer Dr Bonnie Henry some cautious confidence. "For the first time in many months our reproductive rate, which tells us how many people each new cases spreading to is well below one in all health regions." But no matter how positive the trends, she says, the reopening will be gradual, not sudden. "We're not in a place where we can fully take away all of the things that we've been doing to prevent transmission, but we're getting towards that." And the trajectories show that even if contact rates revert to 80 per cent of normal, the curve goes up only slightly before coming back down as immunisations increase.

**The federal NDP is calling for an independent inquiry into the military's handling of potential war crimes in Iraq and Afghanistan (CKRW 7 a.m.)**

The federal NDP is calling for an independent inquiry into the military's handling of potential war crimes in Iraq and Afghanistan. The call follows allegations the military turned a blind eye on a complaint three years ago that some Iraqi forces being trained by Canadian troops may have committed war crimes. Military police are now investigating. NDP Defence Critic Randall Garrison says the military has shown a disturbing pattern when it comes to such issues that dates back to the Afghan detainee issue more than a decade ago.

**Ontario enters the first stage of its latest economic reopening plan today (CKRW 7 a.m.)**

Ontario enters the first stage of its latest economic reopening plan today. Outdoor dining and shopping at non-essential retail stores can resume in most of the province. Outdoor gatherings of up to 10 people and patio dining of up to four people per table are also allowed. More restrictions will loosen up to 21 days if COVID-19 indicators continue to improve and more people get vaccinated.

**A school district in BC has issued apology over racist social studies exam question (CBC 7:30 a.m.)**

A school district in BC has issued an apology about a question that appeared on a Grade nine social studies exam this week. It asked students to explain how Indigenous people in Canada benefited from colonization. As Michelle Ghoussoub reports, a student in the class came forward with concerns. "As soon as I read that they took advantage of the colonizers, that's when I stopped." 14-year-old Sofia Milandri was writing a social studies test about the history of Canada when she came across a question that alarmed her. "It was so hard to read. I mean, how do you take advantage of being colonized?" Instead of answering, melandri wrote that the question was racist. The Burnaby school district has since apologized. It said the question was harmful and could be trauma inducing. Shannon Leddy is an associate professor with UBC's Department of Indigenous Education. "It has the effect of upholding some of the key mythologies about Indigenous people that have been created as a product of colonization, including the notion that Indigenous people didn't really have

culture or civilization prior to the arrival of Europeans." The school district says it will be following up with students and their families.

**The federal government is bringing in a new coal policy (CKRW 8 a.m.)**

The federal government is bringing in a new coal policy saying new or expanded thermal coal mines create unacceptable environmental impacts. Federal Environment Minister Jonathan Wilkinson says the new policy creates a very high bar for new mines to be approved. He says the move was made because thermal coal is one of the single largest contributors to climate change around the world. Wilkinson says approving new mines would be inconsistent with Canada's efforts to get other countries to stop burning coal to create power. Only one thermal coal mine in Canada is currently in development: Coalspur Mines' Vista coal mine expansion near Hinton Alberta. It would create the largest such mine in North America.

**There's now a shortlist of potential candidates to become Canada's next Governor General (CKRW 8 a.m.)**

There's now a shortlist of potential candidates to become Canada's next Governor General. Intergovernmental Affairs Minister Dominic LeBlanc says the list will be in Prime Minister Justin Trudeau's hands in the next few days. The position of Governor-General Canada's head of state has been vacant since Julie Payette resigned in January. That followed a scathing independent report on the toxic work environment that developed at Rideau Hall during her tenure.

**Yellowknifers rally for victims of hate-motivated attack in London, Ont. (CBC online)**

Yellowknife sent its love across thousands of kilometres to London, Ont., on Thursday night. [Full story](#)

**Yellowknife kickboxing coach selected to help lead Canada's national team (CBC online)**

A kickboxing coach in Yellowknife has been selected to coach Canada's national team for the World Association of Kickboxing Organizations. [Full story](#)

**OPINION: Seeking greener pastures: The pandemic is spurring a millennial back-to-the-land movement (Globe and Mail)**

2020 was the year we obsessively refreshed rental and real estate listings as cottage-country prices soared, wondering if we could afford a piece of sanctuary. [Full story](#)

## **International news**

**G7 leaders will be taking part in a special session focusing on how the health and economic recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic (CKRW 7 a.m.)**

The G7 leaders, including Prime Minister Justin Trudeau, will be taking part in a special session today, focusing on how the health and economic recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic can be for all. Still, the World Health Organisation has been pressing the leaders to ensure equitable access to inoculations against COVID-19. UK Foreign Secretary Dominic Raab says there is a global responsibility to ensure everyone is vaccinated as soon as possible. "The aim is to get the world vaccinated by the end of 2022. If we can do that, we'll be making a real step forward in dealing with the pandemic globally, which is important because we know no one is safe until everyone is safe." A new effort calling on the G7 member states to pledge vaccines to developing countries has already been picked up by most in attendance. However, Canada has yet to spell out its plans for contributing.

**The U.K. will share 100 million doses of COVID-19 vaccines with struggling countries around the world (CKRW 8 a.m.)**

The U.K. says it will contribute 100 million doses of COVID-19 vaccines to an effort by the Group of Seven to share one billion doses with struggling countries around the world. British Foreign Secretary Dominic Raab says vaccination donations need to be ramped up to bring the pandemic to an end. "If we went on the current trajectory, the world would be vaccinated by the end of 2024. What we're doing is joining up with the US and the other G7 members, leading by example, with 100 million." Wealthy nations have been under pressure to declare their vaccine sharing plans as inequities in supply around the world have become more pronounced.

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**Executive Council Office**  
Communications  
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**Cc:** [Julie.Menard](#)  
**Subject:** Updated: CRC e-review package is now live - due Friday, June 18  
**Date:** Tuesday, June 15, 2021 3:38:59 PM  
**Attachments:** [image002.png](#)

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## Updated:

Good afternoon CRC members,

**This weeks CRC e-review package is now live.** We will not be having a Zoom/Boardroom meeting this week.

We have 1 submissions on the agenda. You can find the submissions on the [CRC SharePoint site here](#).

**[Julie Menard](#):** Health and Social Services– Supervised Safe consumption site

Please email any comments or feedback to [Julie](#) and [Cc ECOinfo](#) by **noon on Friday, June 18.**

Please do not leave comments in the SharePoint documents.

Thank you,



**Robyn Damude**  
 Communications Information Officer  
 Executive Council Office  
 T 867-393-7163 | [Yukon.ca](#)

**From:** [ecoinfo](#)  
**Subject:** Media monitoring, July 9, 2021, a.m.  
**Date:** Friday, July 9, 2021 10:45 53 AM  
**Attachments:** [image001.emz](#)  
[image002.png](#)  
[image003.png](#)

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- [MOU to provide mental health support for tourism operators \(Whitehorse Star\)](#)
- [Work begins on crosswalk \(Whitehorse Star\)](#)
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- [Former Champagne and Aishihik First Nation Chief Paul Birckel has died \(CBC 6:30 a.m.\)](#)
- [Members of the Yukon Canoe and Kayak Club take advantage of the fast moving water in Whitehorse \(CBC 6:30 a.m.\)](#)
- [REPEAT: Yukon First Nation leaders congratulate the new Grand Chief of the Assembly of First Nations \(CBC 7:30 a.m.\)](#)
- [Two new research hubs are being established in the Yukon to study salmon and caribou \(CBC 7:30 a.m.\)](#)
- [A Yukon couple is disappointed they won't be going to the Olympics in Tokyo \(CBC 7:30 a.m.\)](#)
- ['Our measures are working,' says Old Crow chief as community reports new COVID-19 cases \(CBC online\)](#)
- [Paul Birckel, leader in Yukon land claim negotiations, has died \(CBC online\)](#)

### [Territorial news](#)

- [Yukon's chief medical officer of health is reporting 10 new cases of COVID-19 \(CBC 6:30 a.m.\)](#)
- [Yukon government issues an evacuation alert for some residents in the southern lakes area \(CBC 6:30 a.m.\)](#)
- [Yukon wildfire management issues warning for the fire burning near Lake LaBerge \(CBC 6:30 a.m.\)](#)
- [Ten new cases of COVID-19 have been reported in the Yukon \(CKRW 7 a.m.\)](#)
- [The Lake LaBerge fire has grown to 2,300 hectares \(CKRW 7 a.m.\)](#)
- [Four inmates at the Whitehorse Correctional Centre tested positive for COVID-19 last month \(CBC 7:30 a.m.\)](#)
- [Executive director of Blood Ties for Direction says the delivery of a safe drug supply programme needs to be expedited \(CBC 7:30 a.m.\)](#)
- [UPDATE: Yukon government issues an evacuation alert for some residents in the southern lakes area \(CBC 7:30 a.m.\)](#)
- [REPEAT: Ten new cases of COVID-19 have been reported in the Yukon \(CKRW 8 a.m.\)](#)
- [REPEAT: The Lake LaBerge fire has grown to 2,300 hectares \(CKRW 8 a.m.\)](#)
- [Whitehorse jail had 4 COVID-19 cases, none currently active \(CBC online\)](#)

### [National news](#)

- [RoseAnne Archibald's victory makes her the first female National Chief in the history of the Assembly of First Nations \(CKRW 7 a.m.\)](#)
- [The Calgary Stampede returns today \(CKRW 7 a.m.\)](#)

- [The economy added 230,700 jobs in June \(CKRW 7 a.m.\)](#)
- [The new National Chief at AFN says she wants to kick colonial policies to the curb \(CHON 7:30 a.m.\)](#)
- [The unemployment rate fell from 8.2 percent across Canada in May to 7.8 percent \(CHON 7:30 a.m.\)](#)
- [High vaccination rates in BC mean visitors to long term care homes will be allowed to see loved ones without COVID-19 restrictions \(CHON 7:30 a.m.\)](#)
- [REPEAT: The Calgary Stampede returns today \(CKRW 8 a.m.\)](#)
- [UPDATE: RoseAnne Archibald's victory makes her the first female National Chief in the history of the Assembly of First Nations \(CKRW 8 a.m.\)](#)
- [The European Medicines Agency says COVID-19 vaccines made by Pfizer Moderna are possibly linked to rare cases of chest pain and heart inflammation \(CKRW 8 a.m.\)](#)
- ['Stop using this product immediately': Health Canada recalls three batches of cannabis pre-rolls \(National Post\)](#)
- [Air Canada and Breakfast Club of Canada reach new heights in promoting children's health and wellness \(National Post\)](#)
- [10 Indigenous-owned beauty brands to shop now \(Toronto Star\)](#)

#### International news

- [Oxfam says 11 people on the planet die of hunger each minute \(CHON 7:30 a.m.\)](#)

## **Thursday, July 8, 2021**

### **CBC interviews, 4 to 6 p.m.**

- 4:08 T. Kachur, Science Columnist, CBC, "Researchers have found more effects of drugs in fish downstream from humans"
- 4:17 D. Golemi-Kotra, Associate Professor of Microbiology, York University, "Golemi-Kotra talks about the Lamda variant of COVID-19"
- 4:23 Audio: T. Tam, Canada's Chief Medical Officer of Health, "Tam talks about the Delta variant and travel restrictions"
- 4:38 R. McCormick, BC Regional Innovation Chair of Aboriginal Health, Thompson Rivers University, "McCormick talks about the benefits of traditional approaches to wellness for Indigenous people"
- 4:44 J. Wilson-Raybould, Former Attorney General, "Wilson-Raybould talks about her recent career pivot away from partisan politics"
- 4:49 U. Geisler, Acting Director, Emergency Coordination Centre, "Geisler talks about evacuation alerts in the Southern Lakes"
- 5:07 J. Lassen, Olympic Weightlifter, "Lassen talks about the 2021 Olympics removing spectators"
- 5:39 E. Kleinman, Freelance Sports Reporter, "Kleinman talks about world tennis championships"
- 5:52 Audio: G. Hill, Lottery Winner, "Audio from Hill receiving his lottery winnings"
- 5:54 B. Colter, Reporter, CBC, "Colter interviews people about what they'd do with lottery winnings"

### **Local news**

#### **Whitehorse woman dead after vehicle crash north of Watson Lake (Yukon News)**

The Yukon Coroner's Service has confirmed the death of a Whitehorse woman following a single-vehicle rollover north of Watson Lake. [full story.](#)

#### **Whitehorse residents warned not to feed wildlife after black bear killed in Riverdale (Yukon News)**

Pat Ellis was enjoying her morning meditation this past Sunday when she was suddenly interrupted by a loud blast. [full story.](#)

#### **MOU to provide mental health support for tourism operators (Whitehorse Star)**

The Tourism Industry Association of the Yukon (TIA Yukon) and the Canadian Mental Health Association, Yukon Division (CMHA-YT) have signed a memorandum of understanding. [full story.](#)

#### **Work begins on crosswalk (Whitehorse Star)**

The city has begun reconstructing the crosswalk on Lewes Boulevard near Centre scolaire secondaire communautaire Paul-Émile Mercier. [full story.](#)

#### **Rollover kills local woman (Whitehorse Star)**

A Whitehorse woman died Monday as the result of single-vehicle roll-over on the Robert Campbell Highway. [full story.](#)

#### **Lots envisioned for former Tank Farm (Whitehorse Star)**

Sidhu Trucking has applied to rezone a section of the former Tank Farm to allow for the development of 13 commercial-industrial lots. [full story.](#)

### **Territorial news**

#### **Yukon's Chief Medical Officer of Health is reporting 10 new cases of COVID-19 and local transmission is likely happening in the community of Old Crow (CBC 5:30 p.m.)**

Yukon's Chief Medical Officer of Health is reporting 10 new cases of COVID-19. Dr. Brendan Hanley says four cases are in Whitehorse, three are in communities and three are pending confirmation. He says it brings the active case count to 123. Meanwhile, the Vuntut Gwitchin government confirms that three of the territory's active cases are in Old Crow. It says it means local transmission is likely happening in the community. A vaccine clinic for youth and adults will be held in Old Crow tomorrow from 1 to 3 p.m. at the Health Centre. Yukon's total case count since the pandemic began is now 456.

#### **Yukon Wildfire Management has issued a warning for the fire burning near Lake LaBerge (CBC 5:30 p.m.)**

Yukon Wildfire Management has issued a warning for the fire burning near Lake LaBerge. It says the fire is now 2,300 hectares in size. Fire officials say it's burning along both the Teslin River and the 30 mile portion of the Yukon River. They say the fire is expected to generate lots of smoke. River users should avoid the Yukon and Teslin rivers near the Hootalinqua until conditions improve. Crews have protective measures in place at cultural and historic sites.

#### **An evacuation alert has been issued for some residents in the Marsh Lake area (CBC 5:30 p.m.)**

An evacuation alert has been issued for some residents in the Marsh Lake area. Officials say people should be ready to leave the following areas on short notice: all residences on Lewes River Road, residences 66 through 132 on Army Beach Drive, residences 95 to 130 on South McClintock Road and residences eight and 10 on Pearson Lane. More than 60 homes are affected. The alert was issued yesterday because of high water and flooding in the area. Ursula Geisler is the Acting Director of the Emergency Coordination Centre. "This evacuation alert was issued mostly due to access to properties. There's water impinging on some of the access roads to the properties, which would make it an issue for first responders to get there if it would be required." An evacuation order may be issued if the floodwaters directly threaten residents and visitors.

#### **Southern Lakes residents issued an evacuation alert due to flooding (Yukon News)**

The Yukon government has issued an evacuation alert for Southern Lakes residents at. [full story](#).

#### **10 new COVID-19 cases reported in Yukon (CBC online)**

There are 10 new confirmed COVID-19 cases in Yukon on Thursday. [full story](#).

#### **Wildfire warning issued for Hootalinqua area in Yukon (CBC online)**

Yukon emergency officials have issued a wildfire warning for the Hootalinqua area, where the Teslin and Yukon Rivers meet northeast of Lake Laberge. [full story](#).

#### **Government issues evacuation alert (Whitehorse Star)**

The Yukon government has issued an evacuation alert for several residential areas around Marsh Lake. [full story](#).

#### **COVID-19 cases continue to mount (Whitehorse Star)**

Dr. Brendan Hanley, the Yukon's chief medical officer of health, has reported 13 new cases of COVID-19 confirmed between noon Tuesday and noon Wednesday. [full story](#).

#### **Job-protected leave supports victims of domestic, sexualized assault (Whitehorse Star)**

Victims of domestic and sexualized violence now have access to paid and unpaid leave under the Employment Standards Act, following Thursday's proclamation of Bill 10. [full story](#).

#### **Tuchitua segment of Robert Campbell Highway closed (Whitehorse Star)**

The Robert Campbell Highway is closed between Ross River and Watson Lake. [full story](#).

#### **Boil water advisory issued for several areas (Whitehorse Star)**

A boil water advisory has been issued for residents of the Southern Lakes, Lake Laberge, Kusawa Lake and Takhini River areas who use private wells. [full story](#).

### **National news**

#### **RoseAnne Archibald has been elected as AFN National Chief (CBC 5:30 p.m.)**

The Assembly of First Nations Yukon region is congratulating National Chief-elect RoseAnne Archibald. In a statement this hour, Regional Chief Kluane Adamek called the election historic and inspirational. It comes after the AFN elected its first ever woman as leader today. RoseAnne Archibald took the oath of office early this evening. Archibald will replace outgoing AFN National Chief Perry Bellegarde, who was elected to the roll back in 2014. The AFN represents more than 900,000 people in cities and towns across more than 600 First Nation communities and is a key liaison with the federal government.

#### **Military support for NWT flooding was two personnel compared to Yukon's 100 supporting personnel (CBC 5:30 p.m.)**

Yukon flood preparations are a scene that might look familiar to our neighbours in the Northwest Territories. Many are still rebuilding their lives after record breaking floods in May. But there's one key difference. Yukon got 100 dedicated military troops to help with the effort and only two were dedicated to NWT's flood response. The CBC's Anna Desmarais looked into the different responses in the two territories and tells us some of the differences came down to the timing of the call for help. In the early weeks of spring break-up Fort Simpson Mayor Sean Whelly thought the village might be spared. But then water levels rose to record levels and flooded much of the community. Then Whelly called Premier Caroline Cochrane to ask for military support. "We realised that things could get a bit worse." The military committed two Canadian Rangers already living in Fort Simpson for the response. So Whelly was shocked to see so many troops touched down in Yukon this week. "I'm in the dark on the whole thing. I can't understand why Fort Simpson and the Dehcho didn't get the same kind of attention." Richard Mostyn is Yukon's Community Services Minister. He says he made a call to Ottawa as soon as he saw the potential for a disaster. "You really have to act very quickly. People's lives, people's properties relies on quick decision." Whelly says they waited to call the military until he was sure they were needed. He says he'll call earlier next time.

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### **Friday, July 9, 2021**

#### **CBC interviews, 6 to 8:30 a.m.**

- 6:15 J. Crosby, Hospital for Sick Children, "New data shows more than half of children between 8 and 12 reported clinically significant depressive symptoms"
- 6:20 B. Sanderson, CBC Halifax Reporter, "Halifax parents share their hopes for kids returning to school"
- 6:25 P. DeMont, CBC Business Reporter, "CBC Business Report"
- 6:40 B. Trumpener, CBC Prince George Reporter, "Bella Bella First Nations woman says Canada rejected her Indigenous name under new federal program aimed to help people reclaim their Indigenous name"



- 6:45 S. Block, Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives, "Canadian economists monitor the job market for quit-rates as Canada's economy reopens"
- 6:50 S. Shorty and D. Yap, Whitehorse Residents, "Whitehorse couple says they're disappointed they won't be able to attend the Tokyo Olympics"
- 7:15 S. Bull, CBC Sports Reporter, "CBC Sports Report"
- 7:20 B. Renwick-Shields, Blood Ties Four Directions, "Blood Ties Four Directions executive director says secure housing and safe drug supply will help vulnerable populations stay safe during COVID outbreak"
- 7:25 R. Archibald, National Chief of Assembly of First Nations, "RoseAnne Archibald elected 1st female National Chief of Assembly of First Nations"
- 7:40 K. Hallett, Community Services, "Southern Lakes Flood Information Map shows where sandbagging help is needed the most"
- 7:50 D. Tizya-Tramm, Chief Vuntut Gwich'in First Nation, "Vuntut Gwich'in First Nation has three active cases of COVID-19"
- 8:15 D. Bill, Chief of Kwanlin Dün First Nation, "Kwanlin Dün First Nation says RoseAnne Archibald's win is historic for all women"
- 8:20 E. Glasner, CBC Film Columnist, "Black Window opens in theatre and drops on premium streaming services this weekend"

### **CHON-FM interviews, 6 to 9 a.m.**

No interviews.

### **Local news**

#### **Yukon First Nation leaders congratulate the new Grand Chief of the Assembly of First Nations (CBC 6:30 a.m.)**

Yukon First Nation leaders are congratulating the new Grand Chief of the Assembly of First Nations. RoseAnne Archibald was elected the AFN's first ever female leader yesterday. Doris Bill is Chief of the Kwanlin Dün First Nation. She says Archibald is the right person for the job. "We really need someone in office with compassion and, you know, this is a very, very difficult time for our people. I'm just so incredibly pleased to have her there to lead the way." Last year, Bill put forward a resolution to end gender based discrimination in the Assembly of First Nations. She says Archibald was one of the people who provided support to get the resolution passed. Bill says she expects Archibald to hold the federal government to account on the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's calls to action. AFN Yukon Regional Chief Kluane Adamek also extended her congratulations. She called Archibald's election historic and inspirational.

#### **Former Champagne and Aishihik First Nation Chief Paul Birckel has died (CBC 6:30 a.m.)**

Former Champagne and Aishihik First Nation Chief Paul Birckel has died. He passed away at the Whistlebend long-term care facility yesterday. Birckel served five terms as Chief of the First Nation and helped lead it through its land claims negotiations. Birckel's niece Barb Joe remembers him as a strong, smart leader. She says he knew traditional ways of life and advocated tirelessly for his people. "It's been a very sad day. Paul was very well respected across the Yukon and Canada. A lot of people knew him and I was talking to his grandson this morning and he said, My grandpa always taught me, don't be scared of people. That's how Paul, his grandpa, thought everybody had something to tell the story to teach you." Joe says the family is in the process of confirming funeral plans. Paul Birckel is survived by his wife, three children and five grandchildren. He also has two sisters, a brother and a number of nephews and nieces. Birckel was 82.

#### **Members of the Yukon Canoe and Kayak Club take advantage of the fast moving water in Whitehorse (CBC 6:30 a.m.)**

Members of the Yukon Canoe and Kayak Club are taking advantage of the fast moving water in Whitehorse. Even though the Yukon River is high, paddlers are still coming out to practise their skills. Lawrence Brennan is executive director of the Canoe and Kayak Club. He says with proper precautions, paddlers are safe. "The water is high. But with the Yukon River here, you know, as long as you're wearing the proper safety equipment, such as a life jacket, a helmet, a wetsuit, because the water is still kind of cold. It's still safe to paddle. It is bigger. It is faster." The Canoe and Kayak Club now has over 150 members with help from the Youth Achievement Centre, the club has expanded its storage space by the Millennium Trail in Riverdale.

#### **REPEAT: Yukon First Nation leaders congratulate the new Grand Chief of the Assembly of First Nations (CBC 7:30 a.m.)**

Yukon First Nation leaders are congratulating the new Grand Chief of the Assembly of First Nations. RoseAnne Archibald was elected the AFN's first ever female leader yesterday. Doris Bill is Chief of the Kwanlin Dün First Nation. She says Archibald is the right person for the job. "We really need someone in office with compassion and, you know, this is a very, very difficult time for our people. I'm just so incredibly pleased to have her there to lead the way." Last year, Bill put forward a resolution to end gender based discrimination in the Assembly of First Nations. She says Archibald was one of the people who provided support to get the resolution passed. Bill says she expects Archibald to hold the federal government to account on the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's calls to action. AFN Yukon Regional Chief Kluane Adamek also extended her congratulations. She called Archibald's election historic and inspirational.

#### **Two new research hubs are being established in the Yukon to study salmon and caribou (CBC 7:30 a.m.)**

Two new research hubs are being established in the Yukon. One of them is investigating the Porcupine Caribou population. Joe Tetlich is chair of the Porcupine Caribou Management Board. He says it received \$480,000 over three years. Tetlich says the money will be used to strengthen research in the North. "This funding is going to give us a chance to get researchers in the communities. And after the funding finishes, we're still going to be working with these researchers that we hired. So, eventually, hopefully, they can take on some important positions in regards to wildlife." Tetlich says the research will look into the Porcupine Caribou's habitat range and vegetation. The second Yukon research hub is focused on revitalising Yukon's salmon culture. Both are funded by the Canadian Mountain Network, an organisation that's focused on understanding the impacts of climate change on mountainous regions.

#### **A Yukon couple is disappointed they won't be going to the Olympics in Tokyo (CBC 7:30 a.m.)**

And finally, a Yukon couple is disappointed they won't be going to the Olympics in Tokyo. Spectators from outside Japan were banned months ago from attending the games due to concerns about COVID-19. And then yesterday, Olympic organisers took it one step further, and banned all spectators from attending events over increased pandemic concerns. Sharon Shorty and Derek Yapp had been planning their trip since October 2019. Shorty says now they're resigned to watching the Olympics on TV. "It's the circumstances. There's, I mean, obviously, if they could, they would. There's nothing that they could do. And then even just the mood of the country itself says that Japanese people don't even want the Olympics." Shorty says they had tickets to attend the softball and tennis competitions. She says they will be getting a refund. Shorty says one thing she's going to miss will be the opportunity to trade pins at the games.

#### **'Our measures are working,' says Old Crow chief as community reports new COVID-19 cases (CBC online)**

Old Crow Chief Dana Tizya-Tramm says that while there is evidence of local spread of COVID-19 in his community, the strict measures brought in by the Vuntut Gwitchin government are keeping it in check. [full story.](#)

#### **Paul Birckel, leader in Yukon land claim negotiations, has died (CBC online)**

Paul Birkel, the former chief of the Champagne and Aishihik First Nations in Yukon who played a major role in negotiating one of the territory's first land claim agreements, has died. He was 82 years old. [full story](#).

## **Territorial news**

### **Yukon's chief medical officer of health is reporting 10 new cases of COVID-19 (CBC 6:30 a.m.)**

Yukon's chief medical officer of health is reporting 10 new cases of COVID-19. Dr. Brendan Hanley says four cases are in Whitehorse, three are in the communities and three are pending confirmation. He says it brings the active case count to 123. Meanwhile, the Vuntut Gwich'in government confirms three of the territory's active cases are in Old Crow. It says that means local transmission is likely happening in the community. A vaccine clinic for youth and adults will be held in Old Crow tomorrow from 1 to 3 at the health centre. Yukon's total case count since the pandemic began is now 456.

### **Yukon government issues an evacuation alert for some residents in the southern lakes area (CBC 6:30 a.m.)**

An evacuation alert has been issued for some residents in the southern lakes area. It means that people should be prepared to leave on short notice. The alert is for more than 60 homes in the Marsh Lake and Lewes River Road areas. Water levels on Bennett, Tagish and Marsh Lakes are at record levels for this early in the season. Community Services Minister Richard Mostyn toured the area yesterday. He says officials are monitoring the situation. "This is an unprecedented flood, a flood event. It has all sorts of different variables. How much rain or sunlight we get. All sorts of things. So, we are monitoring that." And just a quick correction. Mostyn's tour took place on Wednesday. A flood warning remains in effect for Bennett, Tagish and Marsh Lakes. Yukon government says the rate of water rising has slowed and it says much of the snowpack that's contributing to high water levels has melted. But there's still some snow in higher elevations that will flow into the southern lakes.

### **Yukon wildfire management issues warning for the fire burning near Lake Laberge (CBC 6:30 a.m.)**

Yukon wildfire management has issued a warning for the fire burning near Lake Laberge. It says the fire is now 2,300 hectares in size. Fire officials say it's burning along both the Teslin River and the 30 mile portion of the Yukon River. They say the fire is expected to generate a lot of smoke. River users should avoid the Yukon and Teslin Rivers near Hootalinqua until conditions improve. Crews have protection measures in place that cultural and historic sites at Hootalinqua.

### **Ten new cases of COVID-19 have been reported in the Yukon (CKRW 7 a.m.)**

Ten new cases of COVID-19 have been reported in the Yukon. The active case count is now at 123, with a number of recoveries reported. Four of the new cases confirmed are in Whitehorse. Three are in rural communities and three are still pending confirmation of their location. Anyone experiencing symptoms is advised to get tested for COVID-19.

### **The Lake LaBerge fire has grown to 2,300 hectares (CKRW 7 a.m.)**

Yukon Wildland Fire Management is reporting that the Lake LaBerge fire has grown to 2,300 hectares. Fire Management says structural protections have been put in place for cultural and historic sites in the area as the fire is active along both the Teslin River and 30 mile portion of the Yukon River. Fire Management says the fire is expected to generate a lot of smoke and remain active for quite some time. Yukoners are advised to avoid river travel on stretches of the Yukon and Teslin Rivers near Hootalinqua until air and fire conditions improve.

### **Four inmates at the Whitehorse Correctional Centre tested positive for COVID-19 last month (CBC 7:30 a.m.)**

Four inmates at the Whitehorse Correctional Centre tested positive for COVID-19 last month. A Justice Department spokesperson says the first case was detected on June 24th, but there was no transmission within the jail. The department would not say which units the inmates were in, or whether they were covered in jail or were released. It says it's working with health officials to test inmates upon entry to the jail. The department says there are currently no active cases at the correctional centre.

### **Executive director of Blood Ties for Direction says the delivery of a safe drug supply programme needs to be expedited (CBC 7:30 a.m.)**

The executive director of Blood Ties for Direction says the delivery of a safe drug supply programme needs to be expedited. Bronte Renwick-Shields says the opioid crisis is interlaced with the COVID-19 outbreak in the Yukon. She says a safe drug supply is a tool that can be used to address both crises. "So, we need to be thinking about how are these people going to access the substances because otherwise, safely without leaving self-isolate. And a mechanism on which we can do that, as well as prevent overdose, is to implement a safe supply program, which the government has committed to. But we have yet to see an implementation of." The Yukon government says it will implement a safe drug supply program in the spring. The Liberals' agreement with the NDP says the program will be developed within six months. The budget earmarks \$1 one million for the program and the creation of supervised drug consumption sites.

### **UPDATE: Yukon government issues an evacuation alert for some residents in the southern lakes area (CBC 7:30 a.m.)**

Yukon's Community Services Minister says boaters should avoid Army Beach on Marsh Lake while high water levels threaten homes there. Around 100 soldiers have been brought in to help with flood protection of Marsh Lake. They're building eight foot high berms to keep the floodwaters at bay. Community Services Minister Richard Mostyn says boaters aren't helping the situation when they cruise past Army Beach for a look. "Frankly, the people who are coming around in their boats on the southern lakes and creating wake is really undermining a lot of the effort that these residents are putting in on weekends and all week they're sandbagging." Mostyn says officials expect high water levels will continue into August. The level of Marsh Lake has already exceeded the level seen during flooding in 2007.

### **REPEAT: Ten new cases of COVID-19 have been reported in the Yukon (CKRW 8 a.m.)**

Ten new cases of COVID-19 have been reported in the Yukon. The active case count is now at 123, with a number of recoveries reported. Four of the new cases confirmed are in Whitehorse. Three are in rural communities and three are still pending confirmation of their location. Anyone experiencing symptoms is advised to get tested for COVID-19.

### **REPEAT: The Lake LaBerge fire has grown to 2,300 hectares (CKRW 8 a.m.)**

Yukon Wildland Fire Management is reporting that the Lake LaBerge fire has grown to 2,300 hectares. Fire Management says structural protections have been put in place for cultural and historic sites in the area as the fire is active along both the Teslin River and 30 mile portion of the Yukon River. Fire Management says the fire is expected to generate a lot of smoke and remain active for quite some time. Yukoners are advised to avoid river travel on stretches of the Yukon and Teslin Rivers near Hootalinqua until air and fire conditions improve.

### **Whitehorse jail had 4 COVID-19 cases, none currently active (CBC online)**

Four people at the Whitehorse Correctional Centre (WCC) tested positive for COVID-19 since late June. [full story](#).

## **National news**

### **RoseAnne Archibald's victory makes her the first female National Chief in the history of the Assembly of First Nations (CKRW 7 a.m.)**

RoseAnne Archibald used a play on words to describe winning the top job at the Assembly of First Nations. "The AFN has made herstory today." Archibald's victory makes her the first female National Chief in the history of the Assembly of First Nations. She gained the leadership role after her rival Reginald Bellerose dropped out of the race. Still, that didn't come until after two days and five rounds of virtual voting. Her victory also comes days after another high profile move. "And Mary Simon appointed to be the first Indigenous woman Governor General!" The Assembly of First Nations Yukon has sent its congratulations to Archibald on her election. Regional Chief Kluane Adamek says history has been made and congratulated Archibald in a statement on behalf of all Yukon First Nations. Adamek says the Yukon region looks forward to working with National Chief Archibald as she continues to crack the glass ceiling and break down barriers for women everywhere.

### **The Calgary Stampede returns today (CKRW 7 a.m.)**

After a one year absence due to COVID-19, the Calgary Stampede returns today. Things are scaled back a bit, but the rides and rodeo will be there as well as a televised parade from the grounds. Scooter Korek, the Vice President of Client Services at North American Midway Entertainment, says this is the first event in Canada, but they've been busy. "Well, we started in March you know, and our pandemic program, which is pretty extensive, you know, social distancing and mask and gloves and stuff like that. We got really, really good at it, which we started actually in 2020 because we played four fairs last year. But now we're getting really good at it. And guess what? It got better in the United States and fast." There are fewer rides to allow for more social distancing and those working at the exhibition grounds will be wearing masks.

### **The economy added 230,700 jobs in June (CKRW 7 a.m.)**

The economy added 230,700 jobs in June as pandemic restrictions rolled back across the country. Statistics Canada reports the gain came as the number of part time positions rose by almost 264,000, bringing it basically back to prepandemic levels. While the number of full time jobs fell by more than 33,000. The part time gains were driven by jumps in jobs in the hard-hit retail and food services sectors and concentrated among younger people. The unemployment rate fell to 7.8 percent. That's down from 8.2 percent in May.

### **The new National Chief at AFN says she wants to kick colonial policies to the curb (CHON 7:30 a.m.)**

There is a new head Chief at the Assembly of First Nations. The new National Chief at AFN says she, the first woman elected in the post, wants to kick colonial policies to the curb. RoseAnne Archibald says people need to understand and come to terms with how settler Canadians have benefited from colonial practices and how Indigenous peoples have been the target of genocide. Archibald told the AFN she wants to work with governments to implement the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's 94 Calls to Action with specific goals of creating community-driven solutions for healing.

### **The unemployment rate fell from 8.2 percent across Canada in May to 7.8 percent (CHON 7:30 a.m.)**

The unemployment rate fell from 8.2 percent across Canada in May to 7.8 percent last month as the economy added 230,000 jobs. The gains came as pandemic restrictions were lifted or relaxed across the country. StatsCan reports an increase of almost 264,000 part-time jobs, but a drop of more than 33,000 full time jobs.

### **High vaccination rates in BC mean visitors to long term care homes will be allowed to see loved ones without COVID-19 restrictions (CHON 7:30 a.m.)**

BC Provincial Health Officer Dr. Bonnie Henry says high vaccination rates mean visitors to long term care homes will be allowed to see loved ones without COVID-19 restrictions starting July 19th. Staff must report they have been immunised and all volunteers must be immunised and unvaccinated workers will have to wear masks and take a rapid test three times a week. Henry has ordered facilities to provide public health officials with information on workers, volunteers and residents to verify everyone's vaccination status.

### **REPEAT: The Calgary Stampede returns today (CKRW 8 a.m.)**

After a one year absence due to COVID-19, the Calgary Stampede returns today. Things are scaled back a bit, but the rides and rodeo will be there as well as a televised parade from the grounds. Scooter Korek, the Vice President of Client Services at North American Midway Entertainment, says this is the first event in Canada, but they've been busy. "Well, we started in March you know, and our pandemic program, which is pretty extensive, you know, social distancing and mask and gloves and stuff like that. We got really, really good at it, which we started actually in 2020 because we played four fairs last year. But now we're getting really good at it. And guess what? It got better in the United States and fast." There are fewer rides to allow for more social distancing and those working at the exhibition grounds will be wearing masks.

### **UPDATE: RoseAnne Archibald's victory makes her the first female National Chief in the history of the Assembly of First Nations (CKRW 8 a.m.)**

In her acceptance speech, the new National Chief of the Assembly of First Nations promised to work with governments across the country to implement the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's 94 Calls to Action. RoseAnne Archibald noted that with the latest discoveries of hundreds of unmarked graves on former residential school properties, many Canadians are waking up to the grim reality her people have been living with for generations. "And while people need to understand and what people are coming to terms with is how settler Canadians have benefited from these colonial practices and how we as Indigenous people have been the target of genocide." In her acceptance speech, she promised that change is happening. Yukon's Regional Chief, Kluane Adamek, has issued a statement congratulating Archibald on the election. Adamek says her appointment is historic and the Yukon region looks forward to working with her. She says Yukon First Nations look to National Chief Archibald to support their efforts to protect and advance Indigenous rights and navigate these troubling times.

### **The European Medicines Agency says COVID-19 vaccines made by Pfizer Moderna are possibly linked to rare cases of chest pain and heart inflammation (CKRW 8 a.m.)**

The European Medicines Agency says COVID-19 vaccines made by Pfizer Moderna are possibly linked to rare cases of chest pain and heart inflammation in some people. The verdict echoes a similar conclusion reached by U.S. officials in June. The E.U. drug regulator is recommending that the two conditions, myocarditis and pericarditis, be included as side-effects on the vaccine labels, together with a warning to raise awareness among health workers and people receiving the shots. Also, the EMA is recommending people who have a history of a rare condition that causes blood vessels to leak, avoid the coronavirus vaccine made by Johnson & Johnson. The regulator, again, wants a warning to raise awareness amongst health workers.

**'Stop using this product immediately': Health Canada recalls three batches of cannabis pre-rolls (National Post)**

Products sold to licensed retailers in Yukon, the Northwest Territories, and Alberta, as well as to patients via Medical Cannabis by Shoppers Drug Mart. [Full story](#)

**Air Canada and Breakfast Club of Canada reach new heights in promoting children's health and wellness (National Post)**

Breakfast Club of Canada is celebrating its 15th year of partnership with the Air Canada Foundation, a partnership that has helped grow its reach outside of the province of Quebec into a national organization serving healthy meals to more than 250,000 students a day. [Full story](#)

**10 Indigenous-owned beauty brands to shop now (Toronto Star)**

A few weeks ago, Jen Harper, founder of Cheekbone Beauty, announced her makeup brand would be sold at Sephora Canada starting next year. [Full story](#)

**International news****Oxfam says 11 people on the planet die of hunger each minute (CHON 7:30 a.m.)**

Oxfam says 11 people on the planet die of hunger each minute. That's more than COVID-19, which kills around seven people a minute. The humanitarian group's latest report finds the number of people facing famine-like conditions around the globe has increased sixfold over the last year to 155 million. Oxfam's list of countries that are the worst hunger hotspots include Afghanistan, Ethiopia, South Sudan, Syria and Yemen, all of which are embroiled in conflict. It says starvation continues to be used as a weapon of war.

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**Subject:** Location of supervised consumption site confirmed - Government of Yukon news release  
**Date:** Wednesday, July 21, 2021 11:00:20 AM  
**Attachments:** [image001.png](#)

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### Location of supervised consumption site confirmed

Supervised consumption sites help reduce overdose deaths and increase the number of clients accessing addiction treatment services.

Learn more: <https://yukon.ca/en/news/location-supervised-consumption-site-confirmed>



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**Subject:** Media monitoring July 21, 2021 p.m.  
**Date:** Wednesday, July 21, 2021 1:37:35 PM  
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[image006.png](#)  
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## Wednesday, July 21, 2021

### CBC interviews, 12 to 1 p.m.

- 12:13 M. Friedland, Ride Don't Hide participant, BC resident, "22-year-old Friedland, currently in Whitehorse, is cycling his way from the BC-Washington State border to Tuktoyaktuk to raise money for the Ride Don't Hide initiative by the Canadian Mental Health Association."
- 12:27 C. McPhee, Program Coordinator, Yukon Literacy Coalition, "The Yukon Literacy Coalition is planning on retrofitting a school bus to make it a mobile literacy centre that travels across the territory."
- 12:44 AUDIO: D. Bill, Chief, KDFN, "Excerpt from KDFN Chief Bill's COVID-19 update from June 20, 2021: stay vigilant."
- 12:53 J. Childs, Economics Professor, University of Regina, "Childs discusses renting vs buying big ticket items."

### Local news

#### Plans for Yukon's first supervised drug consumption side are underway (CHON 12:30 p.m.)

Yukon government says plans for Yukon's first supervised drug consumption side are underway. The facility will be located downtown on 6th Avenue in Whitehorse. The existing government-owned building is being renovated to accommodate the requirements of a supervised

consumption site. A news release says in the coming weeks, YG will be talking with residents, local businesses, First Nation governments and NGOs about the importance of the new facility. The news release goes on to say supervised consumption sites will provide a safe and supportive place for people who use drugs to consume illicit substances in the presence of trained professionals. Since 2016, Yukon has had 44 opioid-related deaths, 33 included fentanyl. Opioid related visits to the emergency department at the Whitehorse Hospital made up 67 percent of all overdose visits between 2016 and 2020.

#### **Vuntut Gwitchin citizens will be heading to the polls (CHON 12:30 p.m.)**

Vuntut Gwitchin citizens will be heading to the polls. The Council of the Vuntut Gwitchin government has called the by-election for two councillors. Nominations will open tomorrow and close on July 29th. Advance polling will be on August 8th and 9th from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. down at the Old Crow Community Centre. Election Day is set for August 16th. Votes can be cast on the 16th, also at the community centre from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Meanwhile, the northern community set a heat record yesterday with temperatures reaching just under 30 degrees Celsius. The VGFN Citizen says it was so hot berry pickers had to take a break.

### **Territorial news**

#### **Childcare reimbursements will go through parents' usual childcare operators (CKRW 12 p.m.)**

The Yukon government is detailing its plan to refund families for all child care expenses during the month of July. Early Learning and Child Care Director Betty Burns says the Department of Education is working to help families that played their part in preventing the spread of COVID-19 by keeping their children at home. She says the reimbursement program will go through your usual childcare operator. "Your operator has received a letter from Yukon Education explaining how the reimbursement works, which will be passed on to parents. The operator will provide the parent with reimbursements for the parent portion for the month of July." She says YG prepared for the possibility of an outbreak within daycare facilities, arranging reimbursements through existing COVID-19 funding.

#### **Yukon Protective Services has reported nine new lightning-caused wildfires were discovered yesterday (CKRW 12 p.m.)**

Yukon Protective Services has reported nine new wildfires were discovered yesterday, likely caused by hot and dry conditions and Monday's lightning storm. One of the fires in Carmacks is 30 kilometres south of Pelly and 25 kilometres east of the North Klondike Highway. Smoke is visible from the highway while yesterday, the fire grew towards the west and north is showing extreme fire behaviour at the head of the fire. It's approximately five kilometres away from buildings in the Ta'tla Mun Lake where crews began setting up sprinklers and other protective measures yesterday. Another fire is burning at the top of a hill on the north side of Little Salmon Lake, making it very visible to travellers on the Robert Campbell Highway. There is no immediate risk to the highway, power lines, or nearby cabins.

#### **The Yukon government announces a supervised drug consumption site (CBC 12:30 p.m.)**

The Yukon government has announced the site of a supervised drug consumption site. It will be located at a government-owned building on 6th Avenue in downtown Whitehorse. The government is working with Blood Ties Four Directions on a plan for operating this site. The site will provide a place for people to use illicit drugs in the presence of health care workers. Safe consumption was one of the NDP's conditions to support the minority Liberal government.

#### **While the Yukon's active COVID-19 cases are decreasing, cases have been increasing amongst Citizens of KDFN (CBC 12:30 p.m.)**

While the Yukon's active COVID-19 cases are decreasing, cases have been increasing amongst Citizens of the Kwanlin Dün First Nation. That's according to Chief Doris Bill in a video update posted to Facebook. She says COVID-19 has been spreading due to parties and house-to-house visits. Bill is urging KDFN Citizens to stop gathering. She's also asking Citizens to follow public health measures, get tested if they have COVID-19 symptoms and to get vaccinated. "I know everyone is fed up with COVID and many of us are experiencing COVID fatigue, including myself. But be aware, this virus is not done with us yet and this is no time to be giving up." As of July 19, 21 KDFN Citizens had COVID-19. The First Nation has seen 57 cases since the start of the pandemic and one death. Bill says five Citizens have had to be hospitalized and one of those people is still in hospital.

#### **Canadian military will stay in Yukon for a while longer to help with flood mitigation efforts (CBC 12:30 p.m.)**

The Canadian military is staying in the Yukon for a while longer to help with flood mitigation efforts. Dermot O'Donovan is the director with the Yukon Emergency Measures Organization. He says help is still needed to build large sandbag berms. "They remain on task. And, so we still have 100 Canadian Air Force soldiers assisting with that response, together with some, some additional equipment that they brought up for sandbagging at scale and other heavy equipment that assist with that response." O'Donovan says an Edmonton-based crew will arrive in the territory soon. Community Services Minister Richard Mostyn says the military could be in the Yukon for up to two more weeks.

#### **Chinook salmon that make it to the Whitehorse Dam might have trouble finding the fish ladder entrance due to high water (CBC 12:30 p.m.)**

Chinook salmon are making their way up the Yukon River to their spawning grounds. They use the fish ladder to make it past the Whitehorse Dam but this year the fish may have trouble finding the entrance because of high water. Travis Ritchie is with Yukon Energy, which manages the fish ladder. Despite a faster flow in the Yukon River, Ritchie says if the salmon do make it into the latter, they'll be fine. "Certainly, once they enter the fish ladder, the conditions of the fish ladder will be very nice. They'll be exactly the same as they are every other year. We were able to manage that aspect of the flows coming down the river because we divert water from the river into the fishway." Ritchie says Chinook salmon did manage to find their way into the fish ladder back in 2007. That was the last time water levels on the southern lakes were this high.

#### **Five new confirmed cases of COVID-19 have been announced in Yukon since Monday (CHON 12:30 p.m.)**

Yukon's Acting Chief Medical Officer of Health, Dr. Catherine Elliott, is reporting five new confirmed cases of COVID-19 since Monday. Two of the infections are in rural communities. The location of the other three are pending. When it comes to the overall COVID situation, the territory's active case count continues to drop. There are currently 65 active infections in the Yukon, down from the 77 previously reported. Dr. Elliott will speak at a COVID update this afternoon, so tune in to CHON-fm at 5 p.m. for more news on that.

#### **Yukon wildfire update (CHON 12:30 p.m.)**

Here's an update on the fire activity in the territory. The Aishihik Road Fire is currently 24 hectares in size. YG says the fire is under control and crews remain on site to strengthen containment. Anyone driving on Aishihik Road should be aware of smoke and firefighters working around kilometre 45. Carmacks fire six is at 140 acres in size. It is burning north of Little Salmon Lake and is highly visible from the Robert Campbell Highway. A news release says there is no immediate risk to the highway or area cabins. The Lake Laberge fire is



currently just over 4,000 hectares in size. It was lightning-caused. It is burning along the Yukon and Teslin Rivers near Hootalinqua. Travellers should exercise caution and be aware of changing conditions when travelling in the area or using the rivers. The Ta'tla Mun fire is now 300 hectares in size. It is burning 30 kilometres south of Pelly Crossing and 25 kilometres east of the North Klondike Highway near Ta'tla Mun Lake. Smoke is visible from Pelly and the highway, and crews are monitoring the blaze and putting protections in place for structures at Ta'tla Mun. The Tuchitua Fire is now 9,191 hectares in size. It was lightning-caused. The Robert Campbell Highway is open, but a pilot car will shuttle people between kilometres 108 and 128 between 9:00 a.m. and 9:00 p.m. Structure protection is in place for buildings near the Nahanni Range Road Junction.

#### **The largest flood mitigation effort in Yukon's history is underway (CHON 12:30 p.m.)**

Emergency Yukon officials say unseasonable heat and rapidly-melting snowpacks have combined to produce unprecedented flooding. Mila Milojevic with Yukon Energy says water levels are dropping at the dam at Marsh Lake used to manage down river flows, but modelling suggests levels by August will be 20 to 80 centimetres above the record floods of 2007. Drier, cooler conditions since June mean water levels are expected at the lower end of the scale. But she says glacial melt is still to come. And that could add to the flood risk, especially if August is rainy. Mark Hill, the Liaison between Yukon's Emergency Services Office and flood managers say the largest flood mitigation effort in Yukon's history is underway as a state of emergency is in effect in the flood zones and evacuation orders and alerts are posted.

#### **Yukon officials to give weekly COVID-19 update (CBC online)**

News conference will be livestreamed on this page. [Full story](#)

#### **Plans in place to protect large area of Yukon from unprecedented flooding (National Post)**

WHITEHORSE — Unseasonable heat and rapidly melting snowpacks in Yukon have combined to produce unprecedented flooding far worse the last major flood event, and emergency officials say it could be weeks before conditions improve. [Full story](#)

#### **Border announcement "encouraging" for Alaskans and tourism businesses (Yukon News)**

Tourism providers – and officials in Alaska – still have questions about the change. [Full story](#)

### **National news**

#### **A new survey suggests more Canadians believe Jagmeet Singh would make a better Prime Minister than Conservative Erin O'Toole (CKRW 12 p.m.)**

Federal NDP Leader Jagmeet Singh might have some reasons to smile only a few weeks before a possible election call. A new survey suggests more Canadians believe he would make a better Prime Minister than Conservative Erin O'Toole. A survey by Leger and the Association for Canadian Studies had 25 percent of respondents picking Justin Trudeau as the best Prime Minister. Singh was not far behind, with 19 percent, while only 13 percent chose O'Toole. That could represent bad news for the Conservatives as they attempt to try and connect with Canadians. But it also could signal trouble for Trudeau's chances of winning a majority Liberal government.

#### **Justice Minister David Lametti says \$918,000 will go to the Association of Iroquois and Allied Indians and Lakehead University's Law Faculty to help support Indigenous lawmaking research (CKRW 12 p.m.)**

The federal government is pledging funds for two projects that aim to build Ottawa's pledge to help revitalise Indigenous legal traditions. Justice Minister David Lametti says \$918,000 will go to the Association of Iroquois and Allied Indians and Lakehead University's Law Faculty to help support Indigenous lawmaking research and lay the foundations for an Indigenous legal institute in Thunder Bay, Ontario. The funding is part of a previously announced \$9.5 million for 21 projects, and it comes in response to the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's Call for Action Number 50, which demands the federal government work with Aboriginal organisations to help fund the establishment of Indigenous Law Institutes.

#### **Little relief for businesses in Point Roberts, BC as Canada prepares to reopen its border with US (CBC 12:30 p.m.)**

Canada's borders open to fully vaccinated Americans on August 9. But for the isolated American community of Point Roberts, south of Vancouver, the announcement offers little relief. "Residents of Point Roberts will soon be able to visit their friends and family in BC. And while it's a bit of good news, the community is desperately waiting for the American borders to open as well. "If Canadians can't come down, all that doesn't take away more business from the businesses in Point Roberts." Ali Hayden owns Point Roberts only grocery store, one whose parking lot mostly sits empty these days. The town of Point Roberts is isolated from mainland US. The majority of the town's business comes from Canadians, but border closures have seen its economy drop 80 percent. Hayden has been operating at a loss for 17 months. "If I close the people in Point Roberts have no access to milk, butter, cheese, fruits and vegetables, meat, Tylenol, band-aids, toilet paper. I mean, I'm the only game in town for all of that stuff. So that's the main reason we've stayed open." So far the US has offered no sign of easing border restrictions, but Hayden says without help, she won't be able to last much longer. And just a note on that story, today the US announced its borders will remain closed to Canadians until at least August 21. Politicians on both sides of the border are critical of that decision.

#### **BC's Public Safety Minister wants to reassure residents that all available personnel and equipment has been deployed to fight the nearly 300 fires burning across the province (CHON 12:30 p.m.)**

And now to our southern neighbours in BC. Wildfires are continuing to burn across the province, prompting the provincial government to declare a state of emergency, which goes into effect today. BC's Public Safety Minister says the move will help the province prepare for potential mass evacuations, as well as secure accommodation that might be needed by those evacuees. Mike Farnworth says he made the decision to declare the emergency based on information from officials that weather conditions will lead to more severe fire behaviour and the potential for more evacuations. Farnworth says he wants to reassure residents that all available personnel and equipment has been deployed to fight the nearly 300 fires burning across the province.

#### **BC has declared a province-wide state of emergency due to wildfire threats (CHON 12:30 p.m.)**

BC's Public Safety Minister says the province has reached a critical point and has declared a province-wide state of emergency due to wildfire threats underway. Mark Farnworth says he wants to assure BC residents all available personnel and equipment are being deployed to fight the nearly 300 fires burning across the province. Forty evacuation orders are in place, affecting 5,700 people, or almost 2,900 properties. Continued hot and dry conditions are forecast with heightened wind activity in the interior and southeastern BC.

#### **'It's a shame': Iqaluit thrift store forced to move as food centre eyes expansion (CBC online)**

Iqaluit's Piviniit thrift store has been given 2 months to relocate. [Full story](#)

### A look at COVID-19 reopening plans across the country (Toronto Star)

As COVID-19 vaccination rates increase and case numbers drop across the country, the provinces and territories have begun releasing the reopening plans for businesses, events and recreational facilities. [Full story](#)

## International news

### The United States Department of Homeland Security has reportedly extended its COVID-19 travel restrictions for Canadians and Mexicans over another 30 days (CKRW 12 p.m.)

The United States Department of Homeland Security has reportedly extended its COVID-19 travel restrictions for Canadians and Mexicans over another 30 days. First reported by Reuters, the move comes after Canada announced it would begin allowing fully-vaccinated U.S. tourists and permanent residents into the country as of August 9th. It also comes as little surprise. Public Safety Minister Bill Blair had said. Homeland Security warned him the U.S. wouldn't be following Canada's lead. Border experts say the White House is likely not ready to open the U.S. Mexico border, given Mexico's existing refugee crisis and wants both frontiers opened at the same time.

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- [The new supervised drug consumption site in Whitehorse will be in a government-owned building at 6th Avenue and Cook Street \(CBC 6:30 a.m.\)](#)
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- [Plans for Yukon's 1st supervised consumption site underway \(CBC online\)](#)

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- [The Kwanlin Dün First Nations Community Safety Officer Program is serving as a model for a First Nation in Fort Liard \(CBC 6:30 a.m.\)](#)
- [Ontario Premier Doug Ford opposes creating a proof of vaccination system \(CKRW 7 a.m.\)](#)
- [Closing arguments are set to take place today at the Ontario trial of Linda O'Leary \(CKRW 7 a.m.\)](#)
- [Canadian Federation of Independent Business has launched a petition to urge the federal government to stop phasing out financial support programs \(CKRW 8 a.m.\)](#)
- [Toronto plans a memorial event tonight to mark the third anniversary of a mass shooting on the Danforth \(CKRW 8 a.m.\)](#)
- [A look at COVID-19 reopening plans across the country \(Toronto Star\)](#)

#### International news

- [Protestors take to the streets to protest the Tokyo Olympics \(CKRW 8 a.m.\)](#)

### Wednesday, July 21, 2021

#### CBC interviews, 4 to 6 p.m.

- 4:09 B. Sellery, Money Columnist, CBC, "Sellery talks about the returns on investment for Olympic athletes"
- 4:21 K. Messing, Ergonomist, "Messing talks about ergonomic considerations for women"
- 4:38 Audio: R. Mostyn, Community Services Minister, "Mostyn announces possibly lifting the *Civil Emergency Measures Act* next month"
- 4:42 C. Elliott, Acting Chief Medical Officer of Health, "Elliott pleads with the public to refrain from unrestricted socializing during the ongoing pandemic and to be kind to people who choose to keep precautions as restrictions lift"
- 4:47 S. Kurl, President, The Angus Reid Institute, "Kurl talks about survey results suggesting that vaccinated Canadians do not want to socialize with unvaccinated people"
- 4:55 Audio: B. Blair, Minister of Public Safety, "Blair answers questions about how Canada and the U.S. collaborate on border opening plans"
- 5:10 Z. McCann-Armitage, Organizer, Wonderhorse Festival, "McCann-Armitage talks about Wonderhorse Festival returning this summer"
- 5:22 J. Riley, Producer, CBC, "Riley remembers his friend, late jazz drumming legend Jerry Granelli"
- 5:37 S. Chua-Tan, Owner, Yukon Asian Market, "Chua-Tan promotes the durian challenge"
- 5:40 R. Archibald, National Chief, Assembly of First Nations, "Archibald wants residential school sites investigated as crime scenes"
- 5:44 J. MacDonald, Board Member, Yukon Salmon Subcommittee, "MacDonald talks about recent alarming years for salmon in Yukon"
- 5:52 E. Balser, Producer, CBC, "Balser talks about CBC Books' summer reading list"

#### Local news

##### The body of a man from Whitehorse and Ross River was recovered earlier this week (CBC 5:30 p.m.)

The body of a man from Whitehorse and Ross River was recovered earlier this week. RCMP say 33 year old Terry Douglas Ollie went missing on Saturday. They say after following up leads from Ollie's family, his body was found Monday in the Takhini area of Whitehorse. The Yukon Coroner's service says that the death is not considered suspicious.

##### The City of Whitehorse is planning changes to its Recreation Grant Program (CBC 5:30 p.m.)

The City of Whitehorse is planning changes to its Recreation Grant Program. The grants provide community organisations with money to deliver sports and recreation programs. Keri Rutherford is Program Supervisor for Recreation Services. She says the city wants to provide greater clarity in the application process. "To better reflect the intention of the program, the definition of capital has been replaced with equipment and means an item that is not part of the structure. Costs for developing, renovating and retrofitting infrastructure for new programs or initiatives continue to be eligible." Rutherford says the change will better reflect how the funding programme is used by community organisations. If city council approves the change, it would come into effect for the fall 2021 application cycle. The city provides \$200,000 a year to the Recreation Grant Program.

##### The Yukon Asian Market in Whitehorse is carrying Durian fruit and is inviting Yukoners to give it a taste (CBC 5:30 p.m.)

For Yukoners, it's a chance to put your tastebuds to the test. It's called the durian challenge. Durian is a staple fruit in Asia, but it also has a reputation for its intense odour. The Yukon Asian Market in Whitehorse is carrying the fruit and is inviting Yukoners to give it a taste. Owner Shirley Chua-Tan says the durian might smell bad, but it tastes great. "Some say it smells like your brother's feet, smelly socks, sewage, whatever you can think of. I think it really tastes like heaven. That's why it is called the king of fruit for a reason." Chua-Tan says the challenge is a form of cultural exchange and it's fun. Some durian is also headed up to Old Crow so people there can try the challenge as well.

##### Health and Wellness Fair planned (Whitehorse Star)

Organizers are encouraging members of the public to visit this Saturday's Yukon Health and Wellness Fair. [full story.](#)

##### Use Elections Yukon list for municipal vote, officials say (Whitehorse Star)

City administration is recommending the city use the Elections Yukon list of eligible electors to prepare for the Oct. 21 municipal election. [full story.](#)

**Record number of local dwellings are permitted (Whitehorse Star)**

The city is on another record pace for the number of residential dwellings that have been permitted. [full story](#).

**Territorial news****The Yukon government will lift many public health restrictions on August 4th (CBC 5:30 p.m.)**

The Yukon government will lift many public health restrictions on August 4th. Unvaccinated people entering the territory will no longer have to self-isolate. Masks will no longer be required in indoor public places, and bars and restaurants will be able to return to full capacity without physical distancing requirements. Catherine Elliott is Yukon's Acting Chief Medical Officer of Health. She says Yukon is at a low risk of new cases posed by easing restrictions. "I feel confident with this recommendation as we've accounted for all the jurisdictions current case activity and we've determined that the overall risk of COVID-19 of coming into the territory at a rapid rate is very unlikely. Across the country, provinces and territories are experiencing low case activity and high vaccination rates. As vaccination rates climb, our importation risk significantly decreases." Elliott still recommends people wear masks in specific settings such as doctors offices, hospitals and long term care facilities. As of July 16th, 85 percent of eligible adults had received their first dose of the Minister vaccine, and 79 percent have received their second dose. Youth, ages 12 to 18, are at 59 percent fully vaccinated.

**COVID cases have been increasing among Kwanlin Dün First Nation citizens (CBC 5:30 p.m.)**

While Yukon's active COVID-19 case numbers may be decreasing, cases have been increasing among Kwanlin Dün First Nation citizens. That's according to Chief Doris Bill, who posted a video update on Facebook. She says COVID-19 has been spreading due to parties and house to house visits in the community. Bill is urging KDFN citizens to stop gathering. She's also asking citizens to follow public health measures, get tested if they have COVID-19 symptoms and get vaccinated. "I know everyone is fed up with COVID and many of us are experiencing COVID fatigue, including myself. But be aware this virus is not done with us yet and this is no time to be giving up." As of July 19, 21 and citizens had COVID-19, the First Nation has seen 57 cases since the start of the pandemic and one death. Bill says five citizens have had to be hospitalised and one of those people is still in hospital.

**The high streamflow advisory for the Yukon River at Carmacks has ended (CBC 5:30 p.m.)**

The high streamflow advisory for the Yukon River at Carmacks has ended. Yukon Community Services says the water level at Carmacks has dropped more than 90 centimetres since July 3rd. The department says the Yukon River at Carmacks peaked at the end of June when water hit a level that is only experienced once every 200 years. Similarly, the level of Lake Laberge, which feeds the Yukon River, has been decreasing since July 16th.

**Flood watch expected to continue for another month in Southern Lakes (Yukon News)**

Water levels are slowly dropping in the Southern Lakes region, but emergency services and residents are preparing for a possible higher peak in mid-August. [full story](#).

**Lightning the cause of 21 new forest fires in the territory (Yukon News)**

A Yukon wildland fire activity report says two human-caused fires near Aishihik Lake were reported on the weekend. [full story](#).

**Mandatory masks, isolation for unvaccinated entering Yukon ending on Aug. 4 (Yukon News)**

Yukoners will no longer be required to mask up in indoor spaces beginning on Aug. 4. [full story](#).

**High streamflow advisory for the Yukon River at Carmacks has ended (Yukon News)**

The high streamflow advisory for the Yukon River at Carmacks has ended, according to a July 21 Emergency Coordination Centre press release. [full story](#).

**Masking, self-isolation set to end in Yukon as vaccination rate approaches 80 per cent (CBC online)**

In just two weeks, the Yukon government will ease major COVID-19 restrictions. [full story](#).

**Downtown site chosen for drug safe-house (Whitehorse Star)**

The Yukon government is moving on its promise to the NDP to build a safe-house for drug users. The location will be Sixth Avenue at Cook Street. [full story](#).

**COVID-19 cases still declining (Whitehorse Star)**

The COVID-19 outbreak in the Yukon continues to dwindle. [full story](#).

**Officials optimistic about flood management (Whitehorse Star)**

Yukon government officials are confident they can handle even the worst-case scenario for flooding in the Southern Lakes and Lake Laberge regions. [full story](#).

**Work set to start on major Old Crow project (Whitehorse Star)**

The Yukon government has announced that construction work is set to begin on one of its signature projects – the Health and Wellness Centre and 10-plex housing complex in Old Crow. [full story](#).

**YESAB recommends against mineral exploration project (Whitehorse Star)**

The Yukon Environmental and Socio-economic Assessment Board has recommended that an advanced mineral exploration project should not be allowed to proceed. [full story](#).

**Thunderstorms spark more fires (Whitehorse Star)**

Monday's thunderstorms, not unexpectedly, have started more wildfires around the Yukon. [full story](#).

**Yukon easing restrictions but some will remain until more people vaccinated: minister (Toronto Star)**

Rising vaccination rates and low numbers of infections mean several COVID-19 restrictions are expected to be lifted next month, the Yukon government says. [full story](#).

**Plans in place to protect large area of Yukon from unprecedented flooding (National Post)**

Unseasonable heat and rapidly melting snowpacks in Yukon have combined to produce unprecedented flooding far worse than the last major

flood event, and emergency officials say it could be weeks before conditions improve. [full story](#).

#### **Yukon easing restrictions but some will remain until more people vaccinated: minister (National Post)**

Rising vaccination rates and low numbers of infections mean several COVID-19 restrictions are expected to be lifted next month, the Yukon government says. [full story](#).

#### **Yukon to lift COVID-19 restrictions on travel and indoor gatherings as vaccination rates climb (Globe and Mail)**

Rising vaccination rates and low numbers of infections mean several COVID-19 restrictions are expected to be lifted next month, the Yukon government says. [full story](#).

### **National news**

#### **U.S. border stays closed for another month (Whitehorse Star)**

There's disappointing news today for Yukoners – or any Canadians – longing to cross the U.S. border. [full story](#).

#### **Governments seek decision on Kudz Ze Kayah mine (Whitehorse Star)**

The federal and Yukon governments have indicated they would like to have a decision on the Kudz Ze Kayah mine proposal in the next three months. [full story](#).

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### **Thursday, July 22, 2021**

#### **CBC interviews, 6 to 8:30 a.m.**

- 6:15 A. Banerji, Associate Professor, Dalla Lana School of Public Health, "Banerji talks about gaps in vaccination rates between rich and poor countries"
- 6:37 M. Selvarajah, Tech Columnist, CBC, "Volunteer editors recommend women's pages for deletion on Wikipedia far more often than the pages of men"
- 6:47 A. Parker, Producer, CBC, "Parker talks about covering the Tokyo Olympics"
- 6:56 L. Bay Regula, Olympic Softball Athlete, "Bay Regula talks about Canada's softball team"
- 7:18 G. Maratos, Reporter, CBC, "Maratos interviews people on the street about mosquitos"
- 7:21 D. Peach, Entomologist, "Peach talks about mosquitos"
- 7:38 Audio: C. Elliott, Yukon's Acting Chief Medical Officer of Health, "Elliott talks about the lifting of COVID restrictions"
- 7:50 D. Stewart, Cree Language Radio Host, "Stewart talks about being a residential school survivor"
- 8:14 J. Kiehl, Alaska State Senator, "Kiehl talks about the need to reopen the U.S. border"
- 8:21 J. Skelton, Watson Lake Community Reporter, "Skelton talks about recent conditions and events in the Watson Lake area"

#### **CHON-FM interviews, 6 to 9 a.m.**

- 8:05 C. Dixon, Yukon Party Leader, "Breakfast with the Opposition: Yukon Party Leader says it's great to see relaxed COVID restrictions"
- 8:40 J. Nielsen, Driving with Jens, "Driving with Jens: No regulations give drivers the right of way, rather laws dictate when drivers should yield or stop"

### **Local news**

#### **Environment Canada has ended a heat warning for Old Crow (CBC 6:30 a.m.)**

Environment Canada has ended a heat warning for Old Crow. The agency issued the warning Tuesday. Temperatures hovered around 28 degrees during the day, hitting a record high of 29.7 degrees on Tuesday. The previous record of 28.5 degrees was set in 2002. Environment Canada had advised people to stay well hydrated and to watch for signs of heat illness. It ended the heat warning just before 6:00 a.m. today.

#### **The body of a Whitehorse man has been found in the Takhini area (CKRW 7 a.m.)**

The body of a Whitehorse man has been found in the Takhini area after he was reported missing last weekend. Thirty-three-year-old Terry Oli had been reported missing since the evening of July 17th. And after an investigation, police were alerted of the discovery of his body on Monday afternoon. RCMP is continuing to assist the coroner's service in the investigation, but the death is not being considered suspicious. Police say there is no risk to the public at this time.

#### **A man charged with second degree murder in Dawson City has been granted bail (CBC 7:30 a.m.)**

A man charged with second degree murder in the death of BC man has been granted bail. Kane Morgan is accused of killing Kevin Edward McGowan, who was found dead in Dawson City in 2018. Morgan was arrested in May. His \$30,000 bail includes a number of conditions. Morgan is ordered to stay in Whitehorse, where he's subject to a daily curfew between 10 p.m. and 6 a.m. He is allowed to travel to Dawson for work but must obtain written permission. And he's barred from Dawson City's downtown. Morgan is ordered to abstain from alcohol and non-prescribed drugs, but the Crown did make an exception that he's permitted to smoke marijuana for anxiety-related issues. Morgan will appear again in court on August 4th.

#### **RCMP rescued two canoeists stranded on the Liard River last week (CHON 7:30 a.m.)**

Two canoeists stranded on the Liard River were rescued by RCMP last week. They were travelling from Car bou Lake to the Upper Liard Bridge when they activated the help button on their spot device. RCMP from Teslin and Watson Lake, along with the RCMP SAR coordinator worked with wildland fire management to use a helicopter to transport a member of the Watson Lake RCMP to the canoeists.



Once they were located, they were brought safely back to Watson Lake.

**The Vuntut Gwich'in government calls a by-election for two councillors (CHON 7:30 a.m.)**

Vuntut Gwich'in citizens will be heading to the polls. The Council of the Vuntut Gwich'in government has called a by-election for two councillors. Nominations are open today and close on July 29th. Advance polling will be on August 8th and 9th from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. down at the Old Crow Community Centre. Election Day will be August 16th. Votes can be cast on that day, also down at the community centre from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.

**UPDATE: The body of a Whitehorse man has been found in the Takhini area (CKRW 8 a.m.)**

Yukon Coroner's Service has confirmed that the body of a Whitehorse man has been found in the Takhini area. Thirty-three-year-old Terry Óli had been reported missing since the evening of July 17th. And after an investigation, the RCMP was alerted of the discovery of his body on Monday afternoon. The death is not considered suspicious. The RCMP is continuing to assist the coroner's service in the investigation. Police say there is no risk to the public at this time.

**Man facing murder charge for death in Dawson out on bail (Yukon News)**

A man arrested and charged with second-degree murder for the 2018 death of a man in Dawson City will soon be free on bail with a long list of conditions. [full story](#).

## **Territorial news**

**Eleven new wildfires were reported yesterday (CBC 6:30 a.m.)**

Fire crews are responding to six new blazes near Dawson City. Amongst them is a nine-hectare fire at Bell Creek. That's about 20 kilometres south of Dawson. Crews are also fighting a fire near Bonanza Creek Road. That fire's one tenth of a hectare. There have been a large number of lightning strikes across the territory in recent days. Eleven new wildfires were reported yesterday. Fire Information Officer Mike Fancie says Wildland Fire Management is actively scouting for new fires. He says that includes fire towers, satellite imagery and what are called loaded patrols. "So that's a fully equipped initial attack crew that is patrolling the area looking for smoke in an area where we know that lightning activity took place. So we have a pretty good sense that there was a fair amount of dry lightning that just took place around Whitehorse. And we have gotten smoke reports already from members of the public. So we have folks up in the helicopters that are ready to respond." There are currently more than 60 fires burning across the territory.

**Some Yukon employers are working on plans that would allow for partial remote work post-pandemic (CBC 6:30 a.m.)**

Employees in the Yukon are trickling back into the office. But what does in-person work look like after more than a year of working from home? And will remote work stay for good? Stantec employees are now allowed to work in-person at home or a mix of both. Lee Fleming manages the engineering firm's Whitehorse office. He says he's glad to have two-thirds of his employees back in the office full time. "You know, working in the office, it's a lot, I think, rather than working from home, just from the energy you get from your comrades here." Fleming says staff are still allowed to work remotely, but those who stay at home now have to prove they have a designated office space. "So you can't be working on the kitchen table anymore. You have a room, set it up as an office. You know, we're asking you to, if you're working at home, be working." As for the Yukon government, the Public Service Commission says almost everyone is back in the office. Less than 10 percent of staff is working remotely. But an internal survey found that many employees don't want to work in person full-time. The government is working on a plan that would allow for remote work post-pandemic.

**The new supervised drug consumption site in Whitehorse will be in a government-owned building at 6th Avenue and Cook Street (CBC 6:30 a.m.)**

The Yukon government has announced the location of a supervised drug consumption site in Whitehorse. It will be in a government-owned building at 6th Avenue and Cook Street. The Blood Ties Four Directions Centre will operate the site. Blood Ties' Executive Director says sites elsewhere have reduced property crime and opened doors for users to enter full recovery. Brontë Renwick-Shields says the opioid and fentanyl crisis in Yukon is just as dire as in other parts of the country. "And we have been very impacted in the Yukon at rates similar to British Columbia, in the rates of people who have been lost to overdose, and family members, friends and loved ones who have been affected by the impacts of overdose in our community." Health Minister Tracy McPhee says the safe consumption site will be open by the end of next month. She says negotiations are currently complete with Blood Ties Four Directions to operate the facility. McPhee says blood ties can provide experts in providing support and services to people who use intoxicants.

**Yukon reports seven new cases of COVID-19 in the territory (CKRW 7 a.m.)**

Yukon's acting chief medical officer of health, Dr. Catherine Elliott has reported seven new cases of COVID-19 in the Yukon bringing the active case count to 66 with reported recoveries. The locations of the new cases have yet to be confirmed. Dr. Elliott says six of the new cases were unvaccinated individuals. Speaking at yesterday's COVID-19 update, Dr. Elliott spoke about those who have contracted the virus despite being fully vaccinated. "Those who were vaccinated and did acquire COVID, likely had good immunity from the vaccine, but had prolonged exposure to the virus. I can tell you honestly that this outbreak would have been much more devastating had we not been leading the country in vaccination rates." Since June 1st, 465 cases of COVID-19 have been reported in the Yukon.

**The Yukon government launches a new supervised consumption site (CKRW 7 a.m.)**

The Yukon government is preparing to launch a new supervised consumption site, as laid out in the government's Confidence and Supply Agreement. Yukon NDP Whitehorse Centre MLA Emily Tredger says the NDP has been working for a place that Yukoners can safely receive trauma-informed care for substance issues, and the new consumption site will allow for that. "I think it's a really ideal site in that it's downtown. It's easily accessible. So, I think it's a great site and I hope that it will be in place for a long time." Mental Wellness and Substance Use Services director Cameron Grandy says the new government facility will be located along 6th Avenue in Whitehorse offering a central accessible location that will meet the needs of clients. He says clients will be able to utilise the hygienic supervised space to consume substances.

**REPEAT: The new supervised drug consumption site in Whitehorse will be in a government-owned building at 6th Avenue and Cook Street (CBC 7:30 a.m.)**

The Yukon government has announced the location of a supervised drug consumption site in Whitehorse. It will be in a government-owned building at 6th Avenue and Cook Street. The Blood Ties Four Directions Centre will operate the site. Blood Ties' Executive Director says sites elsewhere have reduced property crime and opened doors for users to enter full recovery. Brontë Renwick-Shields says the opioid and fentanyl crisis in Yukon is just as dire as in other parts of the country. "And we have been very impacted in the Yukon at rates similar to British Columbia, in the rates of people who have been lost to overdose, and family members, friends and loved ones who have



been affected by the impacts of overdose in our community." Health Minister Tracy McPhee says the safe consumption site will be open by the end of next month. She says negotiations are currently complete with Blood Ties Four Directions to operate the facility. McPhee says blood ties can provide experts in providing support and services to people who use intoxicants.

**REPEAT: Some Yukon employers are working on plans that would allow for partial remote work post-pandemic (CBC 7:30 a.m.)**

Employees in the Yukon are trickling back into the office. But what does in-person work look like after more than a year of working from home? And will remote work stay for good? Stantec employees are now allowed to work in-person at home or a mix of both. Lee Fleming manages the engineering firm's Whitehorse office. He says he's glad to have two-thirds of his employees back in the office full time. "You know, working in the office, it's a lot, I think, rather than working from home, just from the energy you get from your compadres here." Fleming says staff are still allowed to work remotely, but those who stay at home now have to prove they have a designated office space. "So you can't be working on the kitchen table anymore. You have a room, set it up as an office. You know, we're asking you to, if you're working at home, be working." As for the Yukon government, the Public Service Commission says almost everyone is back in the office. Less than 10 percent of staff is working remotely. But an internal survey found that many employees don't want to work in person full-time. The government is working on a plan that would allow for remote work post-pandemic.

**The Civil Emergency Measures Act could be lifted next month (CBC 7:30 a.m.)**

The Yukon government says the *Civil Emergency Measures Act* could be lifted next month. Yukon has the highest per capita rate of fully-vaccinated people in the country at 79 percent of adults. Yukon's Community Services Minister says that's why many COVID restrictions can now be lifted. Richard Mostyn says the *Civil Emergency Measures Act* is a temporary measure and will eventually be removed. "We've got such a good vaccination rate. We're now at the stage where we can withdraw the *Civil Emergency Measures Act*. When that happens, it'll be up to people to take personal responsibility for their health, just as they had prior to the pandemic." Mostyn did not provide a date when the *Civil Emergency Measures Act* would be lifted. But Yukon's Acting Chief Medical Officer of Health says other COVID measures will be lifted soon. Dr. Catherine Elliott says on August 4th, people entering Yukon will no longer have to self-isolate. Elliott also announced that masks will no longer be required in indoor public spaces, and bars and restaurants can return to full capacity. But Elliott says businesses may still ask that masks be worn. She also recommends masks continue to be used in settings like hospitals and long term care homes.

**The Yukon government says it will lift COVID restrictions on August 4 (CHON 7:30 a.m.)**

The COVID-19 pandemic has been ongoing in the territory for over a year and now some restrictions are being lifted. Starting on August 4th, Yukoners will be able to smile at one another once again. masks will no longer be mandatory in indoor public spaces. Physical distancing will not be required in bars and restaurants, and self-isolation rules will be dropped. Gathering size limits will still be in place. Establishments can still request that patrons don a face covering though Yukon's acting chief medical officer of health, Dr. Catherine Elliott, says masks will still be a valuable tool for flu season. Or if you are in long-term, close contact with a person who is unvaccinated. Dr Elliott says that with vaccination rates high and case counts dropping, it will soon be safe to de-mask. "We can keep our lives on pause for much longer. And as we continue to learn the ways of how COVID-19 targets, how it infects people, how it's transmitted, we have to transition to a time of living with COVID-19." As of July 16th, 85 per cent of eligible adults have received their first dose and 79 per cent have received their second. If case counts continued to decrease, the state of emergency and all other restrictions could be lifted next month. Dr Elliott says they will continue to monitor the situation and keep an eye on variants.

**Government Yukon announces a supervised consumption site in Whitehorse (CHON 7:30 a.m.)**

The Yukon is set to get a supervised consumption site where people can use drugs and illicit substances in the presence of trained health professionals. The facility will be at 6189 Sixth Avenue in Whitehorse according to a news release. It is a central accessible location that will meet the needs of clients. The existing government-owned building is being renovated to accommodate the requirements of a supervised consumption site. The release goes on to say, like the rest of Canada, the Yukon is experiencing an opioid crisis and continues to see an increase in overdose deaths. Supervised consumption sites help reduce overdose deaths and increase the number of clients accessing addiction treatment services. The Government of Yukon says they're working with the Blood Ties Four Directions Centre on the operational management and programming at the new site. A supervised consumption site is something the NDP campaigned for in the last territorial election. And as part of the Confidence and Supply Agreement they signed with the Liberals. NDP MLA for Whitehorse Centre Emily Tredger says the site will make community safer and help address overdoses through a health lens rather than a justice lens. "We're very excited and I've heard from a lot of Yukoners who are really excited, too. I think people really know that it's a crisis. We need to take action. There are people dying. We've had 16 deaths from opioid overdoses since the start of the pandemic. And it's past time to take action. So we're very proud that this project is looking forward." The party also wants to see a safe supply program so that people can be prescribed safe opioids instead of buying off the street. The Yukon will be the sixth jurisdiction in Canada to open a supervised consumption site. No word on when it will be opened.

**UPDATE: Yukon reports seven new cases of COVID-19 in the territory (CKRW 8 a.m.)**

Seven new cases of COVID-19 have been confirmed in the Yukon as of 12 p.m. yesterday. With reported recoveries, the territory's active case count is now at 66. Acting chief medical officer of health Dr. Catherine Elliott is continuing to stress the importance of getting vaccinated as the best level of protection against the virus. "It is clear that vaccination provides a strong barrier against the virus in its many forms. As we evaluate the case data for those who contracted COVID-19, we've been able to ascertain that for the most part it was unvaccinated and not fully vaccinated individuals who are getting sick." Since June 1st, 465 cases of COVID-19 have been reported in the Yukon.

**UPDATE: The Yukon government launches a new supervised consumption site (CKRW 8 a.m.)**

The Yukon government is checking another box off from the Confidence and Supply Agreement with the announcement of a new supervised consumption site in Whitehorse. Mental Wellness and Substance Use Services director Cameron Grandy says the new government facility will be located along 6th Avenue in Whitehorse offering a central accessible location that will meet the needs of clients. "They can bring their illicit substances with them and they will have a hygienic, supervised place where they can consume substances." Grandy says negotiations for support workers and onsite nursing staff are still underway. Yukon NDP Whitehorse Centre MLA Emily Tredger says this is a win for Yukoners as the opioid crisis has already claimed too many lives.

**Plans for Yukon's 1st supervised consumption site underway (CBC online)**

The Yukon government says plans for the territory's first supervised consumption site are underway. [full story.](#)

## National news

**The Kwanlin Dün First Nations Community Safety Officer Program is serving as a model for a First Nation in Fort Liard (CBC 6:30 a.m.)**  
 The Kwanlin Dün First Nations Community Safety Officer Program is serving as a model for a First Nation in the Northwest Territories. Fort Liard will be launching its own Community Safety Officer program. It's the first of its kind in the NWT. KDFN launched its program in 2017 after a young girl in the community was killed. Kwanlin Dün Chief Doris Bill says since then, crime rates have dropped. "We have documented evidence where we have saved the lives of the women from really unsafe situations. You know, they recognise our CSO officers and they recognise that they are a safe place." The pilot program in Fort Liard is expected to launch this year or next.

**Ontario Premier Doug Ford opposes creating a proof of vaccination system (CKRW 7 a.m.)**

Ontario Premier Doug Ford opposes any proof of vaccination system, but the province's science advisers say vaccine certificates would allow for a faster reopening. Not only that, the science table says the COVID-19 vaccine certificates would establish a system to guide the reintroduction of public health measures in the event of another spike in cases. The experts aren't talking about a vaccine passport which relates to travel, but an official certificate that would serve as a secure record of immunisation.

**Closing arguments are set to take place today at the Ontario trial of Linda O'Leary (CKRW 7 a.m.)**

Closing arguments are set to take place today at the Ontario trial of Linda O'Leary, who is charged in a boat crash that killed two people and injured several others. Her husband, celebrity businessman Kevin O'Leary, has testified in her defence. The Canadian Press' Karen Rebot has more. Kevin O'Leary testified to the Pelly Sound Court via Zoom yesterday about the day leading up to what he described as the chaotic late night crash on Muskoka Lake Joseph on August 24th, 2019. Linda O'Leary has pleaded not guilty to one charge of careless operation of a vessel. Kevin testified his wife drove their boat to and from a dinner party that night, as she often did. But he doesn't recall if his wife consumed alcohol. He also said the other boat was invisible until seconds before they collided. He claimed there was zero light coming from the other vessel until after the crash, when he said the lights turned on and the boat drove off without communicating with the O'Leary boat.

**Canadian Federation of Independent Business has launched a petition to urge the federal government to stop phasing out financial support programs (CKRW 8 a.m.)**

The Canadian Federation of Independent Business has launched a petition to urge the federal government to stop phasing out financial support programs like the Canada Emergency Wage Subsidy and the Canada Emergency Rent Subsidy. Both are expected to end in late September. The federation says only 35 per cent of small business owners are back to normal sales levels and that the support the programs are necessary to get the rest over the finish line.

**Toronto plans a memorial event tonight to mark the third anniversary of a mass shooting on the Danforth (CKRW 8 a.m.)**

There will be a memorial event this evening to mark the third anniversary of a mass shooting in Toronto's Greektown neighbourhood. The Canadian Press' Dawn Kelly more. Ten-year-old Julianna Kozis and 18-year-old Reese Fallon died and 13 others were injured along a busy stretch of Danforth Avenue by a man who later took his own life. Toronto Mayor John Tory says the city hopes for continued recovery for the victims and their families. He says the city is determined to keep Toronto safe and free from violence.

**A look at COVID-19 reopening plans across the country (Toronto Star)**

As COVID-19 vaccination rates increase and case numbers drop across the country, the provinces and territories have begun releasing the reopening plans for businesses, events and recreational facilities. [full story](#).

## **International news**

**Protestors take to the streets to protest the Tokyo Olympics (CKRW 8 a.m.)**

The opening ceremonies for the Tokyo Olympics are only a day away, but with COVID-19 cases surging in Japan, there are still calls to cancel or postpone the games. ABC News' Jim Ryan reports. You won't hear the cheering of fans during these games, but what you will hear is the chanting of protesters in the streets around the capital. People demanding that the games already delayed by one year be delayed again or cancelled altogether. Nearly 2,000 new coronavirus cases were reported here in Tokyo in the last day. One anti-Olympic's. Demonstrators held a sign asking, is it more important than life.

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## Thursday, July 22, 2021

### CBC interviews, 12 to 1 p.m.

- 12:12 M. Fancie, Fire Information Officer, Wildland Fire Management, Government of Yukon, "Wildland Fire Management recorded 17 new wildfires yesterday evening across central and southern Yukon as a result of lightning activity that struck 3,836 times over the course of the day."
- 12:22 M. Weinberg, Founder, Little Footprints Big Steps, "Weinberg, a Yukoner who currently lives in Haiti, discusses the chaotic situation in Haiti when the president was assassinated earlier this month."
- 12:43 A. Podolski, Manitoban honey farmer, "Podolski and other honey farmers in the area have noticed that this year, bears are eating more bee hives than usual."
- 12:49 C. Knockwood, member of the Abegweit First Nation, "Knockwood discusses returning to Scotchford, PEI, reconnecting with his culture and taking pride in being Mi'kmaw."

### Local news

**Two canoeists needed to be helped after equipment problems left them stranded (CKRW 12 p.m.)**

Yukon RCMP says two canoeists needed to be helped after equipment problems left them stranded in a remote area. Last Thursday, the

Teslin RCMP received a report that two paddlers travelling from Caribou Lake to the upper Liard Bridge near Watson Lake activated the help button on their spot device. Teslin and Watson Lake RCMP staff, along with Search and Rescue, collaborated with Yukon Wildland Fire Management to locate the couple with the use of a helicopter. The two were found and safely transported to Watson Lake.

#### **Former Yukon commissioner Jack Cable has died (CBC 12:30 p.m.)**

Former Yukon commissioner Jack Cable has died. Cable served as commissioner from 2000 to 2005. He was also a Liberal MLA for eight years. Cable was born in Hamilton, Ontario. He had degrees in business, law and chemical engineering. Cable came north in 1970, working as a lawyer before entering politics. He was named to the Order of Yukon last year. In a Facebook post, current commissioner Angélique Bernard said Cable was a devoted public servant. Jack Cable was 86.

#### **Dickson disappointed by appeal court's decision in Vuntut Gwitchin residency requirement case (CBC 12:30 p.m.)**

A Vuntut Gwitchin Citizen, who took her First Nation to court, says she's disappointed by a recent appeal court decision. Cindy Dickson filed a petition over Vuntut Gwitchin's residency requirement for chief and council elections. The rule says elected officials must move to settlement land within 14 days. A Yukon judge found that the 14 day time limit was unconstitutional. However, the Yukon Court of Appeal overruled that decision, saying the requirement could stand. Dickson says she's still absorbing the 127 page decision, and that it is too early to say what her next steps will be, if any. "I just want to say that it's been a difficult process and it's not easy to challenge something that's under a self-governing First Nation." The Vuntut Gwitchin Government issued a written statement on the decision. It says, Chief and Council are in discussion with the First Nation's legal team and will give further comment next week.

#### **Yukon Outfitters Association applauds the easing of border restrictions (CBC 12:30 p.m.)**

The executive director of the Yukon Outfitters Association is applauding the easing of border restrictions. The Canadian government says land borders will be open to fully vaccinated travellers soon. Fully vaccinated Americans can start crossing the border on August 9. Shawn Wassel says Yukon outfitters suffered losses during the pandemic and he says with the recent news, outfitters are already planning for next season. Wassel: "Again, having access to the bulk of our clientele from the US and internationally to be able to enter the Yukon, it really accommodates our, our business and provides us with a full season." Windeyer: Wassel says 80 percent of clients don't live in Canada. The US government has yet to reciprocate Canada's easing of border restrictions. American officials say the border will remain closed to non-essential travellers until at least August 21.

#### **A 33-year old Whitehorse man who was reported missing on the weekend has been found dead (CHON 12:30 p.m.)**

A 33-year old Whitehorse man who was reported missing on the weekend has been found dead. A missing person's report for Terry Douglas Ollie was filed by the RCMP on Sunday after no one had seen or heard from him since the previous evening. Yukon's Coroners Service confirms that his body was found the next day. The death is not being considered suspicious.

#### **Here's how 2 Yukon employers are navigating a more flexible return to the office (CBC online)**

Engineering firm Stantec lets employees choose between home, office, or both. [Full story](#)

#### **Future of shuttered Whitehorse movie theatres remain up in the air (CBC online)**

Owner Landmark Cinemas says there's no timeline for reopening the theatres. [Full story](#)

#### **Walk through Canada's Indigenous traditional territories at the Lorne Mountain Community Centre (Yukon News)**

The Lorne Mountain Community Association set up a Canada Day Reflection Walk through the country's Indigenous traditional territories. It will remain up through August. [Full story](#)

#### **\$91,000 incentive grant proposed for Whistle Bend development (Yukon News)**

Silver Flats will see 42 two-bedroom and studio units built on Keno Way. [Full story](#)

#### **Whitehorse man pleads guilty to assault on five youths (Yukon News)**

A sentencing date will be set soon for Geoffrey Matthew Muldoon. [Full story](#)

#### **At home and work, more caretaker suites proposed for Marwell (Yukon News)**

Zoning amendment would provide for three additional suites on Titanium Way property. [Full story](#)

### **Territorial news**

#### **Wildland Fire Management recorded 17 new wildfires yesterday evening across central and southern Yukon (CKRW 12 p.m.)**

Wildland Fire Management recorded 17 new wildfires yesterday evening across central and southern Yukon as a result of lightning activity that struck 3,836 times over the course of the day and in the past three days, a total of 33 new lightning-caused fires have been identified. The Dawson district saw nine new ignitions in conditions of moderate to high fire danger, four of which needed active suppression. And in Carmacks, crews continue to develop and implement structure protection plans for sites near the 725 hectare Ta'tla Mun Lake Fire and the 1,590-hectare Barefeet Creek fire.

#### **A Champagne and Aishihik citizen is speaking out about their experience with COVID-19 (CHON 12:30 p.m.)**

A Champagne and Aishihik citizen is speaking out about their experience with COVID-19. Darlene Jim is 57. She was diagnosed with the virus on Friday and went into the hospital early Tuesday morning. Jim was kept overnight so that hospital staff could keep an eye on her temperature and oxygen levels. Her left lung was weak, so she was given puffers. Jim says she took so many pills she can't even remember what she was on. She has been constantly tired and has been having trouble eating, which resulted in her losing weight. She got out of the hospital yesterday and is now at home. She says her son also has COVID-19 and is currently in the hospital. Jim is unvaccinated. Vaccination rates are high enough in the territory to ease some restrictions soon. Eighty-five percent of eligible adults have received their first dose and 79 percent have got their second. Jim is encouraging those not yet vaccinated to get their shot. "I'm so thankful to everybody for their prayers. And, you know, I thought, ah, I'm not going to get the shot. It's not going to affect me. I sure regret it." Jim also wants people to stop partying and respect elders and babies. Her condition is improving. She says she is still a little weak and shaky, though friends and family are checking up on her. They are bringing traditional medicine and praying for her.

#### **In the last three days, a total of 33 lightning-caused fires have been identified (CHON 12:30 p.m.)**

Wildland Fire Management recorded 17 new wildfires yesterday evening across central and southern Yukon as a result of lightning activity that struck 3,836 times over the course of the day. In the last three days, a total of 33 lightning-caused fires have been identified.

In the Lake Laberge area, lightning struck 500 metres from a Fox Creek residence. It caused a 0.1 hectare fire that was successfully contained by an initial attack crew with helicopter bucketing support. The Dawson district saw nine new ignitions in conditions of moderate to high fire danger. In Bell Creek, an air tanker group worked yesterday evening to slow the spread of a 15-hectare out-of-control fire. On Bonanza Creek Road an initial attack crews supported by a helicopter with a water bucket contained a 0.1 hectare blaze. In Dominion Creek, an air tanker group dropped retardant along the front of a 0.3 hectare fire to slow its spread. East of Dempster Corner, an initial attack crews supported by two helicopters with water buckets, held a 0.6 hectare out-of-control blaze 12 kilometres east of the Dempster Highway Junction with the North Klondike Highway. And in Carmacks, crews continue to develop and implement structure protection plans for sites near the 725 Ta'tla Mun Lake and the 1,590-hectare Barefeet Creek fires. Drivers might see these fires from the North Klondike and Robert Campbell Highways, respectively, but neither road is threatened.

**Yukon Wildland Fire Management says lightning sparked 17 new wildfires in the territory in the past day (CBC 12:30 p.m.)**

Yukon Wildland Fire Management says lightning sparked 17 new wildfires in the past day. The agency recorded over 3,800 lightning strikes yesterday and there have been 33 new lightning-caused fires in the last three days. In Dawson City, there were nine new fires. The largest is at Bell Creek and in the Carmacks area firefighters are protecting sites near fires at Ta'tla Mun Lake and Bear Feed Creek. Those fires may be visible from the North Klondike and Robert Campbell highways, but neither road is threatened by the fires. Including those new fires, there have been 89 wildfires in the Yukon this season.

**The Yukon government says there will be a supervised drug consumption site operating by the end of next month (CBC 12:30 p.m.)**

The Yukon government says it will have a supervised drug consumption site operating by the end of next month. Health Minister Tracy-Anne McPhee says work is underway on the site at a government-owned building at 6th Avenue and Cook Street in downtown Whitehorse. She says negotiations are nearly complete, with Blood Ties Four Directions to operate the facility. "Our partnership with Blood Ties builds on the fact that they are experts in providing support and services to those who use intoxicants. And the partnership will help us reach the community of individuals that are at risk and help save lives." The executive director of Blood Ties Four Directions says some people may not agree with the safe consumption site, but Bronté Renwick-Shields says safe user sites elsewhere have reduced property crime and open doorways for drug users to enter full recovery. She says the opioid crisis in the Yukon is just as dire as in other parts of the country.

**Some local employers may look at a more flexible return to the office (CBC 12:30 p.m.)**

Employees in the Yukon are trickling back into the office. But what does in-person work look like after more than a year of working from home? And will remote work stay for good? Stantec employees are now allowed to work in-person, at home or a mix of both. Lee Fleming manages the engineering firm's Whitehorse office. He says he's glad to have two thirds of his employees back in the office full time. "You know, working in the office, it's a lot, I think, better rather than working from home, just from the energy you get from your compadres here." Fleming says staff are still allowed to work remotely, but those who stay at home now have to prove they have a designated office space. "So you can't be working on the kitchen table anymore. If you have a room, set it up as an office. You know, we're asking you to, if you're working at home be working." As for the Yukon government, the Public Service Commission says almost everyone is back in the office. Less than 10 percent of staff is working remotely. But an internal survey found that many employees don't want to work in person full time. The government is working on a plan that would allow for remote work post pandemic.

**Stranded Yukon canoeists rescued thanks to satellite safety device (CBC online)**

RCMP located the pair and transported them safely to Watson Lake. [Full story](#)

## **National news**

**Green Party Leader Annamie Paul is seeking to frame a legal challenge from one from her own party as the work of a small group of outgoing executives (CKRW 12 p.m.)**

Green Party Leader Annamie Paul is seeking to frame a legal challenge from one from her own party as the work of a small group of outgoing executives that amounts to a one-sided attack. As she opened her campaign office in downtown Toronto today, Paul said that the court action was not sanctioned by the Greens' main governing body. "This was not an action sanctioned by our federal council. It is not an action that came before our federal council. And so I am asking people to just have patience as we transition." Yesterday, the parties submitted court filings that aim to overturn arbitration orders to cancel a non-confidence vote against Paul by the council. The continued turmoil inside the Green Party comes as it and other federal parties prepare for what many expect will be a federal election as early as next month.

**96 percent of Albertans who have tested positive for COVID-19 since January 1st hadn't had two doses of vaccine (CKRW 12 p.m.)**

Alberta Chief Medical Officer of Health, Dr. Deena Hinshaw says 96 percent of Albertans who have tested positive for COVID-19 since January 1st hadn't had two doses of vaccine. Hinshaw says most of the province's new infections, hospitalisations, and deaths are among those who are either unvaccinated or within two weeks of their first shot. She points out that one dose of vaccine is 57 percent effective against the Delta variant, whereas two doses are 85 percent effective.

**A summit on Islamophobia has been told government action is needed to end discrimination and attacks against Muslim (CKRW 12 p.m.)**

A summit on Islamophobia has been told government action is needed to end discrimination and attacks against Muslims. While he conceded his government must take action, Prime Minister Justin Trudeau told the virtual gathering that everyone has a role to play to fight Islamophobia. "Governments, institutions, and organisations, workplaces and individual Canadians all have essential roles to play, to be friends, to be allies, but also to be part of the solution." The summit was organised following a series of violent, targeted attacks that killed or injured Muslim Canadians and left communities across the country in shock.

**Closing arguments have been heard in court regarding the wife of celebrity businessman Kevin O'Leary's boat crash north of Toronto that killed two people (CKRW 12 p.m.)**

In his closing arguments, lawyer Brian Greenspan has told the Ontario court evidence that another boat's lights were off at the time of a fatal crash is too strong to find his client, Linda O'Leary, guilty. The wife of celebrity businessman Kevin O'Leary was charged with careless operation of a vessel following an August 2019 boat crash north of Toronto that killed two people. Greenspan says it's also not possible to know the speed of O'Leary's boat, whether she was impaired by alcohol at the time or if she was operating the boat in a careless manner.

**Report outlines 'violent, fraught' history of Wood Buffalo National Park and impact on First Nation (CBC online)**

'We're asking that the true people of that land be recognized,' Chief Allan Adam says. [Full story](#)

## International news

**The U.S. Department of Homeland Security announced that they are extending their COVID-19 restrictions on travel by land from Canada (CHON 12:30 p.m.)**

Yesterday, the U.S. Department of Homeland Security announced that they are extending their COVID-19 restrictions on travel by land from Canada to America until at least August 21st. Earlier this week, the Canadian government announced that fully-vaccinated Americans and permanent residents can come to the country starting August 9th. With self-isolation rules and mask mandates being lifted here in the territory in just two weeks, that means we could soon see naked-faced U.S. visitors. The Yukon's Official Opposition Yukon Party Leader Currie Dixon says he wants to see clear coordination between Canada and the United States to align their measures. "What we're going to run into in the next week or two is a situation where here in the Yukon, Alaskans will be able to drive to Whitehorse without any sort of restrictions but Yukoners won't be able to drive to Alaska without significant restrictions. So that doesn't seem fair. Doesn't seem right. And we want to see the government of Canada step up and really push the American government to reverse that policy because we don't think it makes sense." Dixon says his party has not spoken to the federal or territorial government on the matter, but they hope the government of Yukon will step up more forcefully.

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### International news

[Ottawa will fast-track the resettlement of Afghans who previously worked with the Canadian military and embassy and are now at risk from the Taliban \(CKRW 12 p.m.\)](#)

## Friday, July 23, 2021

### CBC interviews, 12 to 1 p.m.

12:11 M. Tuton, Yukon hockey coach, "Hockey coach rallies former players to help battle flooding in Marsh Lake."  
 12:25 J. Short and T. Johnson, Saskatchewan residents, "Short and Johnson are visiting Yukon from Saskatchewan — where COVID restrictions were lifted on July 11 — they share their thoughts on what life without COVID restrictions is like."  
 12:43 L. Townsend, Alaska Public Media, "'It's the fabric of our culture coming apart': Yukon River communities face chinook and chum closure."  
 12:48 J. Banning, Columnist, CBC Radio One, "Indigenous knowledge holders are using social media to teach the process of making fish skin leather."

### Local news

#### The Whitehorse RCMP is thanking the public for their efforts in helping with a river rescue (CKRW 12 p.m.)

The Whitehorse RCMP is thanking the public for their efforts in helping with a river rescue along the Yukon River. In Whitehorse yesterday afternoon, a call was placed to police about a man in the water of the Yukon River near downtown. While police actioned their boats and attempted to reach the man from land, Scott McDougall, the owner of Kanoe People, also got in the water and launched a canoe to follow. McDougall grabbed hold of the man and aided in the rescue effort. Police are reminding the public to always wear a life jacket or some form of personal flotation device when in or near the water.

#### Local hero saves man who was swept down the Yukon River (CBC 12:30 p.m.)

A harrowing scene unfolded on the Yukon River in downtown Whitehorse Thursday. A man was swept down the swollen river. Scott McDougall sprang into action. He jumped into a canoe and paddled towards the struggling man. "Probably 100 feet before I got to him, 75 to 100 feet. He went under and didn't come up. And I lost sight of him. But I just focussed on where I last saw him and just, just went as fast as I could and hoped I was going to be able to see him under the water, which I did, thank goodness. And I grabbed him." McDougall says a matter of seconds could have drastically changed the outcome. He was able to deliver the man to shore safely. McDougall says the man appeared unconscious. EMS and the RCMP were waiting on the riverbank. A first responder said the man was breathing.



### **CBC North's Gwich'in language radio host provides coverage of the 2020 Olympic Games opening ceremonies in Gwich'in (CBC 12:30 p.m.)**

The 2020 Olympic Games officially kicked off this morning and the opening ceremonies were broadcast in eight Indigenous languages, including Gwich'in. The CBC's William Firth had the call in Gwich'in this morning. Speaking to Airplay guest host Paul Tukker yesterday, Firth admitted to some nerves ahead of the ceremony. "Working with language is always a challenge, especially in the English dominated world today, so it's just like an everyday thing for me." Firth says he hopes the broadcast paves the way for more Gwich'in programming. The Olympic Games run until August 8.

### **Five Yukon municipalities are upgrading recreational facilities through the Canada Community Building Fund (CHON 12:30 p.m.)**

Here at home, five municipalities in the territory are investing nearly \$3.5 million of their cut of the Canada Community Building Fund to upgrade recreational facilities. The Village of Carmacks is redeveloping their Merv Tew Park to provide new attractions for residents and visitors, including installing a new gazebo, disc golf course and relocating the playground. In Haines Junction, accessibility upgrades will improve access to the Pine Lake Trail system. The City of Dawson is building and upgrading its network of trails. In Whitehorse an accessible playground is being built at the Canada Games Centre and on Schwatka Lake, floatplane docks and new parking lots will provide improved access to regional airport and recreational infrastructure. The Village of Haines Junction used the funding to replace the roof of the St. Elias Convention Centre to extend the life of the events venue. The Canada Community Building Fund used to be called the Gas Tax Fund. It was renamed last month.

## **Territorial news**

### **The Yukon government will increase the territory's minimum wage to \$15.20 (CKRW 12 p.m.)**

The Yukon government has updated its commitment to increase the minimum wage in the territory, as mentioned in their speech from the throne in May. On August 1st the Yukon government will increase the territory's minimum wage to \$15.20 an hour. Community Services Minister Richard Mostyn says increasing the minimum wage will help ensure Yukoners can afford the daily necessities and help employers attract and retain staff. The Northwest Territories will raise its minimum wage to \$15.20 an hour starting September 1st, and the government of Canada will raise the federal minimum wage to \$15 an hour effective December 29th, 2021.

### **Yukon Wildland Fire Management are battling several new blazes around the territory (CKRW 12 p.m.)**

Yukon Wildland Fire Management says they're working to battle several new blazes around the territory. Fire Information Officer Mike Fancie says Wednesday's lightning activity presented several new fires that required immediate action from fire crews. But those efforts are now being directed towards other fires. Fancie says work is continuing in the Dawson and Carmacks region. "Mostly in the Dawson area, as well as structure protection that's taking place in fires in the Carmacks area, as well as continued assessment of fires that are taking place across the territory." He says while those efforts are underway, it's worth noting that the Watson Lake District now has returned to normal fire restrictions down from a level two burn restriction.

### **Local First Nation Citizen speaks out about their experience with COVID-19 (CBC 12:30 p.m.)**

Yukon has one of the best vaccination rates in Canada, and despite that, the territory is going through its own wave of COVID-19 infections. Darlene Jim is a member of the Kwanlin Dün First Nation. Last Friday, she tested positive for COVID. Now she's urging people to get vaccinated. "Just needed to grab some puffers." Last Friday, Darlene Jim thought she was suffering from bronchitis. A trip to the hospital and a rapid COVID test revealed she was infected. "I wasn't really totally in shock because I didn't get my COVID vaccination." She was sent home to isolate. Over the weekend she lost her appetite and says she got even more sick. "I was pretty much gasping for air and coughing hard." Jim posted her illness on Facebook and warned everyone to get their COVID vaccine shots. "To the youth that are out partying, having their COVID parties, please stop. Get vaccinated. This COVID stuff is real and it's really painful." Jim is now recovering at home and is on antibiotics, puffers, steroids and blood thinners. She says her bullheadedness could have killed her.

### **Yukon's minimum wage is going up by more than a dollar next month (CBC 12:30 p.m.)**

Yukon's minimum wage is going up by more than a dollar next month. On August 1, it will go from \$13.85 an hour to \$15.20. The increase comes after an agreement between the Yukon Liberals and the Yukon NDP caucus. NDP leader Kate White called the wage bump an important step in the right direction for the territory's workers. Yukon will join several other jurisdictions that have already increased their minimum wage over \$15 and includes British Columbia, Alberta and Nunavut.

### **Local leaders remember Jack Cable (CBC 12:30 p.m.)**

Former Yukon commissioner Jack Cable is being remembered for his lifetime of public service. Cable died on Wednesday. He served as commissioner from 2000 to 2005. He was also a Liberal MLA for eight years. Premier Sandy Silver says Cable's contributions to the Yukon were legendary. He says Cable will be remembered for his selflessness. "He had an illustrious career. He dedicated himself to volunteer work. His political contributions, you can't fake when you're, like, listening to others and making it about others. Jack didn't talk a lot about Jack. He talked a lot about what was important to Yukoners, and I'll just never forget that." Yukon Party Leader Currie Dixon and Yukon MP Larry Bagnell also remembered Cable in statements yesterday. Bagnell says Cable spent decades making Yukon the territory we know today. Outside of politics, Cable served as president of the Yukon Chamber of Commerce. He was the director of the Yukon Science Institute and a member of the advisory board of the Salvation Army Adult Residential Centre. Cable was named to the Order of Yukon last year. He was 86. No funeral details have been announced yet.

### **COVID Update (CHON 12:30 p.m.)**

Yukon's Acting Chief Medical Officer of Health, Dr. Catherine Elliott, is reporting seven new confirmed cases of COVID-19 since Wednesday. The locations of the infections are still being confirmed. The territory's active case count is now at 72. According to the latest news release, because of an increase in cases in Watson Lake, a rapid response testing team will arrive in the community today and start testing tomorrow. The Watson Lake Health Centre will also be hosting an adult vaccination clinic today. Earlier this week, it was announced that starting August 4th, masks will no longer be mandatory in indoor public spaces, physical distancing will not be required in bars and restaurants, and self-isolation rules will be dropped. Premier Sandy Silver says he will still be masking up, though. "When I'm in Whitehorse, I stay at an apartment building and there are some elderly folks in my complex as well. And I think it's one of those things that you just kind of show when you're at these public spaces. I'm wearing my mask mostly to protect others. And I think it's just one of those things. I mean, it's great that sometimes you're at your desk and you don't have to wear your mask then you stand up and then you put your mask on and you go through that and you're not really seeing other people. I'm sure that in certain areas, you know, I'll be a little bit more free with the mask. But I think it's one of those habits, too, that, you know, we've kind of habituated to it over the last year. Yukoners have been absolutely fantastic. You know, I got messages from people last night going 'Hallelujah.' You know, happy as heck that they don't have to wear the mask anymore. But they did. You know, I just love that about our community. It's like they're a pain. I get it. But at the same time, they work and they really did keep others safe. The people that, you know, some of our elderly and people that, you know, get sick easier, it's really cool to see Yukoners step up. But yeah, I think even myself, I'll be wearing it less and less as the days and weeks and months go on, probably." At Wednesday's COVID-19 press conference, Dr. Elliott said masks will still be a valuable tool for flu season if you're in long term close contact with a person who is unvaccinated.

**For Yukon store owners, end to mandatory masking brings mixed reactions (CBC online)**

'The thought of now engaging in a new kind of conflict is not one that interests me,' says one. [Full story](#)

**Minimum wage in Yukon set to go up to \$15.20 next month (CBC online)**

Territory will join several other Canadian jurisdictions with minimum wage over \$15. [Full story](#)

**Yukon and federal officials to make early learning and childcare announcement (CBC online)**

Deputy Prime Minister Chrystia Freeland will join the premier and others at 11:30 YT. [Full story](#)

**Kwanlin Dün pushes back on Yukon reopening plan (CBC online)**

'I just really feel that this is a move in the wrong direction for us,' says chief Doris Bill. [Full story](#)

**Yukon Court of Appeal rules in favour of Vuntut Gwitchin council residency requirement (Yukon News)**

Judge says the case raises issues around rights of self-governing First Nations never heard in court. [Full story](#)

**Building on 6th Avenue chosen for Whitehorse safe consumption site (Yukon News)**

"We have lost far too many Yukoners as a result of drug overdoses." [Full story](#)

**National news****The Queen of England bestowed several honours on incoming Governor General Mary Simon (CKRW 12 p.m.)**

In national news, the Queen bestowed several honours on incoming Governor General Mary Simon during a virtual meeting on Facebook, as Simon is now an Extraordinary Companion of the Order of Canada and an Extraordinary Commander of the Order of Military Merit and a Commander of the Order of Merit of the Police Forces. "It's very nice to have a chance to talk." "Yes, Your Majesty, it is wonderful to be able to speak to you today." "So you're taking over a very important job." "Yes, I'm very privileged to be able to do this work over the next few years, and I think it's vitally important for our country." Simon will be sworn in as the Queen's representative in Canada and the country's first Indigenous Governor-General starting on Monday.

**The Queen bestowed several honours on incoming Governor General Mary Simon (CHON 12:30 p.m.)**

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**International news****Ottawa will fast-track the resettlement of Afghans who previously worked with the Canadian military and embassy and are now at risk from the Taliban (CKRW 12 p.m.)**

The federal government announced that it will fast-track the resettlement of Afghans who previously worked with the Canadian military and embassy and are now at risk from the Taliban. Foreign Affairs Minister Marc Garneau says he's getting targeted Afghans to safety in Canada in the right way. "As the level of violence increases, we have a responsibility to protect targeted people for helping us to advance human rights, education, health and security in their country." Immigration Minister Marco Mendicino says those who helped Canada carry out its mission in Afghanistan are in real danger as a Taliban resurgence in the country begins to build.

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- [A third Yukoner has won the lottery this year \(CBC 5:30 p.m.\)](#)
- [Cruise ship arrives in Skagway, after passenger flown home with COVID-19 \(CBC online\)](#)
- [Yukoner's poems about extinct species win national book award \(CBC online\)](#)
- [Victoria Gold wants to double down on hunt for silver and gold in Yukon \(CBC online\)](#)
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- [Help sought in solving 2007 homicide \(Whitehorse Star\)](#)
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- [There are now 89 active cases of COVID in the Yukon \(CBC 5:30 p.m.\)](#)
- [Yukon RCMP boats have been busy this summer rescuing people \(CBC 5:30 p.m.\)](#)
- [More recoveries than new cases of COVID-19 in Yukon for 1st time in a week \(CBC online\)](#)
- [Discrepancies surface in Watson Lake's COVID case count \(Whitehorse Star\)](#)
- [Damp weather assists firefighting efforts \(Whitehorse Star\)](#)
- [Yukon COVID-19 recoveries surpass diagnoses for the first time in a week: top doctor \(National Post\)](#)

### National news

- [The Vax for BC campaign launched today \(CBC 5:30 p.m.\)](#)
- [The Warriors Walk for Healing Nations is drawing closer to Kamloops \(CBC 5:30 p.m.\)](#)

[Wednesday, July 28, 2021](#)

[CBC interviews, 6 to 8:30 a.m.](#)

[CHON-FM interviews, 6 to 9 a.m.](#)

### Local news

- [Tr'ondëk First Nation ask citizens not to harvest Chinook \(CBC 6:30 a.m.\)](#)
- [Whitehorse group informs residents of possible threats in the event of a wildfire \(CBC 6:30 a.m.\)](#)
- [Whitehorse writer wins the Fred Kerner Book Award \(CBC 6:30 a.m.\)](#)
- [Yukon RCMP say they've already received calls from the public since asking for help on a cold case \(CBC 7:30 a.m.\)](#)
- [Dawson City woman is speaking out about her near-death experience with COVID-19 \(CBC 7:30 a.m.\)](#)
- [Yukon woman facing long rehab after coma urges everyone to get COVID-19 vaccine \(CBC online\)](#)

### Territorial news

- [Yukon reports more COVID recoveries than new cases, first time in a week \(CBC 6:30 a.m.\)](#)
- [The active COVID case count in Yukon is 89 \(CKRW 7 a.m.\)](#)
- [The Official Opposition is calling on the Yukon government to speak up around concerns of a possible firewood shortage \(CKRW 7 a.m.\)](#)
- [BMC Minerals Ltd. is donating over \\$12,000 to flood mitigation efforts \(CKRW 7 a.m.\)](#)
- [UPDATE: Yukon reports more COVID recoveries than new cases, first time in a week \(CBC 7:30 a.m.\)](#)
- [Construction is underway on a backup Internet and telecommunications fibre optic line \(CBC 7:30 a.m.\)](#)
- [Yukon Bureau of Statistics says there are about 1,000 more Yukoners than this time last year \(CBC 7:30 a.m.\)](#)
- [University of Waterloo researchers study cannabis use in Yukon \(CBC 7:30 a.m.\)](#)
- [On August 4th, many pandemic restrictions will be dropped completely \(CHON 7:30 a.m.\)](#)
- [Construction has begun on the \\$67 million Dempster fibre line project \(CHON 7:30 a.m.\)](#)
- [The government of Yukon is extending and expanding the Innovative and Renewable Energy Initiative \(CHON 7:30 a.m.\)](#)
- [REPEAT: The active COVID case count in Yukon is 89 \(CKRW 8 a.m.\)](#)
- [REPEAT: The Official Opposition is calling on the Yukon government to speak up around concerns of a possible firewood shortage \(CKRW 8 a.m.\)](#)
- [REPEAT: BMC Minerals Ltd. is donating over \\$12,000 to flood mitigation efforts \(CKRW 8 a.m.\)](#)

### National news

- [Sexual health advocacy group says NWT youth are hospitalised for mental health at two-and-a-half times the national rate \(CBC 6:30 a.m.\)](#)
- [The annual inflation rate hit 3.1 percent in June \(CKRW 7 a.m.\)](#)

- [REPEAT: The annual inflation rate hit 3.1 percent in June \(CKRW 8 a.m.\)](#)
- [Newfoundland and Labrador is becoming the fourth province to strike a deal with Ottawa for \\$10 a day childcare \(CKRW 8 a.m.\)](#)
- [Health officials in Alberta say the Calgary Stampede was not a significant spreader of COVID-19 \(CKRW 8 a.m.\)](#)
- [Today's coronavirus news: Tokyo sets another virus record days after Olympics begin; Sydney lockdown extended 4 weeks as Delta surge worsens; Tanzania kicks off vaccinations \(Toronto Star\)](#)
- [A look at COVID-19 reopening plans across the country \(Toronto Star\)](#)

#### International news

- [U.S. Centres for Disease Control and Prevention has recommended that even vaccinated people should wear masks in areas of substantial COVID-19 transmission \(CKRW 7 a.m.\)](#)

### **Tuesday, July 27, 2021**

#### **CBC interviews, 4 to 6 p.m.**

- 4:14 L. Nayally (Host of CBC's *Trail's End*) & R. Natal [sp?] (Tuktoyaktuk Resident) "Nayally and Natal report from the centennial anniversary of signing Treaty 11 in Teet'it Zheh (Fort MacPherson)"
- 4:25 "Olympic update"
- 4:38 S. Clark, Volunteer, Citizens of Firesmart Whitehorse, "Clark talks about what pushed him to get involved in fire preparedness work for Copper Ridge"
- 4:52 G. Maratos, Reporter, CBC, "Maratos interviews Hardcourt B ke Polo players"
- 5:11 C. Irvin, Mayor of Watson Lake, "Irvin talks about the 30 active cases in Watson Lake"
- 5:18 M. Rajhans, Tech Columnist, CBC, "Rajhans talks about *Roblox*"
- 5:25 "Olympic update"
- 5:38 M. Rosenblatt, Co-author, "Rosenblatt talks about his book *How Ten Global Cities Take On Homelessness Innovations That Work*"
- 5:52 H. Waters, Reporter, CBC, "Waters reports on a showcase of amphibious vehicles used in rescue situations"

#### **Local news**

##### **Skagway has welcomed a large cruise ship to port (CBC 5:30 p.m.)**

For the first time since 2019, Skagway, Alaska has welcomed a large cruise ship to port. And for many people in the town, the moment represents a lifeline. The ships mean big business, especially for a small community that relies on tourism. But the flow of passengers also means the risk of introducing new COVID-19 cases. Andrew Cremata is the Mayor of Skagway. He says the return of cruise ships are a sign of things returning to normal. "Overwhelming majority of people are extremely excited with light at the end of the tunnel. Obviously, there's still some challenges to overcome. We have to be hyper-aware that there's, you know, still the remnants of a pandemic going on in some places on the globe." Cremata says Skagway has a high vaccination rate. He says town officials are urging people to wear masks indoors. Cremata says cruise ship business represents 95 percent of Skagway's economy.

##### **A third Yukoner has won the lottery this year (CBC 5:30 p.m.)**

A Whitehorse resident is a million dollars richer. Michael Healey won the June 18th Lotto max draw. He's one of 25 people across the country who won a million dollars in that draw. He bought his winning ticket at the Trails North Truckstop in Whitehorse. In a news release, Healey says he plans to pay off some bills, help his family financially and one day buy a boat. The Western Canada Lottery Corporation says Healey is the third Yukoner to win a million dollars this year.

##### **Cruise ship arrives in Skagway, after passenger flown home with COVID-19 (CBC online)**

Andrew Cremata, mayor of Skagway, Alaska, calls the first big cruise ship to arrive in his community in nearly two years the "light at the end of the tunnel." [full story](#).

##### **Yukoner's poems about extinct species win national book award (CBC online)**

March 2020 wasn't the greatest time to publish and promote a new book. [full story](#).

##### **Victoria Gold wants to double down on hunt for silver and gold in Yukon (CBC online)**

Victoria Gold is looking past its flagship mine in Yukon, which poured its first gold bar less than two years ago. [full story](#).

##### **Communities', First Nations' funding enhanced (Whitehorse Star)**

Catherine McKenna, the minister of Infrastructure and Communities, has announced that the Yukon has received \$17.25 million through the new Canada Community-Building Fund for the 2021-22 fiscal year, along with a top-up of \$16.5 million. [full story](#).

##### **Help sought in solving 2007 homicide (Whitehorse Star)**

The Yukon RCMP Historical Case Unit is seeking public assistance to solve one of the most disturbing Yukon homicides in recent history. [full story](#).

##### **Whistle Bend's expansion is proceeding (Whitehorse Star)**

Development of Area C in the Whistle Bend subdivision is moving forward. [full story](#).

##### **Mayor praises late commissioner's achievements (Whitehorse Star)**

Mayor Dan Curtis paid tribute to the late Jack Cable to begin Monday's city council meeting. [full story](#).

#### **Territorial news**

#### **There are now 89 active cases of COVID in the Yukon (CBC 5:30 p.m.)**

There are six new confirmed cases of COVID-19 in the Yukon. Chief Medical Officer of Health Dr. Brendan Hanley says three of the cases are in Whitehorse and two are in the communities. He says one case is an out of territory resident who is in the Yukon. Hanley says there are no new cases in Watson Lake, where there has been an outbreak of cases in the past week. Hanley says for the first time in a week, there are more recoveries from COVID than new cases. There are now 89 active cases in the Yukon.

#### **Yukon RCMP boats have been busy this summer rescuing people (CBC 5:30 p.m.)**

Yukon RCMP say their boats have been busy this summer rescuing people. The detachment is asking Yukoners to be mindful of water conditions. They're also urging boaters to wear personal flotation devices. Inspector Lindsay Ellis says police saw the evidence of PFDs in action during a routine patrol last week. "They came upon four young gentlemen who had capsized on their canoe. And they found the canoe but didn't find the four young men. They ended up finding them on a beach. They were all wearing their PFDs. They had swam to shore to safety. They were cold and wet, but they were alive." Officials say this summer's high water levels add to the risk posed by boating. Ellis says the RCMP have conducted 14 rescues on Yukon waterways this summer.

#### **More recoveries than new cases of COVID-19 in Yukon for 1st time in a week (CBC online)**

Yukon has seen more recoveries than new confirmed COVID-19 cases for the first time in a week, according to the territory's chief medical officer of health. [full story.](#)

#### **Discrepancies surface in Watson Lake's COVID case count (Whitehorse Star)**

A large outbreak of COVID-19 in Watson Lake is jangling nerves while controversy is brewing over the numbers being reported. [full story.](#)

#### **Damp weather assists firefighting efforts (Whitehorse Star)**

A cooler, wetter weekend and Monday were just what was needed for Yukon Wildland Fire Management. [full story.](#)

#### **Yukon COVID-19 recoveries surpass diagnoses for the first time in a week: top doctor (National Post)**

Yukon reported six new cases of COVID-19 on Tuesday as the territory's top doctor says there were more recoveries than new diagnoses for the first time in a week. [full story.](#)

### **National news**

#### **The Vax for BC campaign launched today (CBC 5:30 p.m.)**

With just under a million people in British Columbia still unvaccinated, that province's public health office is rolling out next steps in its public immunisation plan, the Vax for BC campaign launched today. It means more vaccination events and mobile clinics will be operating in communities across the province. British Columbians will also be able to use walk-in clinics to get immunised. Dr. Penny Ballem is Executive Lead of the province's immunisation rollout team. "We aren't there yet. We have more work to do. We've had incredible success and incredible commitment by our public. Vax for BC is really about that last push over the next few weeks to make sure that we're capturing everybody that needs to participate in our vaccination program." The push comes after BC's seven day rolling coverage increased by 154 percent in three weeks.

#### **The Warriors Walk for Healing Nations is drawing closer to Kamloops (CBC 5:30 p.m.)**

The Warriors Walk for Healing Nations is drawing closer to Kamloops. The Walkers were in Prince George, BC, yesterday. The group is walking more than 1,500 kilometres from Whitehorse to the Kamloops Indian Residential School. The walk is to honour children who died at residential schools. Walker Jacqueline Shorty says it's been a challenge. "Many of the people that have started to walk are grandmothers, mothers who are older and so haven't had the training, you know, physically to be able to do the walk that we're doing. However, we're overcoming those things, conditioning our bodies to be able to walk long distance, to be able to endure the heat, to be able to endure the rain." However, Shorty says the walkers are healing on their journey. They have approximately 500 kilometres to go before reaching Kamloops. They expect to arrive on August 9th.

### **Wednesday, July 28, 2021**

#### **CBC interviews, 6 to 8:30 a.m.**

- 6:15 N. Hashemi, University of Denver, "Tunisian president ousts officials amid protests and COVID-19 crisis"
- 6:20 P. DeMont, CBC Business Reporter, "CBC Business Report"
- 6:25 S. Regehr, CBC Sports Reporter, "CBC Olympic Report"
- 6:40 U. Schüklenk, Queen's University, "Mixed Vaccine Doses Create Travel Issues For Canadians"
- 6:45 S. Marwaha, CBC House Doctor, "Canadian families with young, unvaccinated children weigh safe summer activities"
- 6:55 D. Mechelsen, Team Canada, "Langley BMX racer joins Team Canada at the Tokyo Olympics"
- 7:15 L. Anderson, Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in (Han) Citizen, "Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in Citizen shares her near-death experience with COVID-19"
- 7:25 S. Regehr, CBC Sports Reporter, "CBC Olympic Report"
- 7:40 P. Mills, CBC Sports Reporter, "CBC Sports Report"
- 7:45 D. Ridgen, CBC Podcast The Next Call, "The Next Call investigates the disappearance of Angel Carlick 14 years ago"
- 7:50 S. Charlie, Chief of the Liard First Nation, "Chief Charlie says Liard First Nation has seen a spike in COVID cases and the community is concerned about lifting COVID restrictions"
- 8:15 D. Kemble, Birder, "COVID travel restrictions affect birders hoping to add to their life lists this year"
- 8:25 S. Regehr, CBC Sports Reporter, "CBC Olympic Report"

#### **CHON-FM interviews, 6 to 9 a.m.**

- 8:04 K. White, Leader of the Yukon NDP, "White talks about Yukon's first supervised consumption site"

## **Local news**

### **Tr'ondëk First Nation ask citizens not to harvest Chinook (CBC 6:30 a.m.)**

It appears to be another rough year for the Chinook salmon run. Karlie Knight is with the Tr'ondëk First Nation. She says halfway through the run, only about 13,000 fish have passed the sonar at Eagle near the Yukon Alaska border. "2021 is forecasted yet again to be one of the lowest on record. And that's been echoed by our downriver Alaskan neighbours. As per the Yukon River Treaty, we're trying to manage a minimum escapement goal of 42,500 into the Canadian side of the river." Knight says Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in citizens have again been asked not to fish Chinook salmon this year. She says the Chinook are facing several barriers to reaching their spawning grounds in the headwaters of the Yukon River. Those include high water levels, less slack water and increased turbidity. She says fishing in the open ocean is another problem that's impacting the fish.

### **Whitehorse group informs residents of possible threats in the event of a wildfire (CBC 6:30 a.m.)**

A Whitehorse group is informing residents of possible threats in the event of a wildfire. Members of Citizens of Fire Smart Whitehorse went door-to-door in the Copper Ridge neighbourhood. They assessed properties and educated homeowners on low cost solutions to reducing potential risks. Stu Clark is with the group. He says most importantly, people need to have a plan before a wildfire occurs. "The area where we think that was probably the biggest gap right now is we don't have an evacuation plan. And, as we're seeing in British Columbia, you know, when a town is threatened by fire, it's pretty important for people to have enough background to understand what it is that we're supposed to do." The group visited 132 homes and assessments were done on over half of them. Assessments pointed to risk posed by vinyl siding, wooden decks attached to homes and how flammable materials were being stored.

### **Whitehorse writer wins the Fred Kerner Book Award (CBC 6:30 a.m.)**

And finally, a Whitehorse writer is being honoured for her latest book of poetry. Joanna Lily is this year's winner of the Fred Kerner Book Award. She's being recognised for *End Lengths*, a book about love poems that focus on animal extinction. The Fred Kerner Book Award is an annual award given out by the Canadian Author's Association.

### **Yukon RCMP say they've already received calls from the public since asking for help on a cold case (CBC 7:30 a.m.)**

Yukon RCMP say they've already received calls from the public since asking for help on a cold case. The police are looking for new information in the Angel Carlick homicide case. The remains of the 19-year-old Indigenous woman were found 14 years ago, the pilot mountain subdivision just north of Whitehorse. Constable Michael Simpson is a member of the RCMP historical case unit. He was also the investigating officer in the death of Angel's mother, Wendy Carlick. "I feel for that family. I feel for the son, brother. And I would say it is important to me. And that's why I'm trying to do whatever I can do, and what we can as an organisation to forward this case." Simpson says changes in technology or changes in relationships often aid in solving cold cases. Angel Carlick was last seen walking away from Main Street in Whitehorse in May 2007. Anyone with any information about her disappearance is asked to call the RCMP.

### **Dawson City woman is speaking out about her near-death experience with COVID-19 (CBC 7:30 a.m.)**

A Dawson City woman is speaking out about her near-death experience with COVID-19. Lisa Anderson started feeling sick in early June. She was medevaced to Whitehorse and then Vancouver before being put in a medically induced coma for five weeks. Anderson says she faced the very real possibility of never recovering. "I actually died a couple of times. I was on life support where I required 100 per cent oxygen. I was not breathing on my own. So, the very last chance I had was to have a tracheotomy. And the doctor said, if that didn't work, then that was it." She says she's now slowly getting better, but she still can't walk and has permanent lung damage. Anderson says she probably won't be back home until the fall. She says she was sceptical of the Moderna vaccine, and was not vaccinated when she got sick. But she's now strongly suggesting that people get their shots as soon as possible.

### **Yukon woman facing long rehab after coma urges everyone to get COVID-19 vaccine (CBC online)**

A Yukon woman who spent weeks fighting for her life against COVID-19 is encouraging others to do what she did not: get vaccinated. [full story](#).

## **Territorial news**

### **Yukon reports more COVID recoveries than new cases, first time in a week (CBC 6:30 a.m.)**

There's a feeling of anxiety among some people in the community of Watson Lake. That's according to local Mayor Chris Irvin. The town has seen several clusters of COVID-19 pop up in recent days. "Oh, it's a bit of a divided situation, because there are plenty of people that share the concern of COVID in the community and the nervousness and, of course, the angst to go with it. And on the other side, you know, there's a large portion of individuals that have been vaccinated and believe that vaccination is the key." When the Yukon government released community vaccination rates back in May, just 42 per cent of the town's population had been vaccinated. That was one of the lowest rates in the territory. The Yukon government has not released updated numbers by community. Irvine, meanwhile, is encouraging people to get vaccinated. And he says a vaccine clinic planned for Friday in Watson Lake is already fully booked. In yesterday's update from the government, we learned about six new confirmed COVID-19 cases in the Yukon, and for the first time in a week, there were more recoveries from COVID than new cases. It brings the total number of active cases in the territory to 89.

### **The active COVID case count in Yukon is 89 (CKRW 7 a.m.)**

Yukon health officials have reported six new cases of COVID-19, bringing the active case count in the territory to 89. Chief Medical Officer of Health, Dr. Brendan Hanley says this is the first time in a week that there were more recoveries reported than positive tests. Three of the cases are in Whitehorse and two in rural Yukon while another is an out of territory resident currently in Yukon. There were no new positive tests from Watson Lake reported yesterday. Dr. Hanley and Premier Sandy Silver will provide a COVID-19 update to the territory later this morning.

### **The Official Opposition is calling on the Yukon government to speak up around concerns of a possible firewood shortage (CKRW 7 a.m.)**

The Official Opposition is calling on the Yukon government to speak up around concerns of a possible firewood shortage in the Territory. Yukon Party Critic Scott Kent alleges that the commercial operators in the territory are facing a possible shortage of wood fuel this year after all three parties attended a meeting with Yukon Wood Products Association. "All three parties were invited to a meeting in early June with the Yukon Wood Products Association to discuss this concern over the lack of wood, available wood for harvesting, whether it's for fuel wood or whether it's for some of the small mills that we have in the territory." Kent says he's tried to raise the issue with the Minister of Energy Mines and Resources, but hasn't heard any official responses to the matter. Kent says the shortage of wood could have devastating effects on the industry and Yukoners as a whole, as many people rely on wood fuels to heat their homes.

**BMC Minerals Ltd is donating over \$12,000 to flood mitigation efforts (CKRW 7 a.m.)**

BMC Minerals Ltd has announced that they're donating over \$12,000 to flood mitigation efforts in southern Yukon. Vice President of External Affairs Allan Nixon says BMC recognises and commends the dedication of all local volunteers and particularly volunteer fire departments. "The volunteer fire departments are there and doing a great job and they're an integral part of the community and they've been working quite hard on the relief as well in addition to their other duties and some of them are homeowners and property owners that are impacted by the flooding. So we felt it was a good place to make a donation." A donation of \$12,500 comes with no strings attached, meaning the Marsh Lake, Tagish, Golden Horn, Mount Lorne and Hootalinqua fire departments can spend the money however they see fit to help homeowners fighting high water levels.

**UPDATE: Yukon reports more COVID recoveries than new cases, first time in a week (CBC 7:30 a.m.)**

Yesterday, the Yukon government reported six new cases of COVID-19. And there were a couple of bright spots in that update yesterday. For the first time in a week, the territory is reporting more recoveries than new cases. And in Watson Lake, there were no new cases reported yesterday. That community has been the site of a number of clusters of infections, and the government has said they do expect there to be more.

**Construction is underway on a backup Internet and telecommunications fibre optic line (CBC 7:30 a.m.)**

Construction is underway on a backup Internet and telecommunications fibre optic line. The Dempster fibre line will connect the Mackenzie Valley Fibre Link and Inuvik to Dawson City. It's 800 kilometres long. It will cost \$67 million to build and it's expected to be done in 2024. This line will complete a network that serves both the Yukon and the Northwest Territories. The Yukon and federal governments are footing the bill.

**Yukon Bureau of Statistics says there are about 1,000 more Yukoners than this time last year (CBC 7:30 a.m.)**

Yukon's population rose by about two percent over the last year, and the president of the Yukon Real Estate Association says there's a number of good reasons for that. Marc Perreault says it's not just people coming, it's also people not leaving. Saying there are more young professionals and tradespeople who are choosing to stay in the territory. On top of that, he says some of their parents are moving here to be closer to family. So, we've always had people moving up here just from the lure of the Yukon. That's been enhanced by the fact that we have a great medical system in the territory. We're seeing a lot of mom and dad's moving up here, and that's been more so in the last little while." Perreault says the Yukon also has a strong immigration program and that's contributing to population growth. He says the ability to work from home is another reason people are finding the Yukon newly attractive. The Yukon Bureau of Statistics says there are about 1,000 more Yukoners than this time last year.

**University of Waterloo researchers study cannabis use in Yukon (CBC 7:30 a.m.)**

And finally, researchers from the University of Waterloo want to know how cannabis is being used here in the Yukon. They want to find out how many people use cannabis products and how often. The researchers also want to hear opinions about legalisation. David Hammond is leading the project. He says all information gathered will remain anonymous and confidential. "It's not about identifying any one individual or any one community. It's more about understanding how it's working for consumer needs and understanding what's the landscape in the territories for the cannabis market." Hammond says applications are being accepted for community research assistants who will distribute information and those surveys. The deadline to apply for that is August 4th, and this research project will begin in September.

**On August 4th, many pandemic restrictions will be dropped completely (CHON 7:30 a.m.)**

A week from today, Yukoners will be able to show their faces in indoor public spaces and de-mask for the first time since face coverings were made mandatory in December of 2020. A press release announcing the news last week cited a decrease in case counts and increasing vaccination rates in the territory as the cause for lifting restrictions. On August 4th, bars and restaurants will also be able to return to business as usual at full capacity, with no physical distancing and self-isolation rules will be dropped completely. Whitehorse Mayor Dan Curtis says he's confused about the details of the recommendations and that it leaves the city in a precarious position. Curtis says he wants clarity from the Chief Medical Officer of Health and the territorial government. "We have a transit system that has over 300,000 rides per year and no real direction on how that would work if the fallout is that we remove masks or whatever that may be. The Canada Games Centre also has several thousand people a day. We remain concerned about the people working there and the people who utilise those facilities. So we're hoping to get some clarity from the Chief Medical Officer and seeing what his or of course, the Deputy Chief Medical Officer, what her recommendations would be. And we've always followed those, but we're just looking for some for some clarity in terms of the public. Like the public is going to hit August 4th and have this sense and this feeling of what it may look like. But I've heard numerous people with different perceptions of what that looks like. So I would really encourage the territorial government to ensure that all partners are reached out to in a timely fashion and not after the fact." A government of Yukon news release reads, "while masks will no longer be required in indoor public spaces as of August 4th, the Chief Medical Officer of Health recommends that masks continue to be used in specific settings such as physicians' offices, hospitals and long term care facilities. Businesses may also request that masks be worn." Curtis says the active case count going up over the weekend despite the Yukon's high vaccination rate, is cause for concern. He says he is worried about the ramifications of the lifting of the mask mandate on vulnerable populations. He says he feels after August 4th, people should still wear masks on public transit.

**Construction has begun on the \$67 million Dempster fibre line project (CHON 7:30 a.m.)**

The government of Yukon says they have broken ground on the \$67 million Dempster fibre line project. Crews are on site near Dawson City and officially started construction on July 15th. The 800 kilometre long fibre optic line will run along the Dempster Highway between Dawson City, Yukon, and Inuvik, Northwest Territories. It will connect to the existing Mackenzie Valley fibre link in Inuvik to create a 4,000 kilometre network. The network will provide northern communities along the loop with a back-up line in the event of a service disruption and provide more reliable Internet and cell phone services. The contract was awarded to ROHL Global Networks in partnership with Dagoo Services. The government says more than 20 percent of the contract value will be subcontracted to First Nations businesses. The line will be owned by the government of Yukon. Northwestel will lease and operate it for 20 years. Site preparations started in 2020 and the project is expected to be completed by 2024.

**The government of Yukon is extending and expanding the Innovative and Renewable Energy Initiative (CHON 7:30 a.m.)**

The government is extending and expanding the Innovative and Renewable Energy Initiative with changes that will make the fund more accessible and reduce the territory's reliance on fossil fuels. The initiative will also receive one million dollars in extra annual funding, bringing the total to \$2.5 million per year to support more small-scale First Nation and community-led renewable electricity and heat generation projects. The funding has already provided money to 16 projects in communities across the territory. Half of the cash allotted



to date has gone to Yukon First Nation governments and development corporations. Nearly a third have gone to community-based businesses or public utility, and the remaining amount has gone to municipalities. Projects funded include the Old Crow Solar Project, the Teslin Biomass Project and the Kluane Wind Project. The funding aims to contribute to the territory's *Our Clean Future* goals.

**REPEAT: The active COVID case count in Yukon is 89 (CKRW 8 a.m.)**

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## **National news**

**Sexual health advocacy group says NWT youth are hospitalised for mental health at two-and-a-half times the national rate (CBC 6:30 a.m.)**

A sexual health advocacy group that runs programs across the North has made a troubling discovery. It comes from information gathered in workshops held by the group Foxy. And it found that in the Northwest Territories, child and adolescent hospitalisations for mental health are two-and-a-half times the national rate. Avery Zingle looked into what's contributing to that. Foxy has been running mental and sexual health workshops across the North for years. The researchers surveyed youth workshop participants about whether they experienced depression and about their gender, their dating experiences, as well as food security. And the survey found that youth who experienced food insecurity and dating violence or who are gender diverse are twice as likely to experience depression than their peers. Lead author Carmen Logie is an associate professor at the University of Toronto and she studies global health, equity and social justice. She says a group like Foxy, which promotes healthy relationships, is just one way to improve health outcomes in young people. "When we transform gender norms, it's going to help reduce violence, LGBTQ2S stigma in turn will improve. Mental health, but also sexual health." The majority of participants in the study live across 17 communities in the Northwest Territories, and 15 per cent of those participants were sexually diverse.

**The annual inflation rate hit 3.1 percent in June (CKRW 7 a.m.)**

The annual inflation rate hit 3.1 percent in June. Statistics Canada says the reading for the Consumer Price Index is down from the 3.6 percent recorded in May, which was the largest yearly increase in a decade. Stats Can says that part of the reading for June has to do with comparing prices to the lows recorded in the same month last year. Gas prices, for instance, saw a year over year rise of 32 percent in June, compared with 43.4 percent in May.

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**Newfoundland and Labrador is becoming the fourth province to strike a deal with Ottawa for \$10 a day childcare (CKRW 8 a.m.)**

Prime Minister Justin Trudeau is in Newfoundland and Labrador where he'll make announcements about child care and about the province's troubled Muskrat Falls hydroelectric project. The Canadian Press has learned that Trudeau will announce in St. John's that Newfoundland and Labrador is becoming the fourth province to strike a deal with Ottawa for \$10 a day childcare. A provincial government news release says he will also join Premier Furey for an announcement about managing electricity rates in the province that are expected to spike because of the over-budget Muskrat Falls project.

**Health officials in Alberta say the Calgary Stampede was not a significant spreader of COVID-19 (CKRW 8 a.m.)**

Health officials in Alberta say the Calgary Stampede was not a significant spreader of COVID-19. They say 71 cases of COVID were likely acquired at the stampede where hundreds of thousands attended the 10-day rodeo and festival. Alberta has 1,173 active cases, with just over 60 percent in the Calgary zone.

**Today's coronavirus news: Tokyo sets another virus record days after Olympics begin; Sydney lockdown extended 4 weeks as Delta surge worsens; Tanzania kicks off vaccinations (Toronto Star)**

The latest coronavirus news from Canada and around the world Wednesday. [full story.](#)

**A look at COVID-19 reopening plans across the country (Toronto Star)**

As COVID-19 vaccination rates increase and case numbers drop across the country, the provinces and territories have begun releasing

the reopening plans for businesses, events and recreational facilities. [full story](#).

## **International news**

### **U.S. Centres for Disease Control and Prevention has recommended that even vaccinated people should wear masks in areas of substantial COVID-19 transmission (CKRW 7 a.m.)**

The U.S. Centres for Disease Control and Prevention has now recommended that people vaccinated or not should wear masks indoors if they're in areas of substantial or high COVID-19 transmission. It's a change from earlier this summer when masking guidance was relaxed. But health officials say that the Delta variant has changed the game. CDC Director Dr. Rochelle Walensky tells Good Morning America that new data shows vaccinated people could pass the delta variant of the virus on to others. "They worked quite well in preventing transmission with Alpha. And what we're seeing now is they're working less well and preventing transmission with Delta." Walensky says those instances of breakthrough infection are still rare.

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- [A strong community effort led to the rescue of a man in the Yukon River, says Scott McDougall \(Yukon News\)](#)
- [Community-Building Fund assists five Yukon communities improve recreational facilities \(Yukon News\)](#)
- [Help sought in solving 2007 homicide \(Whitehorse Star\)](#)
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## **Wednesday, July 28, 2021**

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- 4:25 "CBC Olympic update"
- 4:40 B. Hanley, Yukon's Chief Medical Officer of Health, "Excerpt from the most recent COVID update"
- 4:47 N. Crey, Workshop Coordinator, Northern Cultural Expressions Society, "Crey promotes NCES' skateboarding program"
- 5:11 M. Murray, Petition Organizer, "Murray talks about the completion of a BIPOC inclusive pride flag crosswalk"
- 5:16 P. McLaughlin, Biology Professor, University of Saskatchewan, "McLaughlin talks about the impact of spruce budworm infested forests on large mammals"
- 5:25 "CBC Olympic update"
- 5:40 S. Razack, PHD Candidate in Kinesiology, University of Toronto, "Razack talks about stress and mental health among high level athletes"
- 5:51 K. Johansen, Assistant Professor in the Department of Medicine, University of Calgary, "Johansen talks about the health impacts of wildfire smoke"

## **Local news**

### **Yukonstruct and the Yukon First Nations Tourism Association are launching a business boot camp (CBC 5:30 p.m.)**

Yukon entrepreneurs are being offered the chance to make their million dollar idea come true. Yukonstruct and the Yukon First Nations Tourism Association are launching a business boot camp. Cat Kelly is the Director of Entrepreneurship Programming for Yukonstruct. She says the programme will discuss infrastructure needed to make tourism businesses a success but Kelly says the focus is on individuals. "Let's make business about relationships with people. Let's make business about building something for your community, and let's make it about sharing your passion." Kelly says there's a demand for authentic Indigenous experiences in the Yukon. She says the boot camp will help people develop new ideas for new Indigenous tourism ventures. Applications for the 12-week program are open until August 24th.

### **A strong community effort led to the rescue of a man in the Yukon River, says Scott McDougall (Yukon News)**

In the afternoon of July 22, Whitehorse RCMP responded to a call about a man in the Yukon River near downtown. [full story.](#)

### **Community-Building Fund assists five Yukon communities improve recreational facilities (Yukon News)**

Five Yukon municipalities will be using close to \$3.5 million of their portions of the Canada Community-Building Fund to upgrade existing recreational facilities. The 14 projects in five communities will improve seasonal and year-round facilities. [full story.](#)

### **Help sought in solving 2007 homicide (Whitehorse Star)**

The Yukon RCMP Historical Case Unit is seeking public assistance to solve one of the most disturbing homicides in recent territorial history. [full story.](#)

### **Housing plight requires fresh thinking: Roddick (Whitehorse Star)**

The city needs to start thinking outside the box to address the housing crisis Whitehorse is in, says Coun. Steve Roddick. [full story.](#)

### **City opts to purchase downtown property (Whitehorse Star)**

City council voted at its meeting Monday to purchase a residential property on Seventh Avenue. [full story.](#)

### **Pair survived small airplane crash (Whitehorse Star)**

Two occupants of a small airplane walked away from a crash in the MacPherson subdivision earlier this month. [full story.](#)

## **Territorial news**

### **Yukon's Chief Medical Officer says the main cause for concern now is large, informal gatherings among unvaccinated people (CBC 5:30 p.m.)**

Yukon's Chief Medical Officer says travellers coming into the territory pose little risk of spreading COVID-19. Dr. Brendan Hanley says based on current models, it will take several weeks before an imported case pops up. He says the main cause for concern now is large, informal gatherings among unvaccinated people in the Yukon. Hanley says the importation of the virus is the lowest it's been since the start of the pandemic. "And why is this? This is because of low case activity in Canada overall and of course, increasing vaccination status in Canada." Yukon government officials are defending their decision to ease restrictions. That includes dropping self-isolation rules and mandatory mask-wearing on August 4th. Officials say vaccines are now the best defence and that certain restrictions are no longer justified. This afternoon, the government announced zero new cases of COVID-19 in the Yukon. That's the first time since June 5th that

there were no cases reported. There are still 77 active cases in the territory.

#### **Chinook salmon stocks are coming up short again (CBC 5:30 p.m.)**

Chinook salmon stocks are coming up short again in the Yukon River. Dennis Zimmermann is a Fish and Wildlife Consultant. He says declining stocks are now an annual problem and there isn't an easy solution. Zimmermann says there are now conservation efforts in place throughout the Yukon River basin, and he says that is the best strategy. "I'm not sure it can come back, but to at least sustain itself so that people can continue to harvest in some small way into the future and for future generations." As of July 25th only 12,810 fish swam past the Eagle SONAR station. It's roughly halfway through the Chinook salmon run this summer. Several Yukon First Nation have called off Chinook salmon harvesting in a bid to help numbers spring back.

#### **The President of the Yukon Real Estate Association says there are a number of reasons for the territory's population growth (CBC 5:30 p.m.)**

The President of the Yukon Real Estate Association says there are a number of reasons for the territory's population growth. Marc Perreault says there are more young professionals and tradespeople who aren't leaving the Yukon for greener pastures. And he says their parents are moving here to be closer to family. "So we've always had people moving up here just from the lure of the Yukon. That's been enhanced by the fact that we have a great medical system in the territory. We're seeing a lot of moms and dads moving up here, and that's been more so in the last little while." Perreault says Yukon also has a strong immigration program, and that's contributing to population growth. He says another reason people find the Yukon attractive and are leaving big cities is the trend for people to be able to work from home. The Yukon Bureau of Statistics says there are about 1,000 more Yukoners than this time last year.

#### **COVID-19 update stresses vaccination amid plan to lift restrictions (Yukon News)**

Premier Sandy Silver and Chief Medical Officer of Health Dr. Brendan Hanley doubled down Wednesday on a commitment to lessen pandemic restrictions. [full story](#).

#### **Yukon reports zero new cases of COVID-19 for first time since June 5 (Yukon News)**

The Yukon is reporting zero new cases for July 28. [full story](#).

#### **Feds contribute \$42 million toward affordable, improved childcare (Yukon News)**

The Yukon is the third jurisdiction in Canada to reach an agreement with the federal government over universal childcare. [full story](#).

#### **Lawsuit alleges sexual abuse at elementary school in Whitehorse (Yukon News)**

A lawsuit filed in the Yukon Supreme Court alleges an educational assistant at a Whitehorse school sexually abused a student. [full story](#).

#### **Yukon COVID-19 wave reaches milestone: no new cases reported in last 24 hours (CBC online)**

There are no new COVID-19 cases in Yukon, said the chief medical officer of health in a news release Wednesday afternoon. [full story](#).

#### **Watson Lake grapples with COVID-19 infections, lower vaccination rate (CBC online)**

The community of Watson Lake represents about 3.5 per cent of Yukon's total population, but as of Tuesday it had more than a third of the territory's active COVID-19 cases — and local leaders hope it's a wake-up call for more people to get vaccinated. [full story](#).

#### **Company pumps \$12,500 into flood relief efforts (Whitehorse Star)**

BMC Minerals Ltd. is donating \$12,500 to assist with flood mitigation efforts in southern Yukon and north of Whitehorse. [full story](#).

#### **Safe consumption site details under discussion (Whitehorse Star)**

Negotiations are continuing between the Yukon government and the Blood Ties Four Directions Centre, which has been hired to operate what officials are calling a "safe consumption site" for drug users. [full story](#).

#### **Minimum wage to rise on Sunday (Whitehorse Star)**

The Yukon government now has formal approval to raise the territorial minimum wage to \$15.20 an hour next Sunday and to tie subsequent annual increases to inflation. [full story](#).

#### **MLA raises anxieties about firewood supply (Whitehorse Star)**

A Yukon Party MLA is concerned that Yukoners could literally be left in the cold this winter due to a potential firewood shortage. [full story](#).

#### **Water levels continue to diminish (Whitehorse Star)**

Water levels on the big lakes are continuing to drop, says the most recent update from the Emergency Measures Organization (EMO). [full story](#).

#### **Yukon premier says more people need to get vaccinated as restrictions set to be eased (Toronto Star)**

Yukon's premier is encouraging more people to get immunized before some restrictions are lifted next week and says COVID-19 infections are occurring among clusters of unvaccinated residents in some communities. [full story](#).

### **National news**

#### **A new report that shines on the systemic barriers that harm Indigenous women and girls in British Columbia also celebrates the ways they are flourishing (CBC 5:30 p.m.)**

A new report shines a light on the systemic barriers that continue to harm Indigenous women and girls in British Columbia. It also celebrates the ways they are flourishing. Courtney Dickson has more. "Reporting on First Nations health often looks solely at the deficits within those communities. But a new report from the First Nations Health Authority and Provincial Health Office also highlights resiliency among Indigenous women and girls. Dr. Danièle Behn Smith is one of the report's authors. "So we're really shifting our health reporting to be strength-based, to recognise that we are really coming with great ancestral knowledge systems." It examines everything from education to the justice system to nutrition and data is paired with real stories from Indigenous women and girls. That includes Stephanie Bernard, who credits her grandparents for teaching her strength. "It is with resources I ke this and with telling our stories and having a voice that we could change." She hopes the report will empower Indigenous women and girls and serve as a tool for health care providers and individuals to make a change.

## **Yukon wheelchair racer Jessica Frotten will represent Canada at the 2020 Tokyo Paralympics (Yukon News)**

Jessica Frotten will be representing the Yukon, and Canada, at the 2020 Tokyo Paralympic Games in para-athletics. [full story](#).

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## **Thursday, July 29, 2021**

### **CBC interviews, 6 to 8:30 a.m.**

- 6:15 M. Selvarajah, CBC Technology Columnist, "New apps offer affordable and unconventional ways to get away"
- 6:20 P. DeMont, CBC Business Reporter, "CBC Business Report"
- 6:25 S. Regehr, CBC Sports Reporter, "CBC Olympic Report"
- 6:40 S. Bull, CBC Sports Reporter, "Behind the Rings: History of the marathon"
- 6:45 M. Ahmed, Team Canada, "Mo Speed: Mohammed Ahmed has quietly evolved in one of Canada's best distance runners"
- 6:50 J. Heisz, McMaster University, "Researcher says chronic stress related to COVID can affect blood pressure and brain chemistry"
- 7:15 D. Kraus, Nature Conservancy of Canada, "Nature Conservancy of Canada encourages Canadians to participate in a national Backyard BioBlitz this weekend"
- 7:20 R. Ahmed-Haq, CBC Workplace Columnist, "New trend sees employers adopting an asynchronous interview model"
- 7:25 S. Regehr, CBC Sports Reporter, "CBC Olympic Report"
- 7:35 P. Mill, CBC Sports Reporter, "CBC Sports Report"
- 7:40 B. Hanley, Yukon's chief medical officer of health, "Dr. Hanley says the territory is at a pivotal point and needs to shift focus on using tools, like vaccinations, to help prevent COVID"
- 7:50 CBC Thursday Marque
- 8:15 S. Greetham, Marsh Lake Community Reporter, "Marsh Lake residents feel a bit of relief as water levels drop, but are still watching the water closely"
- 8:25 S. Regehr, CBC Sports Reporter, "CBC Olympic Report"

### **CHON-FM interviews, 6 to 9 a.m.**

- 8:04 C. Dixon, Leader of the Yukon Party, "*Breakfast with the Opposition* segment about easing COVID restrictions and more"

## **Local news**

### **Yukonconstruct and the Yukon First Nation Tourism Association are launching a business bootcamp (CBC 6:30 a.m.)**

Finally, Yukon entrepreneurs are being offered the chance to make their million dollar idea come true. Yukonconstruct and the Yukon First Nation Tourism Association are launching a business bootcamp. Kat Kelly is the director of entrepreneurship programming for Yukonconstruct. She says the program will discuss infrastructure needed to make a tourism business a success. But Kelly says the focus is on individuals. "Let's make business about the relationships we build with the people. Let's make business about building something for your community, and let's make it about sharing your passion." Kelly says there is a demand for authentic Indigenous experience in the Yukon. She says the bootcamp will help people develop ideas for new Indigenous tourism ventures. Applications for the 12-week program are open until August 24th.

### **The City of Whitehorse has bought one of the last properties from the 1970s Escarpment Land Acquisition Program (CHON 7:30 a.m.)**

Whitehorse Mayor Dan Curtis says the city has bought one of the last properties from the 1970s Escarpment Land Acquisition Program. The program saw the city identify 80 properties along the clay cliff for purchase after concerns of erosion and mudslides deemed residential development unsafe. Not all owners sold, though, and now one of the last lots has been bought. Curtis says the city purchased the property during Monday's city council meeting. CHON-FM asked Curtis how much the city paid for the lot. He didn't have the exact number. "I think it was \$385,000 or \$350,000 or something to that degree. So it was very close. But it was again, looking at the downtown right now, even looking at a lot downtown, if you could find one which none exist, it would be quite substantial. So it was definitely something that everyone except for two councillors thought was fair and equitable. But, yeah, it was definitely a lot cheaper than if you went and bought a property anywhere in our community. But it was again, you need to just try to find that balance of fairness for everyone. But it was several hundred thousand dollars for sure." Councillor Dan Boyd opposed saying the price was too high. The owner of 7220 7th Avenue passed away in 2019. After negotiations with the estate, the city now owns the property. Curtis says the house on the lot will be torn down. Curtis says the house on the lot will be torn down and conversations will be had with downtown residents to decide the future of the property. But he says he anticipates it will be left as a green space.

## **Territorial news**

### **Yukon experiences an increase in homelessness as rent goes up (CBC 6:30 a.m.)**

As the cost of rent goes up, Yukon is experiencing an increase in homelessness. That's among people from all income backgrounds. Kate Mehan is an executive director at the Safe at Home Society. She says affordability is a major barrier for many Yukoners. Mehan says people are gravitating towards hidden forms of homelessness, such as couch surfing or living in vehicles. "We're no longer hearing that affordability is just impacting vulnerable people or the working poor or, you know, it's starting to impact many people across the housing continuum. None of us are ever really that far away from homelessness, like it's just a matter of a paycheck. And the landscape has really changed." The Safe at Home Society recently counted the number of homeless people in Whitehorse and those numbers are expected out next month. As rental rates increase in the Yukon, vacancy rates are decreasing. The average vacancy rate was 2.3 per cent last October. There were no available rental units reported for Dawson City and Haines Junction and only one vacant unit in Watson Lake. Similar issues are playing out in the Northwest Territories. Over a 10 year period, the proportion of affordability issues has doubled in Yellowknife. Yesterday, the federal government announced nearly \$20 million to support low income renters in that territory. It's not clear if this is new money or if it's only now being allocated for a program.

### **Yukon's COVID-19 wave reached a new milestone: no new cases of COVID reported since June 5th (CBC 6:30 a.m.)**

The Yukon's COVID-19 wave reached a new milestone yesterday. For the first time since June 5th, no new cases were reported in the



territory. The number of active cases is also trending downwards, from 89 on Tuesday to 77 on Wednesday. Yesterday, health officials also found themselves defending their plan to drop some pandemic restrictions next week. That includes lifting the territory's border controls. Chief medical officer Brendan Hanley says that's justified because travellers coming into the territory pose a very small risk of bringing the virus in. He says it's large, informal gatherings of unvaccinated Yukoners that are driving cases. Then there's masking, which the government will no longer require in indoor public spaces. On that, Hanley says mask wearing rule should now fall to local governments. He says people should still wear masks in public spaces, particularly indoors. "So, an example is our team is working with the City of Whitehorse right now on mask recommendations for buses and facilities." Officials say eight out of 10 Yukoners are now fully vaccinated and a vaccine still offer the best defence against the virus.

**Yukon Women's Directorate says there's still a lack of awareness on sex work in the territory (CBC 6:30 a.m.)**

The head of the Yukon Women's Directorate says despite a 2017 report on sex work in the territory, there's still a lack of awareness about the issue. Hillary Aitken says there's a need for more research on human trafficking and the impacts on Indigenous people. She says factors like a lack of safe transportation, affordable housing, food and income security are driving some women to engage in sex work. "Certainly, the Government of Yukon has a big role to play in thinking about programs and services to meet this need. But the work has to be done in partnership with community organisations and with First Nation governments and with other partners in the work" Aitken says the directorate is gearing up to deliver more programs and services to rural communities.

**Yukon's Chief Medical Officer of Health Dr. Brendan Hanley is now allowing anyone born in 2009 to get vaccinated (CKRW 7 a.m.)**

There have been no new cases of COVID-19 reported in the Yukon in the last 24 hours. This is the first time since June 5th that there have been no new cases in the territory with recoveries. The active case count is now at 77. There have been a total of 519 confirmed cases in the territory since June 1st. The Yukon government is allowing Youth who are just under the minimum age to get their vaccines a bit early. Yukon's Chief Medical Officer of Health Dr. Brendan Hanley is now allowing anyone born in 2009 to get the vaccine, even if they haven't turned 12 yet. Dr. Brendan Hanley says the mobile vaccine clinics are returning to Yukon communities so every additional jab in arms will help build up the safety net against COVID-19 even further. The first round of vaccine clinics will take place in Beaver Creek, Destruction Bay, Mayo, Pelly Crossing, Carmacks and Dawson City the week of August 2nd. And the second round will see Teslin, Ross River, and Old Crow visited by mobile teams during the week of August 9th.

**A warm forecast prompted Yukon Wildland Fire Management to warn Yukoners to be cautious (CKRW 7 a.m.)**

Yukon Wildland Fire Management is warning Yukoners to be cautious this weekend as warmer weather is forecasted. Fire Information Officer Julia Duchesne says the territory did see some rainfall over the past few days, giving relief to the wildfire situation around the territory. Duchesne says while those conditions allowed for crews to mobilise their efforts to areas that need them, this weekend will be hot and dry. "We're coming into another, what looks like another nice, hot, sunny weekend. So I'm sure that people are going to be out on the land, camping, enjoying themselves. But just please remember to be careful with your campfire." She says fire crews are holding a control line over the Bell Creek fire while mop-up is underway for the Dominion Creek fire, the Ta'tla Mun, Ptarmigan Mountain and Barefeet Creek fires are producing a lot of smoke that may have been seen from Pelly on the North Klondike Highway, but Duchesne says the highway and town of Carmacks are not at risk.

**Next week, some COVID-19 restrictions will be eased in the territory (CHON 7:30 a.m.)**

Next week, some COVID-19 restrictions will be eased in the territory. Masks will no longer be mandatory in indoor public spaces. Bars and restaurants will be able to operate at full capacity with no physical distancing between tables and self-isolation rules will be dropped completely. The announcement came with mixed reactions from excitement to concern. Chief Medical Officer of Health Dr. Brendan Hanley shed some light on the upcoming changes at yesterday's COVID-19 update. He says establishments can still ask patrons to don a face covering. When it comes to bars and restaurants, Dr. Hanley is recommending that people not mingle between tables or dance. As well, people should keep their distance when moving around and waiting for a table. Limits to social gatherings will still be in place, though. Dr. Hanley says parties are where the virus is spreading. "A hundred adults attending a party right now, kind of random. If we just took a bunch of random Yukoners from around the Yukon, put them into a house party, that would be a 15 percent chance, for example, of someone being infected. So this is where we have to rethink our whole strategy and no longer look outside the territory towards the border. But look at what should we be doing? What can we be doing better within the territory?" Dr. Hanley also gave an update into the situation in Watson Lake. He says a rapid response testing team will return to the community next week. There's also some vaccine news to report. Premier Sandy Silver says young Yukoner born in 2009 and now gets the Pfizer shot, even if they haven't turned 12 yet. Dr. Hanley says there may be no end to COVID-19. He compares the virus to flooding and climate change, saying it's part of our reality now.

**The government of Yukon is maintaining flood warnings (CHON 7:30 a.m.)**

The government of Yukon is maintaining flood warnings for Lake Laberge, Bennett Lake, Tagish Lake and Marsh Lake. Water levels on Lake Laberge are currently 26 centimetres above 2007 levels and 18 centimetres below the July 16th peak. Water levels have been declining at close to two centimetres per day for the last week and compared to historic 2007 levels, water on Bennett Lake, Tagish Lake, and Marsh Lake are currently three to eight centimetres higher. The water is dropping on average 0.8 centimetres per day, and it's currently 14 centimetres lower than this summer's peak on July 10th and 11th.

**UPDATE: Yukon experiences an increase in homelessness as rent goes up (CBC 7:30 a.m.)**

Skyrocketing rent in the Yukon has forced people to make difficult choices about where they'll live. With few affordable options and low vacancy rates, some are couch surfing to get by. Others are turning to vehicles like vans and trailers. Danielle d'Entremont spoke with Yukoners who are trying that out. "I've got a little diesel heater. We'll see how well it all works." Amy Harabian (sp) has been renting from loved ones over the past decade. Now she wants a place of her own. But the rental market has changed a lot. "The cost of housing has gone up dramatically, but the cost of wages and stuff hasn't gone up to compensate for that." Over the last 10 years, the median rent for Whitehorse apartments has gone up 53 per cent. In just a few days, she plans to move into her van full time the only way she can afford to own a place in town. CBC spoke with another Whitehorse resident living in a camper trailer. We aren't naming him for privacy concerns. He's been looking for apartments. But the prices are too high and having a pet poses another barrier. He's on a wait list for social housing, but the trailer isn't fit for cold temperatures. He says if they don't find a place by winter, they will need to leave the territory or freeze to death.

**UPDATE: Yukon's COVID-19 wave reached a new milestone: no new cases of COVID reported since June 5th (CBC 7:30 a.m.)**

Premier Sandy Silver says the Yukon government is expanding its vaccination program. He says children 12 years old or younger are now eligible for the Pfizer vaccine if they were born in 2009. Silver also says mobile clinics are fanning out across the territory. He says mobile clinics are in Haines Junction and Watson Lake this week. "We have enough vaccines for everyone that wants one, and we are incredibly fortunate to be in that situation. We all need to keep that in mind." Yukon is on the cusp of reopening in many ways. On August



4th, some restrictions will be dropped. That includes self-isolation rules and mandatory mask wearing in public spaces. The latest numbers from the Yukon government show that eight out of 10 Yukoners are now fully vaccinated. There was also some good news in yesterday's case count update. For the first time since June 5th, zero new cases were reported.

**The Yukon government warns boaters that a large quantity of debris is now entering Yukon water systems (CBC 7:30 a.m.)**

In its most recent flood update, the Yukon government warned that a large quantity of debris is now entering Yukon water systems and boaters should be aware. Meanwhile, water levels continue to decrease in the southern lakes and on Lake Laberge. Despite that, flood warnings in those areas are all being maintained, as is a high streamflow advisory for the Yukon River at Whitehorse.

**REPEAT: Yukon's Chief Medical Officer of Health Dr. Brendan Hanley is now allowing anyone born in 2009 to get vaccinated (CKRW 8 a.m.)**

There have been no new cases of COVID-19 reported in the Yukon in the last 24 hours. This is the first time since June 5th that there have been no new cases in the territory with recoveries. The active case count is now at 77. There have been a total of 519 confirmed cases in the territory since June 1st. The Yukon government is allowing Youth who are just under the minimum age to get their vaccines a bit early. Yukon's Chief Medical Officer of Health Dr. Brendan Hanley is now allowing anyone born in 2009 to get the vaccine, even if they haven't turned 12 yet. Dr. Brendan Hanley says the mobile vaccine clinics are returning to Yukon communities so every additional jab in arms will help build up the safety net against COVID-19 even further. The first round of vaccine clinics will take place in Beaver Creek, Destruction Bay, Mayo, Pelly Crossing, Carmacks and Dawson City the week of August 2nd. And the second round will see Teslin, Ross River, and Old Crow visited by mobile teams during the week of August 9th.

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## **National news**

**New research finds a small insect is affecting Canada's endangered Woodland Caribou (CBC 6:30 a.m.)**

A new academic paper says a small insect is affecting Canada's endangered Woodland Caribou. Saskatchewan researcher Phillip McLaughlin has been studying caribou habitats for decades. He says infestations of spruce budworm kills forests leading to more vegetation that, in turn, benefits moose. McLaughlin says that attracts more wolves, a predator for caribou. He says it means a small insect can have a big impact on much larger creatures. "So we've kind of pointed ourselves in the direction now of, ok, we've got to watch out for insect outbreaks as having potential echoes in the food we have right up to caribou." According to the Yukon government, there are roughly 40,000 Woodland Caribou in the territory.

**Alberta is scrapping isolation requirements for close contacts of positive COVID-19 cases (CKRW 7 a.m.)**

Alberta is scrapping isolation requirements for close contacts of positive COVID-19 cases, even as daily cases rise in the province. Starting today, contact tracers will no longer notify close contacts of positive cases, nor will close contacts be legally required to isolate. Dr. Dena Hinshaw, Alberta's Chief Medical Officer of Health made the announcement yesterday, saying the province must shift its focus from a single virus to managing other respiratory illnesses. It comes as Alberta recorded its highly daily increase in cases since early June. Further changes will take effect on August 16th, including an end to mandatory isolation for people who test positive for COVID-19.

**Canadian Blood Services is keeping a close eye on blood product levels (CKRW 7 a.m.)**

It's not urgent, but Canadian Blood Services is keeping a close eye on blood product levels this summer. Spokeswoman Tracy Smith says blood demand dropped during the pandemic, but now surgeries are resuming in many provinces and the demand has gone up. She says one area of concern is the level of type O negative blood, which is usually used in emergency rooms. "Before the summer before things started to open up, we had our ideal O negative supply, which was between five and eight days. We like to be at for supplies and we've seen over the last month and a half that that's dropped down. Right now, we're sitting at just over a four-day supply." Smith says restrictions remain inside donor clinics, but the hours have been extended to try to keep up with demand.

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**Ontario has met one of three conditions for moving beyond step three (CKRW 8 a.m.)**

Ontario has met one of three conditions for moving beyond step three of its reopening plan. Health Minister Christine Elliot says more than 80 percent of people in the province aged 12 and older have now received at least one dose of a COVID-19 vaccine. Before moving forward, the government has also said 75 percent of people 12 and older must have received their second dose and no public health unit can have less than 70 percent of eligible people fully vaccinated. But some, including the Canadian Federation of Independent Business, are calling for more details on what a post step three Ontario would look like.

**'Gender never came into my mind,' says woman who brought N.W.T. Legislature to Canada's 1st female majority (CBC online)**

Jane Weyallon Armstrong was excited and slightly nervous on byelection day in her community of Behchokò, N.W.T., but she gave little thought to the history she was making. [full story.](#)

**A look at COVID-19 reopening plans across the country (Toronto Star)**

As COVID-19 vaccination rates increase and case numbers drop across the country, the provinces and territories have begun releasing

the reopening plans for businesses, events and recreational facilities. [full story](#).

## **International news**

### **Tokyo has reported record-breaking coronavirus cases for the third straight day (CKRW 7 a.m.)**

Tokyo's Governor is warning COVID-19 cases there could hit 4,500 a day as skyrocketing cases sparked concern with the Olympics well underway. Tokyo has reported record-breaking coronavirus cases for the third straight day. Japan's seven-day rolling average is growing and now stands at 28 per 100,000 people and 88 per 100,000 in Tokyo. Tokyo has been under its fourth state of emergency since July 12th. Prime Minister Yoshihide Suga says his government will decide tomorrow whether to expand the emergency measures.

### **REPEAT: Tokyo has reported record-breaking coronavirus cases for the third straight day (CKRW 8 a.m.)**

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