**Public information Session**Dawson City Business Owners
and the Impact of COVID-19

Held Thursday, July 30th 2020, via ZOOM Conference

With:
Kathleen Derusha, Dawson City Chamber of Commerce
Larry Bagnell, MP Yukon, CaNor
Andy Cunningham, Klondike Visitors Association
Dan Davidson, Klondike Sun
Pat Brooks, Gold Rush Campground

12:00 pm – Meeting starts

**Kathleen Derusha:** Thank you for joining us and thank you to everyone listening on the radio. Thank you for CFYT local radio for broadcasting on a weekly basis. This is the DCCC Covid-19 impact session hosted every Thursday at noon through Zoom. We have Larry Bagnell here to give you some updates. Just as a reminder to local businesses, if you ever have any updates or comments, please feel free to call in or zoom in.

**Larry Bagnell:**

* Date has been extended to September 30th, rather than September 1st, for those needing to repay their income tax for the year 2019. All debt accrued before COVID will still owe the interest;
* The GST rebate and Canadian Child Benefit, which 90% of Canadian families get, will be based off your last year’s income. That has also been extended from July 31st, to September 31st, 2020. If they have yet filed their income tax and the CRA has yet to assess, they may not receive their benefits come September. The amount will be calculated based off the earnings from 2018 for the extension. Please let those that may be vulnerable to submit their income tax asap.
* We have also made our second federal payment to the airlines through Yukon Government. 1.6 million has been given to Air North to keep their five weekly flights to Vancouver and to the north. Yukon is waving its aviation fees to December 31st.
* People travelling through Canada to Alaska, we have tightened the rules on that. Following information can be viewed here <https://www.canada.ca/en/border-services-agency/news/2020/07/covid-19-stricter-rules-for-foreign-nationals-transiting-through-canada-to-alaska.html>.

**Pat Brooks:** Larry, in reference to the tag that folks will be carrying, are there any exemptions or are those the rules?

**Larry Bagnell:** My understanding is that these are the rules. As you know, they can be in Canada for essential work reasons. Even Yukoners with American plates, who have completed their quarantine, are here for those essential reasons. Anyone going through Alaska has to have those tags. You can just ask them, or report them if you have concerns.

**Pat Brooks:** Thank you for that.

**Kat Derusha:** Thank you, Larry. I understand we are going into phase 3 in a couple of days. Do you have any information on that? Any nothes in mind for Dawson?

**Larry Bagnell:** Those are rules put in by Yukon Government.

**Kat Derusha:** Thank you for your update, Larry. Another other updates for today?

**Larry Bagnell:** I sent you a very detailed e-mail containing the information for the wage subsidy for businesses accountants.

**Kat Derusha:** I will send out this information in this week’s newsletter.

I’ve been going around and visiting all of our members with a survey to see how they are doing with COVID and funding, as well as asking their views on the Gold Rush Campground.

Any other updates? Andy Cunningham from the KVA?

**Andy Cunningham:**  Here are some updates from the KVA:

***Gerties:*** We have received approval to do the Diamond Tooth Gerties Cancan show beginning August 7th. It’s going to be two shows, Friday and Saturday nights. One at 9pm, and the other at 11pm. We are really excited to have that back. We will have a full crew there for those two nights. With Gerties, just remember all of the COVID rules that are put in place. Always have an ID, no matter what your age you must have it on you. Everything else is on the website such as the schedule. The price will be $10 this year and it will be for the entire season. The dancers, producers and musicians are all very excited. We will be welcoming back Jesse Cooke to the drums.

***Jack London*** ***Museum*** is back open and we have added a day. Interpretive talks will be every Friday, Saturday and Sunday on the lawn at 1:30pm and admission is $5 cash.

***Authors on Eighth Literary Walking Tour*** will be during the weekend of Discovery Days, August 14th-16th. This will be done over the three days as opposed to only one. You must sign up with the VIC with Parks Canada on the day of, or the day before. This event will be free. Once you are signed up, it’ll start at the Jack London Museum at 1:30pm. It will be the same walk each day. Beginning at Jack London Museum, Robert Service and then the Burton House.

***Outhouse Race*** will be held this Saturday, August 1st. Seven teams have signed up this year which is the most teams in a number of years. The race will be nearly 5km and will be around town. The race route is out and it is nearly a 2.5km circle that they will be doing twice. It will begin at Minto Park and it’ll go around town.

***Discovery Days:*** If you have any more events for this weekend, please let us know so we can put together a schedule. This will be a great weekend in town.

***Parks Canada:*** Parks is open and doing daily tours. Please let your visitors know that this is now available in town. There are tours in Bear Creek, the Dredges and interpretive tours. All information is at the VIC at the Parks Canada booth and there is a desk where you can get tickets. VIC staff can help with everything else that is going on.

***What’s Open:*** We are still updating our What’s Open list. If anything has changed for your business, whether it be hours or offerings, please e-mail us and we will update this for you.

Another thing is to check out the Travel Yukon website to make sure that your business is listen on there. It’s fairly easy to do. Just log onto your account and you can make any changes that you may need to make. Biggest one is advertising that you are now open.

***Shop Local Contest*** with the DCCC is still going super great. We’re going to continue that and keep it going for as long as we can.

***Temporary Relief Funds*** is still open to events that have been cancelled due to COVID until July 31st. You have until August 31st to send in your application. Please take advantage of that program.

***TIA:*** TIA meetings every Friday at noon. Lots of great resources and information on those Zoom meetings. Look on the website to register and take part. TIA will send you a link if you’d like to participate.

**Dan Davidson:** For the start of the outhouse race, what direction do you plan on going in due to construction?

**Andy Cunningham:** The construction will not affect the race. We will be starting it at the back of Minto Park by the building and then we’ll be heading south from there. South to Front St, and then along Front St to Princess Ave, Princess Ave up to Sixth Ave and that will be the loop.

**Dan Davidson:** Are we going to be seeing one of those maps that we’ve been seeing for other events going on around town?

**Andy Cunningham:** We do have one and it will be posted on the Buyer and Crier, as well as the Facebook event page. Please feel free to reach out and contact the KVA if you have any questions.

***Meeting adjurned at 12:30pm.***