



*Wilderness Tourism Association of the Yukon
E-News for Saturday August 11, 2012.*

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1. WTAY Office Closure

Monday marks my departure from Dawson City and my return to the Whitehorse office. I will be stopping in Carmacks to meet with Mayor Elaine Wyatt and members of the Little Salmon First Nations regarding the Yukon River clean-up, but will be in the office during regular hours from Tuesday to Thursday of next week (August 14-August 16).

But then...I'm taking a little adventure on the Tatshenshini!!!

This means that the WTAY office will be closed from August 17th-August 28th inclusive. And as you experts know, I will be unable to check email or receive phone calls in the backcountry, so please be patient and I will attend to all matters upon my return. If an extremely urgent matter arises, you may contact Felix Geithner at felix@rubyrange.com.

2. Exciting News From Air North

In a press release distributed yesterday Air North announced that they have signed an agreement with Air Canada to provide baggage transfers for flights within Canada. Through the agreement, passengers on either carrier will now be able to have their baggage transferred to the other carrier for same-day domestic flights - making connections between both carriers much more convenient.

According to the release, Joseph Sparling (President of Air North), stated "We've worked for ten years to make travel easier and more affordable for Yukoners. Now, when you check in for your Air North flight, you'll have the option of having your baggage transferred to an Air Canada flight, or vice-versa - which will enhance your travel experience with both carriers. We're very pleased about this partnership."

This is great news for our industry because it means one less hassle for our clients making the journey North!

WTAY is excited about this agreement and congratulates Air North and Air Canada on their partnership!

3. Join Us at the Whitehorse Chamber of Commerce AGM

When: Tuesday, September 11th from 11:30am to 2:00pm

Where: Kwanlin Dunn Cultural Center

The Whitehorse Chamber of Commerce AGM is only a month away and they have been working hard to organize an exciting event for all of their members.

They have arranged for door prizes such as two return flights for two to anywhere in Canada, and another round-trip flight for one to Edmonton, Vancouver, or Calgary! They also have outstanding guest speakers and delicious food!

So, don't miss out! RSVP today! Either send a return email or give them a call at 667-7545 to book your tickets. (Still only \$25)

4. Southern Lakes Prepares for Anticipated Flooding

WTAY sends our support to our Southern Lakes members who are preparing for anticipated flooding in Marsh Lake, Carcross and Tagish.

According to news reports, the water levels are expected to peak in a week or two, and, as of Wednesday, were 24 centimetres below flood level. Officials expect the water to reach "flood stage," which is equivalent to the water level reached in 2004, and about a metre below the record floods of 2007. At this level, flooding and damage is expected to be minor but still of concern to residents close to the water.

Southern Lakes residents are being asked to be aware of the risk in their particular location and to create an emergency plan that would enable them to leave their home quickly for at least 72 hours.

WTAY is thinking "sunny" thoughts and hopes that you and yours remain safe.

5. Apply for YTTF and TCMF Today!

YTTF

The next deadline for applications to the [Yukon Tourism Training Fund \(YTTF\)](#) is Friday, **August 17th at 5pm.**

Individuals can access up to \$3000 of funding per year through the YTTF to assist with the cost of tourism training for entry-level skill development, seasonal/wilderness training or professional skills development for a career in tourism. Businesses, nonprofits or organizations wishing to provide training to the tourism industry may receive up to 75% of the cost of implementation to a maximum of \$5000 per year.

Applications are accepted only 4 times a year, and you must submit your application before training begins.

TCMF

TIA Yukon is now accepting applications for The [Tourism Co-operative Marketing Fund \(TCMF\)](#). TCMF is designed to assist tourism businesses, First Nations governments, municipalities and organizations to market their Yukon tourism product. It makes funding available to market-ready or export-ready businesses and groups.

Projects must meet equity requirements and may include new marketing initiatives or industry trade and consumer show marketing. Individual businesses are eligible for 50% funding to a maximum of \$35,000. Partnerships or groups are eligible for 50% funding to a maximum of \$105,000.

Funding is prioritized on a first come basis.

For more information about these funding opportunities or to explore the other benefits you receive with your TIA Yukon membership, please visit their website at:

<http://tiayukon.com/aboutus.aspx>

See more tourism news at <http://www.tiayukon.com/>

If you have information of interest to WTAY Members for the E-News, please send to info@wtay.com

Wilderness Tourism Association of the Yukon

#4 - 1114 First Ave., Whitehorse, YT Y1A 1A3

Tel. 867.668.3369 Fax 867.668.3370

E-mail: info@wtay.com

www.wtay.com and www.yukonwild.com