

WTAY **WilderNews** for June 14, 2018

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Yukon Parks Strategic Plan Update

Yukon Parks held a public meeting at Beringia Centre on June 6th introducing the work Government of Yukon is doing to develop a **Yukon Parks Strategy**. You can listen to the evening's presentations, including WTAY's, by going to: [Presentations & Speakers](#)

On June 7th Parks officials met with key stakeholders, WTAY included, to solicit input on a range of questions that will guide the development of the strategy. This strategy is to set long-term direction for Yukon's system of territorial parks, including wilderness parks, campgrounds, recreation sites and more. It will provide strategic guidance on how to sustainably deliver the environmental, economic, social, and health benefits of parks and campgrounds. YG is inviting YOU, and all Yukoners, to join in on the conversation and help shape the future of Yukon's territorial parks. What do YOU want Yukon's parks and campgrounds to be for future generations? Parks and campgrounds are used extensively by many tour operators and the future of them, as well as the long-term integrity of Yukon wilderness in general, is critical to the future success of wilderness tourism in the Territory. This is your chance to help shape the future of wilderness tourism in Yukon.

YG is soliciting feedback from Yukoners until July 15th. Input received will form the basis for the strategy which will be drafted in fall 2018 and brought back for public engagement in early 2019. You can also find the document online at [Participate](#) .

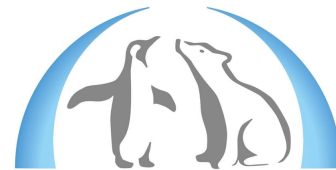
You can read Jill's full report [here](#).

Dawson City

The 6th International Polar Tourism Research Network Conference and Community Tour takes place later in June. The conference will take place in both Whitehorse and Dawson and provides a variety of panel discussions and research on culture, sustainability, planning, languages, education, heritage, the arts and much more. Much of the event is open to the public

Dates for Whitehorse are June 23, 24, 29 and 30. Dates for Dawson are June 26 and 27.

For more details on the conference, please review the poster found [here](#).



Wilderness Guide & Cultural Interpretation Training Program

On June 1, WTAY's joint project with the Yukon First Nations Culture and Tourism Association (YFNCT) wrapped up a Long Ago People's Place near Champagne. Kalin Pallett, President of WTAY and Charlene Alexander, the Executive Director of YFNCT represented the two organizations.

The six participants in the program were provided extensive wilderness tourism and interpretive training. Additional knowledge of First Nation's culture, language and history from several Elders and Knowledge Keepers was another key element of the program. Family and friends were on hand and the evening allowed the participants to present on a topic that interested them and which made use of their interpretive and cultural training.

WTAY would like to thank Caili Steel and Sarah Newton of YFNCT, for their involvement and hard work on this very successful project. We'd also like to thank Meta Williams and Harold Johnson, the owners of Long Ago People's Place. They were the perfect hosts for the participants and provide them with great support and hospitality. Four out of the six participants were seeking summer employment with wilderness tourism operators and we're happy to report that as of the writing of this article, three have accomplished this goal.

WTAY would also like to thank all of the trainers, Elders and WTAY members who contributed to the work of the project's Steering Committee as well as those members that employed graduates of the program.

Ours hope is that this endeavor will develop into an annual opportunity, continue to bring employment opportunities to the participants and assist in business development for WTAY member companies that recognize the value of First Nation guides and the additional business opportunities that can result from this venture.



Chieftain Energy Pricing for June 12 to June 18

Members have access to these products and prices through the WTAY Member Rewards Program. Chieftain Energy delivers home heating fuel and bulk fuels to several communities in the Yukon.

Heating fuel and bulk fuel prices for this week after taxes are...

Heating Fuel \$1.1897/liter

Bulk Fuels

Regular gasoline \$1.2807/liter

ULS Diesel \$1.2597/liter

Complete details and contact information can be found [here](#).

ARCTIC NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE *19.3 million acres*



Support the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge

With the U.S. Department of the Interior's decision to initiate an environmental review for oil and gas leasing in an area that includes the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge, CPAWS Yukon and other organizations are asking for the support of guides and the Yukon's wilderness tourism industry to oppose this process and continue the protections for this area.

As wilderness tourism professionals, we should all be concerned about this development and a sign-on letter has been produced that provides you with an opportunity to voice your disapproval of this situation. We hope that you all consider signing this letter and we also ask that you share it with your guides and other associates.

You can sign the letter [here](#).

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