



MINUTES FROM THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE COUNCIL FOR THE VILLAGE OF CARMACKS ON May 20th, 2025, IN THE MUNICIPAL COUNCIL CHAMBERS

PRESENT: Mayor: J. Lachance

Councillors: C. Bellmore , D. Hansen, D. Mitchell

Staff: CAO C. Pelletier, P. Singh

Regrets: Councillor T. Wheeler

1. CALL TO ORDER: Mayor J. Lachance called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

2. AGENDA: Council reviewed the agenda.

25-10-01 M/S Councillors D. Mitchell / D. Hansen motioned that the agenda be accepted as amended addition of 5.4 Yukon River Quest under Section 5.

CARRIED

3. MINUTES:

3.1 From the regular council meeting on May 6th, 2025

25-10-02 M/S Councillors D. Hansen / D. Mitchell motioned that the minutes be accepted as presented.

CARRIED

4. DELEGATION

No Delegation.

5. CORRESPONDENCE

5.1 Mount Nansen Remediation (Information Only)

A letter dated May 12, 2025, was sent to Mayor and Council regarding the Mount Nansen Remediation Project. This correspondence is for information purposes only.

A public open house will be held to engage the community and provide updates on the remediation efforts: Date: Tuesday, May 27, 2025, Time: 4:00 PM – 7:00 PM
Location: Carmacks Recreation Centre

Special thanks to Eric for coordinating this engagement session.



5.2 Michael Sam has approached Public Works General Manager Jens Wylimczyk to inform him that he is selling his 1978 CAT bulldozer. The asking price for the equipment is \$40,000. Please note:

- This item is not currently approved of in the existing budget.
- The information is being shared with Mayor and Council for awareness and future consideration, should the opportunity arise to evaluate or revisit equipment acquisitions.

This correspondence is for information purposes only and does not require any immediate action.

5.3 Indigenous Survivors Day & Reference Letter from Chief Janet Webster

A letter was received from Chief Janet Webster, requesting that June 30th be formally recognized by the Village of Carmacks as: "Indigenous Survivors Day"

This initiative is intended to promote healing, recognition, and unity within Indigenous communities. Chief Webster proposes that June 30th be designated as a statutory holiday for Village of Carmacks staff, aligning with the community's observance of the day.

Key Points from the Discussion:

- The letter proposes June 30th be added as a statutory holiday in the Village of Carmacks.
- Council members acknowledged that June 21st is already observed nationally as National Indigenous Peoples Day, and September 30th is recognized as the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation (Orange Shirt Day).
- The status of June 30th as a potential national holiday is currently not confirmed federally.
- Council members discussed the importance of consulting with Little Salmon Carmacks First Nation (LSCFN) for input, especially to ensure representation of all Indigenous voices in the community.
- A suggestion was made to explore this initiative initially as a proclamation, with further discussion needed regarding statutory designation and operational impacts.

5.4 Yukon River Quest Sponsorship

A letter was submitted by Kayla Mintz to Mayor Justin Lachance and Council regarding participation in the 2025 Yukon River Quest. Caleb is requesting sponsorship support to help cover Entry fees, Equipment and Training expenses.

This request is being presented in the spirit of representing Carmacks in a major international event, with recognition of the global audience the Yukon River Quest attracts.



Council Discussion Highlights:

- General support was expressed for assisting with funding, though a specific amount was not determined.
- It was suggested that the request be forwarded to the Recreation Department to evaluate available budget or grant opportunities for sponsorship.
- Council agreed to revisit the request once the Recreation Department has reviewed it and reported back with funding options or recommendations.

25-10-03 M/S Councillors C. Bellmore / D. Hansen motioned to file correspondence with no action.

CARRIED

6. REPORTS

6.1 Councillor Activity Reports

Councillor D. Hansen Reported attending an Association of Yukon Communities (AYC) Executive Meeting held via Zoom on Tuesday of the previous week.

Councillor D. Mitchell noted uncertainty about the timing of a recent Casino Mining-related meeting, acknowledging that a session may have just occurred, or may have been reported in a previous meeting. No additional activities were reported at this time.

Councillor C. Bellmore nothing to report.

6.2 Mayor J. Lachance informed that over the past reporting period, he participated in several community events and meetings:

- Attended the Casino Open House, engaging with attendees and listening to community updates.
- Participated in the Mother's Day Walk for Cancer, supporting local fundraising and awareness efforts.
- Took part in a Traffic Safety Committee Meeting earlier today, discussing community concerns and safety measures.
- Assisted with garbage cleanup throughout the community, including school grounds, in collaboration with Ralph Thomas. Ralph personally cleaned the area surrounding the cemetery and the back access road to Mount Nansen. Impressively, he collected six bags of recyclables from roadside areas entirely on his own.
- Helped facilitate and took minutes to prepare for the Ridge Run event, which was well attended. It was heartening to see many smiling children participating and enjoying the experience.



6.3 CAO Report

CAO Chantal Pelletier provided the following updates:

Upcoming Travel & Conferences

- May 24 – June 4, 2025: Attending the CAMA Conference followed by the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) Conference in Ottawa. Will be meeting Mayor Justin Lachance and Councillor Cory Bellmore. Returning to Carmacks on June 4, 2025.

Key Dates & Community Events

- Graduation Ceremony – TIS School:
May 30, 2025 at 5:30 PM
- Development Initiative Public Engagement with Jane Koepke & Mark Wickham:
June 5, 2025 at Recreation Centre
- International Trails Day (Trans Canada Trail Event):
June 7, 2025
Organized with the Recreation Department. A public call for volunteers will be issued to assist with boardwalk cleanup and flower planting.
- Pool Grand Opening Ceremony:
Date to be determined
Awaiting confirmation due to staff availability. Junior lifeguard is still in school until June 12. No senior lifeguard confirmed yet, though one candidate is reconsidering a three-month contract.
- Composting Public Engagement (with Balanced Biogas):
June 17, 2025 at Recreation Centre

Operational & Infrastructure Updates

- Mosquito Control Program:
Public notices have been issued. Field work is underway.
- Arena Boiler:
Still non-operational. Budget Plumbing is addressing ongoing issues with the fan.
- Highway Pooling Issue:
Met with Yukon Highways representatives about annual spring pooling across from the gas station. Positive meeting: Highways will move forward with design solutions and will provide updates.
- Recreation Centre Elevator:
Shut down by the elevator inspector due to water pooling over a power plug beneath the unit. Remediation is in progress.



Community Media & Outreach

- Met with Marsha Staples to discuss reviving *The Hooter* newsletter. It may be the same name or changed to something else.

Asset Auction Results

- The auction has concluded successfully.
- Approximately 75%+ of the listed items were sold, generating a total of \$18,603.00

Council Meeting Change

The next regular Council Meeting was originally scheduled for June 3, 2025. Due to scheduling conflicts with FCM travel, it was proposed to reschedule the meeting to June 4, 2025. A motion to approve this change was subsequently made and passed.

25-10-04 M/S Councillors D. Hansen / D. Mitchell motioned to reschedule the next regular council meeting from June 3, 2025 to June 4, 2025 due to travel conflicts with FCM travel.

6.4 AYC report Councillor D. Hansen

Councillor Hansen attended the meeting and noted organizational changes. Ministerial tours are being planned.

- AYC has two Yukon municipal board vacancies, but it's unclear if municipal elected officials are eligible—further clarification needed.
- A Sustainability Forum on flooding is scheduled for October 7–8.
- Community Affairs is seeking feedback on asset management training for elected officials, particularly on whether it should be delivered via Zoom.
- Jordan Stackhouse spoke on election readiness. Letters were sent to federal candidates; only the Green Party and Brandon Hanley responded.
- For the territorial election, similar letters will be sent out with CMG-style questions.
- The next AYC Board Meeting will be here in Carmacks on September 20, with two days booked at the Rec Centre (though the main meeting is expected to be one day).



7. BYLAWS

None.

8. NEW & UNFINISHED BUSINESS

8.1 Public Works Building Tender Update

The tender for the new Public Works Building was issued and closed. The lowest bid received was \$4.85 million, significantly over the available budget of \$3.7 million, which was originally allocated for both the fire hall and public works but was later split.

As a result, the tender has been cancelled, and Council has been presented with three options by David Elan for moving forward:

1. Cancel the Project
 - The allocated \$3.7 million would be forfeited.
2. Retrofit the Existing Public Works Building
 - Proposed upgrades include:
 - Addition of a new bay
 - Improved insulation
 - Installation of bathrooms and office space
 - Connection to a functioning well
 - Estimated cost: \$3.3–\$3.4 million (including \$300,000–\$400,000 for redesign).
3. Reduced Scope Design-Build (New Construction Shell Only)
 - This would involve a full redesign at a cost of \$300,000–\$400,000 but result in a basic shell with most components removed.
 - Not considered a viable option by YG due to limited utility and return.

Discussion Notes:

- The current Public Works building lacks functional bathrooms and adequate insulation.
- The retrofit has been long-overdue, with issues in plumbing and infrastructure persisting for over a decade.
- Council requested a detailed breakdown of retrofit upgrades and deliverables from YG's project manager or a formal presentation to Mayor and Council.

Timeline:



- Funds must be spent before March 31, 2026, so a decision must be made in time to allow for procurement and construction.

8.2 River Safety – Public Access to Life Rings

Discussion Summary:

- The idea of installing a life ring station near the river, particularly by the recreation center and beach area, was proposed to improve public water safety, especially for youth and families frequenting the area.
- Councillor Doris Hansen followed up and obtained a quote: a 24-inch life ring costs \$1,650.00 plus GST.
- It was initially believed these might be available for free, but this was not the case.

Considerations:

- Concerns were raised about theft or misuse, but it was noted that the life ring could be housed in a secure, break-glass style case, like a fire extinguisher.
- Councillor Bellmore asked about the Village's liability if a life ring is misused or if someone relies on it incorrectly.
- The discussion highlighted differences between Carmacks and other communities like Dawson City, where public life jacket trees have been successful due to high public awareness and river use.

Safety Awareness and Alternatives:

- Emphasis was placed on installing signage to promote water safety awareness, especially around areas heavily used by youth.
- It was noted that the school-side of the river near the boat launch is generally safer due to shallow water and a nearby sandbar.
- Councillor Bellmore supported placing safety measures near the recreation center due to higher public presence.
- A suggestion was made to consult with the Recreation Director about incorporating water safety training or awareness courses.

Next Steps:

- Further information gathering will be done regarding:
 - Liability implications
 - Additional pricing
 - Feasibility of water safety education programs
- The matter will be returned for further discussion once these details are available.



9. QUESTION PERIOD

1. Land Ownership & Development

- Brian Murrell inquired about vacant lots behind the Village office.
 - Lot #127 is under review for a potential staff housing development in collaboration with LSCFN. Early stages of discussions as per the HAF initiatives.
 - Brian volunteered to clear trees from the lot in exchange for wood, should the development proceed.

2. Boardwalk Extensions & Repairs

- Discussion centered on extending the boardwalk from Pocket Park to Roadhouse using leftover materials.
 - Proposed work includes clearing, levelling, laying tech cloth, and reinstalling boardwalk panels without disturbing underlying infrastructure.
- Concerns were raised about the existing boardwalk (from the bridge to Pocket Park), which lacks sleepers, leading to moisture retention and potential structural degradation.

3. Speed Zone Discussion

- Community members voiced concern about recently lowered speed limits (now 25 km/h and 40km/h).
- RCMP data (Jan–Sept 2024):
 - 37 speed-related files were logged, 36 on the highway and one in town.
 - Only 1 complaint originated from the public.
- Suggestions included reverting to former speed limits.
- Council reiterated that the change was made to enhance pedestrian safety, particularly for children and school zones.

4. Road & Flood Mitigation

- Questions arose about raising River Drive as part of long-term flood protection planning.
 - YG has acknowledged the issue; any substantial changes are 2–3 years away.
 - Concerns include how raised roads would affect driveway access and adjacent properties.

5. Chipper Use & Trail Dust

- Brian requested wood chips from the Village's chipping project to control dust on ATV trails near his property.
 - The chipping initiative is part of the solid waste assessment.



- Chips will be used for trail mulch and composting, and Public Works will notify residents when materials are available.

10. IN-CAMERA

Motion to move into Closed Meeting in accordance with the Yukon Municipal Act, Section 213 (3) (a) if in the case of a council, the council decides during the meeting to meet as a council committee to discuss a matter.

25-10-05 M/S Councillor D. Hansen / C. Bellmore motioned to go in-camera at 8:01PM.

An in-camera discussion by Council regarding a labour matter.

25-10-06 M/S Councillor D. Hansen / C. Bellmore motioned to go out of in-camera at 8:36 PM.

11. ADJOURNMENT

25-10-07 M/S Councillor D. Mitchell / D. Hansen motioned to adjourn the meeting at 8:37PM.

Mayor J. Lachance adjourned the meeting at 8:37 PM.



Mayor J. Lachance



CAO Chantal Pelletier

