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Chief Drygeese Territory, traditional home of the Yellowknives Dene

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INUVIK'S IGLOO CHURCH

Our Lady of Victory church, one of the most photographed buildings in the NWT, stands out in downtown Inuvik, imitating the Inuvialuit snow-houses of old.

TUKTOYAKTUK'S ICE MOUNTAINS

Ibyuk is a mountain made of ice and the second-largest pingo in the world. This geological marvel marks the end of the Inuvik to Tuktoyaktuk highway.

FUN-FILLED FESTIVALS

Communities in the Western Arctic love to have fun, celebrating the return of spring with snowmobile races and fishing derbies, or throwing a huge bonfire to welcome back the sun.

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POP CULTURE We're highlighted in books, film, TV and music.

Produced by Up Here Publishing Ltd. Yellowknife, Northwest Territories © UP HERE PUBLISHING 2021 COVER AND CONTENTS PHOTOS: BILL BRADEN

Our office is located on Chief Drygeese Territory, traditional home of the Yellowknives Dene and also traditional lands of the North Slave Metis.

YELLOWKNIFE: AN INTRODUCTION

Take a look around Yellowknife. You're part of one of the most vibrant, diverse communities in Canada.



The Yellowknives and Tłįchǫ Dene have lived in and travelled through this region for thousands of years. Then, 86 years ago, Yellowknife was permanently settled following the discovery of large gold deposits. From its rough-edged beginnings as a frontier mining town, Yellowknife has evolved into a city bursting with life.

While Yellowknife offers many of the urban amenities you'd find in any Canadian hub, the city is at the same time nestled in the great Northwest Territories wilderness. Here, there are too many lakes to experience in one lifetime, and the hiking trails are as plentiful as they are spectacular. In summer, the sun stays up for nearly 24 hours-meaning endless days of camping, fishing, or taking in tunes at the city's famous festivals. Meanwhile, winter is an invigorating season of dogsledding, snowmobil ing, ice fishing, and life-changing Northern Lights experiences. Let this guide be your starting point whether you've just arrived in town or are a lifelong 'knifer. We've included everything you need to understand this city—and plenty of surprises for those who think they already know it all. This is Yellowknife, like you've never seen it before!

The City of Yellowknife is a neighbour to two Yellowknives Dene communities:

Dettah and Ndilǫ. Dettah, which

A note on COVID-19:

in Tlicho, is located on the east side of what is now known as Yellowknife Bay. The community sits 6.5 kilometres from the city and has a population of 233 people. In winter months, the ice road that crosses the bay connects Dettah and Yellowknife. The community of Ndilo, meanwhile, is based on the northern tip of Latham Island, near Old Town. Ndilomeans "end of island." While it's very close to Yellowknife, Ndilo is its own distinct community.

means "charcoal" or "burnt point"

Amid the global pandemic, Yellowknife's offerings have–like the rest of the world–been impacted. While this guide explores the many exciting opportunities that exist in this city, we caution that not everything we mention will be available. These are uncertain times and nobody knows when the world will go back to normal. But with that in mind, we've tried our best to write a guide that offers a version of Yellowknife that could come back at any moment. Until that moment arises, however, we ask that readers double check to see what's available.



WORDS & PHRASES

Somba K'e: Yellowknife's Tłįchǫ name, meaning: "Where the money is."

Mahsi Cho or Mahsi: "Thank you very much" in Tłįchǫ.

Old Town: Where Yellowknife first sprouted. Here, some of Yellowknife's original buildings still stand.

Ragged Ass Road: The famed lane in Old Town's historic

Woodyard neighbourhood. In the 1970s, local prospector Lou Rocher jokingly named it Ragged Ass Road, since the alley was a bit of a dive. The city adopted the name but quickly learned to weld the sign onto the posts–it was being stolen too often.

Breakup: The season when the ice of Yellowknife and NWT's many lakes breaks apart, shutting down ice roads and forcing houseboaters to hopscotch their way to town.

The Rock: The tallest point in Old Town. At the top, you'll find Pilot's Monument, a tribute to the North's bush pilot heroes.

Back Bay: The sheltered Great Slave Lake inlet that lies across from Weaver & Devore, Bullock's and The Wildcat in Old Town. It's ideal for water activities.

Freeze-up: The opposite to breakup season, when the ice starts to freeze.

NACC: The Northern Arts and Cultural Centre-the local theatre, where art comes alive.

A QUICK HISTORY

For centuries Weledeh Dene have lived and travelled in this region, fishing the Yellowknife River and hunting across the current Yellowknife townsite.

1934-1937

A gold find in Yellowknife Bay spurred a staking rush. Several small gold strikes were explored, Con Mine was developed, and the town was permanently settled.

1948

Giant Mine was born and the city entered a new "golden age" of financial investment and population growth. Now the mine is closed and remediation has started.

1967

After rapid growth, Yellowknife was named the capital of the Northwest Territories.

1970

The Northwest Territories introduced the iconic polar bearshaped licence plate, which will be featured in souvenir shops for decades to come.

1972

The first edition of the Yellowknifer newspaper is published by Northern News Services.

1991

After a long search, diamonds were discovered on the tundra to the north of the city. One of Canada's greatest staking rushes followed and four diamond mines were established.

1999

The eastern part of the Northwest Territories separated and became Nunavut, making Yellowknife one of three territorial capitals rather than one of two.

2014

The Northwest Territories underwent devolution, transferring power from the federal government to the territory.



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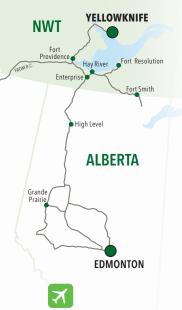
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GETTING HERE Remote but doable



BY PLANE

We are well-connected, with direct flights from Edmonton, Calgary, Ottawa, Vancouver and Whitehorse via Canadian North, WestJet and Air North. The Yellowknife airport (YZF) website has everything you'll need to know about arrivals and departures.

You can access the Mackenzie Highway (NWT Highway 1) via Alberta's Highway 35 or British Columbia's Highway 77 and then the Liard Highway (NWT Highway 7). From Edmonton, the route is approximately 1,500 km-that's about 20 hours of driving. The road is paved most of the way. Try and minimize any time spent driving after nightfall: bison frequently wander onto the road and are hard to see (you don't want to hit a 1,500-kg ungulate). When you start to see distinctive pink granite along the side of the road, you're getting close to Yellowknife! For live updates of highway conditions visit www.gov.nt.ca.



10 CITY GUIDE • DISCOVER OUR YELLOWKNIFE

GETTING AROUND HERE

You can pretty much walk anywhere if you needed to, but just in case...

RENTING VEHICLES

Rental cars and trucks are available in the city and at the airport. Rental firms include Budget, National, Hertz, and Royal Rent-a-Car.



TAXI SERVICES

Aurora Taxi: 867-873-5050 City Cab: 867-873-4444 Yellowknife Cab: 867-873-6666



CITY BUS SERVICES

There are three regular routes: Route A – Borden/Downtown Route B – Frame Lake/Northlands Route C – Old Town/Niven

Buses run from 7:10 a.m. to 7:25 p.m., Monday to Saturday, all year. There is no transit service on Sundays or statutory holidays. For details, go to Yellowknife.ca/en/ living-here/transit.asp

Adult fare - \$3.00 Seniors fare - \$2.00 Children under five - FREE



BIKE RENTALS

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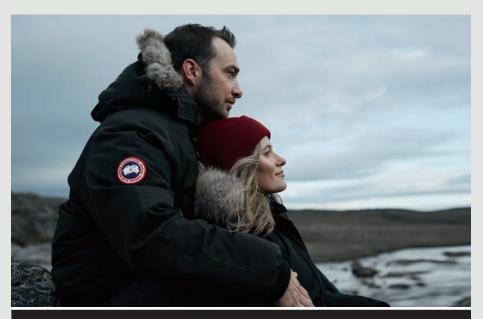
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Yellowknife Public Library	920-5642
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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

AT A GLANCE: One year in yellowknife

The pandemic may have limited the number of visitors last year, but there will still be lots to do in town. Here are some options throughout the year. Be sure to check with organizers first, though, to make sure the events are going forward and what safety precautions are in place while the world recovers from COVID-19.

JANUARY:

New Year's Eve: On top of the many parties usually happening on New Year's Eve, Yellowknife makes the holiday even more special by ringing in the new year with a fireworks display over Frame Lake. Starts at 8pm on December 31.

World Snow Day: When living in a winter wonderland, it only makes sense to celebrate World Snow Day. On January 17, Yellowknife organizations will play host to a Sunday of outdoor activities, like skiing, snow volleyball, and ice skating, to encourage getting outside.

Walk to Tuk: Walk the distance from Yellowknife to Tuktoyaktuk through this conceptual event. Walk to Tuk happens over two months, where people can gather in teams or individually walk the 1,658 kilometres it would take to get to Tuktoyaktuk.

FEBRUARY:

NWT Ski Day Sunday: Yellowknife Ski Club offers free access to all trails on Ski Day Sunday (February 14) to both members and non-members alike. While you're there, you can also get in on some free snacks and refreshments.

Heritage Week: To celebrate Yellowknife's rich cultural identity, the city hosts Heritage Week, where one can view or partake in various activities, showcasing the town's culture, history, language, and arts.

Valentine's Day Skate: What better way is there to celebrate love than by gathering with friends and family? Each year, the city hosts a Valentine's Day skate at the Multiplex. Last year's event offered free snacks and even a photobooth.

Brrrlesque: Each winter, Yellowknife hosts an annual burlesque show over three nights. The event is a true variety show, with a mix of singing, comedy, and classic and modern strip teases. But act fast. Tickets usually sell out in minutes.

MARCH:

Snowking Winter Festival: An

iconic winter tradition where Yellowknifers gather in a giant castle made of snow, constructed and designed every year anew by snowking Anthony Foliot, out on Great Slave Lake. The snow castle plays host to concerts, plays, and comedy shows.

Frostbite 50: Credited as one of the coldest runs in Canada by Canadian Running Magazine, Frostbite 50 is a marked 50k course, where people can ski or snowshoe their way around, either solo or in a team of up to five participants.

Long John Jamboree: As a send-off for the end of winter, the Long John Jamboree includes a weekend of live music, food, and ice sculpting competitions. Usually this all takes place on a frozen lake, though warming temperatures have forced recent jamborees onto land.

APRIL:

Balsillie Cup Old Timers Hockey Tournament: A tradition since the early '80s, this hockey tournament includes five divisions, where players from across the NWT and Nunavut compete for the coveted Balsillie cup.

Gumboot Rally: This fundraising event brings together teams of participants who must dress up and compete in skill testing trials like the boot toss and bowl for boots.

Ptarmigan Ptheatrics Spring

Musical: Yellowknife's best performers gather every year to put on a Broadway-worthy show at the Northern Arts and Cultural Centre. Performances have varied from Mary Poppins to Les Miserables.

MAY:

Northwords Writers Festival:

Celebrating both northern and southern writers, this multi-day event includes writers' panels, workshops, visiting speakers, and Blush–an event where participants write exotica and read it to a crowd.

Yk2hr: YK2HR is the North's toughest endurance ride, as you cycle 500 kilometres from Yellowknife to Hay River. It's a three-day event that involves plenty of cycling and camping along the way. Urban Hides Tanning Camp: This annual event sets up hides at Somba K'e Civic Plaza, where anyone is invited to attend, watch, or participate in the traditional tanning process.

JUNE:

National Indigenous Peoples Day & Summer Solstice Festival:

June 21 is both National Indigenous Peoples Day and the Summer Solstice Festival, so there's plenty of ways to celebrate, from enjoying cultural demonstrations, live music, art exhibits, and traditional food at a number of celebrations around town.

Beer Barge: This beer festival is a throwback to the 1940s, when Yellowknife would get its seasonal arrival of beer off the barge. Today, the event has people dressing in 1940s apparel, while they enjoy live music, food vendors, and, of course, beer.

Festival on Franklin: This solstice celebration gathers people around the downtown, where anyone is welcome to enjoy live music, street food, art, and store sales during this outdoor festival.

Canadian North Midnight Sun Golf Classic: With (virtually) 24 hours of sunlight in the summer, you can do pretty much anything you want at any time-including golfing. This event allows you to tee off under the midnight sun, take part in banquets, workshops, and win prizes.

Yellowknife Farmers Market:

Every Tuesday during the summer, dozens of food and product vendors gather at Somba K'e Park to serve up some of their best. From raw vegan food to pastries and white fish, the Farmer's Market has something for everyone.

JULY:

Folk On The Rocks: It may just be the most anticipated weekend of the year, where local, national, and international performers gather for an outdoor music festival on the sandy beaches of Long Lake. Canada Day: Among the many events that venues put on during the July holiday, Yellowknife also hosts a drum dance at Somba K'e Civic Plaza, bringing the community together.

Midnight Sun Fly-In: Head down to the aircraft dock in Old Town to see some of the city's aviation wonders. There are many events taking place throughout this biannual weekend, where floatplane pilots from around the world touch down on Back Bay.

AUGUST:

Old Town Ramble and Ride: Ramble and Ride is a weekend-long event celebrating the quirky side of Yellowknife, that includes live music, food vendors, buskers, art displays, and various events throughout Old Town.

Yellowknife Pride: Yellowknife Pride happens every August and features events from live music and workshops, to Rainbow Cabaret–a queer burlesque show.

Old Town Pond Sailors Regatta:

This annual event brings together dozens of amateur shipwrights to sail their homemade miniature sailboats in a 50-metre long racecourse. Some of the boats go off course, while others capsize from the start, but all in all, it's good fun.

SEPTEMBER: NWT Arts Week

Yellowknife is chock-full of artists and they're all celebrated during the annual Arts Week. The five-day event features exhibits, live demonstrations, and chances to meet local artists.

Labour Day BBQ: Over the September long weekend, anyone can head down to Somba K'e Civic Plaza for a free BBQ, along with games for the whole family. Far North Photo Festival: The photo exhibit brings together work from photographers across northern Canada and the Arctic. But the weekend also includes workshops, presentations, and portfolio reviews.

Yellowknife International Film

Festival: Presented by WAMP, the Northern Arts and Cultural Centre hosts a series of short and feature films that have a focus on the circumpolar North.

NOVEMBER:

Santa Claus Parade: Santa Claus comes to town every November for the parade, where Old Saint Nick himself, along with several other decorated floats, run through downtown.

Pumpkin Lane: Carrying on the Halloween season a little longer, Yellowknifers can bring their carved pumpkins to Frame Lake and line them up along the downtown walking trail. The jack-o-lanterns are lit up for people to go on a stroll and take in the spooky scene.

DECEMBER:

Holiday Lights Competition: Get festive for the holidays by decorating your house and partaking in a lights tour. Each decorated house can be registered so walkers will know where to enjoy the seasonal beauty in their neighborhood. Plus, those who get festive could be one of five winners, chosen by residents.

Yellowknife Christmas Bird

Count: If you're a birder, you can join this annual event, which involves surveying the whole city and surrounding areas to count the number and species of birds. Participants meet at Ecology North and are then given a specific part of the city to survey.







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ACTIVITIES FOR:

When the temperature drops below minus 30 degrees, you'll still find Yellowknifers out on the street, the ice, the ski trails, or in the bush–albeit wearing a few extra layers. Despite the chill, winter is the season of fun. It's a time for Northern Lights viewing, dogsledding, snowmobiling, pond hockey, and snowshoeing. If you're living here during these cold months, here's what you can do:



SEE THE AURORA

Yellowknife is famous for being a prime spot to watch the Aurora Borealis, also known as the Northern Lights. Tick this activity off your bucket list and watch these enchanting ribbons dance across the sky. Just make sure to travel far enough from the city streetlights so that light pollution won't dim your view.

MUSH, MUSH! ON A DOGSLED

Zip across a frozen lake, or twist and turn throughout the forest, in a dogsled. Take part in this classic northern tradition and you'll be amazed by the teamwork and dedication of these dogs, who will bring you places a car could never venture.

HAVE AN ICE TIME FISHING

The North is known for its fishing opportunities, but take your experience to the next level by dropping your line while out on the ice. Pull up to a fishing hole and join us on the lake this winter.

HOP ON A SNOWMACHINE

Already tried the dogsled, or do you simply want a more modern alternative? Snowmobiling is a practical, not to mention exhilarating, way to experience the Canadian North. Make sure to get a good expert who can take you off the beaten path.

COURTESY OF RICHARD MACINTOSH SUNDOG ADVENTURES

SEE CAMERON FALLS FROZEN

If you're looking to get away from the city for an afternoon, drive to Cameron Falls, about 50 kilometres from Yellowknife, along the Ingraham Trail (also known as Highway 4). After a 20-minute hike, you'll find yourself at the frozen falls.

CHECK OUT OUR CROSS-COUNTRY SKIING

Downhill skiing? Forget about it. Strap on a pair of cross-country skis and join us on the trails instead! The Yellowknife Ski Club has some nice, groomed ski tracks, or you could venture off the established paths to see the many hidden wonders in the wilderness that surrounds our city.





COURTESY OF YELLOWKNIFE TOURS AND VERDA LAW

TRY ON A SNOWSHOE

Maybe cross-country skiing isn't your style. Can I interest you in a snowshoe instead? Make your forest adventures easier with this classic piece of winter wear.

SKATE ON THE LAKE

Another iconic piece of winter footwear, lace up your skates and play some lunch-hour shinny hockey on Frame Lake outside of City Hall. Not a hockey fan? That's okay. There's plenty of space for you to enjoy a simple glide across the ice.

FANCY A GAME OF CURLING?

Want to try your hand at an iconic Canadian sport? There's nowhere better to do so than the land of ice and snow. Pick up a broom, find a few friends, and get ready to throw some stones.

GET YOUR BLOOD PUMPING WITH KITE-SKIING

Kite-skiing has become the latest adrenaline-fuelled sport to take hold of the North. With the open expanse of the frozen Great Slave Lake, there's plenty of space for you to give it a try.

BE AN ICE ROAD TRUCKER

You've seen *Ice Road Truckers*, now experience the ice roads for yourself. Drive across Yellowknife Bay to the nearby community of Dettah on this wintertime route–just be sure to check conditions before you go, and always obey the signage!

EXPLORE THE SNOWKING'S SNOW CASTLE

Yellowknife's most famous snow castle is a wintertime hub, found at

Yellowknife Bay in March. Go enjoy live entertainment of all sorts, for both kids and adults, or check out the courtyard for some breathtaking snow sculptures. Afterwards, take a trip down the ice slide and celebrate winter, northern-style. All hail the Snowking.

LEARN SOMETHING NEW

Tour the Prince of Wales Northern Heritage Centre for a crash course in the history and culture of the territory's first peoples, northern aviation, and the area's wildlife and geology. It's a great place to learn about the territory as well as take a break from the chill outside.

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If you miss the joys of cycling when the temperatures drop and the snow starts to pile up, don't fret: get a fat bike. We don't let winter stop us here in Yellowknife. With thicker tires to handle snow on the roads and trails, that means that no matter the season, you can tour our beautiful city by bike.

WATCH FOR WILDLIFE

Yellowknife has a lot to offer if you're a wildlife enthusiast. In our sub-Arctic landscape, Yellowknife is home to an ecosystem that will wow any naturalist-amateur or expert. Venture out (safely) into the woods to catch a glimpse of the local wildlife

CELEBRATE THE SEASON WITH THE SANTA CLAUS PARADE

Anyone around during the holidays won't want to miss Santa Claus' visit. Check out the creative floats from local organizations and businesses at the annual parade, try to guess who will win the Roland Gosselin "Ho Ho Ho" Award, and exchange a wave with Santa himself.

GO KICKSLEDDING

A growing sport in the Canadian North, these sleds (originally from Norway) feature two parallel, twometre long skates with footplates and handlebars. Riders "kick off" on the ice with the assistance of husky or two. An easy and fun alternative to dogsledding.

GRAB A PINT-IT'S BEEN A LONG DAY

After a long day of fun in our exciting capital, cozy up with a pint at one of Yellowknife's many bars and pubs. Hang up your mittens so you can meet some new friends and swap some tales. You're likely to walk away with a good story and a lot of laughs.



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ACTIVITIES FOR: SUMMER

Though Yellowknife is undeniably a winter city, Yellowknifers live for their summers. Music and festivals under near-endless sunlight, and outdoor adventure both within city limits and outside, will keep you busy. Just don't forget to sleep.



CANOES, KAYAKS, AND PADDLE BOARDS GALORE

Long summer days mean there's plenty of time to spend on the countless bodies of water in and around the city. Rent a kayak or canoe and start exploring—if you don't have much experience, you can easily find teachers in the city eager to help and guide you. Or, if you're not in the mood for a canoe, try your hand at stand-up paddle boarding for something different.

WHAT WILL YOU CATCH?

With many, many pristine lakes and waterways nearby, you'll find oncein-a-lifetime fishing experiences up here in Yellowknife. People travel from all over to fish in this region, and for good reason. We're home to monster lake trout and great northern pike. See what you catch and then sample your spoils after a wonderful day out on the water.

WATCH OUT FOR FLOATPLANES

Central to our past, present, and future, Yellowknife's bush planes have a dynamic, proud history intertwined with the city. So keep an eye on the sky during the warm months: in the summer, you're likely to see floatplanes land on the water. See if you can spot the different kinds, too. From the Cessna 185 to the DeHavilland Beaver, or Twin Otter, these planes come in all shapes and forms.

BIRD WATCH 2021

Don't only keep an eye on the sky for bush planes. Yellowknife has a lot to offer the avid birder, too. A prime location on many species' migration routes, the city sees a great many fowl visitors throughout the year. With hundreds of species catalogued in the local, from the average duck to tundra swans and white-rumped sandpipers, birdwatchers won't be disappointed.



Water water everywhere... Enjoy it!



PICTURE PERFECT

It's one thing to take in the sights; it's another to capture them. Thankfully, with Yellowknife's near 24-hour sunlight, you'll have more time than ever to catch that perfect photo. And with so much to do and see here in the city–from forest scenes, to on-the-water adventures, to multiple festivals–you certainly won't be starved for ideas. There are plenty of other local photographers you can meet up with as well to get some inspiration. Yellowknife is flush with artists, after all.

GO ON A HIKE: OR TWO, OR THREE

Yellowknife has one of Canada's most extensive networks of civic

trails, many easily accessible from downtown and loaded with scenery and wildlife. Spend an afternoon exploring Frame Lake Trail, wander the marshy byways of Niven Lake (with its waterfowl, beavers, and muskrats), or take a scenic stroll on Tin Can Hill. It's a hiker's dream.

EXPERIENCE THE WILDERNESS

Tired of the city life? Lucky for you, Yellowknife is steps away from the great outdoors-it won't take long to trade the urban landscape for wilder affairs. Or maybe you can find someone to safely bring you to more isolated spots for an extended adventure. In either case, be sure to remember your bug spray! Without the chill, Yellowknife gets buggy.

PARTY DOWN

Yellowknifers know how to take advantage of their summer months. Get together with friends while the sun shines—or join in at a variety of gatherings throughout the summer, from Folk On The Rocks to Aboriginal Day festivities at Somba K'e Park.

GOLF UNDER THE MIDNIGHT SUN

Book a tee-time and get some northern golf experience. Here's a tip: watch out for the ravens--they've been known to steal a ball or two. Think of it as a fun extra obstacle, courtesy of Mother Nature.



THE WONDERS OF THE DEHCHO THINGS YOU MUST DO IN

THE NWT'S BIG RIVER LAND











EXPERIENCE THE NAHANNI

Heaven-scraping spires. Ancient canyons. Thundering Virginia Falls, twice as high as Niagara. Find it all in Nahanni National Park Reserve, the North's true wilderness paradise.

CAMP IN STYLE

Spend a relaxing weekend at an NWT campground. Search for fossils at Sambaa Deh Falls Territorial Park or enjoy the serenity of Blackstone Territorial Park on the Liard River.

GO WITH THE FLOW

The Mackenzie River ("Deh Cho," or big river) is the largest in Canada and the superhighway through the NWT. Put in at Fort Simpson and paddle straight to the Arctic Ocean.

LEARN FROM A DEHCHO EXPERT

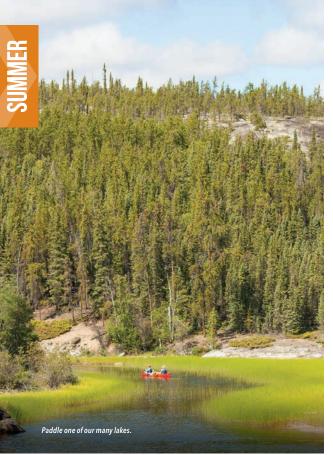
Try traditional foods, play Dene games and let a local expert teach you the uses of many plants in medicine while walking a Dene trail nearly one thousand years old.

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TAKE A BIKE RIDE

Explore the city with the wind in your hair. There's plenty to do and see in Yellowknife, and if you want to see it all, you'll want a bike to reach every bit of this wonderful city.

TENNIS, ANYONE?

It's your serve at any of the three outdoor public tennis courts located by McNiven Beach Park. The Yellowknife Tennis Club also offers drop-in games, clinics, and annual tournaments for members.

HANNA EDEN - UP HERE

CAMP IN THE YELLOWKNIFE WILDERNESS

If a walk in the woods isn't enough, drive up the Ingraham Trail (also known as Highway 4) to do some camping. There's a lot to do, like have a cookout at one of the many day-use areas just off the highway. A beautiful view and some peace and quiet are guaranteed.

GO TUBING

Done with canoes, kayaks, fishing, and stand-up paddle boarding? Spotted all the birds on the lake? Well, don't give up on the water just yet: if you head further down the Ingraham Trail and then hike to Cameron River, you'll find great waters for tubing. This is lake country-there's always something to dip your feet into.

MEET US ON THE BASEBALL PITCH

How does the song go? Take me out to the ball game! Yellowknife is no exception to the popular summer sport–when the ice melts and hockey is no longer an option, we turn to warmer fun on the pitch. Come take in a game of softball (or two or three), or find some friends and join a league of your own.





EACH PIECE OF ART TELLS A STORY

NWT Arts connects you with that story

In stores and galleries, the NWT Arts logo identifies authentic Northwest Territories arts and fine crafts created by artists registered with the NWT Arts Program. Artists create one-of-a-kind handmade pieces that capture their northern spirit and share their unique stories of living in Canada's Northwest Territories.

Look for authentic NWT art at these local businesses:

Aurora Emporium Art Gallery 4701 Franklin Avenue

Aurora Village Trading Post 4705-50 Avenue

Down to Earth Gallery 5005 Bryson Drive

Erasmus Apparel 4602-50 Avenue

Fiddles and Stix Music Centre 5018-52 Street

Fireweed Studio (Seasonal) 4807-52 Street

Frozen Rock Studio 5 Coronation Drive Gallery of the Midnight Sun 5007 Bryson Drive

Just Furs 3602 Franklin Avenue

Mermaid and Moon Boutique 4709-47 Street

Mother Earth Rocks 3608 Franklin Avenue

Northern Images 4801 Franklin Avenue

Old Town Glassworks 3510 McDonald Drive

Signed. 5024-51 Street **The Cabin** 1 Yellowknife Highway Yellowknife Airport

The Quilted Raven 5003-53 Street

Visual Effects 4905-48 Street

Yellowknife Book Cellar 4921-49 Street

Yellowknives Dene Artisan Shop #14 Dettah (in the community of Dettah)

Yellowknife Guild of Arts and Crafts 113 Kam Lake Road

ARTS

Connect with artists and learn Where to Buy NWT Art **nwtarts.com**





CHOOSE TO BE UNIMPAIRED Explore the North Safely!

Driving recreational vehicles while impaired is not part of a good time.



Northern Sky film is Yellowknife's Newest Attraction. In the Brand New 360° Sky Dome Theater, you will explore Galaxies, Planets and experience the actual aurora with the world's first 4Kx4K real-time VR video with a 360° immersive adventure! You may share this unique experience with your family and beloved one.

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com www.nsf360.com f nsf360dome



FREE TO SEE

For newcomers and longtime residents looking for a way to enjoy this city without breaking the bank, Yellowknife has plenty to offer. The best things in life are free, after all.



CITY HALL

Go inside to check out the visitor centre, pick up maps and brochures, and ask at the front desk about special events happening soon. Or look online to get the latest news from the city and its civic programs. Heck, why not take in a city council session to see how the government of a small northern city runs?

NWT LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

Perched on the shores of Frame Lake near City Hall, the "Ledge," as it's fondly known, is the seat of territorial government. Find out how decisions are made in the NWT and check out the unique territorial mace. There are also free tours available throughout the week.

PRINCE OF WALES NORTHERN HERITAGE CENTRE

The museum houses artifacts and collections from across the Northwest Territories, with rotating exhibits throughout the year. It also holds historical archives, so you can dig into the territory's past, and there's a restaurant on-site if you want to stop for food while exploring the local heritage. Donations are welcome on entry.

SOMBA K'E CIVIC PLAZA

This plaza beside City Hall is a hub of activity year-round, but there are all kinds of free events held here in the summer. The central, outdoor amphitheatre hosts everything from famer's markets and outdoor movies to live performances and drop-in yoga classes. It's also a prime picnic spot, and in December and January it hosts an amazing display of holiday lights. From the plaza you can also look across Frame Lake to the "Northern Lights" show on the wall of the Prince of Wales museum.

YELLOWKNIFE DUMP

Go scavenging for furniture or souvenirs at "YKea"–the Yellowknife dump. Hear us out: the dump is one of Yellowknife's quirkiest attractions, and the place locals in the know will go to salvage furniture, household items, and more. Access this treasure trove by Highway 4 and check the city's website for scavenging hours.

HANNA EDEN - UP HERE



MUSIC AT THE MUSEUM BY CLASSICS ON STAGE

Also known as COSY, the organization's Music at the Museum series is a set of free concerts at the Prince of Wales Heritage Centre. It's an event that's gone on for over 12 years, playing the last Sunday afternoon of the month from September to June. The concerts are performed by members and student members of COSY. Check out their website for upcoming events.

HOUSEBOAT ALLEY

Head to the public docks in Old Town to get see the colourful houseboats of Yellowknife Bay. Our distinctive, floating community got its start in the 1970s when local character Tim Shandrick parked his home in Yellowknife Bay. Today, owners live year-round, canoeing to the mainland in summer and walking (or skiing) on the ice starting around mid-November.

OUTDOOR MINING HERITAGE MUSEUM

Visit the Giant Mine site near the Great Slave Cruising Club and public boat launch. Here, you can find ore cars and train tracks, loading machinery, old photos from the mine's heydays and more. Pack some snacks and enjoy them at the nearby picnic tables.



FACT OR FICTION

FACT: It gets cold! In the winter, temperatures can drop below minus 40 degrees. It's not cold all year-round, however-in July, the average temperature is 21 degrees.

FICTION: Watch out for polar bears. Thankfully, our climate isn't suited for the great white bears. As marine mammals, they tend to stick to ocean coasts.

FICTION: You can see the Northern Llights year round. We may be the aurora viewing capital of the world, but in the summer, near-constant daylight means you can't see these emerald ribbons until the dark returns around mid-August.

FACT: You can drive on the ice. Ice roads are an important part of our transportation system. If you want to try your hand at it, the Dettah Ice Road can be accessed from School Draw Avenue–just make sure it's safe and obey the signage! FICTION: Yellowknife is in the Arctic. Here in Yellowknife, we live in the sub-Arctic. More northerly communities live in the true Arctic, with all its tundra glory and permafrost. It may not seem like a big difference, but environment-wise, the "sub" matters.

FICTION: Downhill skiing is great. Unfortunately, this is fiction. Our cross-country skiing is stellar, however.

FICTION: Yellowknife is capital of the Yukon. No. Just, no. To our disbelief, this is still a common mistake. Yukon is our neighbour to the west, and their capital is Whitehorse.

FACT: Houseboaters live on the lake all year. Rain or shine, ice or water, these houseboats are home-the only thing that changes with the seasons is how they get there.

BY THE NUMBERS

Population: 20,607 **Official languages:** 11 **Km from Arctic Circle:** 512 -51.2C Coldest temp on record: Warmest temp on record: 32.5C Sunrise on shortest day: 10:07 am Sunset on shortest day: 3:05 pm Average annual precipitation: about 280 mm Number of schools: 10 median \$142.616 Average household income:



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INNER CITY HIKES AND TRAILS

Yellowknife is flush with walking trail options. For example, as one of a few walking trails maintained year-round, Frame Lake is a relaxed trail within the city that offers spectacular views of the surrounding wilderness. After that, check out Tin Can Hill, near the old Con Mine site. There, you can take multiple paths to reach some prime viewing spots of Great Slave Lake. Or try out the Niven Lake Trail for a shorter stroll.

DAY-USE AREAS

Picnic at one of the nearby day-use areas. Fred Henne Territorial Park is your closest option, or Yellowknife River or Pontoon Lake along the Ingraham Trail for some more privacy. On the Ingraham, cast a line or even have yourself a campfire at a day-use area and get a taste of northern isolation.

YARD SALES

This is a hobby that borders on obsession in Yellowknife. Get up early on spring and summer weekend mornings to browse the wares on lawns and in garages all over the city. You never know what unexpected items you'll find, and it's a great way to meet your neighbours.

CLIMB THE ROCK

At the top of The Rock, the tallest point in Old Town, you can take in a picturesque 360-degree view of Yellowknife that's unmatched by any other point in the city. Bring your DAVE BROSHA/NWTT

camera to capture the scene. In the summer, you'll have near 24-hours of daylight to help make your photos pop.

SEE SOME BISON

Feel like getting out of the city? Drive about an hour or two down Highway 3 and there's a good chance you'll pull up close to a hulking bison. Maybe even a whole herd. Marvel at North America's largest land mammal–but please, stay in your car.



















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WALKING TOURS



If you want a tour of the city, we've got you covered with this list. Self-guided and mostly available online, here are some curated Yellowknife walks to help you get to know us a little better.

ART WALK YELLOWKNIFE

Available on the NWT Arts website, Art Walk Yellowknife is a collection of four maps highlighting public art around town. With over 100 pieces in the city, you're certainly spoiled for choice. The maps are divided in focus to cover New Town, downtown, and Old Town. There's also a separate map that shows where retailers are located across Yellowknife and the neighbouring community of Dettah, should you want to bring some local arts and crafts home with you.

HERITAGE WALKING TOURS

Available on the city website as two PDFs, these two maps cover heritage sites in Old Town and New Town. Get a brief introduction to the history of the area before delving into these storied locations. You'll learn about the people behind "Glamour Alley," why Peace River Flats got its name, and the story behind the houses on Negus Block. By the end of your self-guided tour, you'll be spouting off facts like an expert.

Hit the classic Yellowknife sites with the Yellowknife City website's Heritage Map. After a quick history introduction, the map then delves into popular city highlights such as the Wildcat Café, Weaver & Devore, and Back Bay Cemetery. It also demonstrates where popular lakes and trails are located, nearby islands, and historic mine locations.

HERITAGE MAP

THE YELLOWKNIFE HERITAGE BUILDING PROJECT

Looking for history that's a little less commonly known? Completed in 2005 and last updated in 2018, the Yellowknife Heritage Committee has a catalogue available on the city website of historical buildings. While many of the buildings are not

Pilot's Monument

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BILL BRADEN

formally recognized or designated as heritage resources, that just makes the stories behind them all the more tantalizing, as they're less well-known. Wow your new northern friends with niche knowledge of the city. Sections cover the Yellowknife area, Giant Mine, Old Town, downtown, and Con Mine.

NWT WALKING TOUR APP

The department of ITI recently released this app for self-guided tours along two Yellowknife routes of geological interest (get it from the app store on your favourite device). Walkers can follow the Ranney Hill Trail Geology Tour–a 2.5-kilometre walk highlighting quarry veins, shear zones and prospecting trenches from the 1930s–or the Yellowknife Downtown Walk, to get a better understanding and appreciation for the rich geological history of the Yellowknife region.

TRAILS & HIKES

There's wilderness in the heart of this city and it's not hard to find. Common hikes anyone can enjoy include the two-kilometre trek around Niven Lake, the quiet heights of Tin Can Hill, Prospector's Trail, Range Lake Trail, or the always popular five-kilometre Frame Lake Trail that circles the city's centre.

TOUR THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEM-BLY BUILDING

Visit the seat of the Northwest Territories government while you're here. The Legislative Assembly offers free guided tours as well as self-guided audio tours in all the official languages of the NWT, as well as Japanese. From June to August, available guided tour hours are at 10:30 am, 1:30 pm, and 3:30 pm Monday to Friday, and 1:30 pm on Sundays. From September to May, all guided tours are on weekdays at 10:30 am. Self-guided audio tours run during regular Legislative Assembly building hours. If you have a group of 10 or more people, make sure to book a reservation!



Multiuse paths allow year round access between up town and downtown.

100



SPOT THE DIFFERENCE

Central to our past, present and future, Yellowknife's bush planes come in many shapes and sizes. Here's a quick guide to tell the difference between the planes you see in the sky.

DC-3

Physical characteristics: Full, tapered belly resembling a fish; low wings that angle toward a central, three-pronged tail; plumage variable, but Northern species often have a green mask. Sound: Single persistent howl. Population: 607 (produced 1936-42, 1950). Related planes: None. It's been said that the only replacement for a DC-3 is another DC-3. Fact: Starred in the History Channel's Ice Pilots NWT.

Pilatus Porter

Physical characteristics: 11m long; boxshaped snout, wiry legs and square wingtips; unattractive but spry. Sound: Noisy growl, similar to the Beaver. Population: 562 ((produced 1959-present). Related planes: Helio Courier, Helio Stallion. Fact: The Pilatus holds the world record for highest landing by a fixed-wing aircraft: in 1960, it touched down on a 5,750-metre mountain peak in Nepal-but then crashed on its way out.

DeHavilland Beaver

Physical characteristics: 9.2m long; box-shaped body and blunt, pug-like nose; once described as a "big ol" pelican"–slow, cumbersome, but carries its weight in fish. Sound: Loud snarl punctuated with piston-like bangs and pings. Population: 1, 657 (produced 1947-1967). Related planes: Norseman, Turbo Beaver. Fact: The Beaver is named after Canada's national animal, but the first Canadian-designed DeHavilland was named after the Chipmunk.

Piper Cub

Physical characteristics: 6.8m long; highly recognizable by its eager, snub nose and open, friendly face, the Cub's low-hanging belly and stocky legs lend to it a slow, sturdy air. Sound: The butterfly of bush planes, the Cub flies nearly silently. Population: 19, 888 (produced 1938-1947). Related planes: Super Cub. Fact: The Cub is the most popular training plane.

Cessna 185

Physical characteristics: 7.9m long; feline nose, slender tail; agile, lithe, maneuvers well, highly responsive; can fly on floats, wheels, floats with wheels, and skis. Sound: On take-off, it emits a cough followed by an uninterrupted screech. Population: More than 4,400 (produced 1961-1985). Related planes: Found Bush Hawk. Fact: Founder Clyde Cessna tested all his prototypes and once leapt from an inverted plane mid-flight.



DeHavilland Twin Otter

Physical characteristics: 15.8m long; sleek, pointed nose and full, bottom-heavy breast; long, blunt-tipped wings set toward the centre of the back; plumage variable, but notable species include the Kenn Borek (red, black and white underbelly) and the Canadian Forces (solid red with a large blue dot under the wing). Sound: Quiet growl, intermittent low whooshes when propellers reverse direction mid-flight. Population: 844 (produced 1965-1988, 2008-present). Related planes: The single-engine Otter. Fact: In 2001, when Antarticia's resident doctor needed a medevac from her -60C winter outpost, the Twin Otter was the only plane rescuers trusted to perform the mission.



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"Together with our partners in the Northwest Territories, we are connecting knowledge to solve complex problems, build well-being, and co-create globally relevant solutions to the effects of climate change."

Wilfrid Laurier University is committed to supporting resilience and capacity building in northern communities. For more than 30 years, we have been working with northern governments and Indigenous communities to answer urgent questions posed by rapid climate change. Laurier's leading edge research and partnerships are supported by a permanently staffed research office in Yellowknife, two major research stations, more than 50 research sites, and long-standing relationships from northern Manitoba to Ellesmere Island. Laurier researchers lead projects involving 348 trainees from 13 institutions across Canada.



A Robust Northern Research Network

Laurier's Cold Regions Research Centre links researchers across a diverse range of cold regions issues. Researchers are actively co-learning with communities on climate change adaptation, food security action, collaborative monitoring, and other research priorities.

We have built a network of communities, Indigenous governments, territorial and federal governments, and researchers (across social sciences, health, and natural sciences) to address complex issues in the North. Our multidisciplinary networks integrate community-identified issues into collaborative research projects that promote adaptation and well-being in the NWT.



Photos by Wolf-Dietrich Marchand and Wilfrid Laurier University

Partnerships for Our Environment

Since 2010, Laurier has worked with the NWT Government to conduct environmental research and monitoring, develop northern capacity, protect northern beauty and distinct ways-of-life.

This unique Partnership has resulted in research infrastructure equipped for year-round, remotelocation data gathering and state-of-the-art labs. Our Partnership offers many collaborative opportunities including hands-on research for trainees and community partners.

Collaborate with Us

Yellowknife Research Office: 5007 – 50 Ave, Yellowknife, YT Phone: 867.688.2605 wlu.ca/northern-research

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Pack your own bags



MONUMENTS & MARKERS

Yellowknife is a town built on history, and all around the city you'll find reminders of that unforgettable heritage. Next time you feel like learning about our past, make sure to take the time to take in some of these important tributes.



BUSH PILOT'S MEMORIAL HEAD TO OLD TOWN AND LOOK UP

By far the most popular and recognizable monument in Yellowknife sits atop a six-storey high stone hill known as "The Rock." In olden days, this location housed the town's water tank. Nowadays it features a memorial to all those bush pilots and engineers whose lives were lost while taming the skies of the Northwest Territories. Tourists and locals alike will head up the winding wooden staircase to its summit for the spectacular views of Yellowknife bay and its houseboats. BILL BRADEN

MCAVOY ROCK THE INTERSECTION OF FRANKLIN AVENUE AND BOFFA DRIVE

A stone cliffside is the canvas for a cross-cultural art project created in 1999. At the base of the rock is a bronze replica of a marble sculpture (the original is on display at the Legislature) created by Yellowknife artist Sonny MacDonald, Dene carver John Sabourin, and Tuktoyaktuk's Eli Nasogaluak. Above it are 1,500 multi-coloured symbols and handprints painted onto the rock face, while atop the cliff stands a steel tipi made by Montreal's Armand Vaillancourt. The raven soaring in the middle of the painting's circle evokes the sense of belonging of all communities of the far North, while the sculpture's animals are meant to symbolize the hope for a better understanding and cooperation between all peoples.

LOST MINERS MONUMENT NEAR THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

The killing of nine underground miners in 1992 in an explosion was one of the worst mass murders in Canada's history, and tore apart a town already divided over a violent strike happening at the Giant gold mine. Almost 30 years later, those wounds still haven't fully healed. Standing near the territory's legislature is this sombre memorial to those killed that day, as well as all miners who've perished in their labour. It's a reminder of Yellowknife's mining history, as well as those lost.

BRISTOL FREIGHTER AT THE INTERSECTION OF HIGHWAY 3 AND OLD AIRPORT ROAD

You can separate the aviation industry in the NWT into two distinct eras: pre-Max Ward and post-Max Ward. The pioneering bush pilot founded a charter company in Yellowknife in 1946 that would grow to become the third-largest airline in Canada, and a lifeline for the remote communities and industries dotting the territory. In recognition of that past, the Yellowknife Museum Society purchased one of Wardair's freighters in 1970–for only \$1–and

Walking trails circle the heart of the city 

erected it on the way into town from the airport. Ward passed away last year at the age of 98, but his memorial–like his legacy–will stand for many years to come.

UNITED IN CELEBRATION SOMBA K'E PARK

Sculptor Francois "T-Bo" Thibault created this impressive, six-metretall sculpture of three drum dancers back in 2009. Beloved by locals, visitors can find it by the water, near City Hall, and across Frame Lake from the Prince of Wales Northern Heritage Centre.

OUR MINING LEGACY SOMBA K'E PARK

For many years, residents of Yellowknife would gather at Somba K'e park for picnic, games, and special mining competitions--including a jackleg drilling contest at this rocky outcrop. Today, that history is commemorated with an interpretive plaque, a diamond drill rig and tripod on top of the rock, and a park bench made from old jackleg drills, which were used to prepare holes used in blasting.

SHAFT SINKING BUCKET SOMBA K'E PARK

Outside of City Hall sits a large bucket, previously used by Tundra Mine in the 1960s for hoisting materials up and down mining shafts. It was donated by the NWT Mining Heritage Society in recognition of the city's industrial heritage, and is now filled with flowers.

GARDEN OF HOPE SOMBA K'E PARK

Built in honour of Loraine Minish-Cooper, the Garden of Hope near City Hall opened in 2003 and is dedicated to every women who has battled breast cancer. It's an idyllic rest spot full of colourful flowers, a water feature, and a lovely wroughtiron bench.

FIREWEED STUDIOS SOMBA K'E PARK

If it's not obvious, there's a lot of history on display in Yellowknife's unofficial town square. This small log cabin at the edge of the park was built in the 1930s and originally used to house explosives for the mines. It was purchased by the Yellowknife Chamber of Commerce in 1973 and renovated as a tourist centre. Today, it's a gift shop open in the summer where local crafters and artisans can display their one-ofa-kind creations.

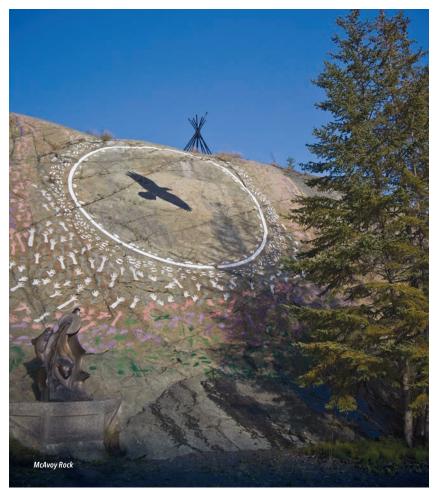
BACK BAY CEMETERY BACK BAY

The town's original graveyard was used until 1946 by those who didn't want to ship a body back south, but its role as a sacred burial place for Dene goes back centuries. Over 35 people are recorded as buried in this resting place, overlooking Back Bay. The first recorded burial was Art McIntyre, a worker at Con Mine who died in 1938. Other markers at the cemetery have disappeared with time, so take care to be respectful when wandering through.

From Somba K'e Park, Frame Lake holds a beautiful monument to the dancing lights and the people of Yellowknife.

C

2



OLD LOG SCHOOLHOUSE FRANKLIN AVENUE, OPPOSITE 54TH STREET

The first school in Yellowknife. This simple log cabin, built in 1937, was operated by Mildred Hall. Space was limited so the town's 32 students had to attend lessons in shifts. It was only used for a year before classes moved to a larger building, but the schoolhouse was maintained and eventually moved to New Town, next to the downtown elementary school named in Mildred Hall's honour.

OUTDOOR MUSEUM AT THE GIANT MINESITE

A popular spot for tourists and history buffs—and also picnic-goers this open-air 'museum' includes remnants from Yellowknife's mining heritage, and sits in the shadow of the Giant Mine reclamation site. Wander through old fire trucks, bulldozers, rail equipment, and even an Alligator amphibious assault vehicle from WWII that wound up on these northern lands. Interpretive plaques add context to the machinery display.

DAVE BROSHA

VETERAN'S MEMORIAL NEAR JOINT TASK FORCE NORTH GROUNDS

Erected by the Royal Canadian Legion to salute the men and women who've served in times of war and peace. A statue of soldiers and a winged angel (made by Eli Nasogaluak) stood on the spot from 2005 until 2019, when it was knocked down by vandals. A new memorial is being designed by northern artists to be installed soon.

HEART OF THE NORTH: SAHTU 5 MUST EXPERIENCE SIZES THROUGH THE NWT'S SAHTU REGION











THE EPIC CANOL TRAIL

Winding 355-km through the Mackenzie Mountains, around picturesque Carcajou Falls, and past World War II-era military relics, the epic Canol Trail is a unique and rewarding experience.

WORLD RECORD TROUT

The biggest lake trout on the planet lurk in the depths of Great Bear Lake—and the expert local guides in Déline know just where to find them.

THE NORTH'S PRETTIEST CHURCH

The unassuming exterior of Fort Good Hope's oldest church hides a stunning interior with frescoes of Christian imagery, a winter sky and local wildlife.

BEHOLD BEAR ROCK

The iconic and culturally significant NWT landmark is said to be the site of where Yamoria, law-giver of Dene lore, killed three giant beavers that terrorized Dene hunters.

COLVILLE LAKE HISTORY

Art and history come together at the Colville Lake Museum—a hand-built log structure that displays the painted work of the town's founder, Bern Will Brown.

For more information visit us online
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RCMP MEMORIAL OUTSIDE YELLOWKNIFE RCMP G DIVISION HEADQUARTERS

Just a stone's throw from Somba K'e Park is this memorial, adorned with red flowers, to those police and peace officers who made the ultimate sacrifice to keep their communities safe.

STREET ART THROUGHOUT YELLOWKNIFE

Yellowknife is full of public artfrom murals adorning buildings to colourful painted utility boxes and other vibrant creations. Check out the Government of the NWT's Art Walk Yellowknife guide for a detailed map.

GSC GOLD DISCOVERY FRED HENNE TERRITORIAL PARK

Look under your feet while walking the Prospector's Trail at Fred Henne Territorial Park. The popular route passes over the spot where, in 1935, members of the Geological Survey of Canada first found gold, sparking the Yellowknife mining craze.

COMMUNITY FLAGS OUTSIDE THE LEGISLATURE

On the path to the NWT's Legislative Assembly you'll find the flags of all the territorial communities, along with an interpretive plaque explaining the meaning of the designs and their traditional names. Follow the path to the Ceremonial Circle—a gathering place with fire pit used for special events.



HERITAGE PLAQUES THROUGHOUT YELLOWKNIFE

A range of informative plaques can be found affixed to locations and buildings around the city, offering information and stories from Yellowknife's early days. Check out the city heritage walking tour for more information on where to find them.

THE GOLD RANGE 50TH STREET

Not all monuments are on a pedestal. Some can be found on a dusty dance floor and well-worn chairs, where a patina of history clings to the walls and good music still fills the air. Grab a beer at Yellowknife's favourite watering hole and toast to all those who've come before you.

RESIDENTIAL SCHOOL MONUMENT TBD

The city of Yellowknife and the Yellowknives Dene First Nation (YKD-FN) have set the wheels in motion to respond to calls for a memorial to the victims and survivors of the territory's residential schools. Details about the monument remain in their preliminary stages, including where it will be placed in town.



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CITYOF

Dotting the landscape in and around Yellowknife are dozens of gorgeous bodies of water. Some, like Great Slave Lake and Frame Lake, are well-known. Others are hidden treasures even longtime Yellowknifers rarely see. Here are just some of the more notable pools in our backyard:



A: HANDLE LAKE

About 400 metres northwest of Fox Lake sits this small body of water near the Ingraham Trail.

B: JOE LAKE

Can be found about five kilometres north of Fred Henne Territorial Park, and a 500 metre hike off the Ingraham Trail.

C: FOX LAKE

Located only a few hundred metres northwest of Long Lake,

and near the gorgeous Prospector Trail Scenic Viewpoint along the Ingraham Trail.

D: LONG LAKE

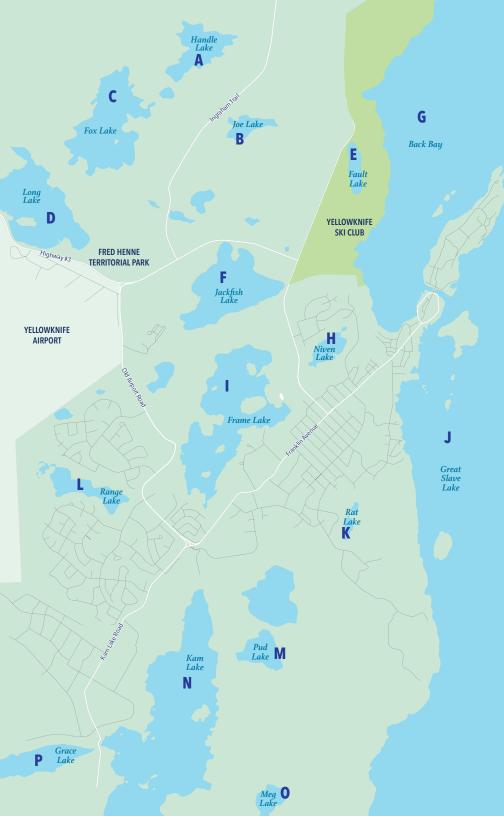
The sandy shores of Long Lake play host every summer to the city's Folk on the Rocks music festival. It also sits next to the incredible hiking of Prospector's Trail, camping, and attractions of Fred Henne Territorial Park. BERGERON/NWTT

E: FAULT LAKE

Crisscrossing its shores are several enjoyable walking trails.

F: JACKFISH LAKE

The Jackfish Lake Scenic Viewpoint is a must for any visitor to Yellowknife. Find it on the way into town from the airport.





G: BACK BAY

On the other side of Latham Island in Old Town you'll find this tuckedaway cove of Great Slave Lake. Check out the historic floatplanes, or take a leisurely urban paddle on the calm waters.

H: NIVEN LAKE

This small lake next to the Chateau Nova hotel features a popular walking trail around its shores, and is perfect for birdwatching, as well as spotting muskrat and beavers.

I: FRAME LAKE

Probably the best tour of Yellowknife is the Frame Lake trail, which takes you past the Prince of Wales museum, NWT Legislature, Yellowknife City Hall and Somba K'e Park, through winding forested paths, beaches, and residential subdivisions and then along rocks, cliffs, and wilderness paths looping back through taiga and bedrock. Though no longer open to swimming or fishing, Frame Lake's frozen-over surface in the winter is full of activity.

J: GREAT SLAVE LAKE

Also known as Tinde'e, Tucho, and Tu Nedhé, this icon of the NWT is the deepest lake in North America and the second-largest lake (after Great Bear, to the north) within Canada. Home to world-class fishing, breathtaking scenery, and Yellowknife's famous houseboats, as well as the incomparable Thaidene Nëné National Park Reserve further out along the East Arm.

K: RAT LAKE

Located near the former Con Mine site, Rat Lake was named for muskrat trapped in the area. According to the NWT Place Names Database, however, the animals are not common to this location and it must have been a one-off occurrence.

L: RANGE LAKE

Named because of its proximity to the old radio range of Yellowknife's airport, this small urban lake features a popular one-kilometre walking trail.

M: PUD LAKE

Home to a former tailings pond from the now-defunct Con Mine, which means public access is restricted as the site is currently in active remediation.

N: KAM LAKE

Once an industrial park on the outskirts of Yellowknife, Kam Lake has been home for many years to longtime residents and local businesses, and features interesting scenery along its shores, ample walking trails, and the chance to watch many a dog sledder head out on the ice.

O: MEG LAKE

Roughly a kilometre to the east of Kam Lake and connected via a small waterway to the larger Keg Lake to the south.

P: GRACE LAKE

Just west of Kam Lake is this popular body of water, the shores of which are home to a developing subdivision.

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A GREAT LAKE ADVENTURE

Book a Great Slave Lake fishing tour in Hay River to get a look at the Lake Trout, Walleye, Whitefish, Northern Pike, Arctic Grayling and Burbot that call the lake home.

TEE OFF NORTH OF 60

Play until midnight at the Hay River Golf Course, laid out among picturesque stands of birch, or Fort Smith's Pelican Rapids Golf and Country Club, with scenic Slave River vistas.

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Grayling are treasured by anglers for their feistiness, which guarantees an exciting battle, but are limited to the open water season. Members of the whitefish family, the pretty little fish with sail-like dorsal fins are found at the mouths of rivers. They average from 0.5 to 1kg and can reach up to 1.5kg.



WALLEYE

Sander vitreus vitreus

Also commonly called pickerel (a misnomer), these are arguably the most prized shorelunch around–what you catch is culinary quality. On average, walleye weigh in at 1 to 2kg, but people have been known to reel them in at 3kg. You can catch these year-round throughout the Mackenzie River watershed and in the tributaries of Great Slave Lake, as well as other little lakes in the area.

LAKE WHITEFISH

Coregonus clupeaformis

Found in Great Slave Lake's Yellowknife Bay, as well as at Tartan Rapids outside the city and in lakes along the Ingraham Trail, whitefish average 1kg. These fish provide a lot of action but must be hooked gently, as they have fragile mouths.

INCONNU

Stedonus leucichthys

Inconnu average from 3 to 5kg, although it's not uncommon to reel them in at 9 to 14kg. Some even reach up to 22kg. The name is French for "unknown," but they're well known in Great Slave Lake and Marian Lake, where they're often called coney.

NORTHERN PIKE

Esox lucius

Pike are greedy, so they're relatively easy to catch. But hold on tight; they're fighters! Often called jackfish, pike generally run from 2 to 7kg, and some tip the scales at more than 18kg. Pike prefer warm, slow-moving, weedy water. You can catch these year-round.

LAKE TROUT

Salvelinus namaycush

Lake trout average 4.5kg, but catches of 18kg and above are common. They grow slowly in our cold water, taking 12 or more years to mature. The big ones can be found out in the East Arm of Great Slave Lake.



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The NWT is a land of opportunity for ideas to grow.

The Yellowknife South office is always open to listen, share and collaborate. We look forward to being a voice to support ideas for a prosperous, healthy NWT!



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MLA YELLOWKNIFE CENTRE JULIE GREEN



Contact me to share your ideas and to discuss issues and concerns.

E: julie_green@ntassembly.ca T: 867-767-9143 ext. 12180 @: www.yellowknifecentre.ca



MLA FRAME LAKE KEVIN O'REILLY





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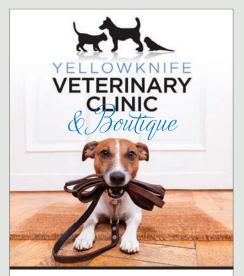
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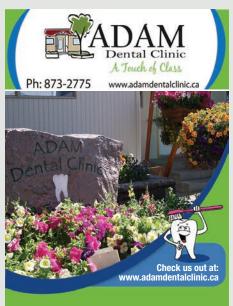


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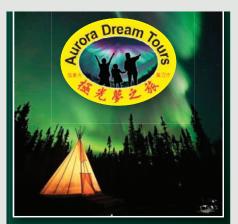
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SECRET PLACES

There's more to this city than any travel brochures will tell you. Around every corner and behind every door is a story waiting to be told. Some of these spots are wellknown to Yellowknife lifers, while others may be unknown to even longtime northern residents. Check them out to get a deeper appreciation for all the facets of this beautiful diamond of a northern city.



BACK BAY ICE CAVES

Ribbons of icy white tendrils decorate these impressive geological formations tucked away just past the Back Bay Cemetery. Getting to the caves is the perfect urban day hike on a cold winter day, but be respectful of the cemetery while walking through–and remember to dress warm!

YELLOWKNIFE RIVER BRIDGE

Anyone heading up the Ingraham Trail to spend a day at the Yellowknife River Territorial Park may also want to stop and enjoy the view from the Yellowknife River Bridge,

JARET MACNEIL

which overlooks the bay. (For safety reasons we can't recommend it, but the bridge is also a popular spot for swimmers to jump off of.)

THE SHACKS

Found tucked away along the lanes and side lots of the Woodyard and Back Bay neighbourhoods in Old Town are dozens of small structures decorated with more character than any trendy tiny home from the south. Some are workshops, some are saunas, some are full-on domiciles (so be respectful!) but they all add to Yellowknife's charm.

MINI-GOLF REMNANTS

Now abandoned, the 19-hole Wade Hamer Mini-Golf course in downtown Yellowknife once attracted thousands of putters a year with its obstacles representing Yellowknife's heritage, including a giant curling rock, a tiny Giant Mine headframe, and a bucket of KFC. Its ruins can be found off of the Frame Lake trail.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY TIPI

On the Frame lake trail by the Legislative Assembly, follow the path towards the water and you'll find this wood art piece and stone bench atop a cobblestone rest area.

GREENSTONE BUILDING PARK

Walk around behind the curved glass-and-stone government building on Franklin Avenue and you'll find a park full of benches, picnic tables, greenery, and plenty of sunlight reflecting off of the building's four-storeys of glass windows and solar panels. There's also a rooftop garden above.

YK CENTRE THERMOMETER

After the aurora and airport baggage claim polar bear, Yellowknife's most-photographed backdrop has got to be this downtown icon's electronic yellow display of each winter's shockingly low temperatures. Impress family and friends down south by showing off your tolerance for the unearthly cold.

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HANNA EDEN - UP HERE

THE COFFEE SHIP

Also known as Mario's Marvellous Movie Emporium, this café is a purple houseboat in Yellowknife Bay featuring neither movies, nor a Mario, but it does have gourmet coffee and baked goods-when it's open. The rule is if the green flag is up, the coffee is on.

COMMUNITY GARDENS

The Yellowknife Community Garden Collective operates six locations throughout the city where residents can grow healthy and fresh produce–most notably at Kam Lake Road and Woolgar Avenue, but also near the Trail's End Mobile Homes and School Draw. Contact the collective if you want to book a plot for the short summer growing season, but remember to weed early and often.

NORTHERN LIGHTHOUSES

Dotting the town are these small lighthouses decorated with green

stripes. Unlike traditional lighthouses, however, these beacons shine out when the weather is good–specifically for aurora watching. Flashing blue means calm skies, flashing green means be on alert, and flashing red means a solar storm is going to light up the night sky.

SAND PITS

A desert of dunes and rocks near the airport, the Sand Pits are a popular recreation and off-leash dog walking area that's home to 11,000-year-old sediment. A shadow of what it once was, most of the pits has been excavated over the years for building roads and highways.

GIANT EGG ROLL

It's not your stereotypical northern dish, but it is a Yellowknife experience. Since the 1970s, the Gold Range Bistro has served a giant egg roll-six inches in length and three inches wide-stuffed with vegetables and fried to a golden crisp. Don't worry, you can bring home what you don't finish.

DIAMOND CENTRE TOURS

In the market for some (metaphorical) ice to decorate your jewellery? The NWT Diamond Centre has a collection of loose stones in a range of sizes and qualities. It also offers tours of its diamond cutting operation, and lessons on the history of mining in the region.

ARCTIC FARMER GREENHOUSE

One of the prettiest green spaces in town is the big red barn in Kam Lake that houses shrubs, flowers, plants, and fresh vegetables. Go out for a day trip and take home a new potted friend for your windowsill or garden. And be sure to visit the goats that live behind the barn.



Nestled between Downtown and Old Town Yellowknife, this unique new hotel offers simple comfortable rooms, friendly staff with an array of amenities to make your stay as enjoyable as possible.





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SUNDOG'S DOGS

During the winter, Sundog Adventures offers a variety of dogsledding activities, so its pack of pups needs to be close by. Those passing by the company's Latham Island headquarters on Lessard Drive can visit those pooches while they're on break, as they rest during the day in their straw-strewn winter motel on

the ice by the Latham causeway.

YELLOWKNIFE INN SIGN

The old Yellowknife Inn was a fundamental part of the town's character–a gathering place for conversation and a hot meal whose history stretched back all the way to the

1940s. In 2016 it was bought and rebranded as Quality Inn and Suites, but the old name is still visible from Franklin Avenue. Look out the window from Sushi North and beyond the air conditioning unit to see the historic signage.

PLANE CRASH ISLAND

On a small island on Terry Lake, out well past the city on the Ingraham Trail, adventurers can find the skeletal remains of a 1930s floatplane. Local media says it likely caught fire, rather than crashed, and the wreckage was brought ashore where afterwards anything of value was salvaged.



OLD AIRPORT ROAD UNDERPASS

OK, it's not the prettiest spot in town, but this short tunnel from the Frame Lake Trail to the Co-Op grocery store is one of the few chances to go underground in Yellowknife without heading down a mine shaft.

WOODYARD MOSQUITO

The bane of summers in Yellowknife, the humble mosquito is immortalized in this (thankfully, not life-sized) welded metal sculpture that was created years ago by former Con Mine welder Roy Kardash. It's been in several spots over the years, but now sits outside NWT Brewing Company's Woodyard brewpub.

BANK OF TORONTO BUILDING

Not exactly a secret, per se, but still worth a visit. Because a walk to see the old Bank of Toronto building–a log cabin built in 1938 and one of the city's oldest surviving structures–is a great way to check out all the interesting architecture and scenery on Latham Island. Just don't go knocking on any doors. The heritage site is a private residence these days.

QUIET LOOKOUT

And while on Latham Island, follow Otto Drive to a high point and rest on the comfy willow bench that faces a superb view of Yellowknife Bay where planes often land and takeoff.

J. SIMPSON/NWTT





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SO MANY MURALS

Look up and you'll find plenty of public art displayed on the sides of Yellowknife's walls. Everything from NWT Bugs and Birds by Diane Boudreau at the 50/50 Parking Lot to a legacy mural of old-time Yellowknifers on the side of True Value Hardware. Check out the Government of the NWT's Art Walk Yellowknife quide for more info.

ADAM DENTAL'S XMAS LIGHTS

Each year in town it's a contest of who will have the best Christmas lights display. On one side is the city of Yellowknife's dizzying display of colours throughout Somba K'e Park. On the other is the small front yard of Adam Dental's Franklin Avenue location, which gets absolutely packed with lights and decorations every December.

SPOT A FOX

Ravens are a dime a dozen in this town, but lucky residents may also come across one of the many red, black, golden or other-coloured foxes trotting through the city's urban landscape. Nice to admire, but don't feed them!



A. PISANI/NWTT

BILL BRADEN

GLASSWORKS WORKSHOP

A souvenir from Old Town Glassworks is one thing, but making it yourself is another. The studio space in Old Town offers public workshops five days a week to demonstrate cutting, grinding, and polishing of "upcycled" bottles, and where you can etch your own personal glassware to take home.

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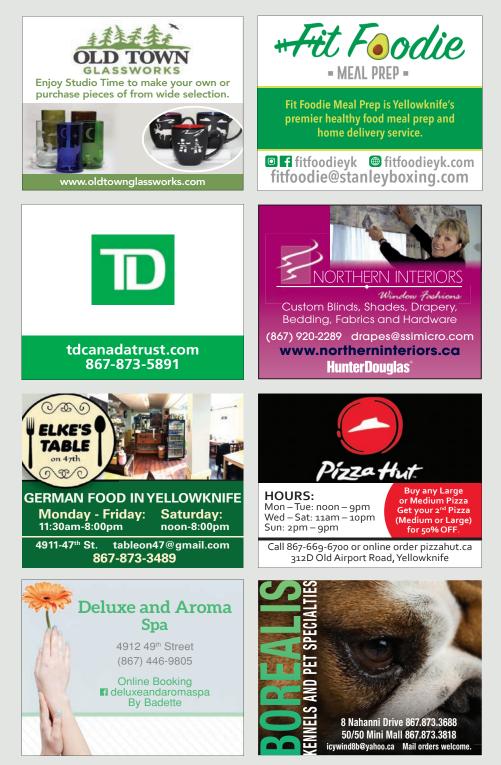
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POP CULTURE

This city is filled with interesting stories and even more interesting people–so, it's inevitable that our dynamic city would capture the imagination of others. Here are just a few of the places the NWT capital has shown up in books, film, TV, and music.

WITHIN THESE GOLDEN PAGES

Bones Are Forever

by Kathy Reichs

You might be familiar with Kathy Reichs' books through the hit Fox show, *Bones*, which is based on her works. In *Bones are Forever*, which is Reichs' 15th novel to focus on forensic anthropologist Temperance Brennan, the city of Yellowknife is a primary character. This latest mystery starts in Montreal but quickly leads to the Northwest Territories' capital, where the protagonist is determined to solve a case of infanticide.

Solomon Gursky Was Here

by Mordecai Richler From noted Canadian author Mordecai Richler comes Solomon Gursky Was Here, published in 1989. The story follows Berger, who is obsessed with the Gursky family, its bootlegging history, and its connection to the North. The book is partially set in Yellowknife, depicting The Gold Range bar, which Richler visited in real life.

We Stand On Guard

by Brian K. Vaughan This six-issue comic book miniseries explores a possible future where, 100 years from now, America invades Canada. Featuring classic sci-fi staples like giant robots (who are bilingual in this story), *We Stand On Guard* is a result of a creative teamup between American writer Brian K. Vaughan and Canadian storyboard artist Steve Skroce. And, as a story set in future Canada, Yellowknife of course makes an appearance. Read for yourself to see how our city fared.

Paying The Land

by Joe Sacco

We've looked to the future, now let's look to the present and past. Joe Sacco's graphic novel *Paying The Land* explores Dene history in the Northwest Territories and the impact of the Canadian government's destructive actions towards the territory's first peoples. Described as a work of graphic journalism, this book gives voice to what many Dene have faced.

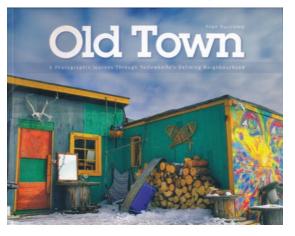
Northern Wildflower

by Katłjà Lafferty A powerful memoir by Katłjà Lafferty, Northern Wildflower explores Lafferty's story as a Dene woman in the North. She shares her struggle with issues like intergenerational trauma, discrimination, and poverty, but also explores the significance of family, education, culture, spiritualism, identity, and much more. In addition to powerful insights, this book also challenges misconceptions about life in the North.

Old Town

by Fran Hurcomb

Local author and photographer Fran Hurcumb traces the evolution of the city's most-famous and most-colourful neighbourhood through a half century of photos. This book is pictorial guide to the dog teams, floatplanes, houseboats and *Old Town* characters that make Yellowknife so special.



Ramshackle: A Yellowknife Story

by Alison McCreesh When artist Alison McCreesh moved to Yellowknife in 2009, she quickly fell in love with the quirky city and the unique way of life that's possible here. That love story is captured in this work spanning her first summer in the capital, and is part travelogue, part comic book, and part quide to the North.

Midnight Light: A Personal Journey to the North

by Dave Bidini

Through the lens of his summer at the city's community newspaper, Yellowknifer, Dave Bidini explores the realities of the city and the people who live here, from Dene elders, artists, and politicians, to fellow reporters. His book also touches on themes of the importance of a local, independent press.

The Works Of Shane Koyczan

We're proud to say that acclaimed poet, spoken-word artist, and author Shane Koyczan is from Yellowknife. Having performed his works across the world–and here in Canada, like at the 2010 Olympic Winter Games– Koyczan is a talented artist. He's also the subject of the documentary film, *Shut Up And Say Something*, which explores the person behind Koyczan's public persona and eventually leads to a reconciliation with his estranged father.

NORTHERN STARS Shine on Screen

Up Schitt's Creek

Dan and Eugene Levy's CBC sitcom, Schitt's Creek, is a Canadian darling, but did you know it has a major Yellowknife connection? The character of Ted Mullins-town veterinarian and love interest to character Alexis Rose-is played by actor Dustin Milligan, who was born right here in Yellowknife. What a perfect excuse to re-watch the series.

Up, Up, And Away!

A more classic Hollywood connection comes in the form of Margot Kidder, who was born in our beautiful city. Kidder never forgot her northern roots and the city certainly never forgot her, as evidenced by Old Town's Lois Lane, which is named (partially) in honour of her character from the 1970s and '80s Superman films.

Many, Many Reality TV Shows

People are very curious about how we live up here in the North. Naturally, that's been translated into a variety of reality tv shows. Our city has been featured in programs like Ice Road Truckers, which followed drivers as they travel across ice roads in the Northwest Territories; Ice Pilots NWT, which followed Yellowknife-based Buffalo Airways; and the short-lived Ice Lake Rebels. which followed the lives of some houseboaters on Great Slave Lake. Yellowknife has also been showcased in two episodes of Amazing Race Canada, plus a season of the survivalist show Alone was set on the East Arm of Great Slave Lake.

On The Airwaves

Adam Beach starred in the CBC drama series *Arctic Air*. The show, which ran for three seasons from 2012 to 2014, was about a Yellowknife-based, family-run airline owned by a maverick bush pilot who contended with interpersonal drama and daring flight missions in his fleet of DC-3s and Otters.

Spotlight: YKea

For locals, it's a way of life. And one that speaks to the necessity in the North for salvaging and repurposing old items. One man's trash, and all that. In fact, the reputation of the Yellowknife Dump–AKA the YKea– reached new heights in the featurelength 2019 documentary, *Salvage*. The film explores the spirit of the Yellowknife Dump and whether that spirit can endure while city officials try to "tame" the site.

Red Snow

In Kandahar, Afghanistan, a Gwich'in soldier is caught in an ambush and then interrogated by a Taliban commander. This Canadian drama was filmed partially in the Northwest Territories and went on to screen at the 2019 Vancouver International Film Festival, where *Red Snow* won the award for Most Popular Canadian Feature.

Yellowknife At The Oscars

Melaw Nakehk'o is a talented visual artist and traditional moose hide tanner, but did you know she also played the character Powaqa in the 2015 film *The Revenant*? It was the first film for Nakehk'o, who's originally from Fort Simpson but landed the role in an audition in Yellowknife, and also the film that finally won Leonardo DiCaprio his first coveted Academy Award.

North Of 60, Almost

The famous Canadian soap/ drama North of 60 aired during the '90s and focused on characters in the fictional NWT town of Lynx River, running for six seasons and showcasing on a national platform both life up north and complex stories from a predominantly Indigenous cast. While based in a fictional town, plots would often touch on Yellowknife—whether it was getting a new job in the city or deciding whether to give birth at the Yellowknife hospital.

White Stripes, Northern Lights

The 2009 White Stripes-focused film, Under Great White Northern Lights, chronicles the American duo's cross-Canada tour–including up North in the territories.



SONGS LIKE DIAMONDS

"Canary Yellow Canoe"

by Gordon Lightfoot The legendary Canadian musician name-drops Yellowknife in his song "Canary Yellow Canoe," which talks about all the places Lightfoot wants to take his boat. Fun fact: there's a real-life yellow canoe that Lightfoot actually took to the Northwest Territories and which he later donated to the Canadian Canoe Museum in Peterborough, Ontario.

"Who Remembers Margaret?"

by Indio Saravanja Raised here in the North, Saravanja wrote this song for the "larger than life" Margaret Thrasher, a wellknown and beloved resident of Yellowknife and "the queen of all downtown."

"Ragged Ass Road"

by Tom Cochrane A classic album and song, which are both named after the famous Ragged Ass Road here in Yellowknife. Created by Canadian rock musician Tom Cochrane, it's an ode to a way of life in this northern capital. "She's a dandy, yeah you bet/ There's some things that you haven't seen yet/In the land of the midnight sun/Ragged Ass Road."

"Hey Bruno"

Carmen Braden

An ode to a Yellowknife institution by one of its most well-known musicians. Composer Carmen Braden wrote this recent rock-and-roll tribute to the city's much-adored Bruno's Pizza.

"The New California"

by Joel Plaskett

Can you guess where the new California is? According to Nova Scotian Joel Plaskett's 2016 song, it's us! The singer/songwriter even mentions The Gold Range in this single (with a video filmed at Buffalo Air's hanger) about a place where "the sun won't leave the sky." (Nobody tell him that we're a city, though, and not a state.)

"K'eintah Natse Ju"

by Leela Gilday Born and raised in the Northwest Territories, Gilday wrote this song as a celebration of the resilience of Indigenous Northerners. It's about the legacy of colonialism, of how residential schools tried to tear apart Indigenous family structures, and how those families are still healing, together.

"That's Progress"

by Jello Biafra

The lead singer of The Dead Kennedys released this song in a solo album from 1989. Biafra, lamenting changes in modern society, says he'll have to move to the wild untarned wilderness of a place like Yellowknife to get away from things like shopping malls, computers, and gentrification.

Tim Hortons.

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