

# Northern Lights

# 178

The Journal of the  
Anglican Diocese  
of Yukon  
Summer 2017



Honouring John Peter at Saint Mary  
with Saint Mark in Mayo

# Thank you for Praying

## Day 1 & 16

### Whitehorse: Christ Church Cathedral.

The Very Rev. Sean Murphy; Licensed Lay Ministers: Beverley Whitehouse, Gaya Tiedeman, David Robertson, and Elsa Cheeseman.

## Day 2 & 17

### Fort Nelson: St. Mary Magdalene. Toad River, Alaska Highway, Mile 150-506

The Ven. Lesley Wheeler-Dame, Archdeacon of Liard & Eric Dame; The Rev. Glen Gough & Sarah Gough; Licensed Lay Ministers: Jeanie Arva, Mark Tudor and Kathleen Olson.

## Day 3 & 18

**Watson Lake:** St. John the Baptist; **Lower Post, Swift River, Telegraph Creek:** St. Aidan; **Dease Lake; Glenora.** Licensed Lay Minister: Tim Liverton

## Day 4 & 19

### Carcross, Tagish & Johnson's Crossing St. Saviour's.

**Teslin:** St. Philips, Ven. Sarah Usher, Len Usher and the Ministry Team

## Day 5 & 20: Communities of: Carmacks & Keno.

**Day 6 & 21: Atlin:** St. Martin. The Rev. Vera Kirkwood; The Rev. Dorothy Odian. licensed Lay Ministers George Holman and Cheri Malo

## Day 7 & 22: Communities of Faro and Ross River

## Day 8 & 23

**Haines Junction:** St. Christopher's. **Beaver Creek:** St. Columba; **Alaska Highway: Mile 918-1202:** the Ministry Team

## Day 9 & 24

### Whitehorse: Church of the Northern Apostles.

The Rt. Rev. Larry Robertson, Ven. Sarah Usher, Len Usher. Licensed Lay Ministers Eileen Carver, Sheila Robertson and Cheri Malo

## Day 10 and 25

**Mayo:** St. Mary with St. Mark. Licensed Lay Ministers Charles & Valerie Maier; **Pelly Crossing:** St. James the Lord's Brother

## Day 11 & 26

**Dawson City:** St. Paul's. **Moosehide:** St. Barnabas; **The Klondike Creeks; The Dempster Hwy.** Ven. Laurie Munro, Archdeacon of Klondike; The Rev. Percy Henry. Licensed Lay Ministers: Mabel Henry; Shirley Pennell and Betty Davidson.

## Day 12 & 27

### Old Crow: St. Luke's.

The Rev. Bert Chestnut, The Rev. Marion Schafer, Esau Schafer & Lay Ministry Team

## Day 13 & 28

The Ven. Sarah Usher: Executive Archdeacon; Members of the Diocesan Executive Committee; Diocesan Prayer Partner: Diocese of Fredericton.

## Day 14 & 29

Patti Tetlich, Yukon Apostolate. Bishop's School of Yukon Ministries.

PWRDF Diocesan Representative: Betty Davidson

Diocesan ACW President, Blanche Buckle, and all ACW members.

## Day 15 & 30

### Those retired from Missionary Service:

The Rev. Canon David Pritchard

The Rev. Dorothy Thorpe.

The Rev. Don & Rev. Lee Sax.

The Rv. Canon Geoffrey & Rosalind Dixon.

The Rev. Canon David Kalles.

The Ven. John & Rev. Carol Tyrrell.

The Rev. Fred & Marcia Carson.

The Very Rev. Peter & Barbara Williams.

The Rev. Mary & Lino Battaja.

The Most Rev. Terry and Blanche Buckle.

The Rev. Martin & Ruth Carroll.

Marion Carroll, Aldene Snider, Audrey Aylard.

## Day 31 and daily:

The Rt. Rev. Larry Robertson and Sheila Robertson & family.



## A Message from the Bishop



### *Summer time is a busy Time*

Dear Friends, summer is here and for many of us in the Yukon, it is often the busiest time of the year with our two major industries, mining (although waning) and tourism also at their busiest period of the year. Thousands of visitors come to the Yukon for its breathtaking beauty of God's creation, its history of gold and exploration, and some of the friendliest people around. Summer is a time of busyness with sharing the awesomeness of our Yukon to those who come to learn, explore and enjoy.

For the Church, it is a time to share how the amazing love of God has touched the lives of people for the last 155 years, since before this land was known as Canada. This year the Diocese of Yukon has sought to share God's amazing love and salvation with the people of Yukon and its visitors with a Gospel Jamboree. Four days of music and praise in the evenings and the teaching of God's message during the day in the form of workshops. Teaching on Music, Evangelism and Healing took place. It was a time to lift high the Cross of Christ, His love and the salvation He has acquired for us who believe.

The various parishes have been busy with Vacation Bible Schools,

Historical Evening Prayers and Southern Exchanges. But it also a time for holidays, rest and spiritual restoration. As one young lady from Edmonton said to me, "As I walk through the mountains and trees of God's creation it is hard not to feel his presence, beauty and love among us. I will leave this land changed." More than anything else, this is a gift of immeasurable value that we have to offer those who visit.

On a National Church basis, our Church is changing. There are conflicting stories about me walking out of General Synod and why. Let be set the record straight. I did leave General Synod for a couple of hours. I left by myself and spent the time in the Chapel praying and crying. I left because I was ashamed and hurt at the disgraceful way we treated each other. We are supposed to be the family of God, brothers and sisters in Christ. What I saw was people shouting at each other, calling each other names. Christians are called to love all. If we cannot love our brothers and sisters how are we supposed to love our enemies. For the first time in my life I was ashamed to be a member of the Anglican Church. I later went back and apologized for leaving, but without love, all the decisions we make will not express God's love and will.

I, for one, will seek to love all, whether I agree with them or not. I will continue to speak for the truth and the Gospel. But the day I stop seeking to love all, is the day I should hand in my resignation as a Bishop of the Church.

Blessings in Christ.,

+Bishop Larry

# PWRDF Executive Director Excited

**Story & Photos**  
by Dan Davidson

The Primate's World Relief and Development Fund (PWRDF) has a cumbersome name, says its new executive director, Will Postma. In the ten months he's been in the job, he's been searching for catchier, easier ways to describe what is essentially the organization tasked by the head of the Anglican Church of Canada (the Primate) to involve itself in social justice and relief efforts around the world and in Canada.

"This is all about doing justice," he says, "internationally, in far away places, in vulnerable places, in many countries of Africa, in Asia and Latin America, but it's also about doing justice in Canada."

"Justice is about doing, about acting out justice, about work that brings people together, that promotes equity, that reduces gender violence. It's about ... loving mercy and being humble and doing it with God."

Parishioners support the work of the PWRDF by monthly donations through their church offerings, by direct individual donations, and by special projects that congregations may carry out to raise money for specific PWRDF programs.

One of the key programs is called All Mothers and Children Count.

"Women are the mainstay of so many communities around the world and here in Canada. I have seen in my work and travels just how vital it is that women are educated, that they're aware of good nutrition, the best parenting practices, how to set up small businesses, because they're going to bring that knowledge



*Will Postma and Rebecca Walker*

back to their families, to their kids.

"They're going to use their learning and their income to really benefit their families in ways that, honestly as I've seen around the world, men don't do as well. It's proven in our work to see how impactful women who have been empowered can, in turn, empower their communities."

Postma was in Whitehorse to attend Diocesan Executive Meeting in early May to present an update on the organization's operations and to answer questions.

"There was good listening and good questions from Bishop Larry Robertson and other members of the executive," he said.

"They're excited about PWRDF and interested to see how they can support it, not just in terms of fund raising, but in raising awareness and education and maybe some other ways of excitement."

During the next week he and his wife, Rebecca Walker, travelled to Haines Junction, Mayo and Dawson, where he also met with congregations and became more familiar with issues in the territory.

This was something of a familiarization tour for Postma, in some

# by a Yukon Tour

ways echoing a similar tour Anglican Primate Fred Hiltz took with Bishop Larry Robertson last summer. This one was organized and scheduled by Betty Davidson, who is the PWRDF representative for the Diocese of Yukon.

“We’ve been impressed by the magnificent scenery everywhere we’ve been,” he said.

In Dawson he learned that the congregation has undertaken a number of projects over the last couple of years, usually as special fund raising drives during the Advent season, just before Christmas.

In Canada, St. Paul’s raised money to assist in the water shortage problems in the Pikangikum First Nation in the Kenora region of Ontario.

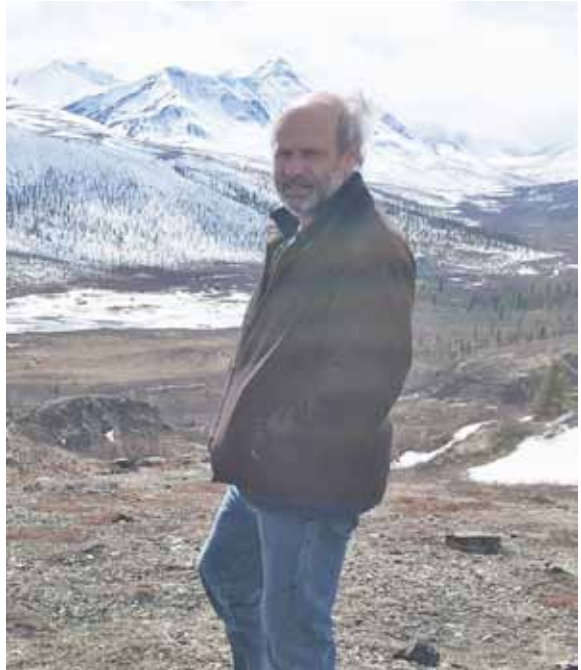
Internationally, St. Paul’s contributed the fund to purchase a “Solar Suitcase” for a medical electrification project in Mozambique.

The solar panels and battery storage units that have been installed in about 30 clinics in the southeast African nation mean that births in these clinics, which often seem to happen at night, now have more than the glow from a cellphone to illuminate the work.

“PWRDF is a testament to the church, doing the kind of work that the church should do,” Postma said. “Not just



*Will Postma in Richard Martin Memorial Chapel*



*Will Postma at Tombstone*

talking justice, but doing justice. I think other Canadians need to hear that story more. Church is much more than what happens inside the four walls on Sunday morning. It’s service throughout the week, and it’s service around the world.”

**SPRING EDITION DEADLINE:  
NOVEMBER 1, 2017**

## News from St. Mary with St. Mark

### Mayo Honours

#### John Peter

On Easter Sunday it was standing room only in Mayo's Anglican Church as the bells rang out to celebrate the Resurrection and a lifetime of giving to the community by elder John Peter.

Now in his 80s, John Peter lives at the Macdonald Lodge seniors' home in Dawson City. But he was present in Mayo on Easter to receive a special Certificate of Commendation prepared by the Primate, Archbishop Fred Hiltz. Mayo's M.L.A. Don Hutton was there as well to present a congratulatory letter from Yukon's premier, Sandy Silver.

John was born in the 'Old Village', located downstream from present-day Mayo. Beginning as a young teenager, he helped his Dad light the fire in the wood stove of St. Mark's Church. He rang the bell, took the collection and assisted at the services. He helped the community when they celebrated Christmas, Easter, and other community events. He kept the church floors clean and the lamps and candles burning. His family were among the last to leave the Old Village and come across to live in Mayo in the 1950s.

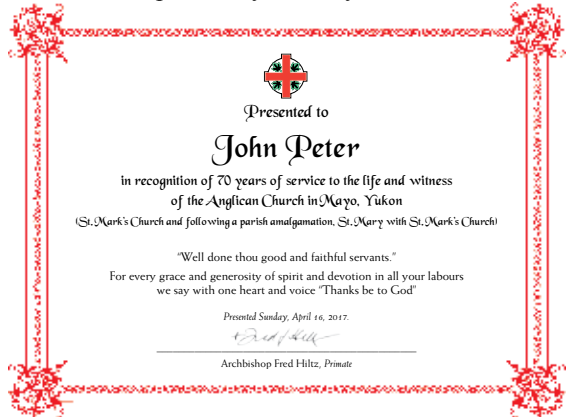
The Old Village may have died, but John's dedication did not. He continued to fire-up the woodstove, ring the bell, take the collection and care for Mayo's church building (St. Mary with St. Mark) with the same commitment. For years he helped at services and was a key member



of the church committee.

Besides the Primate's Certificate and Premier's letter, he was given a special commemorative cup showing the Mayo Church building and inscribed 'John Peter- Seventy Years of Service- Easter 2017'.

A highlight of the service was music led by Barb Barchen, Shona Scicotte, and Cindy Harder. A pot luck meal was served afterwards to round out this special day for Mayo and for John Peter.



John Peter now lives at McDonald Lodge in Dawson City and attends St. Paul's when he is able.

**News From St.Paul's**

Will Postma, executive director for PWRDF, and his wife visited the Diocese of Yukon in May, and spent time with some of the churches. Here he is at the back of the room during fellowship time after the service.



St Paul's hosted the annual Canada Day Pancake Breakfast at St Mary's Catholic Church. raising funds for our own kitchen restoration and for PWRDF.

Tired workers eating their own breakfasts at the end of the breakfast.



## Three Congregations Celebrate Together



It was a joyous day as three generations of one family celebrated their ministry to God. It was an appropriate day to be licensed as we were celebrating Trinity Sunday. We have Cheri Malo as a Lay Minister, her mother, Dorothy Odian, a deacon and soon to be ordained as priest, and her grandmother, Vera Kirkwood, a deacon.

Vera made us all get teary eyed as she put her granddaughter's medallion on. Such love and pride in that simple act. It was a beautiful moment!



Cheri Malo was licensed as a lay minister for Church of the Northern Apostles and St. Martins. Here are the ministry teams from Atlin, Teslin and Northern Apostles.



## Christ Church: People Pix

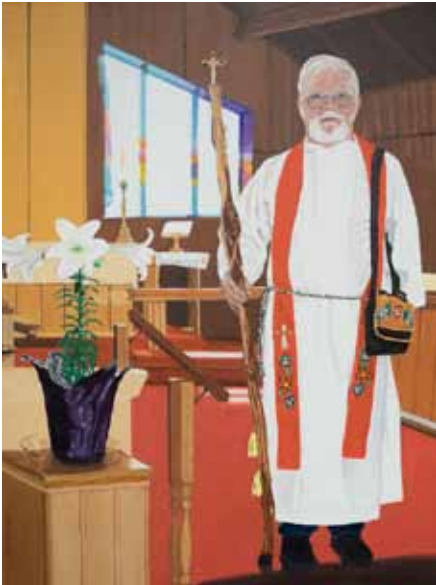
The Rev. David Pritchard with Bishop Robertson at our July 11/17 Summer Tuesday Outreach Barbecue. David, formally on our Ministry Team here at the Cathedral, is visiting from Swaziland. David was guest preacher and celebrant at our two morning services on July 16.



### Tuesday Outreach Barbecue at Christ Church (July 18)

“Celebrity Barbecue Chef for the event this time was Mayor Dan Curtis. In the photograph we see the Mayor, Bishop Larry and Jeannie Roches. The outreach focus of the Barbecues this year is 50% to the Anglican Healing Fund, which promotes the work of healing and reconciliation between indigenous and non-indigenous people, and 50% to the parish. The event is a way for us to open our doors to the community and raise money for good causes. We try to have a Celebrity Chef flipping burgers each week.

### Portrait of the Reverend Martin Carroll



This Portrait will hang in the big gallery of the Yukon Art Centre until the end of 2017.



Bishop Larry and Jeannie Roches and Mayor Dan Curtis

## **Christ Church: Mary Merchant's 100th birthday**

Christ Church Cathedral celebrated the 100th Birthday of long-time parishioner Mary Merchant on Sunday June 18. We started with a service of Holy Eucharist in which we gave thanks for Mary's life and faithful ministry. On the final hymn the congregation processed to Stringer Park where a plant was dedicated in Mary's honor. We then gathered in Hellaby Hall for a splendid lunch organized by Mary's family and our ACW. Church members and family and friends from different parts of the world gathered for the occasion. Philip Merchant, Mary's son, gave a moving tribute to his mother and Mary received greetings from Queen Elizabeth, Prime Minister Trudeau, Archbishop John Privett and others. We visited, sang some of Mary's favorite songs, with Mary helping to lead the singing, and had a wonderful time together in celebration of Mary's birthday.



## St.Christopher's, Haines Junction

St. Christopher's Anglican Church is a pleasant sight along the Alaska Highway in Haines Junction.



Betty Davidson, a visiting Lay Minister from St.Paul's, conducted a service at St. Christopher's in early May.

In the summer, the basement Thrift Store becomes an art gallery for local artisans.



In early May, PWRDF Executive Director Will Postma and his wife, Rebecca Walker, visited Haines Junction and enjoyed an evening's dinner and talk with members of the congregation.

## **Christ Church: Paul and the Underground Church**



The Vacation Bible School for 5-11 yr olds was held July 3-7 at the Cathedral. The Coordinator was Betty Davidson of St. Paul's Dawson City and the theme was Rome: Paul and the Underground Church. Other leaders were Dean Sean Murphy; Bishop Larry Robertson and Andrea Lefebre; with three youth leaders and other helpers. 20 kids came out and experienced a wonderful time of crafts, games, drama, songs, and snacks. An underground cave built in the Church storage area was big hit as the kids learned about the dangers the early Christians faced. Most of all they learned about the power of God's love in Jesus Christ to save us, change our hearts and enable us to share God's love with others.





There was a Barbecue on the Tuesday of VBS week. The kids and parents joined us for this weekly event this summer, in which proceeds go half and half to the Anglican Healing Fund and the Cathedral. The barbecuers are Jeannie Roches and Bob Dempster.

# Remembering the Bishop behind the Hippy School

By Ann and David Love

Special to the Whitehorse Star, used here with permission

*Ed. note: Anglican Bishop John T. Frame died on August 4, in Courtenay, B.C. at the age 86 following a stroke. Here is a tribute to his contributions to Yukon society.*

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It's a go."

Anglican Bishop John Frame's bright, strong voice at the end of the phone alerted a small team of confidants, one after another, that his vision and their shared dream had been approved by Yukon Commissioner Jim Smith and the Anglican Diocese of Yukon.

The Choooutla Indian Residential School in the village of Carcross closed down in 1969, with water lying in the pipes and fat still clogging the deep fryer.

Four years later – cleaned, repaired, and repainted – the school reopened as the Carcross Community Education Centre, this time with a new purpose.

Frame, the eighth bishop of Yukon, envisioned the Carcross Community, as we usually called it, as a school where staff deeply respected each other and their students.

He called the \$50-a-month staff "parent members" and asked them to create and commit to a "Rule of Life" based on shared values and Christian faith.

He charged the parent members to forge a community in which they would live, learn, and grow together – and be strong enough to embrace the challenges and adventures of 60 co-ed, residential high school students. This was a task of epic proportions.

Frame invited students from the Yukon and across Canada to help build the community, study, enjoy and find purpose and commitment in their own lives. A few Americans came north as well.

The teachers, fresh with new ideas, introduced learning through experience and exploration, radical educational methods at the time.

Extra-curricular classes bustled with boat-building, watercolour painting, beadwork, ice hockey (and rink-building), bird-watching, acting and set-building ... on and on.

Decisions affecting community life were taken in weekly community meetings where every member had one vote.

A proponent of sustainability long before it became a buzzword, the bishop based community finances in part on commercial ventures – bread-baking, farming, logging, or craft making – through which both parent members and students learned new skills while supporting the bottom line. Everyone had a contribution to make to daily life and operations.

He asked all members to respect the parts played by others, no matter how lofty or menial. That meant everyone took turns on boiler shift."

Action, commitment, responsibility – these were the three keywords for the Carcross Community's exciting life.

A man with a good sense of humour and strong principles, he liked being called "the Bish" by the student members.

When he heard that his vision was called “the Hippy School” locally, he laughed; hippy on the outside, warmth and integrity on the inside.

The Carcross Community graduated many students, saw many successes, and yes, witnessed some failures.

The old building cried out for repairs that soon became overwhelming.

The bishop accepted the parent members’ proposal to reduce the academic program in 1978 and then closed the doors for good in 1979.

Nearly 40 years on, community members spread across the Yukon and Canada keep in touch through social media and have held four Yukon reunions in and around Carcross.

We share a close bond – the experience Bishop Frame made possible proved central to all our lives. We owe him much, each one of us.

Learning of his death has parent and student members – far-flung friends for life – connecting and remembering the remarkable gift of Bishop Frame.

Born in 1930, Frame was educated at the University of Toronto and ordained as a priest in 1957. He served at Burns Lake in northern B.C. until his ordination as bishop in 1968.

He resigned in 1980 to become the dean of Christ Church Cathedral in Victoria until his retirement to Courtenay, B.C. in 1995.

His “Hippy School”, we hope, offered an early step in today’s process of reconciliation among governments, church, and First Nations.

And it happened right inside a gnarly old residential school.

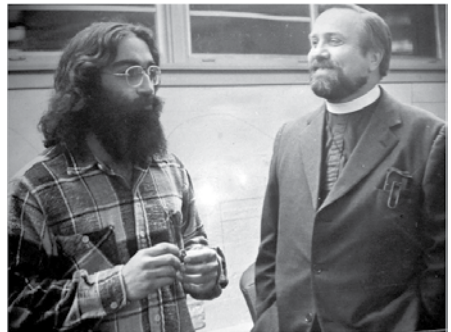
Rest in peace, Bish.

*Ann and David Love were two of the founding members of the Carcross Community who now live in King, Ont.*

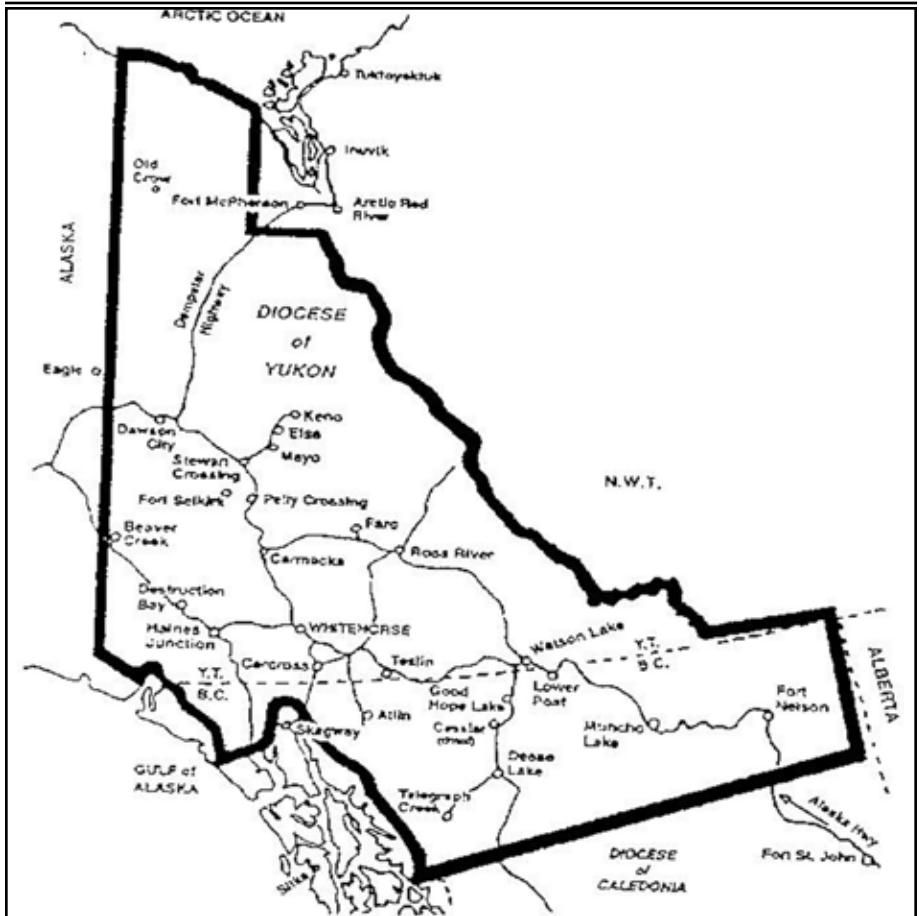
*This article includes memories from other community members including Gregory Bryce, Charlie Lenz, Ray Fletcher, Rick VanSickle and Kathy Amundson-Forsberg.*



*FAMED ARTIST’S DEPICTION – Shown above is The Carcross Community, by Ted Harrison. The late Yukon artist and teacher, a former Carcross resident, painted this scene for this article’s writers in 1974. It shows the main four-storey building of the Carcross Community Education Centre and various activities of its students and volunteer staff. The alternative high school opened to 60 teenaged students from the North and across Canada in 1973 with the backing of the Anglican Diocese of Yukon and its bishop, the Rt. Rev. John Frame, who died last week. The building had housed the Carcross (or Chootla) Indian Residential School until its closure in 1969. Photo courtesy ANN AND DAVID LOVE*



*SCHOOL CATALYST REMEMBERED – Anglican Bishop John Frame (right), a major force in the establishment of the Carcross Community Education Centre, chats with parent member Steve Haggart in 1974 or 1975. Bishop Frame died last Friday. Photo by ROSEMARY KILMER*



Northern Lights magazine is published by the Diocese of Yukon and its goal is to inform people everywhere about the life, work and mission of the Anglican Church in the diocese and to inform the churches of Yukon about each other, thus strengthening the bonds of mutual appreciation. Opinions expressed herein are those of the writer or contributor and not necessarily those of the Diocese of Yukon.

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