

# FOCUSED ON FARO

SEPTEMBER 2024

## 2024 FARO SENIOR'S TRIP TO MARSH LAKE, CARCROSS, AND WHITEHORSE



*Glass Blowing at Lumel Glass Blowing Studios*

### Council Meeting

Council Chamber is open to the public. The next Regular Meetings are:

September 17, 2024  
October 8, 2024  
October 22, 2024

*See Page 3 for Election Info*

Copies of meeting agendas are posted at the Town Office, Post Office, and at [faro.ca](http://faro.ca).

The Public Package will be available on the Town's website at the time of the meeting at:

[faro.ca/p/council-meetings](http://faro.ca/p/council-meetings)

Remote attendance is available with the Zoom App.

To join a Zoom Meeting go to :

<https://zoom.us/join>

**Meeting ID:** 506 321 8045

**Passcode:** 641202



## MEL SMITH

### FORMER MAYOR AND COUNCILLOR

Faro lost a forever friend when Mel Smith passed away on Sunday July 28, 2024. I had the good fortune to have known Mel since the early eighties when he and Donna first managed the Faro Hotel. You old timers will recall that Mel and Donna opened their first small variety store in the hotel and shortly after renamed and relocated their Discovery Store into the Solar Complex, just a few doors up from where the old Post Office was. Faroites welcomed them with open arms and so started a long tradition of service in our community. Not long after, the Discovery Store moved again into the large front store space in the Solar Complex to serve Faro's, then much larger population, after the Cattleman's Store had moved out.

During one of the mine shutdowns, Mel and Donna purchased the large shop that Boreal now owns and relocated the store there. They also purchased the Hardware store from Ed Lambkin around the same time. Another mine shutdown forced Mel to close the big store and move the grocery store in with the hardware store where it is now and still serves us today.

There were the hard times. In 1985 the town population was less than 100 people. Then Donna and he parted company. Many would have quit Faro and left our community to die a slow death as a result of not having a grocery store, but not Mel. No one will ever know of all the people Mel helped over those tough years. It's no wonder why he was so well loved by the folks in Faro and especially by those who lived here during the tough times.

Mel served on Town Council on two separate occasions; first in 1999 when he was elected during the bi-election, before being named Mayor in 2000 for a three-year term, and then again in 2012 when he was elected to Council for another three-year term.

Our Council felt we owe it to Mel to recognize his contributions, to the community, and individually to so many folks in Faro. We miss you Mel.

*~Mayor Bowers*

# ELECTION INFORMATION



## CONSIDERING RUNNING FOR TOWN COUNCIL?

What you need to know  
by CAO Larry Baran

If you are interested in running for Town Council, either as one of four (4) Councillors or as the Mayor, there is some valuable information included on the Town of Faro website.

Currently, there are a few links that you can reference what is expected as an elected municipal official.

- ◆ The [2024 Candidate's Guide](#) has been developed by YG Community Services and it provides a good, high-level explanation of the basic duties of an elected municipal official. It also includes information about who is eligible to run as a candidate, and some key dates to be aware of.
- ◆ The Yukon Government also has a website called [Municipal and Local Advisory Council elections](#) that links to other resource websites.

**Scan Here >>>>>>**  
for the Faro Municipal Election Web Page.



What other resources are available if you want to do research about the Town of Faro? What issues and concerns have been raised and addressed by Council?

### Town Council Meetings

The Town's website has the minutes of previous Council meetings available online going back several years. These minutes are an important resource for research because various reports to Council are often included in the

Public Packages. (By the way, this tab also has the links for you to virtually join a scheduled Council Meeting via ZOOM.)

By attending a Council Meeting, you can gain a better understanding of the procedures and processes that elected officials are required to follow because of established bylaws, procedures, policies, and various legislation.

**Scan Here >>>>>**  
for Faro's Council Meeting Web Page.



### Council Reports

In addition to the meeting page, there is information about Council's long term plans.

Since early 2022, the 2022-2027 Strategic Plan (that Mayor & Council used as their set of goals and objectives for their term) has been available to the public.

Bylaws, polices, along with financial information, is all available under the Mayor and Council Tab on the Faro website.

**Scan Here >>>>>**  
for Faro's Mayor & Council Web Page.



The decision to run for Council includes a serious obligation of time, reading, and preparation, so you may find it helpful to talk to other people in the community who have sat on Council, both current and in the past, to get their perspective on that commitment.

Finally, the Chief Administrative Officer for Town of Faro can also be a resource. Prospective candidates can contact CAO Larry Baran to make an appointment to discuss some of the projects and challenges that the next Mayor & Council will be facing for the next (October 2024 to September 2028) election term.

Being elected to Town Council is challenging, but it is also rewarding because it is the elected municipal officials who provide guidance and have a strong influence on the growth, development, and long-term viability of the community. As Margret Mead said, "Never underestimate the power of a small group of committed people to change the world. In fact, it is the only thing that ever has."

## IMPORTANT DATES

**September 18, 2024**  
Notice of Nominations

**September 26, 2024**  
Nominations Close at 12 NOON

**October 7, 2024**  
All Candidates Forum  
in the Sportsman's Lounge  
at 7:00 p.m.

**October 10, 2024**  
Advance Poll

**October 17, 2024**  
Municipal Election Day

**October 22, 2024**  
Council Meeting

# OFFICE & ADMINISTRATION NEWS



## MESSAGE FROM THE CAO

Larry Baran

Faro is winding down after yet another busy summer, and I want to thank Faro Public Works, Recreation, and Gardening Staff. Each week, visitors provided warm compliments about their visit to Faro. The vast trimmed green grass, and the flowers in planters and hanging baskets, all add to the enjoyment of being in Faro, for visitors and residents alike. Summer activities kept visitors and residents busy and active. The many construction projects are a 're-investment indicator' that Faro is here to stay. Thank you all for your efforts this summer.

The Public Works Department addressed a number of high profile and important projects. About 2 kilometres of roads were chip sealed. Roadwork continues as some sections are being prepared for asphalt paving, hopefully yet to be completed late this summer. A new municipal water well was drilled and will soon be tapped into the municipal system, ensuring a secure supply of potable water.

The Gardening Staff kept the community in bloom and green, and Recreation Department provided pool and other activities, including hosting territorial training sessions usually held in Whitehorse. That is great compliment to our Recreation Department staff.

As we near the end of this summer, it is also near the end of the 2021-2024 election term. This Council will have the distinction of being the last Council to be elected to a three-year term. All future Yukon municipal election terms will be FOUR years. While this will be a new thing for the Yukon, it has long been a matter of reality for BC, Alberta, and the NWT. Besides providing an additional year of stability for the community between elections, as things usually slow down leading up to and immediately after an election, it reduces the budgets for running elections and costs associated with new Council orientation: 3 elections every 12 years, instead of 4 elections.

Now, as this Council approaches the end of their election term this October, both Council and Administration are in "clean-up mode", where we want to finish projects that have been started but leaving the decisions about new projects to the next Council. This will change the dynamics of the next September and October Regular Council Meetings as only pressing or time-sensitive items will be brought before Council.

It will also mean Administration will be re-focusing on preparing materials to bring a newly-elected Council up to speed and provide orientation sessions. Whether in-house orientation about local municipal issues, or orientation by the Association of Yukon Communities about territorial-municipal issues, there is much training to complete. New Councillors must understand how the various budgets work, how bylaws work, including procedures and grant funding processes. They will need to develop new Strategic Plans for Faro, and plan for funding to support those objectives. Some future decisions will be at the discretion of the new Council, while other decisions aren't up for negotiation because we are required by legislation to accomplish certain things.

There are few greater gifts an elected-official can give their community than to be sincere about doing a professional job in the role of an elected municipal leader. In my almost 30 years of being a municipal administrator, I've worked with many Councils with different strengths. These last three years have gone by very quickly, and our current Council Members will have to agree that a lot of long stressful hours have gone into the many decisions that need to be made in order to keep the Town running smoothly and efficiently. I am excited to see who will put their names forward for the 2024-2028 term and what the next Faro Council will accomplish.





# Every Child Matters NATIONAL DAY FOR TRUTH & RECONCILIATION

~\*~SEPTEMBER 30, 2024~\*~

The Town Office will be CLOSED on September 30.

The Rec. Centre and Landfill will be CLOSED on Tuesday October 1.

There are members of our community who are survivors of residential schools and children or grandchildren of Survivors. The Town of Faro encourages every resident to take time on September 30 to learn about and remember all the children who suffered as a result of the Residential Schools and Federal Indian Day Schools.

## TOWN PROPERTIES FOR SALE

The Town of Faro has a number of properties for sale in the community. Some are a result of property tax recovery, whereas others are new residential lots that are ready for development.



**Scan Here**

for the Property Listings Page

### Three-plex

35, 37, & 39 Hoole Street - Lot 127

### Residential Building Lots

180 Dawson Drive - Lot 441

188 Dawson Drive - Lot 442

Keep watching the website for updated information about more properties for sale.

## STREET NAMING

Council is looking to name three roadways in Town that currently do not have names.

The section of roadway going to the:

1. Johnson Lake Campground from Airport Road;
2. Arena from Bell Cres North; &
3. Water Treatment Plant from Mitchell Road.

If you have a suggestion for one or more of these roadways, submit the Street Naming Application Form to the Town Office by Friday, September 6 at 12:00 p.m.

If you have any questions, contact the Town Office at 994-2728 ext. 5 or [admin-faro@faroyukon.ca](mailto:admin-faro@faroyukon.ca).



**Scan Here**

for the Street Naming Application Form

## NOTICE:

Possible Change in Office Hours

**Due to a shortage of staff, the Town Office may be closed from 12:00 - 1:00 p.m. for lunch over the next few months.**



# RECREATION & EVENTS



## MESSAGE FROM THE REC MANAGER

Tina Freake

### Seniors Summer Trip

This summer, the Seniors group embarked on an unforgettable trip to McClintock Bay Resort at Marsh Lake! Our fantastic hosts left everyone impressed with their top-notch facilities and services. A highlight of the trip was a boat tour, where we enjoyed wildlife viewing around Marsh Lake and the Yukon River. Participants engaged in a variety of exciting activities, including a visit to the Carcross Desert, a tour of the Wild Adventure Yukon Museum, a farm tour, glass blowing, and more! This enriching experience was made possible thanks to funding from New Horizons for Seniors.



**CRIC & Markets** A big shoutout to our amazing CRIC staff—Sabine, Sandra, and Jackie—for their hard work at the Campbell Region Interpretive Centre this season! Their warm welcome to both tourists and locals has truly made a difference. Can you believe we're already wrapping up the season? September 4th marked our last market of the summer, and we want to extend our gratitude to all the talented artists, bakers, and vendors who set up shop with us. Thanks to everyone who came out to support local talent and purchased items! As we transition into fall and winter events, we're excited to consider hosting a community garage sale, coffee houses, and Christmas markets, depending on your interest. Keep an eye out for posters with more details!

**Youth Group** Our youth group gathered for another planning meeting this month after a busy summer. They're gearing up for an exciting out-of-town trip and are finalizing the details. Plus, they have some fantastic plans for the Kettle Café, along with upcoming fundraisers and events you won't want to miss!

**Kids Club** Our Kids Club program kicked off for the season on Thursday, September 5th! Swing by the Rec Centre to register your child for this fun after-school program designed for kids aged 6 to 11. With a focus on active play, creative crafts, and a snack included in each session; it's bound to be a hit!

**Human Resources** We're thrilled to announce the successful hiring of Morgan Manual as our new Recreation Programmer! Joining the Recreation Depart-

ment this September, Morgan brings over a decade of experience in diverse recreation environments and a strong passion for sports and recreation. Be sure to introduce yourself and give Morgan a warm Faro welcome when you visit the Rec Centre!

**Pool** What a successful season we've had at the pool! Thanks to funding from two sources, we were able to hire additional staff. Nadia has led multiple courses, including Bronze Medallion, Bronze Cross, and the National Lifeguard, all of which saw great participation. Regular programs like Aquafit, swimming lessons, and our swim team enjoyed excellent attendance, with public swims remaining a crowd favorite. This year, we also hosted a mini swim meet in collaboration with Swim Yukon, marking the first Yukon-wide event in several years! Looking ahead, we anticipate a lighter course load next summer, allowing us to focus on hosting even more exciting events and programs. Check out page 8 for pictures from Pool this summer.

**Community Development Fund** Great news! The Youth Group has received funding to support their coffee shop, the Kettle Café, and will soon be purchasing a mobile coffee trailer. We're excited to announce that we've secured a local coffee trailer in the Yukon, saving on shipping costs and giving us more budget flexibility. Once we finalize the trailer, we'll undertake some renovations to make it shine, including cabinetry, countertops, and a fresh exterior look. We're hopeful that securing this trailer locally will allow us to open the

Kettle Café in Faro sooner than expected!

**Funding** We're currently working on a funding application for New Horizons for Seniors for the fall intake, aimed at programming from April 2025 to March 2026. Planning meetings will be held in September to gather feedback from seniors, ensuring the application reflects their ideas and suggestions. Additionally, we're pursuing various funding applications to support programming and events this winter. We'll be meeting with different user groups to gain insights, so if you have suggestions, please feel free to reach out!

**Rec Centre Renovations** In August, the Taylor Architecture Group visited Faro to discuss the Kitchen and Rec Centre project and tour our facilities. They reviewed previous reports and blueprints while discussing next steps. We're eager to share their report and recommendations with the public to gather community feedback throughout the project.

**Raven ReCentre Reuse Fair** Exciting news! Raven ReCentre will be in Faro this October to host a ReUse Fair. If you're an artist in Faro interested in engaging with reuse, repair, or zero waste, reach out to them at [zwassistant@raverecentre.org](mailto:zwassistant@raverecentre.org) to discuss hosting a workshop. The ReUse Fair will feature workshops such as block printing on textiles, glass demonstrations with Lumel Studios, zero-waste displays on fast fashion and glass recycling, and a clothing swap. Dates are being finalized, watch for posters or stop by the Rec Centre for further details.



# 2024 R FUN





# “THE ONLY CONSTANT IN LIFE IS CHANGE”

That is a quote attributed to Heraclitus, a Greek philosopher of Ephesus who lived around 500 BCE.

Change is always happening with the Town of Faro. This summer, again, we've seen a great group of students and summer staff wrap things up and head out to a variety of directions. This Fall, we'll see a change on Council. And, with each change on Council, with each change in municipal staff, there will be an impact on the operations of the community.

When Dennis Kefalas was City Manager for Yellowknife, he said, "Each company is only as good as their people. As the people change, the quality of the company's work/service can change." That has always stayed with me because, in a small community like Faro, often times it is that one person quietly making a difference between bad or good, or good or great.

In many ways, as our Operations Manager, Mark Vainio, is fond of saying, "Faro is just a small Whitehorse" and it is ... when you look at the range of Public Works infrastructure that needs support in Faro. It also means that we often need to recruit people with more advanced skills than other small Yukon communities.

Those same challenges exist in the Recreation Department and the Town Office.

Over the course of the next months and years, there is going to be a significant changeover in staff as career advancement and retirement takes its toll on the Town of Faro. This change in staff will create CHANGE in the operations of the community and for the residents.

Recruiting the 'right' person often takes time and, during my term as CAO in Faro, I have always had the support of Mayor & Council to not just fill the position but to hire the right candidate.

So, as you see new faces behind the wheel of a municipal truck, or behind the counter, it will be important to residents to have patience with these new folks as they better learn their tasks and assignments. You will help Faro to become a great community.

## MONTHLY FIRE SAFETY TIP

### Central Heating/Furnaces

Furnaces need to be inspected and serviced at least once a year by a qualified professional.

Keep things that can burn at least 3 feet or 1 metre away from the furnace. Keep the furnace area clean and uncluttered.

If you smell gas, do not light the appliance. Leave the building immediately and call 9-1-1 or the fire department at 994-2222.

*Reproduced with permission from NFPA*



**Hey Artists!**

**Join Zero Waste's Reuse Fair in Haines Junction, Faro, or Teslin**

*If you are an artist based in one of these locations who wants to engage with reuse, repair, or zero waste, host a workshop with us!*

contact for more info:  
zuassistant@rauenrecentre.org



### SCHOOL IS BACK IN SESSION

If you need to contact Del Van Gorder School: Call 994-2760 during school hours for any concerns or questions.

# PUBLIC WORKS & OPERATIONS UP-DATES



## MESSAGE FROM THE OPERATIONS MANAGER

Mark Vainio

### Public Works Crew

Our Distribution Pump-house Backup Generator plans are complete and the new generator is on order. Construction is slowed as production delays means we won't see the generator until December. However, we've time to have all other work completed and ready to plug it in.

Our new water well is drilled. Public Works is working on adapting the pitless well pump into the new well and tying in the water main and electrical. We will then properly decommission the old well #5.

We also have projects to clean-up/upgrade the power to our Water Treatment Plant, electrical upgrades to Well-house One and install a bleeder into this well as it has no frost protection and must run continuously all winter.

Public Works are flushing and doing maintenance and repairs to hydrants. You may see water in the ditches and if you experience dirty water, just run the tap until it comes clear again. Winterizing will begin soon.

### Landfill Operations

We drilled 3 new monitoring wells and one replacement well this year.

In 2024, we'll be training some of our crew on Solid Waste Management and do some more improvements on how we handle our solid waste. The crew has installed shelving into the electronic waste container which helps with sorting considerably.

We accept hazardous household waste in a shed beside the Office.

### Focused on Faro

Another bear was destroyed this year in the Landfill. Our new Landfill Operator/Bylaw Enforcement Officer is tasked with ensuring waste goes in the proper areas. Household waste, animal parts and excrement get bagged and put in the garbage dumpsters. This is not a new Bylaw but is now being enforced.

### Projects

Ladue Drive property update – all work is completed, and lots are for sale by Lottery with YG Lands.

The Town of Faro has been developing a local Contractor List to assist us in upcoming projects in collaboration with YG or with our own projects. The Town of Faro will accept applicants throughout the year.

Construction of a new Animal Shelter will be starting sometime this fall.

### Community Services Building (PWFH)

Still some electrical deficiencies to be dealt with in the PWFH building. Electrician was to be in last week and hopefully these remaining deficiencies are addressed soon.

### Gardening

Students are finished now for the season and back in school. They did a great job again this year. We still have people out working on the various areas of town as well as some ongoing brushing.

Reminder to not drive ATV's or vehicles on the grass areas of town as it can severely damage

the grass and can take considerable effort to repair.

Once funding approval comes through, we'll be posting for FireSmart again this year. Active seniors are invited to apply, but of course we won't turn away younger people.

### Roads

We'll be preparing the roads for winter over the next few weeks. Trying to keep the old sweeper going to get the BST cleaned up and we'll be filling in swales for Asphalt next year on Campbell Street. We didn't have time this year for asphalt. We've added some crush to Douglas, and while it needs more, we need YG to pay for this work as it is a Phase 2 deficiency. We're going to try to make McQuesten, Lapie and Kitza presentable before winter as they're a little rough.

**Please keep your pets on a leash when not on your property.**



Call 994-2728 to report a dog at large during regular business hours.

Be sure to have all relevant information including location and description of the animal in question.

**To report a dangerous animal after hours please call the RCMP.**

# FARO'S NEW BYLAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER/ LANDFILL OPERATOR



**Francois Blanchette**

Francois Blanchette is our new Bylaw Enforcement Officer / Landfill Operator. He has been in the Yukon since 2016, from Airdrie, Alberta and has worked for the City of Whitehorse Landfill as the Compliance Officer and is a good fit for our town as our requirements are very much the same. His role is to educate the public on proper waste disposal and ensure our operations are in compliance with our Operating Permits and doing what we said we would do with the Regulators. Please be respectful when dealing with him.

## Landfill Information

Area A is metal, car bodies, appliances (white metal), construction debris including furniture, tires (off rims) and E-waste/electronics which means anything with a plug-in (goes into the white sea-can).

Area B is closed to the public unless directed by the landfill operator to dispose of brush and clean wood (not painted or treated) and Household waste. Municipal Solid Waste (household) is picked up in the bins on Thursday. No dropping of MSW at the Landfill during the week as it needs to be cov-

ered immediately unless special provisions are made in advance. There is a minimum 2 hour charge.

Hazardous Waste Aerosol cans and hazardous household waste (paint, batteries) can go in the shack beside the Landfill Operators' office at the entrance. Dried out paint cans can go directly into construction and demolition waste.

Residential Waste Oil goes into the Waste Oil receiver tank adjacent to the Landfill office.

Recyclable Material (plastic, tin, paper, cardboard) can be delivered to the Faro Recycling Centre on McQuesten Road. Reduce, Reuse, Recycle is greatly appreciated, diverting from filling up the landfill faster.

All other material (Dog & Cat excrement, animal parts) is to be securely bagged and put into the garbage bins located all over town. Please don't put loose garbage in the bins as it'll get scattered by Ravens before we have a chance to cover it on Thursdays. All saw-dust and cold ashes need to be securely bagged as-well before being placed in one of the Town bins. Your Construction debris and e-waste does not belong in the garbage bins and small shop construction debris should not be mixed with shop household garbage, such as aluminum can, paper towels, lunch containers etc..

Note: if only ½ the gate is open, we are working in the site, but the SWMF (Solid Waste Management Facility) is not open. Please respect our Landfill Operator as he knows his job and is doing his best to

educate the Public on how to handle your waste materials. None of this is new or made up on the spot. These requirements have been in place for many years and are part of our Operating Permit. We are in the process of achieving compliance with the regulations. Also, we are working with the Conservation Officer for fewer bear encounters in our Construction and Demolition waste by not having household waste such as garbage cans with no bags being disposed of in the Construction debris.

## Landfill Hours

<b>Monday</b>	Closed
<b>Tuesday</b>	9a.m. – 4p.m.
<b>Wednesday</b>	1p.m. – 4p.m.
<b>Thursday</b>	Collection Day (landfill closed)
<b>Friday</b>	9a.m. – 4p.m.
<b>Saturday</b>	9a.m. – 4p.m.
<b>Sunday</b>	Closed

The Landfill will be closed all holidays as per the union agreement.

## Recycling Center Information

### FARO BOTTLE DEPOT:

Located at the corner of McQuesten Rd. and Ross Rd.

### Summer Hours

Tuesday to Thursday  
5:00 pm to 8:00 pm

### Phone Number

994-3022

# COMMUNITY NOTICES



**Monday, Sept. 30** National Day for Truth & Reconciliation  
The Town Office will be Closed  
**Tuesday, Oct. 1** in lieu of National Day for Truth & Reconciliation  
The Landfill and Rec Center will be Closed  
**Monday, Oct. 14** Thanksgiving  
The Town Office will be Closed  
**Tuesday, Oct. 15** in lieu of Thanksgiving  
The Landfill and Rec Center will be Closed  
**Monday, Nov. 11** Remembrance Day  
The Town Office will be Closed  
**Tuesday, Nov. 12** in lieu of Thanksgiving  
The Landfill and Rec Center will be Closed

## TOWN OFFICE

Public hours are Monday to Friday 9:00am to 4:00pm.

## TOWN CONTACT INFO & STAFF DIRECTORY:

### Chief Administrative Officer

Larry Baran  
994-2728 ext 4  
cao-faro@faroyukon.ca

### Operations Manager

Mark Vainio  
994-2728 ext 7  
Town Shop: 994-2758  
operations@faroyukon.ca

### Manager of Recreation & Culture

Tina Freake  
Rec. Centre: 994-2375  
recreation@faroyukon.ca

### GM of Finance

Lenka Kazda  
994-2728 ext 3  
finance@faroyukon.ca

### Executive Assistant

994-2728 ext 5  
admin-faro@faroyukon.ca

### Finance Clerk

Glenda Power  
994-2728 ext 2  
finclk@faroyukon.ca

### Correspondence to Mayor & Council:

mayor.bowers@faroyukon.ca  
councillor.nyland@faroyukon.ca  
councillor.medvid@faroyukon.ca  
councillor.fetterly@faroyukon.ca  
councillor.mchugh@faroyukon.ca

## The source of official Town information and notices:

[www.faro.ca](http://www.faro.ca)

[www.facebook.com/TownofFaro](https://www.facebook.com/TownofFaro)

**The Maximum Speed Limit in Town is 30 km, unless otherwise posted.**

**Do Not Speed, Children at Play.**



**If You Fail to STOP for a School Bus, You Can Be Fined up to \$500 & 8 Demerit Points.**



### ISSUES WITH THE WEBSITE

If you have any issues with the Town of Faro Website, please send an email to [admin-faro@faroyukon.ca](mailto:admin-faro@faroyukon.ca) describing the issue along with a screen shot. We are unable to address the problems with our website provider without a screen shot.

