

Commissioner
of Yukon

Annual Report

2022-2023



April 01, 2022 to
May 31, 2023

Report produced by the Office of the Commissioner of Yukon May 2023



Commissioner of Yukon

English

Dādidī Nenh doge Ts'āde et'ē

Tagish

Leader of this Land

Nihānjit jēje cho nādhāt

Hān

Big Person (Leader) who stands for us

Dazhān Kèyea dāw Kwānje

Southern Tutchone

One who speaks for Crown Land or Territory

Gamin gūdish dege Yukon ts'ǰ

Kaska

A Government Spokesperson for the Yukon

Uhahki Dun Cho Yukon Government

Northern Tutchone

Big Chief of the Yukon Government

Government ndoo chit nilii

Gwich'in

A Government Spokesperson for the Yukon

Yukon Gamman Sháade Háni

Tlingit

Head of Yukon Government

xaskeey iin xah hōqheey

Upper Tanana

One who speaks on behalf of the Leaders

Commissaire du Yukon

French

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Commissioner's Remarks



(Photo by Tamera Johnson)

Dear Yukoners,

It is my pleasure to present the Annual Report of the Commissioner of Yukon to illustrate the events and activities that took place between April 1, 2022, and May 31, 2023 (the last day of my mandate as Commissioner of Yukon).

In preparing this last report, I was thinking about the wonderful last five years of working on behalf of Yukoners. I would like to thank everyone in the territory for inviting me to their events, welcoming me in their communities and supporting the events of the office.

I can say that I achieved my goal of demystifying the role of the representative of the head of state and educating the population on the tasks of a commissioner. I am proud of opening Taylor House to the public and transforming our second floor from a storage area into a museum. I also took every opportunity to promote the Yukon and its wonderful inhabitants.

I would be remiss if I did not mention the impact that COVID-19 had on my position. For almost two years, events were postponed, cancelled, or adapted for a smaller or on-line audience. For a job that consists of 75% of social events, the imposed break really affected me and my colleagues across the country. I hope that we are not faced with such a disruption to our lives again.

Enjoy this report and do not hesitate to contact my office for any questions. You can also visit our website and Facebook page.

Yours truly,

Angélique Bernard

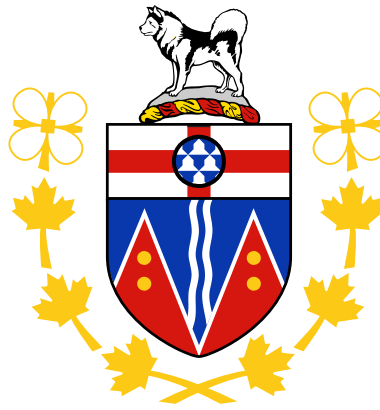
36th Commissioner of Yukon
March 12, 2018-May 31, 2023

Interesting facts

from the Office of the Commissioner of Yukon

From April 1, 2022 to May 31, 2023, Commissioner Bernard:

- attended 230 events and get-togethers;
- gave 59 speeches and wrote 25 congratulatory messages;
- gave 18 interviews to media (11 in French and seven in English);
- organized a Virtual Levee on January 1, 2023;
- took part in virtual presentations on the Queen Platinum Jubilee;
- attended the Trailblazers and Change-Makers kiosk opening of the Pioneer Women of the Yukon, Whitehorse Lodge No. Two;
- participated in the installation of the President of the Yukon University;
- took part in a Naval Heraldry presentation and a Black-Tie dinner of the BC/YUKON Branch of the Royal Heraldry Society of Canada;
- presented three Orders of Yukon, one Bravery Award, one Public Volunteer Service Award, 14 Governor General's Academic Medals, four Outstanding Youth Achievement Awards, and three Chief Scouts Awards;
- attended the Annual Conference of the Governor General, Lieutenant Governors and Territorial Commissioners in St. John's;
- presented the Daisy Mason Wellness Fund to Nyla Klugie-Migwans;
- read to seven daycares and day camp groups during the Commissioner's reading series;
- presented the Borealis Prize: The Commissioner of Yukon Award for Literary Contribution to Tara Borin;
- participated in the Discovery Day Parade;
- attended the Remembrance Day Ceremony in Dawson;
- welcomed the Queen Elizabeth Scholars Platinum Jubilee Symposium to Whitehorse;
- gave the welcome words at the Conference of the National Francophone Federation of School Councils that took place in Whitehorse;
- participated in the Arctic Arts Summit (Taylor House was part of the Art Crawl);
- took part in the First Nations Graduation, the Salmon Bake at the National Indigenous People's Day and the Moosehide Gathering in Dawson;
- continued to present the Yukon Service Pin;
- attended the renaming of the Jim Smith Building;
- took part in several check stops with MADD Whitehorse and the Whitehorse RCMP;
- took part in Canada Day celebrations in Whitehorse and Tagish;
- received the Queen's Platinum Jubilee Medal (Nova Scotia) from Arthur LeBlanc, Lieutenant Governor of Nova Scotia;
- attended the 50th anniversary of the Yukon Archives;
- attended the first poppy presentation, at Taylor House, organized by the Whitehorse Legion;
- wrote six columns in French on the events of the Office of the Commissioner of Yukon for *l'Aurore boréale* (May 2022, September 2022, December 2022, January 2023, April 2023 and May 2023);
- assented to 16 bills in the Legislative Assembly;
- signed 236 Orders in Council; and
- signed 14 proclamations.



The Honorable Angélique Bernard, Commissioner of Yukon, was an Honorary Patron or Honorary Member of the following organizations:

1st Canadian Ranger Patrol Group
2685 Yukon Regiment - Royal Canadian Army Cadet Corps
551 Whitehorse Lions - Royal Canadian Air Cadet Squadron
Arctic Inspiration Prize
Arctic Winter Games (2020)
Big Brothers Big Sisters of Yukon
Child Development Centre
Commissionaires Victoria, The Islands and Yukon
Dawson City Museum Society
Duke of Edinburgh's International Award, Canada
ElderActive Recreation Association
Food Bank Society of Whitehorse
Friends of the Whitehorse Library
Girl Guides of Canada - Yukon District
Guild Hall (40th season - 2019)
NGO Hub Steering Committee
Opportunities Yukon
RCMP Veterans' Association - Yukon Division
Rotary Club of Whitehorse Rendezvous
Royal Canadian Legion Branch 254 Whitehorse
Royal Commonwealth Society Vancouver Island
Royal Heraldry Society of Canada (BC/Yukon Branch)
Scouts Yukon
Special Olympics Yukon
St. John Society (British Columbia and Yukon)
The Great Trail
Yukon Historical and Museums Association
Yukon Transportation Museum

Photos of events



December 2022 check stop with MADD Whitehorse and Whitehorse RCMP



Visit of the 2022-23 Rotary International President to Taylor House



Visit of the Governor General's Canadian Leadership Conference to Taylor House

Photos of events

Art Crawl location at Taylor House during the Arctic Arts Summit



Riding a bike in the Canada Day Parade

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Yukon's Big Squeeze lemonade stand event



Photos of events



Annual Conference of the Governor General, Lieutenant Governors and Territorial Commissioners in St. John's

Discovery Day Parade in Dawson City



Dedication of the Jim Smith Building

Photos of events



First Nations Graduation



Installation of the University of Yukon's President



McHappy Day

Queen Elizabeth II's Platinum Jubilee

To celebrate Queen Elizabeth II's 70 years on the throne, the Office of the Commissioner organized school visits to Carcross and Carmacks, a presentation in Mayo, a Platinum Jubilee Celebration at the Dawson City Museum and a Garden Party at the Commissioner's Residence in Dawson.



Commissioner Angélique Bernard, Marc Tremblay, Aide-de-Camp, in front of the Platinum cake



Hän Singers at the Commissioner's Residence in Dawson

Jubilee Reconciliation Garden

In June 2022, a Jubilee Reconciliation Garden was unveiled in partnership with the Kwanlin Dün First Nation and Ta'an Kwäch'än Council. This was part of a national initiative to celebrate the Platinum Jubilee of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, with each lieutenant governor and territorial commissioner leading the establishment of a garden in their own jurisdiction.



Debbie Burns, Chief Amanda Leas and
Commissioner Angélique Bernard

Visit of the Governor General

In June 2022, the Commissioner of Yukon welcomed Their Excellencies the Right Honourable Mary Simon, Governor General of Canada, and Whit Fraser for their first official visit to the Yukon. She hosted the couple at Taylor House before going to Carcross to meet with members from the Carcross/Tagish First Nation. Her Excellency also presented the Meritorious Service Decoration, in the civil division to Andrew Connors and the Sovereign's Medal for Volunteers to Terence Grabowski.



Whit Fraser, Governor General Mary Simon
and Commissioner Angélique Bernard



Terence Grabowski, Commissioner
Angélique Bernard and Andrew Connors

Asian Heritage Month

In May 2022, the Commissioner of Yukon organized an event in collaboration with the US Consul General in Vancouver, D. Brent Hardt, to celebrate Canadian Asian Heritage Month and Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month. They welcomed the Alaskan acapella trio Pipeline Vocal Project (PVP).



Pipeline Vocal Project (PVP)

Duke of Ed Award 60th anniversary in Vancouver

In April 2023, the Commissioner of Yukon participated in the 60th anniversary celebrations of The Duke of Edinburgh's Award in Vancouver. The guest of honour was His Royal Highness Prince Edward, recently named Duke of Edinburgh. There was a variety of events during those two days, including donor engagement dinners, events with award holders, leaders and volunteers and a non-formal education summit.



Commissioner Angélique Bernard and the Duke of Edinburgh



The Duke of Edinburgh at York House School



Arctic Winter Games

From January 29 to February 4, 2023, the Commissioner of Yukon participated in the Arctic Winter Games in Fort McMurray Alberta. She took part in the opening and closing ceremonies, handed out ulus (medals) in cross-country skiing and snowshoeing, attended the cultural gala and cheered on athletes from Team Yukon in different sports.



AWG Mascot



The three Northern Commissioners



Passing of Queen Elizabeth II

In September 2022, we commemorated the life of Queen Elizabeth II. For the occasion, the Commissioner of Yukon took part in a commemorative ceremony viewing from Ottawa, laid a wreath in memory of the Queen at an event organized by the Whitehorse Legion and invited the population to gather for a commemorative walk along the Yukon River.



Laying of the wreath



Gathering after the commemorative walk



Coronation of King Charles III

In May 2023, the Commissioner of Yukon organized an open house to celebrate the Coronation of King Charles III. Yukoners were invited to come to Taylor House for tea and sweets, receive the Coronation pin and view the exhibition on the Royal Family in the Yukon.



A royal fan



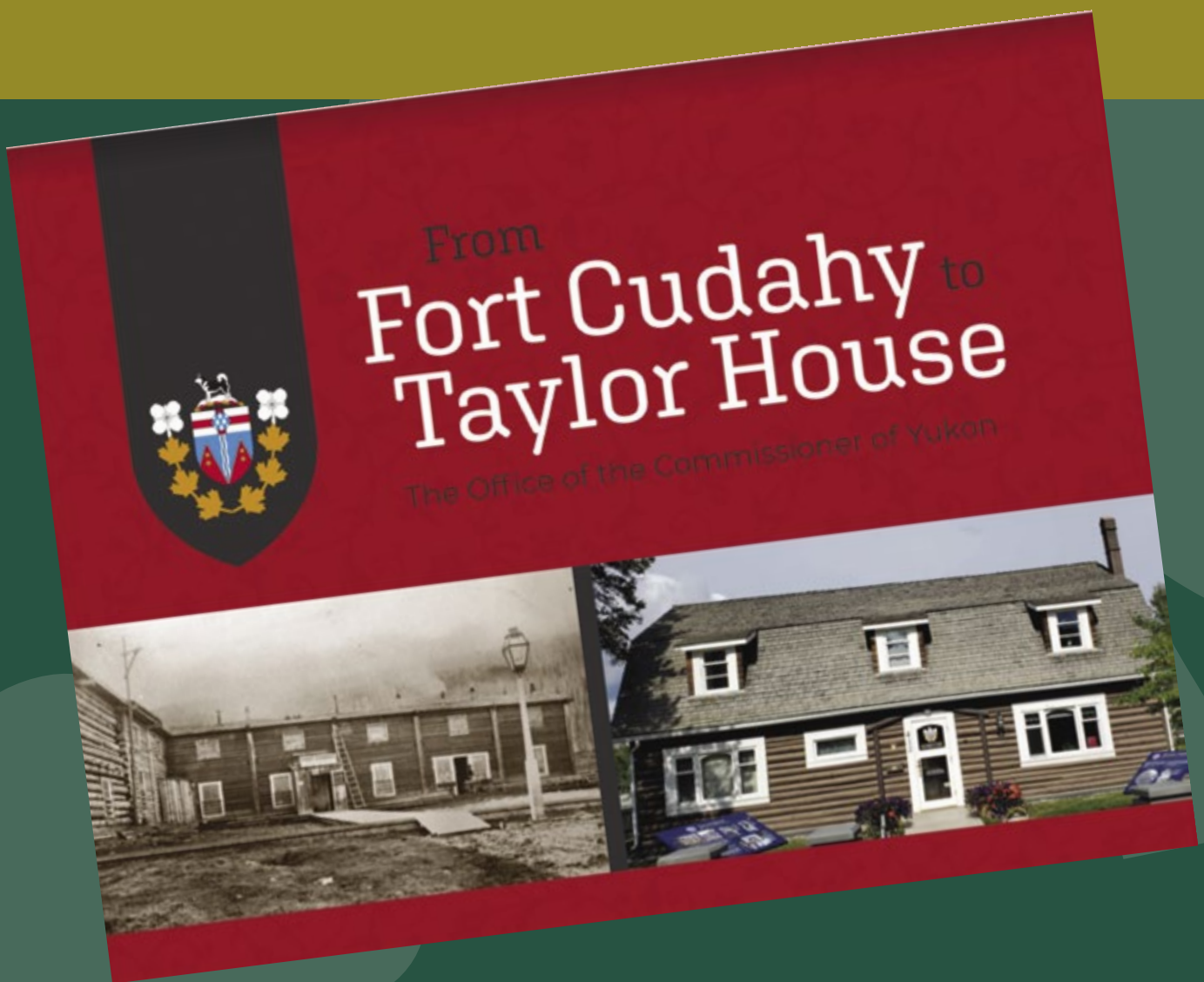
Coronation flag



Coronation pin

History Book

To commemorate the 125th anniversary of the Yukon joining the Canadian Confederation, the Commissioner of Yukon created a book on the history of the Office of the Commissioner of Yukon. The book presents the biographies and pictures of the 36 commissioners and Victoria Faulkner, describes the various offices occupied by the commissioners, talks about the Commissioner's Residences in Dawson and Whitehorse, presents the honours, awards and programs and the symbols of the office and recounts the royal tours in the Yukon.



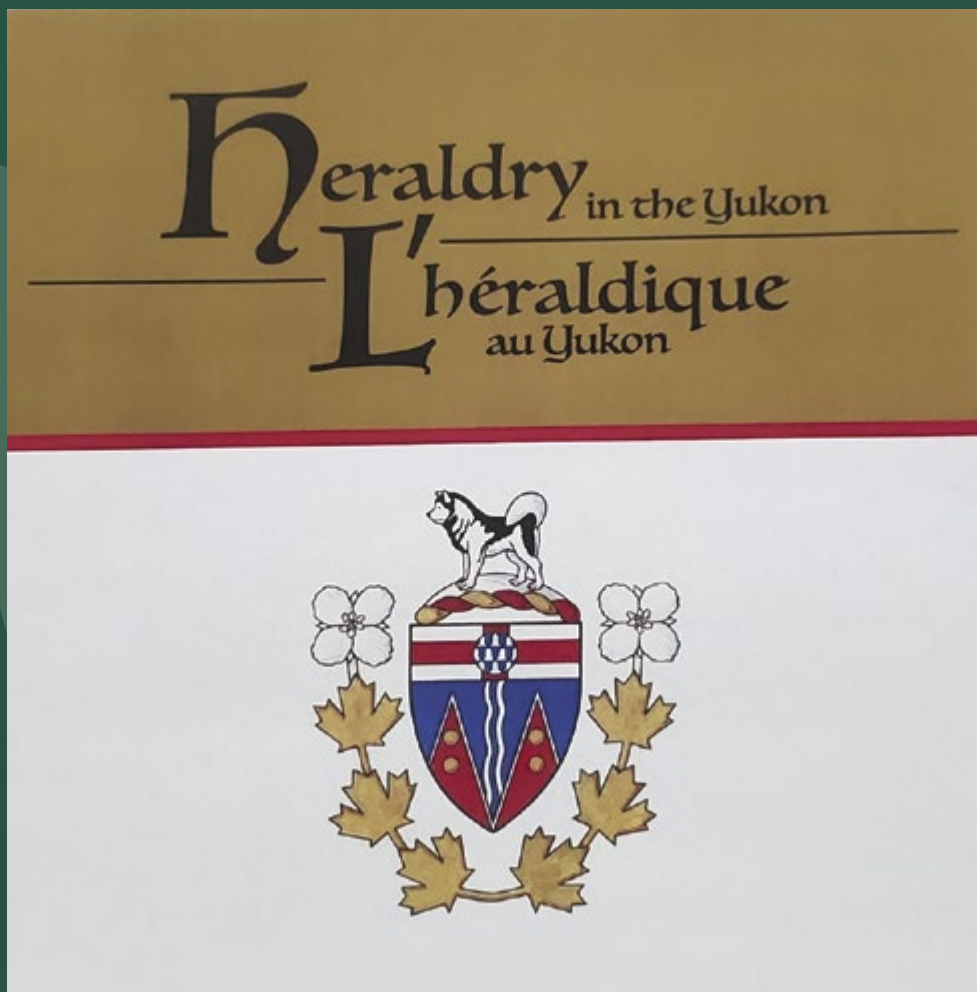
Deck of cards

To commemorate the 125th anniversary of the Yukon joining the Canadian Confederation, the Commissioner of Yukon created a deck of cards with pictures of the commissioners and Victoria Faulkner, the Commissioner's Residences, and the symbols of the office.



Booklet on Heraldry in the Yukon

To commemorate the 125th anniversary of the Yukon joining the Canadian Confederation and the 35th anniversary of the Canadian Heraldic Authority, the Commissioner of Yukon created a booklet on heraldry. It contains coats of arms, badges and emblems of former commissioners, individuals, and groups in the Yukon and explains the creation process of a coat of arms.



Francophone presence exhibition

To commemorate the 125th anniversary of the Yukon joining the Canadian Confederation, the Commissioner of Yukon collaborated with the Société d'histoire francophone du Yukon (Yukon Francophone Historical Society) to organize an exhibition on the Francophone presence in the Yukon. The launch took place on May 11, 2023. This exhibition was part of the new funding program for the Yukon Francophonie Day that the Commissioner created in February 2023.



Commissioner Angélique Bernard with Sylvie Binette, Édith Babin and Yann Herry, members of the Yukon Francophone Historical Society



Exhibition Wall

2022 Order of Yukon Inductees

Congratulations to Murray Lundberg, Jeanne Beaudoin and Danny Joe, the 2022 Inductees into the Order of Yukon.



Danny Joe



Murray Lundberg



Jeanne Beaudoin

Public Volunteer Service Award and Bravery Award

Congratulations to Donna Clayson for receiving the Public Volunteer Service Award and to Sébastien Bernier for receiving the Bravery Award.



Donna Clayson



Sébastien Bernier

