

# Nisutlin Bay Bridge Update November 2021

A big thank you to everyone who joined us at our Nisutlin Bay Bridge Open House in October. During the event, we had a lot of conversations about the project and heard many great questions.



## Common questions we heard

### Why do we need a new bridge?

The current bridge is at the end of its life. Routine repairs and maintenance aren't enough to keep the bridge safe, long term.

We are concerned about:

- > high water;
- > earthquake activity; and
- > more traffic.

### What will the new bridge look like?

The new bridge will be 483 metres long and have:

- > two lanes for cars and trucks;
- > a wide shoulder for bikes;
- > a lit pathway on the bridge; and
- > a walkway under the bridge.

The bridge will be paved and can be used by heavy and overweight truck traffic.

### What's the difference between the pathway and walkway?

The lit pathway on the bridge is for foot and wheelchair traffic. It will have a safety railing to protect pathway users from traffic and will be wide enough to be plowed in the winter.

The walkway under the bridge will be a safe way for people to walk or snowmobile beneath the highway.

### How long will construction take?

Construction will begin in spring 2022, and should be finished by 2025, including demolition of the existing bridge.

### What will construction look like?

The current bridge will be open during construction.

Typically, construction in the summer will begin at 7 a.m. and end by 7 p.m. each day. Residents may notice some noise related to pile driving.

### Will crews working on the bridge live in Teslin?

Yes, 20-45 workers will be living in a construction camp near Teslin. Local people and businesses will be hired when possible by the successful contractor.

### Will the marina be open during construction?

Yes, the marina will be open and accessible during construction.

### How will fish and wildlife habitat be protected with this project?

Impacts to wildlife and their habitats are expected to be minimal. This summer, a team collected data about fish, wildlife and their habitats in the project area. The studies helped us develop a fish offsetting plan to create, improve and restore fish habitat affected by construction.

The project is being reviewed under the Yukon Environmental and Social Economic Assessment Board (YESAB), which will recommend steps to protect wildlife. The Government of Yukon will also monitor the fish habitat offsetting measures at 1, 2, 3, 5 and 10 years after construction.

### How will the history of the current bridge be honoured?

The Government of Yukon will work with the Teslin Tlingit Council and Village of Teslin to preserve the legacy of the bridge.

### Will there be an opportunity for Teslin artists to participate in the project?

Yes, the Government of Yukon is working with the Teslin Tlingit Council to create cultural elements, design and artwork for the bridge. Stay tuned for more details!

## Lifespan of bridges in the Yukon

The average lifespan of a bridge in the Yukon is **75 years**.

The current Nisutlin Bay Bridge was built in **1953, 68 years ago**.



## Questions? Contact:

Krysten Johnson: [krysten.johnson@yukon.ca](mailto:krysten.johnson@yukon.ca) or  
 Marianne Morris: [Marianne.Morris@ttc-teslin.com](mailto:Marianne.Morris@ttc-teslin.com)