

# FOCUSED ON FARO

JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2025



On January 4, 2025, Former Faroite Rudy Couture, was one of 3 people to receive the Order of Yukon from Commissioner Adeline Webber. Rudy has a long history of service in the Yukon, dating back to the early 1970s when he and his late wife Janet first came to Faro as the municipal administrator. Rudy helped Janet design the Yukon Tartan. *Congratulations, Rudy!*

## Council Meeting

Council Chamber is open to the public. The next regular meetings are:

February 4, 2025  
February 18, 2025  
March 4, 2025

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

zoom

# MAYORS' MESSAGE

by Mayor Jack Bowers

We Faro old timers were thrilled to hear of Rudy Couture's being awarded The Order of Yukon award on January 4th, 2025. Rudy is our own Glenda Power's father and former CAO for the Town of Faro dating back to the 1970's and 1980's. When our family arrived in Faro in the summer of 1980, it was a much different community. We were busting at the seams; construction of the new subdivisions was underway and major upgrades to our infrastructure were being completed. At that time the Town even had our own engineer, Robert Cotterel, rather than leave managing the growth to others. Rudy's steady hand on managing the growth and managing the Town's affairs was evident to all. We were so fortunate to have had him as our CAO.

As we carry on the good work of managing the Town's business, we are aware of the challenges facing us. This years' budget deliberations will be even more of a challenge than last year. We are working on a new updated Water and Sewer Bylaw, finalizing our Zoning Bylaw, developing this Council's own 5-year Strategic Plan and a host of other tasks needing our attention.

We ask that you be a part of the process. Your input during the public discussion portions of our budget deliberations will be appreciated as we will be faced with making tough decisions on our ability to manage deficit spending versus a reduction in services or an increase in taxes. We, as a Council, are prepared to make those tough decisions, but your input will be appreciated.



## YUKON ARCTIC ULTRA

is the world's coldest & toughest ultra!

It starts in Teslin, travels up the Canol, and ends in Faro, Yukon. The world's coldest and toughest ultra. 430 miles of snow, ice, temperatures as low as -40°C and relentless wilderness, the YUA is an incredible undertaking. The Montane® Yukon Arctic Ultra follows the Yukon Quest trail, the trail of the world's toughest Sled Dog Race. Where dog teams once slid and scrambled now human power chases up the trail. Greet the finishers at the Rec Centre.



*The Order of the Yukon medal and lapel pin were presented to former Faro resident Rudy Couture on January 4th in a ceremony in Whitehorse.*

# OFFICE & ADMINISTRATION NEWS

## MESSAGE FROM THE CAO

LARRY BARAN

### Wow! 2025 Already!

On one hand it is hard to believe another year has passed, but it is even more of a mind-bender to realize we have almost completed the first quarter of another century!

And, while many of us will be remembering to write '2025' instead of '2024', Council & Administration will be working to develop an Operating Budget for 2025, as well as a Capital Budget for 2025-2028.

This will be another difficult annual exercise because, while most of our costs have gone up significantly over the last few years (as residents have also experienced on a personal level), government funding transfers to Faro haven't kept the same pace. This will make developing balanced budgets even harder this year and moving forward into the future.

Council understands that developing an operating budget is more than just about dollars; it is about the delivery of services. When Council reduces budgets, that directly translates to a reduction of services. Everything costs. It is as simple as that.

And, while budgets will be capturing Council's attention the next few weeks, there are other things that the Community will be involved with. For the first time, Faro will be a station on the 2025 Yukon Quest dogsled race, and the end point for the Yukon Arctic Ultra athletes' race. During those events, we'll have TV and news crews here, as well as LOTS of visitors. What was normally the quiet, slow month of February will now become a busy time for Council, staff, local businesses and residents.

## Yukon Government Contact Information



**Stacey Hassard**

MLA for Pelly-Nisutlin  
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**Ranj Pillai**

Premier

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Fax: 867-393-7135



**Kate White**

Leader of the Third Party (NDP)

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Phone: 867-393-7001  
Fax: 867-393-6499

## Ultra-Lite Crash Response from Alaska

On Sunday, January 26th, an ultra-light plane crashed in Yukon bush near Faro. An Alaska Air National Guard rescue crews were called by the Joint Rescue Coordination Centre in Victoria, responding with a C-130 Hercules and a Pave Hawk Helicopter.

After rescuing the two injured people aboard the small aircraft, and bringing them to the Health Centre, it was discovered that the helicopter suffered rotor damage during the process. It needed repairs, but the weather was getting colder. The solution? Faro Public Works Foreman Adam Minder and Mechanic Chris Bourassa responded by providing a portable heater & a parachute to cover the helicopter so the crew could work on it at the Faro Airport. The crew then called upon the Faro PW Dept to assist with a loader to assist in replacing the rotors on scene.

Even though the copter crew was delayed in Faro for a few days, they maintained a friendly attitude, meeting and greeting a range of community visitors who wanted to view the helicopter or extend appreciation for the rescue. Whether it was a handshake with the Mayor, or plopping an excited young visitor in the pilot seat, they were pleasant & engaging.

Operations Manager Paul Medvid noted, the rescue crew were quick to respond when members of our community needed help, so he was happy that Chris & Adam could demonstrate that Faro was there when they need help, too.



BTW: Adam had just returned from a 12 day long exercise with the Rangers, & has been assisting with confirming the safety of the Dena Cho Trail & the North Canal for the Yukon Quest and the Yukon Arctic Ultra.

**Faro supports our Rangers!**



# RECREATION & EVENTS

## MESSAGE FROM THE REC. MANAGER

Tina Freake

I hope this message finds you in good health and high spirits. I'd like to take this opportunity to provide you with an update on the plans and activities we have in store for the community during February.

At the beginning of the month we have the **Yukon Quest** dog sled race coming through Faro. As you may already know, the Yukon Quest has changed the trail for this year, with the race starting in Teslin, going through Johnsons Crossing, up the South Canol to Ross River, then following the Dena Cho Trail and Blind Creek Road into Faro. We are excited to welcome the race organizers, volunteers and mushers into our community this year!

They are expected to start arriving late into night on Monday, February 3<sup>rd</sup> and throughout the next day, Tuesday, February 4<sup>th</sup>. We encourage you to track the mushers along on the trail; tracking is provided on the Yukon Quest's website. Once mushers get close to Faro, come on down to cheer them on and welcome them to Faro! On Tuesday, February 4<sup>th</sup> we will have extended hours at the Rec Centre, from 8 am until 9pm; we encourage locals to come down and be a part of the event.

The **Arctic Ultra** will follow the same trail as the Yukon Quest, with both the 340 km race as well as the 640 km race both finishing in Faro. This race has 10 athletes participating in the 340 km race and 36 athletes participating in the 640 km race. Not all will make it to Faro, but fingers crossed, if the trail is good and the weather isn't too extreme we are hoping that many will. We encourage you to track the athletes live, and come on down to the finish line to cheer them on as they complete the toughest ultra race in the world!

Looking ahead in February, we have our regularly scheduled weekly programming - check out the schedule and stop by to try out a new program or sport! **Seniors' Fitness and Yoga** with Cyndy Bekk resumes on Friday, January 31. If you haven't been to a class yet, stop by to check it out! It's a good time of the year to get out of the house, get moving and get in some social time. Our weekly recreation schedule has something for everyone, come and try out **Senior's Carpet Bowling, Archery**, or any of the programs that piques your interest. A new program we are offering is adult basketball on Wednesday evenings at 7pm, come on out for a friendly game!

Parsons is also hosting an adult sports evening every Thursday from 7-9 pm at the Rec Centre gymnasium. They have invited community members to come and participate with them; volleyball, basketball, badminton, and other sports can be selected to play.

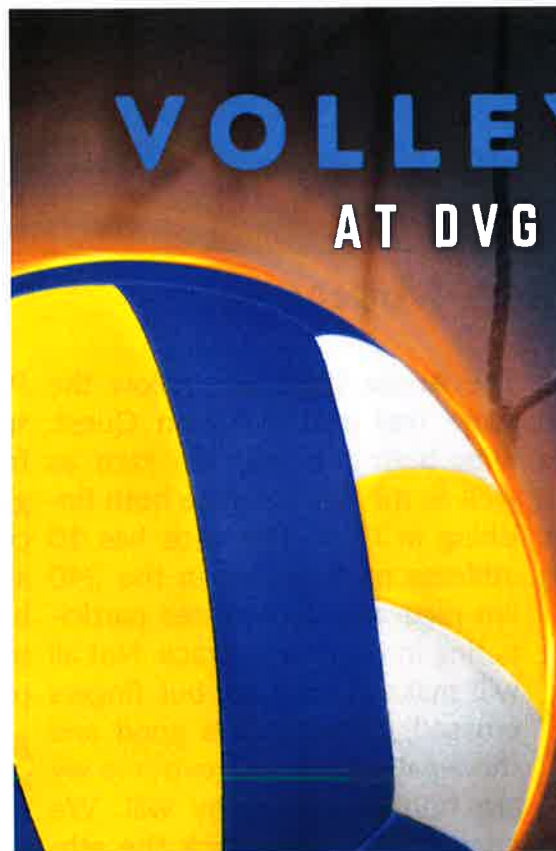
A planning meeting will be held with the **Faro Youth Group** on Wednesday, February 5<sup>th</sup> at 3:30 pm at the Rec Centre. We will be discussing the Ice Worm Squirm, Kettle Café, and planning events for the next couple of months. If you have any questions about Youth Group please call or e-mail Morgan at 867-994-2375 or [rec-programs@faroyukon.ca](mailto:rec-programs@faroyukon.ca).

Our Arena schedule is in full swing with something for everyone. Check out our schedule and come by for a game of hockey or a casual skate on the ice during public skate time. **Adult Rec Hockey** is going very well this year with great attendance! Drop by Mondays or Thursday evenings to play!

Please note, a friendly reminder that Friday, February 21<sup>st</sup> is Heritage Day. The Rec Centre and Arena will be closed on in recognition of this holiday.

Mark your calendars! The **Annual Ice Worm Squirm Winter Extravaganza** is set for Friday, February 28<sup>th</sup> and Saturday, March 1<sup>st</sup>. We are working on a fun and exciting schedule, watch for posters and flyers to be released in February! If you have any questions, would like to volunteer, or add an event to our schedule, please reach out to Morgan.

Thank you for your continued support and dedication to making our community a vibrant and thriving place to live. If you have any questions or suggestions, please do not hesitate to reach out to me or my team at the Rec Centre or Arena.



# VOLLEYBALL

## AT DVG SCHOOL GYM

FREE DROP IN  
VOLLEYBALL WILL RUN  
JAN 28 - MARCH 4

RUNS FROM  
**7 - 8:30PM**

FOR MORE INFORMATION  
TRACI MORGAN (780) 646-0407

**TRY**  
**RUGBY**  
SESSIONS


**COME TRY RUGBY!  
ONE OF THE YUKON'S FASTEST  
GROWING SPORTS!**

The Yukon Rugby Federation has provided equipment and funding to help introduce rugby in rural communities. Join us for adult and youth sessions at the Rec Centre in the coming months. No experience required.

DATES TBD | FARO REC CENTRE




CONTACT MORGAN MANUEL FOR  
MORE INFORMATION (902) 717-2375  
M.MANUEL@MUN.CA

The Town of Faro, New Youth Investment Fund & Dennis Shorty Arts presents...


## DRUM MAKING WORKSHOP

for Faro & Ross River Youth

WEDNESDAY, FEB 26TH  
ROSS RIVER  
MARGARET THOMPSON CENTRE  
DINNER PROVIDED

Join talented Kaska artist Dennis Shorty and Jenny Frohling for a workshop on making your very own drum! Participants will get to work on and keep their creations. After this workshop, we will be scheduling a session to paint your drums.

Everyone welcome to attend, even if you already have a drum. We will have other crafts and activities for you to enjoy. Phone or email to sign-up!




Phone or email to sign up!  
Faro: recreation@faroyukon.ca | 867-994-2375  
Ross River: Dave at 867-689-8722

EXPERIENCE THE THRILL OF THE

# YUKON QUEST IN FARO

The Yukon Quest will be arriving in Faro late Monday night, February 3rd and throughout the day Tuesday, February 4th.

 February 3rd & 4th, 2025  
Feb 4th: extended hours at the Rec Centre, 8am - 9pm

 Musher arrival at the back of Faro Rec Centre, near the Arena

# 2025



TOWN OF FARO

Track the mushers live, then come down to cheer them on as they arrive in Faro! They will be coming right into Faro, via the Dena Cho Trail and Blind Creek Road, arriving behind the Rec Centre.

Please do not bring your dogs down to the race area. Make sure your dogs are on a leash at all times including when walking them.



Scan this QR code to follow the race live:



FOR LOCAL INFO:



867-994-2375



recreation@faroyukon.ca



# Rec Centre Schedule February 2025

Sunday/Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
 <b>Rec Closed Sundays &amp; Mondays</b>					<b>Open 1-6 pm</b>
<b>3</b> <b>Rec Closed Sundays &amp; Mondays</b>	<b>4</b> Playgroup 10:30 - Noon Carpet Bowling 1-3:30pm Kids Club 3:15-5 pm Archery 6-8 pm Floor Hockey 7-9 pm	<b>5</b> Seniors Fitness 2pm Basketball 7-9pm Youth Group Meeting 7pm	<b>6</b> Playgroup 10:30 - Noon Carpet Bowling 1-3:30pm Kids Club 3:15-5 pm Parsons Sports Night 7-9 pm	<b>7</b> Seniors Fitness 2pm	<b>8</b> <b>Open 1-6 pm</b>
<b>10</b> <b>Arctic Ultra in Faro</b>	<b>11</b> Playgroup 10:30 - Noon Carpet Bowling 1-3:30pm Kids Club 3:15-5 pm Archery 6-8 pm Floor Hockey 7-9 pm	<b>12</b> Seniors Fitness 2pm Basketball 7-9pm	<b>13</b> Playgroup 10:30 - Noon Carpet Bowling 1-3:30pm Kids Club 3:15-5 pm Parsons Sports Night 7-9 pm	<b>14</b> Seniors Fitness 2pm	<b>15</b> <b>Open 1-6 pm</b>
<b>17</b> <b>Arctic Ultra in Faro</b>	<b>18</b> Playgroup 10:30 - Noon Carpet Bowling 1-3:30pm Kids Club 3:15-5 pm Archery 6-8 pm Floor Hockey 7-9 pm	<b>19</b> Seniors Fitness 2pm Basketball 7-9pm	<b>20</b> Playgroup 10:30 - Noon Carpet Bowling 1-3:30pm Kids Club 3:15-5 pm Parsons Sports Night 7-9 pm	<b>21</b> <b>Heritage Day Rec &amp; Arena Closed</b>	<b>22</b> <b>Open 1-6 pm</b>
<b>24</b>	<b>25</b> Playgroup 10:30 - Noon Carpet Bowling 1-3:30pm Kids Club 3:15-5 pm Archery 6-8 pm Floor Hockey 7-9 pm	<b>26</b> Seniors Fitness 2pm Basketball 7-9pm	<b>27</b> Playgroup 10:30 - Noon Carpet Bowling 1-3:30pm Kids Club 3:15-5 pm Parsons Sports Night 7-9 pm	<b>28</b> Ice Worm Squirm Seniors Fitness 2pm	<b>Ice Worm Squirm</b>



TOWN OF FARO

# ARENA SCHEDULE

# 2025

**MONDAY**  
Adult Hockey  
7:30 - 10 pm



**TUESDAY**  
Public Skate  
3:30 - 5:30 pm



**WEDNESDAY**  
Closed



**THURSDAY**  
Public Skate  
3:30 - 5:30 pm  
Adult Hockey  
7:30 - 10 pm

Public Skate  
3:30 - 5:30 pm  
Pucks & Sticks  
5:30 - 7 pm

**FRIDAY**  
Public Skate  
3:30 - 5:30 pm

Public Skate  
3:30 - 5:30 pm  
Pucks & Sticks  
5:30 - 7 pm

**SATURDAY**  
Public Skate  
3:30 - 5:30 pm



# ARENA FEES

**Minor Hockey** is looking for community volunteers and coaches to be able to run their youth hockey program.

If you are interested in helping out, please contact the Rec Centre with your contact information.

**3 & Under: Free**  
Child: 4-11  
Youth: 12-18  
Adult: 19-59  
Senior: 60+

**DROP-IN RATES**  
Child \$4.00  
Youth \$5.00  
Adult \$6.00  
Senior \$5.00  
Family \$15.00

**SEASON PASSES**  
Child \$84.00  
Youth \$108.00  
Adult \$132.00  
Senior \$108.00  
Family \$216.00

The arena is also available to rent for private groups, parties and corporate events. Contact the Rec Centre to book at 867-994-2375 or recreation@faroyukon.ca

# Public Works

## MESSAGE FROM THE OPERATIONS MANAGER

PAUL MEDVID

**Roads/Snow Removal:** Crews have recently been hard at work puling snow from ditches and excess piles in an effort to mitigate spring melt and this will occur once more just prior to the spring melt. Reminder to please be mindful of heavy equipment completing snow removal. Give equipment operators room to work and be aware that during snow events, snow is removed in a priority sequenced manner.

We would ask that citizens try to park off of main roadways and also to avoid parking vehicles in designated snow dump areas.

**Landfill Operations:** Our 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. If it gets dropped with construction debris, it becomes an animal attractant which is something we must avoid. We're accepting hazardous household waste in a shed beside the Office. We accept this material (paint, aerosol cans etc) year-round. The crew has installed shelving into the electronic waste container which helps with sorting considerably. Please don't pile up your electronics at the door – put them on the shelves or in the bins.

**2025 Projects:** The Town of Faro has been developing a local Contractor List to assist us in upcoming projects in collaboration with Yukon Govt or with our own projects. The Town of Faro will accept applicants throughout the year. Construction of a new Animal Shelter will be starting once the engineered design is completed. We are planning to have our new electronic access gate installation completed shortly, along with the additional waste shed. This is however dependent on weather. In an effort to reduce our energy consumption and costs, we are retrofitting many of our buildings with LED lighting and looking at many other ways to conserve.

**FireSmart:** Crews had completed the 2024 FireSmart program. This work not only protects the community but increases the usability of the trail networks that many residents utilize. We have recently learned that Faro was only one of a handful of communities to fully utilize this funding, and that more funding may be available to continue this important work. We would ask the public to please be aware of the dangers of approaching any equipment or workers and maintain a safe distance for both themselves and their pets. Saturday, May 03, 2025 is Wildfire Community Preparedness Day and we plan to have a table set up that the Crane & Sheep Festival where we can discuss and further educate or inform people on wildfire safety.



**Be fire smart**  
with electricity in your home.

**Did you know?**

**45,000** home electrical fires each year.

Plug only 1 heat-producing appliance directly into a wall outlet at a time.

Never use an extension cord with a heat-producing appliance.

**The Bylaw Officer is actively  
picking up dogs at large within the Townsite**  
Please keep your pets on a leash when not on your property



To report a dog at large, during day time hours, Monday to Saturday, please call 994-2728 or 867-689-3433.

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

**LICENSE YOUR PETS**

All annual pet licenses expired on December 31, 2024. Please come to the Town Office to register your pet. If you have a lifetime pet license, make sure your pet's information is up to date.

**Dog License**

Annual, Neutered/Spayed \$15.00  
 Annual, Intact \$30.00  
 Lifetime, Neutered/Spayed \$50.00  
 Lifetime, Intact \$100.00  
 Lifetime, Special Needs n/c

**Cat License**

Lifetime, Neutered/Spayed \$10.00  
 Lifetime, Intact \$50.00

**Dangerous Animal**

Annual \$75.00

**Replacement of lost tag**

Each Tag \$5.00

*Please refer to the Animal Control and Fees and Charges bylaws for more information.*

**Property For Sale**

**Lot 258 / 605 Yates Crescent  
3 Bedroom Home with 2 Full Baths**

The Town of Faro is offering this residential property for sale with terms and conditions as noted on the Town of Faro website: [faro.ca/p/property-listings](http://faro.ca/p/property-listings)



**Landfill Hours**

Monday	Closed
Tuesday	9a.m. - 4p.m.
Wednesday	1p.m. - 4p.m.
Thursday	Collection Day (landfill closed)
Friday	9a.m. - 4p.m.
Saturday	9a.m. - 4p.m.
Sunday	Closed

The Landfill is closed all holidays.

# COMMUNITY NOTICES

## Town Closure

The Town Office, Landfill, & Rec Centre will be closed for Heritage Day

Friday February 21, 2025

## Recycling Center Information

The Faro Bottle Depot is located at the corner of McQuesten Rd and Ross Rd. On-Call hours during winter; please call 994-3022 for an appointment.



## 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

Paul Medvid  
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

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

### Finance Clerk

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

### Correspondence to Mayor & Council:

mayor.bowers@faroyukon.ca  
councillor.jones@faroyukon.ca  
councillor.michell@faroyukon.ca  
councillor.vainio@faroyukon.ca  
councillor.neil@faroyukon.ca

### The Source of official Town information and notices:

www.faro.ca  
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.



### Questions for the Del Van Gorder School?

Call 867-994-2760

You can contact the school during business hours with any concerns or questions.

