

Carcross Heritage Management Plan Questionnaire- Summary Report



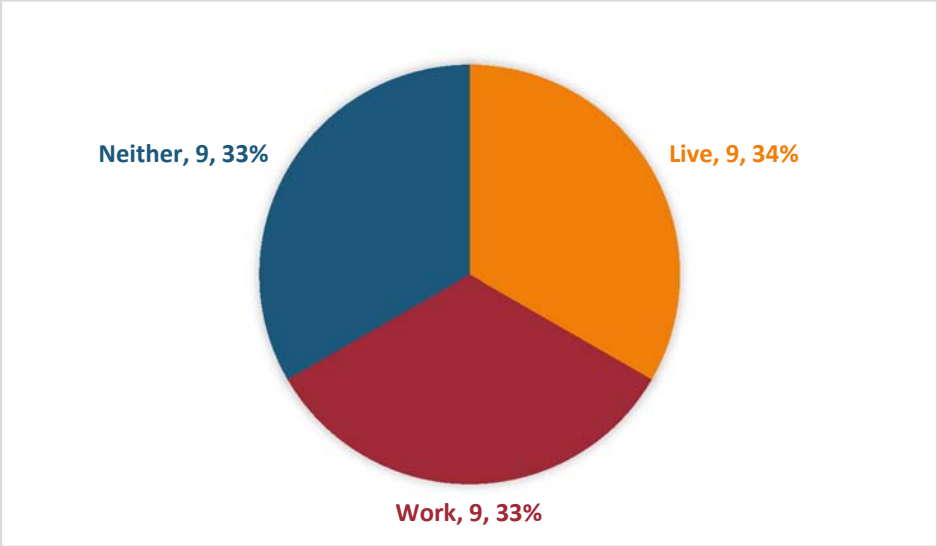
The Carcross Heritage Management Plan Questionnaire was developed by Yukon Government, Historic Sites Unit and Inukshuk Planning & Development with input from the Heritage Management Plan Working Group. The questionnaires were mailed to all post office boxes in Carcross and Tagish and were mailed to Carcross property owners living in Whitehorse and Skagway. The questionnaire was also posted online at www.yukonheritage.com/heritage-plans/carcross.

Historic Sites staff attended one seniors' breakfast in Carcross to assist elders in the community that might require assistance in completing the questionnaire.

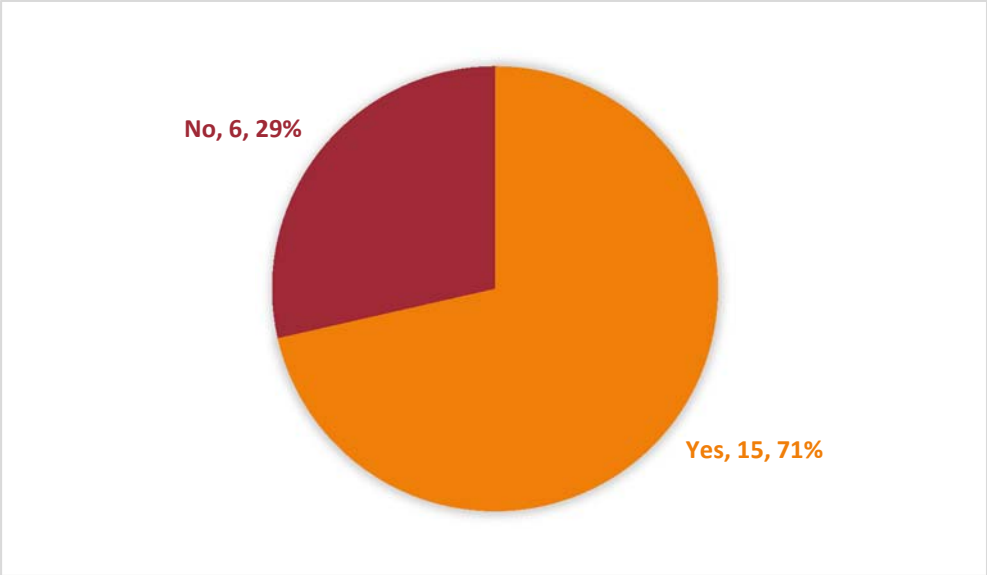
The questionnaire ran from May 27 – June 12, 2015. Twenty one completed questionnaires were returned (13 paper copies were mailed in, 5 were completed online and 3 were collected at the seniors' breakfast). The results of the questionnaire are reported below.

July 2015
Historic Sites Unit
Government of Yukon

1 DO YOU LIVE OR WORK IN CARCROSS? (SELECT ALL THAT APPLY)



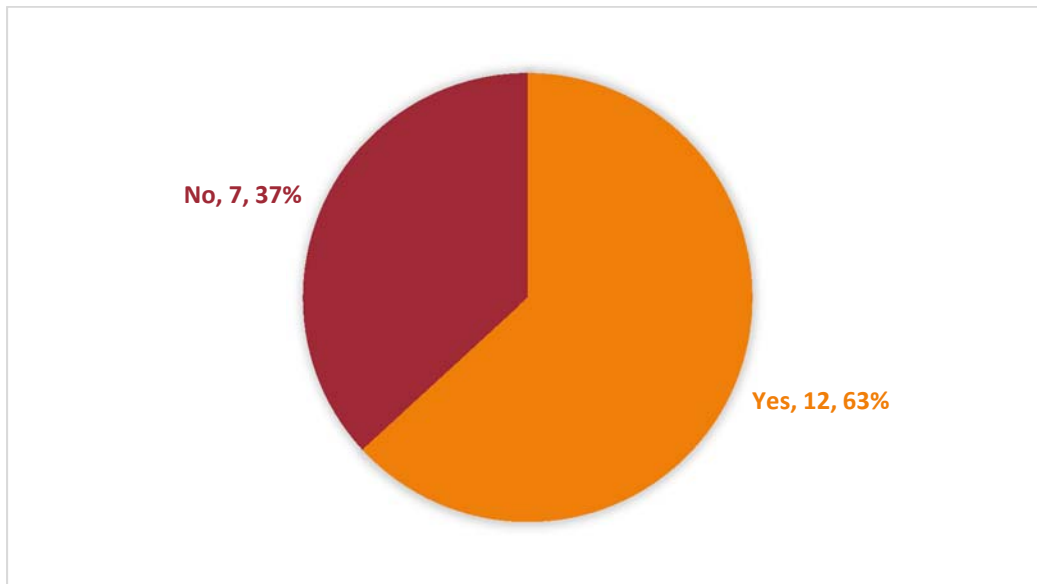
2 ARE YOU A PROPERTY OWNER IN CARCROSS?



3 WHAT DO YOU LIKE BEST ABOUT CARCROSS?

- World-class outdoor recreation
- small community, quiet peaceful
- The character of the community. It is small, varied and interesting. The views to the lakes and the mountains are spectacular.
- people-history-land
- The surrounding scenery. Access to Montana Mtn. *Note that this respondent wrote that they live in Carcross during the "summer months."
- The sense of history that used to be there.
- Historic buildings, beach, mountains.
- What I love best about Carcross: Location, location, location. Beautiful scenery - mountains, lakes, beach, forests, trails Rich Cultural history Sharing our culture with so many - tourist destination or stop over Carcross represents the "North" Unique Fusion of past and present Multi-generational connections - many people who have lived or are living in Carcross remain close Shared passages -Traditional Way of Life still evident, Contact with outside world, Gold Rush, Train, Mining Ventures, Tourism, Second World War, Residential School, Recreation, Interaction with natural environment, Preservation of history. *note that respondent wrote that they live "part time" in Carcross
- Beach, lake
- History - ie. train. but Tagish was the main base. -(years ago) Camp of Bennett lake, (meat camp) –Tourism
- It is my home. I like the beauty, quietness, and I only have to walk 5 mins and get away from it all.
- The beauty of the area. The peace and quietness.
- History – beauty. My roots are there!
- The physical environment - views of Bennett, the beach.
- Everything
- The natural beauty and its rich history.
- Everything
- mountain biking, kiting, kayaking, fishing, camping and spending time at my cabin
- natural beauty, geographic setting; quaint historic, eclectic small town feel; cross cultural, working class demographic; historic crossroads and transportation hub
- The viewsapes and water features

4 HAS THE HERITAGE OF CARCROSS CONTRIBUTED TO YOUR CHOICE TO LIVE OR WORK HERE?



4.1 IF YES, HOW?

- Quiet, peaceful
- In my early years in the territory (1969 +) -so, it must have worked on my subconscious when I chose the Tagish-Carcross area
- Moved to Carcross after visited. Loved the Gold Rush era feel.
- Yes it has, my family has deep roots here. My Grand Parents lived most of their lives contributing in many ways to Carcross. My family has always had a home(s) in Carcross. We are part of the heritage. Our relationship with all residents has been maintained through five generations. The appreciation for the First Peoples history including the exploitation and suppression and recent revitalization of many cultural traditions is part of that heritage. Building relationships based on mutual respect for the people, and the history is very important. Moving ahead and acknowledging what has gone before is critical in developing a healthy future.
- Main place for working retired now. Live in Tagish.
- As I don't live there full time anymore this does not apply to me. I spend as much time here as I can, having a cabin I and my family use year round. The heritage of Carcross has contributed to this choice.
- My heritage is deeply rooted in Carcross.
- Matriarchal society, my Mother's Tribe is here, born to it.
- drive on paved road from Whitehorse to cabin within 1 hour for under \$50,000 in 1999

- See above {Q3: natural beauty, geographic setting; quaint historic, eclectic small town feel; cross cultural, working class demographic; historic crossroads and transportation hub}
- We only use our place as a rental but we do visit periodically. The heritage of Carcross is a major feature of our interest in having an attachment there.

5 AS THE COMMUNITY CHANGES OVER TIME, WHAT ASPECTS OF ITS HERITAGE DO YOU THINK SHOULD STAY THE SAME?

- I'd like to see the core of the community retain its historic character. People who are building businesses or homes within this area (which includes me) should have some design guidelines. Efforts should be made to retain and enhance the current historic structures and blend in new development. The historic areas associated with the Windy Arm silver mines are amazing and could use some care and attention. I spend a lot of time visiting them.
- Gold Rush kept up
- The ability to have mostly unobstructed views to the mountains, lakes, rivers and heritage buildings.
- Everything
- Well... The new tourist traps area eyesore - if this is progress, I don't like it. because it takes away from what visitors really want to see - the old stuff - history in other words
- Any existing building fixed in Gold Rush era style.
- It is critical to preserve the aspects of history that were "good" for the original residents of Carcross. In my opinion some of those are: -First Nations traditional sacred areas be preserved -The natural beauty of the area -the original buildings - both commercial (Depot, Hotel, Bridge, Post Office, Store and the Duchess) and the remaining residential buildings from the turn of the century.
- Access to First Nation activities like last years' totem pole raising was amazing for all community members.
- History - SJ house -Building from early days
- All of it.
- The older cabins. The Anglican Church, and catholic churches. The caribou hotel and the post office. Matthew Watson General Store and the Railroad Station.
- The "world" would benefit from keeping what remains of the heritage buildings and discontinuing any further use of vinyl.
- Historic buildings & bridges. Undeveloped beach and beach front properties.
- The basic values that have endured through economic changes. We need to continue to find ways to express the intangibles of our heritage, for the community. It is the preservation of the tangibles that draws the visitors. We need to find a balance with these two. Let's be cautious with the "selling of our heritage" in the form of

inappropriate buildings etc. that are really meant to draw in visitors rather than be first and foremost a true expression of our heritage and its values.

- Natural Beauty, small town feel, old building style (refurbish), culture.
- It is nice to see some of the old cabins; but land owners should be able to take down old cabins and rebuild with the ability to donate the logs to a heritage society
- Historic downtown core, Duchess Park; heritage areas along Bennett Ave, Airport, WP&YR History, Venus and Montana Mining History, Bennett Waterfront Green Belt.
- The area is bi-cultural. Generally we have observed that Caucasians value the gold rush heritage while the First Nation's value their own settlement history. Both avenues should be preserved.

6 IF YOU COULD PRESERVE ONE BUILDING, ONE PUBLIC SPACE OR ONE VIEW, WHAT WOULD IT BE?

- Mountain Hero stone houses and tramway
- Train Station
- the CTFN cabins
- not sure
- The little house + outhouse near the viewing deck. It's deteriorating.
- It is all gone already! Too bad the ones in "in charge" are modern city people. Who despite good intentions have no idea what the Yukon really was.
- One? Post office, Caribou Hotel, Mathew Watson store etc. The beach!
- I would love to see sacred spaces identified, preserved and cared for firstly. Then I would like to see preservation of all buildings that were built at first contact.
- Carcross community church
- Auston Street at (end of lake), Hotel, Matthew Watson store, Depot (history)
- The view when you arrive from the south on the train on the lake
- The Anglican Church - St Saviours
- The "Oulton" cabin on the water front is of course my main interest - in the interest of all the depot and village homes.
- The unobstructed view down Bennett Lake (and the 5 mountains that produced the animals of the north.)
- The Bennett Beach/ski trail area...let's hope we aren't too late
- The natural beach front, Becial sedge. Whoa, what building, would need to know specifics about all buildings in and around town!
- the little tiny old man's cabin in front of Linda Pringles right on the beach
- Community Club (Building); Bennet Dunes (behind School); Ski Trails (Public Space)
- The downtown core has to be preserved (train station, Watson's, hotel, etc.)

7 WHEN FRIENDS AND/OR FAMILY OR TOURISTS VISIT CARCROSS, WHAT PARTS OF YOUR HISTORY/CULTURE ARE YOU PREPARED TO SHARE?

- All of it
- business-buildings-history-culture-landscape
- The tourist era during the 1945-1980 -The mining story at Montana Mtn ~ 1910 -The airstrip at Carcross
- Airport. View down Bennett Lake. R-way station, and the old houses along the river.
- Carcross contribution to 1898 Gold Rush.
- I'm just a white, YG-employed Ontario transplant who lives in Whitehorse and loves coming to Carcross as much as I possibly can. ie. I am one of the outsiders who many people in Carcross seem to hate.
- I share all aspects of my history and culture. This includes the many questionable and shameful incidents that were imposed on all residents of Carcross. The camps that came with the building of the highway, the lack of environmental considerations, the residential schools, the cultural ignorance, the lack of social support and the quest for profit above all else. I also share the pride and accomplishments and the journeys of present peoples, the heartfelt connections to the land, the mountains, the air, the water, the animals.
- Cemetery
- All that I know
- All of it. I was raised in Carcross, and have owned a cabin there since 1952. My parents are both buried in the cemetery there.
- All.
- The legend of the 5 mountains that gave birth to the northern animals. (Cariboo, moose, bear, etc.)
- All of it, mostly the natural beauty, the lake, Tlingit and Tagish stories of Montana etc.
- we tell them about the history of our cabin and how it is over 100 years old
- The "Trail of '98" and White Pass route are unique and still visible, and have wide interest to tourists. The native cultural components are also visible and interesting.

8 WHAT ASPECTS OF YOUR HERITAGE ARE YOU NOT PREPARED TO SHARE?

- Not sure
- The junk yard lot near the school with old vehicle or much other scrap -The burn out paddle wheeler boat new structure. Does not match the surrounding!
- What do you mean by share?
- Nothing
- Am an open book ie. (personal trapline)
- All of it

- That that won't be appreciated or fully understood. Let's move from the glossy presentations and invite folks to join us at our campfires to hear from us.....just sayin'
- Healing ways, certain connections to nature, healing places.
- I share what I know, I do not hold back information
- Nothing
- Or translated as what aspects of heritage 'preservation' we are not proud/pleased about: 1) The recent road work in the downtown core was not aligned with 'heritage'- sidewalks and paving were not appropriately done. 2) The 'restoration' of the Tutshi did not follow the original artist's conception.

9 WHEN VISITORS COME TO VISIT YOU WHAT DO YOU SHOW THEM?

- The mountain bike and hiking trails on Montana Mountain, including all the mining history. The awesome vibe hanging around the coffee shop downtown, in the sun, talking to all my outsider friends. Bennett Beach The many photographs I've taken of the area including the buildings and historic sites
- Train Station, Hotel, view mountains
- the Caribou hotel and the beach
- The old houses across the channel. The view deck The old store
- As much as I can (everything) In time we have – Beach
- My home... inside and out. The beauty of the area in all seasons. The favorite historical sites. The opportunity to facilitate their inward journeys by being surrounded with majestic beauty, peace and pristineness. I ensure that the history of the area is respected and acknowledged.
- Beach, Carcross commons, Bike trails
- Drive around. Tagish Carcross - Bennett Lake, Rainbow Lake.
- All they have to do is look around + see it all.
- The cemetery. The two buildings still standing where I went to school. The Lake Bennett beach.
- Hospitality - the bridge as a meeting place.
- The beach, dunes, trails, ski trails, foot + railway bridges, birds (eg. swans), views of lake and mountains, mountain biking on trails, berry picking, the smallest desert, ice cream.
- The landscape. The trails. The places that meant the most to people as they made a life and living here.
- Themselves, through nature and culture.
- Mtn biking trails, the commons, kiting and fishing
- many, many favorite natural sites, ski and bike trail system; Historical sites already mentioned
- Train station, Watson's, Carcross Commons, Lake Bennett beach, desert, road to Skagway, Native village across Nares, Train arrival

10 WHAT IS THE TAKE-AWAY MEMORY YOU WOULD LIKE CARCROSS VISITORS TO REMEMBER?

- The view from down of Bennett Lake in one direction and Nares Mountain in the other, with the WP&YR route bridge in the middle. Preferably with a train crossing it.
- Quietness, mountains, etc.
- The varied history of Carcross. It is not just gold rush but WWII and the culture of the people in the area, mining history of Conrad and Montana Mountain etc.
- A busy place when the paddle wheelers were alive.
- They can't. I told you it was gone! They can only take away what the new planning overlords put up to replace what is torn down - it is different every year!
- Serenity, should not "look" like a tourist trap.
- This is a very special place today and historically. We must tread softly and treat it with respect and care to ensure that future generations can also have opportunity to appreciate it.
- Lakefront
- The waterway - (used to be good clean drinking water) clean air.
- That people really do live in towns like this and are proud to do so + call it home.
- The beach. The history buried in the cemetery. Visitors that I have are interested in Arne Armonds little cabin on Bennett Ave.
- The breath taking scenery.
- That we are a vibrant community with a solid foundation. That Carcross is a genuine community with a rich and respectable past. That we are much more than a coffee stop or even a mountain with bike trails....How wonderful if those same people came to know and remember that that same mountain was a life source and not a place of recreation. That the coffee "shop" in Carcross was once the place were stories were shared and the local people came to meet. Don't want the visitors to be remembering only the quality of the latte they had on the boardwalk...just sayin'...again.
- That they were treated good, that people are friendly and hospitable here.
- mtn biking, kiting, the "old" gold rush town
- The preservation of its heritage. The unspoiled beauty (so far)

11 WHAT DO YOU HOPE TO SEE ACCOMPLISHED THROUGH THE HERITAGE MANAGEMENT PLAN?

	1 (5pts)	2 (4pts)	3 (3pts)	4 (2pts)	5 (1pt)	Total Points
Keeping the heritage of Carcross for future generations	9 (45)	1 (4)	0	3 (6)	3 (3)	58
Public awareness of community heritage	0	4 (16)	2 (6)	1 (2)	3 (3)	27
Encouraging development for local economic opportunities	1 (5)	0	0 (0)	0	0	5
Encouraging development for local economic opportunities, while preserving the heritage buildings	1 (5)	1 (4)	2 (6)	1 (2)	1 (1)	18
Financial incentives	0	0	1 (3)	0	0	3
Non-financial incentives	0	1 (4)	1 (3)	1 (2)	0	9
Technical assistance for working on historic buildings or site	1 (5)	1 (4)	1 (3)	2 (4)	0	16
Conservation of view-scapes within the planning area	2 (10)	6 (24)	1 (3)	2 (4)	0	41
Conservation of buildings and/or structures	1 (5)	0	7 (21)	4 (8)	2 (2)	36
Ensure compatible development (height, scale, massing, materials) adjacent to heritage properties only	1 (5)	1 (4)	0	2 (4)	3 (3)	16
Ensure compatible development (height, scale, massing, materials) throughout all of Carcross	1 (5)	1 (4)	3 (9)	1 (2)	2 (2)	22
Establish local heritage advisory committee	0	1 (4)	0	0	3 (3)	7
Designation of key historic sites	3 (15)	2 (8)	0	2 (4)	1 (1)	28

Note: Respondents were asked to number their top five priorities in order of preference, with one being most important and 5 being least important. The priority responses identified by the respondents were calculated and then weighted by giving 5 points to the first choice selections 4 points to the 2nd choice and so on. The totals from each option were calculated by adding all of the points. The top five priorities are highlighted in orange.

11.1 COMMENTS

- Next to "Establish local heritage advisory committee" the respondent wrote: "there is already one...with only consulting power"
- Next to 'Encouraging development for local economic opportunities, while preserving the heritage buildings' the respondent wrote "Use the buildings but don't diminish them with "economic progress" planning."
- Next to the option of "Designation of key historic sites" the respondent wrote "Identifying First Nation Sacred Places"
- Next to 'Ensure compatible development adjacent to heritage properties only' the respondent wrote "move high-rise idea out of old town"
- Next to "Establish local heritage advisory committee" the respondent wrote: "There is obviously a disconnect between what Community Services does and SKLAC- witness the paving/sidewalk work done recently. There needs to be more OVERSIGHT, not things done by the whim of uninformed engineers at CS or Highways."

12 DO YOU HAVE ANY ADDITIONAL COMMENTS OR SUGGESTIONS?

- Please pass on some of my applicable comments to the Conrad historic plan as well.
- We need a new community club for all of Carcross. Sidewalks, roads (one way) are awful!
- Keep the airstrip as a historic site. Money for local economy does not seem to provide more work for the First Nation. The bike trail is an exception.
- Upgrade the airstrip and advertise it to pilots & clubs. Why upgrade? some insurance companies don't insure for landing in dirt strips - use airport as if it were a mile of road leading into town - but don't go nuts with the restrictions, guard dog mentality or swat teams to "police" the strip - just improve the landing area, that all!! no, thanks for yours.
- Historic buildings should be saved.
- I would love to see Carcross have the same sort of guidelines that Dawson has for preserving the essence of the history that created the town. I would love to see Carcross reflect the Local First Nation and the style of the buildings of the era of Gold Rush.
- Carcross is a very divided community with First Nations and non-First Nations groups being hostile to each other rather than working together for the benefit of all.
- Clean water & air priority of future generations & animals; gardening with no chemicals.
- Keep as much historical building as possible Carcross is a focal point for Yukon's history.
- Thank you for your efforts! I sincerely hope Carcross can become more than the coffee shop! I am concerned (very) of the loss of the heritage and the damage it is doing to the culture.
- Development of art scene - retail and production.
- Don't rush this process. This is a critical time of development for the wrong reasons in Carcross and the integrity of our heritage etc is being jeopardized. Give this the time it needs.
- Interpretation should reflect native languages of the area, and native presence throughout the area. CTFN we have many sites to work at!

