

***1995/96 ANNUAL REPORT***

***OF THE***

***YUKON GEOGRAPHICAL  
PLACE NAMES BOARD***

# YUKON GEOGRAPHICAL PLACE NAMES BOARD

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## INTRODUCTION

The Yukon Geographical Place Names Board (YGPNB) is constituted under the Umbrella Final Agreement signed by the Council of Yukon First Nations, the Territorial Government and the Government of Canada. The Board's primary function is to consider and recommend the naming or renaming of places or features located within the Yukon with special reference to Chapter 13, Section 11 of the Umbrella Final Agreement.

## STRUCTURE

The Board is composed of six members, each appointed for a term of three years. Three members are appointed by the Yukon Government (Diane Chisholm, John Ritter, Gordon McIntyre) and three by the Council of Yukon First Nations (Daniel Tlen, Margaret Workman, Percy Henry). The Chair and Vice-Chair, elected by their fellow Board members' are Diane Chisholm and Daniel Tlen respectively.

## FUNDING

A contribution agreement with the Government of Yukon establishes the mechanism for providing funding to the Board. The amount of funding is outlined in a schedule under the Umbrella Final Agreement Implementation Plan.

## GENERAL ACTIVITIES

Initial provisions of the UFA came into force February 14, 1995 as set out in the *Yukon Land Claim Final Agreements*. The first meeting of the YGPNB constituted under the UFA was held at the end of March 1995. Initial meetings were conducted to orient Board members to their responsibilities and obligations as set out in the terms of reference under the UFA, Implementation Plan and Contribution agreement. Training was provided in the areas of place name data base familiarization and mapping systems to assist members with the technical aspects associated with the collection and use of place name information.



## 2 YUKON GEOGRAPHICAL PLACE NAMES BOARD

**D**emonstrations included the Yukon Place name data base, Southern Tutchone Place Name Project, and a training session on computer-aided mapping.

**A**dministrative support for the Board was set up in cooperation with the Yukon Heritage Resources Board, as the Implementation Plan stipulates a shared secretarial service with that Board. In the interim, until the Board hired the services of GV White Resources Ltd. to provide administrative support for its operation, those services were kindly undertaken by Heritage Branch, Department of Tourism. Separate bank account, mail box and phone line have been set up to heighten the identity of the Board and facilitate its operational efficiency.

### NAMING ACTIVITIES

**R**evision of applications for the naming of geographical features in the Yukon has been the major focus of the Board. Two approaches have been used:

- 1) Review current applications as they arrive;
- 2) Examine outstanding applications submitted over several years to determine completeness of the

applications, and decide on a course of action and priorities for reviewing them.

- ◆ Applications reviewed = 13
- ◆ Applications approved = 12
- ◆ Applications requiring additional information = 37

**O**f special interest to the Board were the consideration of applications from Bessie John reflecting Upper Tanana place names in the Beaver Creek area and applications from Charlie Peter Charlie reflecting Vuntut Gwichin place names in the Old Crow area. In each instance the elder was invited to attend the Board meeting to provide further clarification of the background, importance and meaning of the particular names under consideration and verify the spelling and pronunciation of them. Not only did these sessions provide valuable information to the Board, but they also constituted additional training for the Board. The eventual addition of these place names to the Yukon data base will increase Yukoner's knowledge and awareness of traditional names in these regions.

**S**eventy-four applications are awaiting review by the Board. Many of these require additional research to clarify accuracy of the names and background information, exact latitude and longitude



of location, whether there are existing names for the sites, status of land claim negotiations for the pertinent First Nation with regards to whether the site will be located on settlement land or traditional land, and whether there is joint jurisdiction over the naming of the site (e.g. Parks for the Kluane region).

## ***FUTURE DIRECTIONS***

As a priority the YGPNB will develop a strategy for dealing with these outstanding place name applications. At present there is a tremendous volume of technical work that is required before the Board can seriously consider the naming or renaming of the geographical features associated with these applications. This technical work falls outside the scope of the Board's responsibilities. The Board has recommended in the past the creation of a full-time toponymist and toponymist trainee to assist with the consultation, research, recording, translation and interpretation of the data related to naming these features. The Board will continue to emphasize the importance of such positions to support and increase the efficiency of its operation and to ensure applications are processed in a timely fashion.

To foster the public's appreciation and understanding of Yukon place names, the Yukon Geographical Place Names Board

will encourage the compilation of full supporting background information for all approved place names. This will have a broader scope than just the historical and cultural context of the place name or the significance of the individual for whom it is named. Whenever possible it will include a visual image of the geographic feature as well as an oral recording of the name being pronounced. This will ensure that suitable information is available for the promotion and interpretation of such sites, whether it be for use in "talking" highway signs, interactive CD-ROMs, or even use on the Internet. It will be another means to highlight the value of place names in reflecting the Yukon's diverse culture, history and landscape.

### ***EXAMPLES OF PLACE NAMES APPROVED DURING 1995/96***

- Taatsaan'T'oh (Raven Nest Hill)
- Yihkah Lake
- Ts'oogot Choh Lake (Little John Lake)
- Dlaatal Lake
- Mānh Ts'eek (Narrow Lake)
- Ts'oogot Gaay Lake (Little Ts'oogot Lake)

*For more information please contact:*

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**YUKON GEOGRAPHICAL PLACE NAMES BOARD  
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
March 31, 1996**

**unaudited**

**Collin Young Chartered Accountant**

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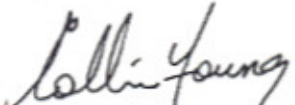
**REVIEW ENGAGEMENT REPORT**

I have reviewed the balance sheet of Yukon Geographical Place Names Board as at March 31, 1996, and the statements of revenue and expenditures, and surplus for the year then ended. My review was made in accordance with generally accepted standards for review engagements and accordingly, consist primarily of enquiry, analytical procedures, and discussions related to information supplied to me by the board.

A review does not constitute an audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on these financial statements.

Based on my review, nothing has come to my attention that causes me to believe that these unaudited financial statements are not, in all material respects, in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles.

Whitehorse, Yukon  
June 12, 1996

  
Chartered Accountant



# Yukon Geographical Place Names Board

## Balance Sheet

as at March 31, 1996

unaudited

	1996	1995
<b>ASSETS</b>		
<b>Current</b>		
Cash	\$ 45,104	
Accounts receivable	376	\$ 5,855
	<b>\$ 45,480</b>	<b>\$ 5,855</b>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>		
<b>Current</b>		
Accounts payable and accrued	\$ 800	\$
<b>EQUITY</b>		
<b>Surplus</b>	44,680	5,855
	<b>\$ 45,480</b>	<b>\$ 5,855</b>

Approved on Behalf of the Board

Diane Chadob Board Member

DA In-fur Board Member

**Yukon Geographical Place Names Board**  
**Statement of Revenue and Expenditures**  
**for the year ended March 31, 1996**  
**unaudited**

	1996	1995
<b>Revenue</b>		
Contribution - Yukon	\$ 56,075	\$ 7,115
<b>Expenditures</b>		
Honoraria	4,875	625
Secretariat fees	4,658	
Travel and accommodation	3,708	635
Training expense	2,892	
Professional fees	800	
Office and supplies	185	
Advertising	77	
Bank charges	55	
	17,250	1,260
<b>Excess of revenue over expenditures</b>	<b>\$ 38,825</b>	<b>\$ 5,855</b>



**Yukon Geographical Place Names Board**  
**Statement of Surplus**  
**for the year ended March 31, 1996**

	1996	1995
Surplus, beginning of year	\$ 5,855	
Excess of revenue over expenditures	38,825	\$ 5,855
Surplus, end of year	\$ 44,680	\$ 5,855

# **Yukon Geographical Place Names Board**

Notes to financial statements

March 31, 1996

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## **1 SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

These financial statements are prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles in Canada. Outlined below are those policies considered particularly significant for to the board.

(a) **Revenue recognition**

Revenue from grants is recorded when received or receivable

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## **2 Economic Dependence and Related Party Transactions**

The Board is dependant upon government funding for the continuation of its activities.

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## **3 Prior Year Balance**

The prior year's balance represents the board's revenue and expenditure for the one week ended March 31, 1995.

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