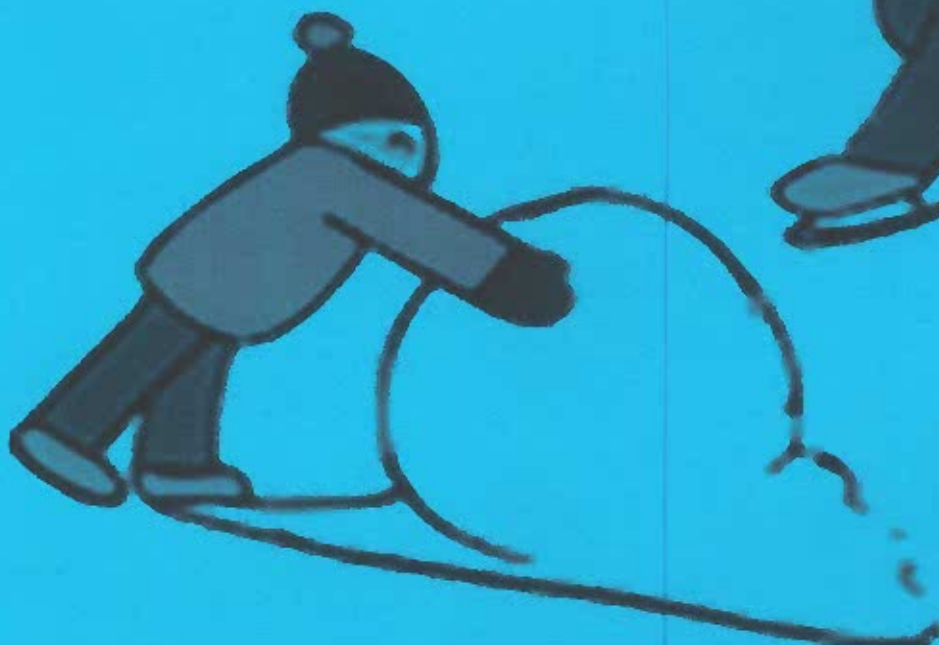


ST. ELIAS ECHO



The Newspaper of Haines Junction for 48 Years .50c

January-February 2026



ST. ELIAS
Echo

Staff: Elayne Hurlburt, Sharyn Riedl, Charlotte Clark, Shawn Allen
Photocopying and TREDmill by Ellen Stutz at HJ Village office



JAM Upcoming Event Details

Jan 30th - Chris Funk The Wonderist

Haines Junction, get ready! Chris Funk — the *musician-magician* seen on America's Got Talent and Penn & Teller: Fool Us — is bringing his unforgettable fusion of music and magic to the St. Elias Convention Centre!

January 30, 2026

\$20 at the door | Free for seniors & youth

Come prepared to be amazed!



Feb 12th - JAM Special General Meeting

All JAM members are invited to the Special General Meeting being held to vote on a proposed bylaw amendment related to quorum requirements, in accordance with the Society Act.

Wednesday, Feb 12 @ 6:30 pm

St. Elias Convention Centre – Atrium

Light snacks will be provided. A Glacier

Nights Festival information meeting will follow.

All are welcome!





Snow Sculpting Competition Deadline: Feb 18th

Grab your team and start planning for this year's fun snow sculpting competition. The deadline to register is February 18th. Sign up is on our website:
<https://junctionjam.ca/programs/glacier-nights-snow-festival/>

Feedback Requested

JAM is conducting a [Community Engagement Survey](#) and needs your feedback. Please click the link and send us your thoughts.

Glacier Nights Snow Festival is Hiring!

We have openings for short-term festival jobs ranging from event photographer/videographer to bar coordinator and many more. Check out our [website for more information](#).



THANK YOU

A heartfelt thank you to Grace and the folks at Frosty's for generously preparing a delicious community dinner before Christmas. It was, of course, an excellent meal that all us who attended really enjoyed!
Many thanks...



Dear Members,

Happy December 1st and welcome to the 2025/2026 ski season!

We're excited to announce that our amazing grooming team was out last night! They successfully groomed the Bearberry Connector and the Forestry Trails (Green and Blue Loops).

- **Current Snow Conditions:** While the trails are groomed and ready for your first strides, we are still waiting for a bit more snow for the track setters to be deployed. Keep your snow dances going!

You can easily see the newly groomed sections on the attached map—look for the trails highlighted in gray.

As we kick off a new season, it's the perfect time to renew your membership with the St Elias Cross Country Ski Club. Your membership fees are crucial—they provide the funds needed to maintain our equipment and keep our beautiful trails groomed throughout the winter.

- **Suggested Donation:**
 - Individual: \$30
 - Family: \$60
- **How to Renew:**
 - E-transfer your donation to: steliasskiclub@gmail.com
 - Mail a cheque to:

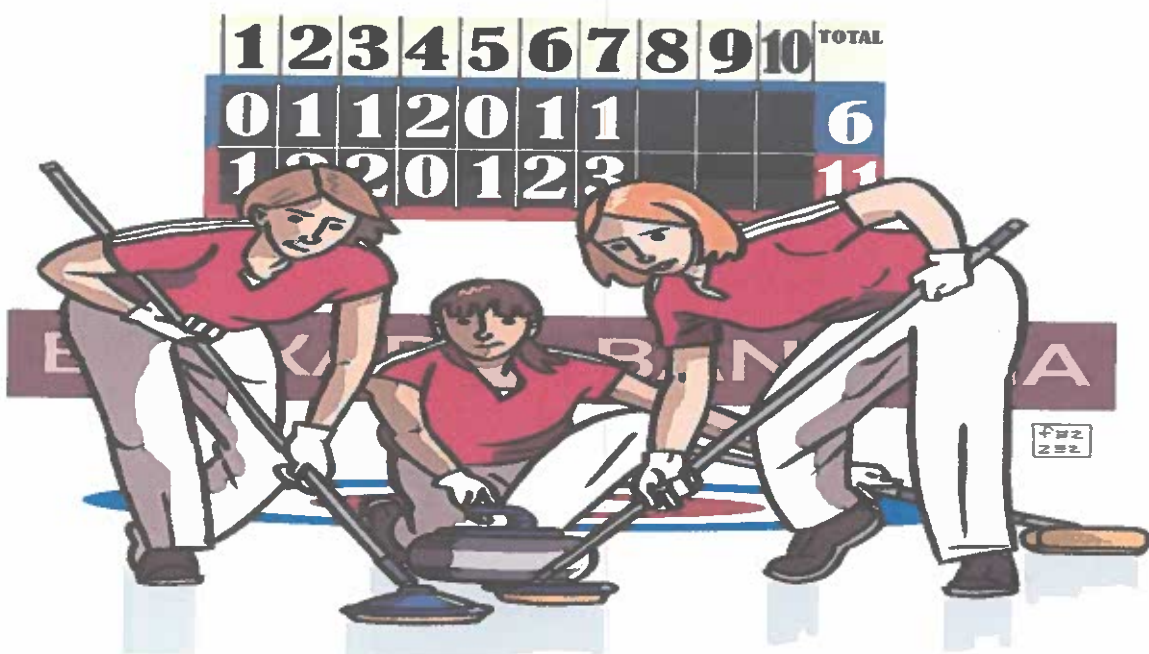
St Elias Cross Country Ski Club, PO Box 5425, Haines Junction Yukon Y0B1L0

We look forward to seeing you on the snow!

Your Ski Club

Curling Bonspiel in February

Feb. 14 & 15





ST. ELIAS LIONS



60TH ANNUAL *Curling Bonspiel*

FEBRUARY 14TH & 15TH
BILL BREWSTER ARENA

\$200/TEAM ENTRY FEE

(\$100.00 NONREFUNDABLE DEPOSIT REQUIRED)

DEADLINE TO REGISTER FEB. 11TH



TO ENTER A TEAM CONTACT:
ROD WATSON 634-5207
RALPH HOTTE 332-1647



**BAR, CONCESSION, SILENT AUCTION, AND
"SATURDAY GAMES NIGHT"**



PARKS CANADA RESERVATION LAUNCH

WHITEHORSE, YT, January 20, 2026 – Campsite reservations are opening for places operated by Parks Canada in the Yukon region as follows:

- Kathleen Lake Campground in Kluane National Park and Reserve: **January 20, 2026**
- Chilkoot Trail National Historic Site: **February 5, 2026**

With the renewal of the Canada Strong Pass, the Government of Canada is once again offering free admission to national historic sites, national parks, and national marine conservation areas operated by Parks Canada and a 25% discount on camping fees. This offer will be valid next summer from June 19 to September 7, 2026.

Visitors can book their stay by visiting reservation.pc.gc.ca or by calling 1-877-RESERVE (1-877-737-3783). Read on for more details – we look forward to welcoming visitors for the upcoming season!

Kathleen Lake Campground

Reservations for Kathleen Lake Campground are open as of today, **January 20, 2026**. Half of the campground's 38 campsites are reservable, including the two group camping sites and the oTENTik accommodations. The other half of the campground remains first-come, first-served via self-registration. The campground will be open from May 15 to September 20, 2026.

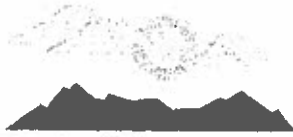
For more information about all that Māt'atāna Mān (Kathleen Lake) has to offer, please visit parks.canada.ca/pn-np/yt/kluane/visit/services/Kathleen.

Hiking the Canadian side of the Chilkoot Trail

While the international border between Canada and the U.S. remains closed, hikers can experience the stunning Canadian stretch of the Chilkoot Trail. Reservations for the Canadian side open on **February 5, 2026**, for hiking between June 1 and September 12, 2026.

Reserving well in advance is recommended. A 30-minute pre-hike orientation session is mandatory. For more information about Chilkoot Trail National Historic Site, please visit parks.canada.ca/lhn-nhs/yt/chilkoot.

Details on making reservations for the U.S. side of the trail will be shared by U.S. National Park Service in spring 2026.



Haines Jct. Thrift Shop



Open Thursdays 2-6 PM

Basement of Log Church



Please BYOBag



Community Report Prepared by Kari Johnston



CBC Radio Community Report for January 15, 2025

This is the January 15, 2025 CBC Yukon morning radio community report for Dakwakada-Haines Junction. This report is produced from information sent by the community or gathered from bulletin boards and Facebook groups for HJ. Please let Kari Johnston know of any errors or omissions. The report is also published to volunteerhainesjunction.com and to the Echo (when possible.)

👉 Introduction

👉 Weather: Kwăk'û (it was cold!!)

👉 Cold - neighbours helping neighbors and the Haines Road closed over the New Year

👉 A huge thank you to the ATCO Electric Crews and first responders in our community who attended to the ATCO powerplant issue that led to the power outage in Haines Junction.

👉 A big thank you to the Da Ku team for hosting a tremendous First Night Celebration, complete with fireworks, games and incredible food.

👉 And a big thank you to everyone who hosted a community open house over the holiday season – lots were cancelled due to the cold temperatures.

👉 Thank you to the St Elias Cross Country Ski Club for hosting VIMFF on January 14.

👉 Champagne and Aishihik First Nations

👉 CAFN Youth Gathering (postponed)

CAFN Youth (ages 16–26) are invited to a weekend (Jan 17-18) of connection, learning, leadership, and fun at the CAFN Youth Gathering.

👉 The Special General Assembly will be from Jan. 31 to Feb. 1 at the Da Ku Cultural Centre in Haines Junction. This is a continuation of the business from the July 2025 GA.

👉 Advanced Care Planning

We have two events coming up to talk about advance care planning. Come out and learn from the palliative care resource team on why it's important and get some advice on how to have these conversations.

- Date: Feb. 3, 2026
- Location: Yukon Inn Plaza
- Time: 12:30 p.m. to 1:30 p.m.
- Date: Feb. 12, 2026
- Location: Takhini Hall
- Time: 12:30 p.m. to 1:30 p.m.

For more information, contact Jacquie Chambers at 867-634-6219 or at jchambers@cafn.ca

👉 Regalia Workshops



CAFN Cultural Programs is hosting a series of regalia workshops in HJ to support citizens who are graduating and citizens who want to make cultural attire At Da Ku Cultural Center. All materials and supplies will be provided. More dates to be announced soon.

- January 19 - 5 to 8:30 pm
- February 10 - 5 to 8:30 pm

👉 Village of Haines Junction

👉 CALL FOR COMMITTEE MEMBERS: Shakwak Valley Community Hall Committee

The Village is recruiting committee members to help Council recognize the importance of the Shakwak Hall to the community. The Committee will:

- Coordinate an end-of-life ceremony
- Propose other activities, such as a memorial book or a photo exhibit at the planned Recreation Center
- Prepare/present a budget to Council for approval

Please Note: Groups that hosted activities in the Shakwak Hall are particularly encouraged to recommend a representative for the Committee. Deadline to apply: February 4, 2026. For more information: hainesjunction.ca/p/jobs-tenders-rfps corporate@hainesjunction.ca

👉 Coordination/Facilitation of Engagement on Community Identity

The Village of Haines Junction is inviting proposals from Yukon-based businesses to coordinate and facilitate engagement on Community Identity as a precursor to the five-year review of the Village's Official Community Plan. <https://hainesjunction.ca/p/jobs-tenders-rfps>

👉 Truth and Reconciliation Statement

The Village of Haines Junction is inviting proposals from Yukon-based businesses to develop a Truth and Reconciliation Statement and Policy for the Village of Haines Junction. <https://hainesjunction.ca/p/jobs-tenders-rfps>

👉 **Civic Addressing:** A reminder that all buildings in HJ are required to have a reflective civic address sign clearly displayed on the building or property. These signs are essential so that emergency responders know where they need to go when someone needs help. The signs are free and available for pick up at the Village Office.

👉 **Donated Refundables Fund** - deadline for applications is January 15, 2026 at 5pm. Visit <https://hainesjunction.ca/p/funding-opportunities> for more information.

👉 Parks Canada

👉 Will host an open house at the Parks office (119 Logan Street – Across from the Bakery) on Thursday, January 22 from 1:00 to 3:00PM. There will be snacks and beverages

👉 Yukon Energy



👉 Yukon Energy is hosting a number of open houses next week. This is an opportunity for the community to learn about what is planned for the upcoming licence renewal, share what's important to you, and ask questions.

Whitehorse AGS Open House

- Date: Jan 19th 2026
- Time: 5:30-8 pm
- Location: Sternwheeler Hotel

Haines Junction AGS Open House

- Date: Jan 20th 2026
- Time: 5-7 pm
- Location: Da Kų Cultural Centre

👉 **St Elias Seniors Society**

👉 Mondays 11:00 to 1:00 carpet bowling, floor curling, indoor walking and coffee time in the Convention Centre Atrium

👉 Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10:00 to 11:00 Chair Yoga Class in the Grand Hall of the Convention Centre. Open to everyone. No cost

👉 For information about our events and activities people can email me at steliasseniors@hotmail.com

👉 **New Business Owners!**

👉 The 1016 Pub Grand Reopening – happening soon!

Jared Dulac and Madline "Maddie" Petrik are delighted to announce that they have taken over operations of the 1016 Pub!! They can't set a definite date at this point, as everything depends on approvals from the authorities, but we strongly expect to open at the end of January.

Maddie: "The pub has been renovated, community events and parties are planned and will be announced shortly (people are welcome to subscribe to the NEW Facebook page to stay up to date), and also the Trivia Nights will be back soon.

We are also looking for motivated people who want to support our team in the kitchen and in service. People can check out our Facebook page for more information.

We aim to focus on the community with the pub, so we are open to inquiries of any kind and would be happy to cooperate with local businesses and support them through advertising with us.

We are very excited and can't wait to finally reopen our doors and be ready with new energy for the community and travelers of all kinds."



👉 **Wildwood Spirit**

👉 Did you set intentions to practice better self-care in the new year? Are you curious about using herbs safely on a daily basis?

Come and join me for this workshop that takes us back to the basics of herbal self-care: nourishing herbs. They are chock full of vitamins and minerals, gentle and safe to use, and super easy to grow.

Learn about all this and make your own nourishing herb blends to take home with you!

Find out more at <https://www.wildwoodspirit.ca/workshops/>

Cost is \$85 (GST incl.) per participant and includes all supplies and organic ingredients for 2 big tea bags, herbal beverages, and a bonus recipe card, so you can always make more.

To sign up, send me an email at sylvie@wildwoodspirit.ca

👉 **Adventure Time**

👉 If you want to come visit HJ but don't have access to a reliable vehicle, Adventure Time runs a shuttle service all winter long, on Sundays, Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays.

👉 **Thrift Store**

👉 The Haines Junction Thrift Shop, located in the basement of the Log Church, is open every Thursday from 2-6 pm, and is presently accepting donations of clean good condition clothing, small household items and books - except text books, as unfortunately they never sell. Please do not donate summer clothing until spring as storage space is limited. Donated items can be placed outside the Thrift Shop doors at any time, as volunteer staff go by daily to put the items inside.

👉 **Kluane Region Food Hamper program**

👉 The Kluane Region Food Hamper program supports food hamper delivery from Takhini River Subdivision to Beaver Creek. The program supports over 150 clients and 6 "mini caches." Funding is provided by the Food Bank Society of Yukon and the Food Banks Canada. This is a volunteer run program supported by community partners: Village of Haines Junction, Champagne and Aishihik First Nations, Kluane First Nation and White River First Nation. A huge thank you to all of the volunteers who dedicate their time to the program, donate money or food.

👉 **Junction Arts and Music**

👉 **Chris Funk the Wonderist**- has performed around the world — and now he's bringing his show to Haines Junction!

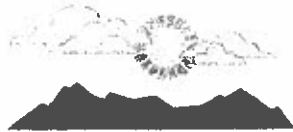
Expect laughs, impressive musicianship, and a few moments that make you wonder how that was even possible.

January 30, 2026

St. Elias Convention Centre

\$20 at the door | FREE for seniors & youth

👉 **JAM Special General Meeting** - Join us in the St. Elias Convention Centre Atrium on Feb 12 @ 6:30 pm for a short Special General Meeting for JAM members to change some cumbersome bylaws around



quorum. We're hoping to make our AGM meetings more streamlined in the future. Please RSVP: hainesjunctionjam@gmail.com Light snacks will be provided as well as following the meeting we'll have a Glacier Nights Snow Festival information night. All are welcome.

🔥 Glacier Nights Snow Festival 2026 is just around the corner — March 6–7! 🧊🌟
Joshua Lesage is BACK with his amazing snow-sculpting magic, and we've got plenty more festival fun to announce soon... bands, DJs, family activities and more! Stay tuned! 🧊💙

🔥 Augusto!

🔥 Please Mark the Date - the 7th Annual Augusto! Children's Festival will take place again August 7-9, 2026 in beautiful Dakwākāda Haines Junction. We are busy planning and looking forward to another great festival weekend! If you have photos from the 2025 festival that you would like to share, we would love to see them for possible inclusion in our 2026 brochure.

🔥 St Elias Chamber of Commerce

🔥 Has started a new social media campaign called "GoHainesJunction". Follow the accounts on Facebook, Instagram and TikTok to see lots of amazing HJ content and local business features.

🔥 Haines Junction Women's Hockey Jamboree

🔥 January 24-25

Game schedule:

- Games start Saturday morning, with the first game at 10:30 AM
- Play wraps up Sunday afternoon

The full schedule, team lists, and additional event information will be sent out this week. Please keep an eye on your inbox (and your junk folder, just in case!), as well as this Facebook page.

More details!

After dinner on Saturday, we'll be hosting a 🌟 sparkly-themed dance party 🌟 in the mezzanine. A huge thank-you to [Pedal Junction Yukon](#) for running the bar!

Learn more about Pedal Junction and the Bike Park Project here:

<https://www.pedaljunction.org/>

Important registration note:

Any jamboree dropouts after January 16 will only be eligible for a partial refund of registration fees. Please let us know as soon as possible if your plans have changed.

We can't wait for an awesome weekend—see you soon!

🔥 St Elias Lions Club



👉 Lions Sweetheart Bonfield happening on Saturday, February 14 and Sunday the 15th? I believe they have to register their team prior to Wednesday, February 11 and they can register by contacting either Rod Watson or Ralph Hotte.

👉 St Elias Cross Country Ski Club

👉 Our grooming crews were busy over the holidays getting the trails in great condition for the season.

👉 Thanks to everyone who has renewed their membership. If you haven't done so yet, it's the perfect time to renew your membership with the St Elias Cross Country Ski Club. Your membership fees are crucial—they provide the funds needed to maintain our equipment and keep our beautiful trails groomed throughout the winter.

- Suggested Donation:
 - Individual: \$30
 - Family: \$60
- How to Renew:
 - E-transfer your donation to: steliasskiclub@gmail.com
 - Mail a cheque to:
St Elias Cross Country Ski Club, PO Box 5425, Haines Junction Yukon Y0B1L0

👉 Joint Open House

👉 Hosted by YESAB, ARRC, KNMPB and many other booths. Tues Jan 20, 2026, 4-6pm. Atrium, St. Elias Convention Centre, Haines Junction. All welcome!

👉 Pine Lake Run!

👉 Rune Monstad is doing a bit of feasibility work on run competition for next summer in the Pine Lake area. He's posted a few possible routes on the Happenings Facebook page – get in touch with him and let him know what you think!

👉 Haines Junction Minor Hockey

👉 A huge thank you to all of the coaches, volunteers, players and arena staff who are making it a great season so far!

👉 Romp-n-Run

👉 Romp n Run is on Tuesdays and Thursdays 10-11:30am
Come enjoy a facilitated program, followed by a healthy snack, and free play.

👉 Pickleball

👉 Every Monday and Friday night 5-7pm in the school gym

👉 Fit with Nick!

👉 Tuesdays at 6pm in the Mezzanine.

👉 Yoga

👉 Sundays from 6-7:15pm at the St Elias Convention Center (atrium). Suggested donation is \$15. Blocks and straps provided, please bring a mat.

👉 Volleyball is Thursdays in the school gym from 7-9pm

👉 Basketball is Wednesdays in the school gym from 7-9pm



**Attention people who enjoy
sewing & misc. crafts.**

**Are you aware there is a quilting group
in Haines Junction? Our group's name
is Threadbearers & we get together
several times a year at the Convention
Centre. (thanks to Village of H.J.) We
welcome anyone who wants to work on
whatever craft you are enjoying.**

**For more information, feel free to call
Wenda @ 634-2003 or 334-0011,
Charlotte @ 335-8728 or
Sharyn @ 335-5771**



VALENTINE'S DAY



February 14th is Valentine's Day. Valentine's Day is a day for romance and love. Valentine's Day is celebrated in many countries around the world, including Japan, the United States, and the United Kingdom.



You see a lot of romantic symbols on Valentine's Day. For example, many couples give each other roses. To give someone flowers at any time of year is romantic, and as roses are a symbol of romance, roses on Valentine's Day are especially popular.

Another symbol of romance that is seen frequently on Valentine's Day is Cupid. In Roman mythology, Cupid was the son of Venus, the goddess of love. Cupid was often shown as a smaller, more playful version of his mother. His golden arrows were magical and even slight contact with one of the arrow tips could make a person fall madly in love.



One understanding of romantic love—called courtly love—dates back to medieval times, and sending cards on Valentine's Day dates back equally far. In 1415, a prisoner in the Tower of London sent a poem to his wife. This is considered to be one of the earliest recorded valentines. For over four hundred years, people made their own valentines by writing poems like this.



In the Victorian era, in the mid-1800s, companies started producing valentines for people to buy. Now many people buy, rather than make, their valentines. Almost one billion valentines are sent every year. According to the Greeting Card Association, 85% of the valentines are bought by women.



Of course, people don't just buy cards. People buy candles and balloons and many other things, often in the shape of a heart. You can find boxes of candy that are shaped like hearts, or candy that is itself in the shape of a heart!



The presents might be something small and sweet or something big and dramatic. Some people *get engaged* (promise to marry each other) on Valentine's Day. Although Valentine's Day is generally romantic, many people like to use the day to celebrate any kind of love—including love of friends and family.

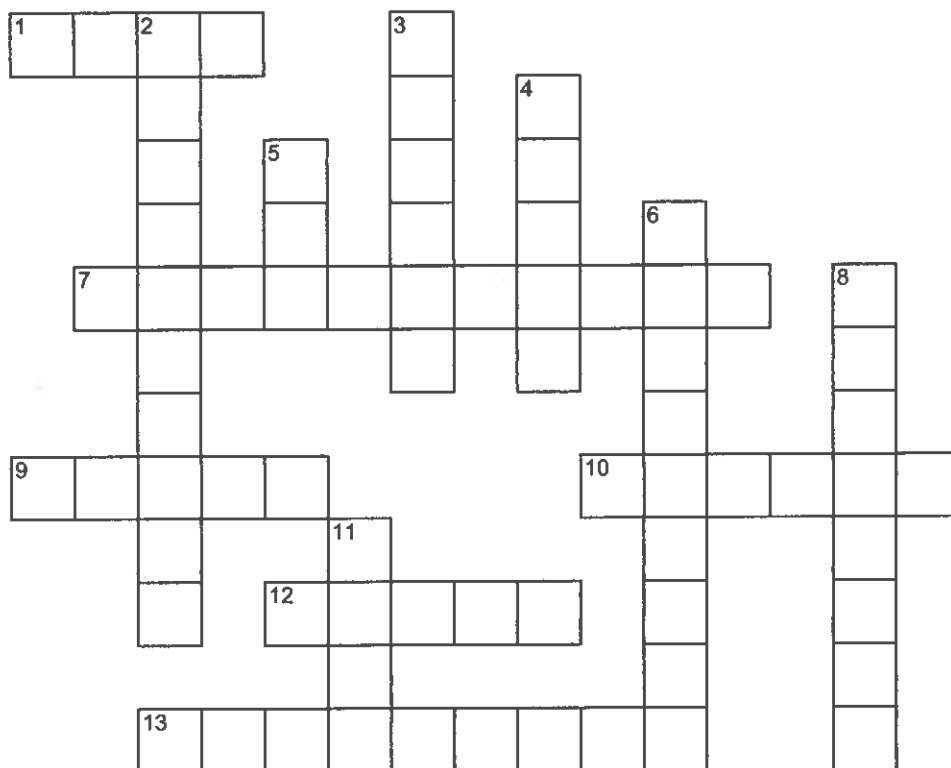
Some schools have valentine parties. The students give each other valentines. They eat heart-shaped candy. Some schools have other valentine celebrations, such as dances.





Valentine's Day

February 14



www.elcivics.com

ACROSS

- 1 a folded piece of stiff paper with images and greetings that is signed, put in an envelope, and given on special occasions
- 7 the light from a burning candle
- 9 popular shape often seen on Valentine's Day cards and drawings
- 10 red and pink are popular _____ on Valentine's Day
- 12 most popular type of flower on Valentine's Day
- 13 "Be my _____."

DOWN

- 2 a place where waiters and waitresses serve food to customers
- 3 the main meal of the day, usually eaten in the evening
- 4 a mythical god of love with wings and a bow and arrow
- 5 color that symbolizes love
- 6 type of candy that is usually brown and is made from cacao seeds
- 8 month when we celebrate Valentine's Day
- 11 an intense feeling of affection

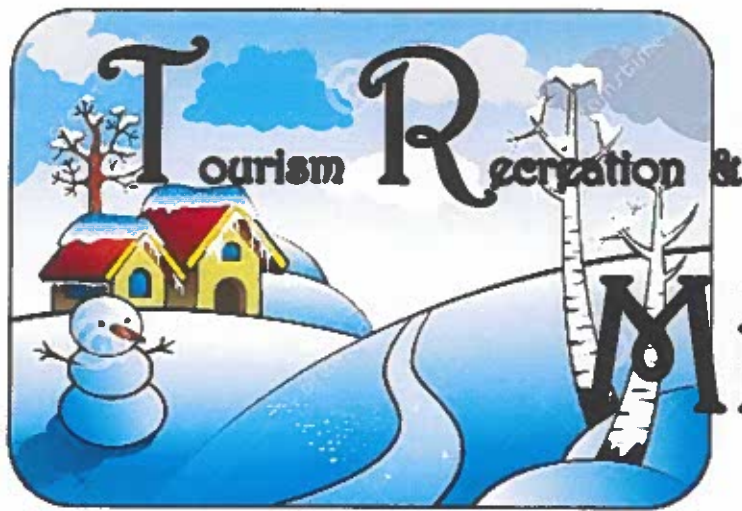
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 Every Sunday Yoga 6-7:15 pm @ Convention Centre	2 Every Monday Pickleball 5-7 @ School Gym Senior's Society 11 am @ Atrium Carpet bowling, indoor walking/and/or coffee	3 Every Tuesday Romp & Run 10-11:30 am @ Mezzanine Senior's Chair yoga 10:00 am@ Grand Hall Fit with Nick 6 pm @ Mezzanine	4 Every Wednesday -Adult basketball 7- 8:30@ school gym	5 Every Thursday Romp & Run 10- 11:30 am @ Mezzanine Adult Volleyball @ School gym. Time TBA Thrift Store 2-6 pm @ Log Church	6 Every Friday Storytime 10-11 am @ library for ages 4 & under Pickleball 5-7 pm	7
8	9 Every Monday JAM open stage 6-10 pm @ Convention Centre	10	11	12 Every Thursday Senior's Chair yoga 10:00 am@ Grand Hall JAM AGM 6:30 @ Atrium	13	14 VALENTINE'S DAY Lion's Bonspiel @ Arena
15 Lion's Bonspiel @ Arena	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23 ECHO DEADLINE	24	25	26	27	28

DEADLINE FOR NEXT ECHO-Monday February 23rd noon sharp!

All submissions should be sent to shawn.allen@yukon.ca

Any errors or omissions, please call Sharyn @ 335-5771

or email riedls@northwestel.net



February 2026

Village of Haines Junction

Phone: (867) 634-7100

Box 5339

Haines Junction, Yukon

Y0B 1L0



Fax: (867) 634-2008

Email: admin@hainesjunction.ca

Web site: www.hainesjunction.ca



Council Meetings

The next regular Council meetings will be held at 7:00 p.m.

February 11, 2026,

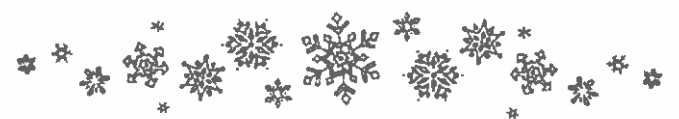
March 11, 2026

February 25, 2026,

March 25, 2026

Regularly scheduled meetings of the Village Haines Junction Council are held on the second and fourth Wednesdays of every month at 7:00 pm. Meetings are held in Council Chambers at the Haines Junction Convention Centre. The public is invited to join in person in the Council Chambers, or online or by teleconference via Zoom.

Agenda packages, along with instructions for how to connect via Zoom, are posted on the Village of Haines Junction website <<hainesjunction.ca>> on the Friday afternoon of the week prior to each meeting. You can also contact the Village at corporate@hainesjunction.ca to be added to the Village email distribution list to receive Council Agenda Packages, Council Meeting Minutes, and other Public Notices, by email.



Holiday Hours

Please note that the Village Office and Landfill will be closed Friday February 20, 2026, for Heritage Day.



Woodstove and Fireplace Safety Tips

- 🔥 Install and test fire and carbon monoxide alarms on a monthly basis.
- 🔥 Ensure your woodstove is installed on a non-combustible surface and there is adequate ventilation.
- 🔥 Keep your chimney and vents clean.
- 🔥 Keep anything that can burn or overheat at least one metre away.
- 🔥 Use dry, seasoned wood.
- 🔥 Never use highly flammable materials such as wrapping paper or gasoline.
- 🔥 Supervise children around fires.
- 🔥 Use your fireplace safely and soberly.



2026 Business Licences

All business operating within the municipal boundaries are required to have a Haines Junction Business Licence. The deadline for avoiding a 10% monthly penalty is January 31!



Haines Junction businesses have the option of having their business listed on the Village website. Contact the Village for more details!



2026 Dog Tags

All dogs within the municipality are required to be licensed and fines apply for non-compliance. Dog tags help us to return your impounded pets back home!

Licence fees are \$5.00 for 2026 spayed or neutered dogs, \$25.00 for non-spayed or non-neutered, and \$25.00 for Life-time Neutered dogs.



Landfill Hours 2026

Regular hours
Wednesday to Sunday
Landfill 9am– 5:30pm
Refundables 1:00pm-5:30pm



“

FILLINGTHEJARS.COM

If January is the month of change, February is the month of lasting change. January is for dreamers... February is for doers.

MARC PARENT

”



HAPPY
Valentine's
DAY
♥