

VOTING INFORMATION

Carcross/Tagish First Nation (C/TFN) beneficiaries and members will be voting on final and self-government agreements in May 2005.

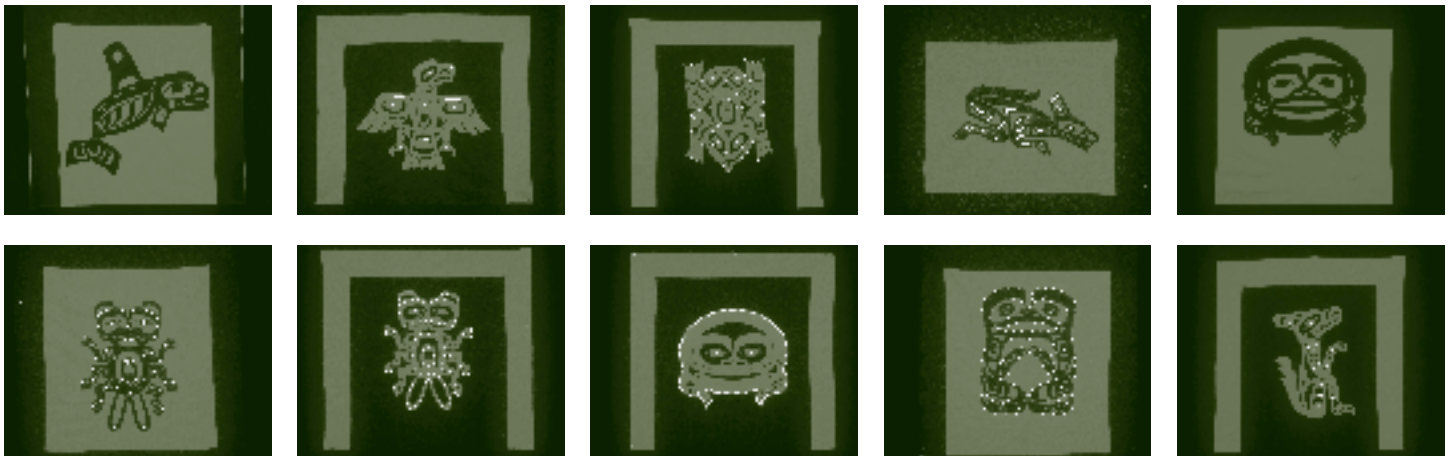
WHO CAN VOTE

In order to vote on the C/TFN agreements you need to be a member of the Band or a beneficiary of the C/TFN land claim agreement.

There will be one list of people who can vote. This list will include the names of beneficiaries and/or members of C/TFN who will be at least 18 years old by the last day of voting.

The Official Voters List will be posted on April 26, 2005. If you believe you should be able to vote on the agreements, check to make sure your name is on this list.

If it is not on the list, and you think it should be, contact the Ratification Committee (contact information on back page). The staff will tell you how you can get on the list.



photos courtesy of Janet Lee

DEFINITION OF TERMS USED IN THIS INFORMATION SHEET

The **CHIEF RETURNING OFFICER** is in charge of running the voting process. This person is appointed by the Ratification Committee and is responsible for making sure voting procedures are followed.

A **POLL** is the place where voters go to vote. The poll can also be brought to voters (such as people who are in the hospital or in jail) if they cannot come to the regular poll. This is called a "mobile poll."

A **POSTMARK** is the mark that a post office puts on every envelope that gets mailed. The postmark includes the date and location the letter was mailed. A mail-in ballot envelope must have a postmark that is dated May 28th or earlier. So, if you put your ballot in a mail box on May 28th, the post office may not be able to postmark it until May 29th, which is too late! It is better to take your ballot right to the post office.

BALLOT 1: FINAL AGREEMENT AND MEMORANDUM

Carcross/Tagish beneficiaries vote on Ballot 1
(if they are 18 years of age or older by the last day of voting).

This ballot asks if you approve of the Carcross/Tagish First Nation Final Agreement and the Memorandum Regarding Certain Financial and Other Arrangements.

The **Carcross/Tagish First Nation Final Agreement** outlines how much Settlement Land C/TFN will own and where the land is located. It also deals with a wide range of topics such as the management of fish, wildlife, water, forests, and mineral resources. It covers hunting, fishing and trapping rights, heritage resources, special management areas, land use planning, and development assessment. It includes provisions on taxation, financial compensation and economic development opportunities.

The **Memorandum Regarding Certain Financial and Other Arrangements** deals with financial and taxation arrangements. It includes an interest payment to C/TFN of \$5.28 million, and a payment of more than \$2.8 million related to the end of tax exemptions on reserve. It also clarifies the tax exemption for personal income earned on Carcross Indian Reserve No. 4 and other *Indian Act* reserves from January 1999 to the end of 2005.

To learn more about this Agreement and the Memorandum, read other information sheets in this series, the summary of the Agreement, or the full Agreement.

Do you approve of the Carcross/Tagish First Nation Final Agreement and the Memorandum Regarding Certain Financial and Other Arrangements?

YES



NO



If you are voting on this ballot, you will need to put an "X" in one of these circles to indicate if you are voting "YES" or "NO" to the question on the ballot. Do not write anywhere else on the ballot or it may not be counted.





ratification process. Both ballots need to be approved.

BALLOT 2: SELF-GOVERNMENT AGREEMENT

Carcross/Tagish beneficiaries and Carcross/Tagish members vote on Ballot 2 (if they are 18 years of age or older by the last day of voting).

Do you approve of the Carcross/Tagish First Nation Self-Government Agreement and Do you agree to the dissolving of the Carcross/Tagish First Nations Band (*Indian Act*) and to the transferring of all Carcross/Tagish First Nations Band's liabilities and assets, including Carcross Indian Reserve No. 4, to the Carcross/Tagish First Nation?

YES

NO

The **Carcross/Tagish First Nation Self-Government Agreement** outlines the decision-making powers that Carcross/Tagish First Nation will have if the land claim and self-government agreements are approved. C/TFN will be able to make laws and decisions relating to its citizens, its lands and how it governs itself.

If the land claim and self-government agreements are approved, C/TFN will become a self-governing First Nation. It will no longer be an Indian Band under the federal *Indian Act*. This ballot deals with dissolving the *Indian Act* Band and transferring everything the Band now owns and owes to the new self-governing Carcross/Tagish First Nation.

You must only mark one "X" in one of the circles. (You cannot answer "YES" to one part and "NO" to the other.) Do not write anywhere else on the ballot or it may not be counted.

photos courtesy of Janet Lee



HOW YOU CAN VOTE

There are two ways you can vote: in person or by mail-in ballot.

In person

You can vote in person at the advance poll or at the regular poll. There will be polling booths set up at the Carcross Community Hall and at the Yukon Inn in Whitehorse. You can vote on these days:

ADVANCE POLL May 12 and 13, noon to 8 p.m.

REGULAR POLL: May 26, 27, and 28, 9 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Arrangements can be made for the poll to come to you on the above polling dates if you are housebound or in an institution.

By mail-in ballot

To help ensure every eligible voter is able to vote, all voters will receive a mail-in ballot. Anyone who chooses to vote by their mail-in ballot must ensure it is postmarked no later than May 28th and it must be received by the Chief Returning Officer by June 3rd. Full instructions on how to use the mail-in ballot have been sent out with the ballot.

Other options

You can also vote by early ballot starting April 27. You will be able to vote at the Ratification Office in Carcross every Monday and Wednesday between

April 27 and May 20, from 1 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. You may also contact the Chief Returning Officer to make other arrangements, including voting by fax. Call the Ratification Office for details.

HOW THE VOTE WILL BE COUNTED

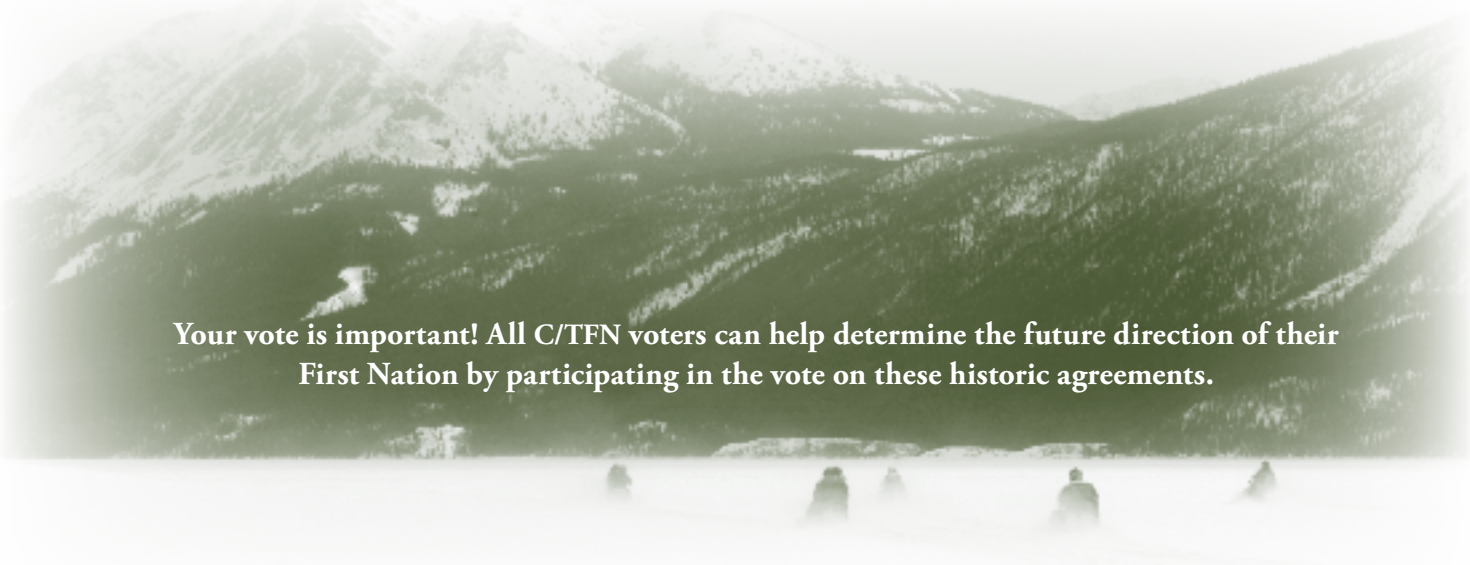
For the land claim and self-government agreements to be approved in this ratification process, there are two key things that must happen:

1. For each ballot, the majority (50% +1) of all the people who are entitled to vote, and who have been located, must vote "YES" on the ballots they have been given; and
2. For each ballot, at least 60% of the people who participated in the vote must have voted "YES" on their ballots.

Both ballots must be approved for the land claim and self-government agreements to pass. If one ballot is not approved, then the whole package does not pass.

Voters can only vote once, either by person or by mail. For example, if someone votes by mail-in ballot, and also votes at the polls, only their vote at the polls will be counted.

For more information on the voting process, call the Chief Returning Officer at the Ratification Office or ask for a copy of the rules and procedures for the voting process at the Ratification Office.



Your vote is important! All C/TFN voters can help determine the future direction of their First Nation by participating in the vote on these historic agreements.

Contact the Ratification Committee for more information.

Lands Trailer IR#4, Box 130, Carcross, Yukon Y0B 1B0

Phone: (867) 821-3510 • Toll free: 1-866-822-5314 • Fax: (867) 821-4305, ratification@ctfn.ca, www.ctfn.ca

photo courtesy of Janet Lee

This fact sheet highlights elements of the Carcross/Tagish land claim agreements. It should not be relied on for legal interpretation of the Final and Self-Government agreements.