

I have a general rule that I don't leave the Yukon between roughly May and August. It's not because our summers are particularly warm (there was one a few years back when a friend didn't bare her arms once) or the lakes welcoming (freshly melted as they are from snow and ice). There can also be bugs—but surely no worse than in Ontario? Yet, summer in the North is nonetheless incredibly special, perhaps because it is so fleeting, so intense. The midnight sun is intoxicating. And, of course, the Yukon is a place of adventure. Like others, I cram as many outdoor activities as possible into a few short weeks—sleep be darned. By the time late August arrives, I crave the relaxation granted by the shorter, colder days. (Fall is “go” time for hunters, but I don't have the energy for that.)

Perhaps this is a confession because this year I *am* leaving the Yukon during my self-imposed travel blackout. Along with Manu Keggenhoff, *Yukon North of Ordinary* art director and co-publisher, I'm attending the International Regional Magazine Association conference, in Ottawa. We are flying with our favourite airline, Air North, on its Whitehorse-Yellowknife-Ottawa flight. While there, I'll take a few extra days to paddle the region's whitewater before hopping a train to Toronto to visit a friend. Then, I'll fly home on Air North's new Toronto-Yellowknife-Whitehorse route (launched in May).

I'm beyond excited for this trip. Likely you can relate. After more than two years of travel restrictions, many are feeling the itch to hit the road, visit friends and family, and explore a new place. I hope this magazine inspires you to visit the Yukon, or at



Get out of Dodge; explore the Yukon.

least dream of it, and, if you are a local, explore more of it. *YNoO*, which comes out quarterly, showcases the territory's extraordinary people, places, and culture. In this issue, we introduce you to Dawson City's resident caveman, First Nations entrepreneurs sharing stories on their own turf, and a conservation officer heading into retirement with a memory book full of adventures. Travel through these pages to Bear Cave Mountain, a remote sanctuary in the Ogilvie Mountains, get stoked about biking the territory's best backroads, and be a fly on the wall in a dingy, crowded space housing world-famous fossils. Then, experience a meditative moment at a drumming circle, discover the richness of our francophone music scene, and meet restaurateurs bringing tastes from around the world into their kitchens. That's all inside and more.

Thank you for picking up this issue. Whether you stay close to home or travel further afield this summer, consider taking it on your travels and submitting an "On Tour" entry (details on page 16). We also have a *Yukon, North of Ordinary* podcast that offers a more in-depth take on the stories in this magazine, through one-on-one interviews. That's available wherever you get your podcasts.

I hope you enjoy perusing these pages and listening to our episodes. Have a great summer, wherever you are, and say "hi" any time at the email below.

Karen McColl

Karen McColl
 editor@northofordinary.com

Photo: gispenetina.ca

Etched between three surrounding mountains, Mountain View Golf Club in Whitehorse offers Canada's most northern championship course. With a season starting in May and ending in October, our staff are eager to see you. Come and check this off your bucket list, and enjoy a round in the land of the midnight sun.

- 18-hole Championship Golf Club
- Full length driving range & practice facility
- Fully stocked golf shop with leading brands
- PGA of Canada Class "A" Head Professional
- Lessons, rental clubs, and other equipment available
- Public welcome

Mountain View Golf Club | 250 Skookum Drive | Golf Shop/Tee Times: (867) 633-6020 | www.mountainviewgolf.ca | proshop@mountainviewgolf.ca