



Newsletter October 2015

Our Newsletter Has Changed!

Here we are, a slightly changed edition of Raven Report. Starting this month are the columns by Computers for Schools Yukon and Zero Waste Yukon. Ean McDonald writes for CFSY, he's the manager over there and some of you may remember him as Raven Central's office coordinator in the past. Ben Derochie is chief cook and bottle washer of Zero Waste Yukon and he'll be writing about what's happening in the world of Zero Waste.

Of course, there will still be news about Raven,

recycling, and other odd items of interest.

Dump The Dumpster

All About Zero Waste
By Ben Derochie

The campaign for zero waste still continues! We are currently planning some large zero waste events that we will be announcing shortly, but until then we will share what we have been up to recently.

A few of us from Zero Waste Yukon & Raven Recycling recently attended the Recycling Council of Alberta's annual Waste Reduction Conference and learned about what other provinces and municipalities are doing to increase their waste diversion rates. We toured an innovative composting facility that uses wastewater, municipal food waste, and byproducts from a mining operation to produce highly efficient fertilizer. We also visited a newly built materials recovery facility (what we refer to as a MRF or 'murph') in Canmore and

became envious of their fancy super clean building, and we learned about the progression of extended producer responsibility across Canada. While there was lots to absorb, we came back feeling passionate that we can help increase waste diversion rates across the territory. We aren't wanting to re-invent the wheel, the tools and policies needed to help Yukon become zero waste already exist!

We also partnered with Yukon College last month to host a two-day community garage sale and furniture sale to welcome students back to school and help residents of Whitehorse make a dollar by selling their reusable items instead of paying the waste management facility to take it. While winter tried to arrive early on us on the Saturday, we had quite a large turnout throughout the entire day and called it a big success that we will be excited to host again next year.

Ravings of a Computer Geek

The 01100011 01100110 01110011 01111001 Column

School is well on its way here in October and we at Computers for Schools are all the more busy because of it. Multiple schools have requested laptops to create a mobile computer lab that can be set up in a vacant classroom so that students have access to computers even if the official computer labs are in use by another class. It's an exciting prospect because these particular teachers want to move past typing classes, which are important in their own right, and get students collaborating as a class on larger projects. Nowadays with great online resources such as games that teach programming languages, or even websites that help an author to create a "Choose Your Own Adventure" type story, the possibilities are large and varied.

If you find that your household is in need of a computer so that your kids can do homework, although the budget is tight and you can't afford a brand new computer, we can probably help you out. Please feel free to direct your teachers to our website (www.cfsy.ca) where any teacher can apply for computers on behalf of families that need them. If you have any questions you can always contact us at (867) 456-4365 as well.