

INFORMATION

RESPECTING THE

YUKON TERRITORY

AND A

SYNOPSIS OF THE REGULATIONS
HAVING REFERENCE TO
THAT TERRITORY

OTTAWA
GOVERNMENT PRINTING BUREAU
1907

INFORMATION
RESPECTING THE
YUKON TERRITORY
AND
A SYNOPSIS OF THE REGULATIONS
HAVING REFERENCE THERETO

The Yukon Territory is situated between Alaska on the west and the watershed separating the streams flowing easterly into the Mackenzie river and those flowing westerly into the Yukon river on the east, and it extends from British Columbia on the south to the Arctic Ocean on the north.

The government of the Territory is administered by a Commissioner, under instructions from the Governor in Council or the Minister of the Interior. The Commissioner is assisted by a Council of ten members, one-half of whom are elective and the Commissioner in Council is empowered to make ordinances for the government of the Territory. The Governor in Council may also make ordinances for the peace, order, and good government of the Territory.

Any foreign company desiring to carry on business in the Yukon Territory must obtain from the Commissioner a license to do so, the fee for which is proportionate to the amount of the capital stock of the company.

No intoxicating liquors may be taken into the Yukon Territory, except by special permission of the Commissioner, and upon payment of the prescribed fees. Any person importing any intoxicant without this special permission is liable to a penalty.

Placer Mining Act.

Any person eighteen years of age or over is eligible to stake out and obtain entry for a placer mining claim in the Yukon Territory. A placer claim on a creek, which means any natural water-course whether usually containing water or not, shall not exceed in size five hundred feet along the base line by one thousand feet on each side of such line. Claims situated elsewhere than on a creek shall not exceed five hundred feet in length by one thousand feet. A person locating the first claim on any creek, hill, bench, bar or plain shall be entitled to a claim one thousand five hundred feet in length, and to a party of two discoverers two claims each of one thousand feet in length.

A claim is marked by two legal posts on the base line at each end of the claim, each of which posts shall give information

as to the name of the claim, its length, the date of staking and the name of the locator.

Application for a claim shall be made to the Mining Recorder for the district within ten days after location, if it is within ten miles of the Recorder's office. One extra day is allowed for every additional ten miles or fraction thereof.

The person having received a grant for a claim is entitled to hold it for the period of the grant with the absolute right of renewal, provided work is done on the claim each year to the value of at least \$200, and evidence of such expenditure furnished within fourteen days from the expiration of the period covered by the grant.

Claims, however, may be grouped, and upon the owners thereof filing a deed of partnership permission may be granted to perform on any one or more of such claims all the work required to entitle such owners to renewal grants for each claim. Claims grouped may be made renewable by the Mining Recorder on the same day.

No person shall receive a grant of more than one placer claim on each separate creek, hill, bench, bar or plain, except by purchase or by recording an abandonment of the claim held.

Disputes between owners of claims as to distribution of water, boundaries and dumping may be heard and determined by a board of arbitrators appointed by the

owners of the property. The owner of a claim may, upon complying with certain conditions, deposit tailings upon an adjoining claim.

Royalty at the rate of two and one-half per cent on the value of the gold shipped from the Yukon Territory shall be paid to the Comptroller. Gold to be valued at \$15 an ounce.

| | |
|--|---------|
| Fees for a grant of a claim for one year.. | \$10 00 |
| For five years.. | 70 00 |
| For a renewal.. | 15 00 |
| For abandonment.. | 2 00 |

Diversion of Water for Mining Purposes.

Every person owning a claim is entitled to the seepage water on his claim and to the use of so much of the water naturally flowing through or past his claim, and not already lawfully appropriated, as may be necessary for the due working of the claim.

An applicant for a water grant must, for a period of twenty days previous to making application, post notice thereof, giving full information, at the point of diversion, on the land to be operated, on each person's land crossed, and in the office of the Mining Recorder, and a copy of this notice should be forwarded to the Gold Commissioner.

The price charged by the holder of a water grant with the privilege of selling

shall be subject to the control of the Commissioner of the Territory.

The Commissioner may also grant permission to impound for mining purposes the surplus waters of any creek or gulch, and for that purpose he may withdraw from mining entry any worthless ground required for a reservoir site.

The fees charged for a grant of water are:—

| | |
|--|---------|
| For 50 inches or less | \$10 00 |
| From 50 to 200 inches. | 25 00 |
| From 200 to 1,000 inches. | 50 00 |
| For each additional 1,000 or fraction. | 50 00 |

Dredging Regulations.

An applicant may obtain a lease to dredge for gold, silver and platinum throughout a continuous extent of 10 miles of the bed of a river in the Yukon Territory, but not more than one lease can be issued in favour of an applicant.

'River' means a stream of water the bed of which is of an average width of 150 feet throughout the portion sought to be leased, of which fact the Gold Commissioner shall be the judge, and 'river bed' means the bed and bars of the river to the foot of the natural banks.

The lease shall be for a term of 15 years renewable from time to time provided the leasehold has been efficiently operated, but has not been fully mined out, and provided the regulations have been complied with.

The lease shall be subject to the rights of all persons who received entries for claims prior to the issue of such lease.

Within three years from the date of the lease the lessee shall have a dredge of sufficient capacity on his leasehold and shall operate the same during forty days of ten hours each in every year after the third year, and furnish satisfactory proof of such operation.

A rental of \$100 per mile of river leased is charged for the first year, and \$10 a mile for each subsequent year.

The lessee may obtain permission to cut, free of dues, such timber as may be necessary for the purposes of his mining operations.

The lessee is not allowed to interfere with the free navigation of the river, or with the construction of roads, ways, bridges, drains or other public works.

The royalty on gold produced from dredging operations is the same as that on gold produced from placer mining claims.

Quartz Mining Regulations.

Any person eighteen years of age or over, who has discovered mineral in place, may locate a claim not exceeding fifteen hundred feet in length by fifteen hundred feet in width, by marking it with two legal posts, one at each end of the line of the lode or vein, and marking out the line between such posts. Upon each post should be marked the name of the claim, the name

of the person locating and the date, also the number of feet lying to the right and to the left of the location line.

The claim shall be recorded with the Mining Recorder for the district in which it is situated within fifteen days after the location thereof, if located within ten miles of the Recorder's office; one additional day will be allowed for such record for every additional ten miles or fraction thereof. In the event of a claim being more than one hundred miles from a Recorder's office, and situated where other claims are being located, the locators, not less than five in number, may appoint a Recorder, but if the latter fails within three months to notify the nearest Government Mining Recorder of his appointment the claims which he may have recorded will be cancelled.

The fee for recording a claim is \$5.

An expenditure of not less than \$100 in mining operations must be made on the claim each year, or a like amount paid to the Mining Recorder in lieu thereof. The survey of the claim, under proper instructions, will be accepted as expenditure during the year in which the survey is made. When \$500 has been expended or paid in connection with a location the locator may, upon having a survey made, and upon complying with certain other requirements, purchase the land at the rate of \$1 an acre.

The Minister of the Interior may grant a location for the mining of iron and mica,

not exceeding one hundred and sixty acres in area, provided that should any person obtain a location which is subsequently found to contain a valuable mineral deposit other than iron or mica, his right to such deposit shall be restricted to the area prescribed for other minerals, and the remainder of the location shall revert to the Crown.

The Minister may also grant locations for the mining of copper in the Yukon Territory, each location to consist of an area not exceeding one hundred and sixty acres in a square block. The boundaries of each location shall be due north and south and due east and west lines, and not more than one area shall be granted to any one person within a district of ten miles. The grant of such location for the mining of copper shall not give to the grantee any right to any other minerals excepting minerals that are combined or mixed with copper or copper ore, but in no case shall it include free milling gold or silver.

The annual expenditure in mining operations on iron, mica and copper claims of excessive size, shall be \$200, and the fee for entry and renewal of such copper locations shall be \$20.

The patent for a mineral claim in the Yukon Territory shall reserve to the Crown for ever the same royalty upon the products of the location as is provided or which may hereafter be provided in the

case of placer mining claims in that Territory.

The collection of royalty, however, may be abolished on the gold produced from any quartz mining claim or group of such claims in respect of which a sufficient expenditure has been incurred within a given time in installing and putting into operation a suitable plant for milling or otherwise treating the ore, and provided such plant is capable of milling or otherwise treating not less than five tons of ore per day for every claim in respect of which such plant is installed.

The output of copper from any mining location or group of locations will also be exempt from the payment of royalty, provided a sufficient expenditure has been incurred within a certain time in the erection of a smelter or other plant for the reduction of the copper or other metals in connection with such location or group of locations.

All the rights and privileges which were accorded a free miner under the Quartz Mining Regulations may be exercised and enjoyed by any person of eighteen years of age or over without taking out a free miner's certificate.

Petroleum and Natural Gas.

The Minister of the Interior may reserve for an applicant, who has machinery on the land, to be prospected an area of 1920 acres for such a period as may be

decided upon. Should the prospector discover oil or gas in paying quantities, and satisfactorily establish such discovery, an area not exceeding 640 acres, including the oil or gas well, will be sold to him at the rate of \$1 an acre, and the remaining 1,280 acres reserved will be sold at the rate of \$3 an acre. The minister may also make a preliminary reservation of a like area of land for a period of four months, for the purpose of allowing an applicant sufficient time to install on the land the required machinery. A fee of \$100 shall be charged for such reservation. A royalty at such rate as may be specified by Order in Council will be levied and collected on the sales of the petroleum.

Disposal of Water for Power Purposes.

The Minister may grant for a term not exceeding twenty years the right to use the water from any stream or lake in the Yukon Territory for the purpose of generating power, and the right to transmit, sell or use the power so generated.

Prior to making application, notice shall be posted for a period of sixty days at the point of diversion, at the place where the power plant is to be constructed, and in the office of the Mining Recorder. This notice should contain the name of the applicant, the name of the stream or lake, the point where water is to be returned to the stream or lake, the difference in altitude between the point of diversion and

point of return, means by which power is to be generated, number of inches applied for, purpose for which power is required, locality where water is to be sold, and date of posting.

Upon satisfactory proof being furnished as to the posting of notice, of the correctness of the statements made therein, and of the ability of the applicant to utilize the power expeditiously; and upon a report from the Government Mining Engineer as to the volume of the unrecorded water available for diversion, a lease may be issued for such quantity as may be decided upon. The fees charged are in proportion to the quantity diverted.

Coal Lands.

Coal mining rights, which are the property of the Crown, may be leased for a term of twenty-one years at an annual rental of \$1 an acre. Not more than 2,560 acres shall be leased to one applicant.

Application for a lease shall be made to the Agent of the district in which the rights applied for are situated, and the tract applied for shall be staked out by one or other of the following methods:—

(a) By planting at one angle of the tract applied for a post four inches square and standing not less than four feet above the ground, upon which shall be inscribed the angle represented, the name of the applicant, the date of the application, and the length and direction of the boundaries. The

tract must be rectangular in form, and the boundaries must be due north and south and east and west lines. A description by metes and bounds of the tract applied for to be furnished with the application.

(b) If, however, the applicant desires to follow a coal seam the tract shall be marked by two posts of the above dimensions, bearing notices, placed one at each end on the line of the seam, and the location shall not exceed 21,120 feet in length. The line between the posts must be clearly marked.

The length of the tract staked shall not exceed four times the breadth. Notice of application shall be conspicuously posted on the tract applied for and application shall be filed with the agent within thirty days after staking, accompanied by an affidavit showing that the requirements of the regulations have been complied with. Each application shall be accompanied by a fee of \$5, and a plan showing the position of the tract, and a royalty shall be paid on the merchantable output of the mine at the rate of five cents per ton.

The lease shall include the coal mining rights only, but the lessee may be permitted to purchase whatever available surface rights may be considered necessary at the rate of \$10 an acre.

Lien Ordinance.

Any person who performs any work or services upon or in respect of any mining claim in the Yukon Territory, or furnishes any wood to be used in the working thereof, shall, by virtue thereof, have a lien for the price of such work, services or wood, upon the said mining claim and the appurtenances thereto, and upon the minerals or ore produced therefrom, and the machinery and chattels upon the land for the amount justly due.

A claim of lien, verified by affidavit, may be deposited in the office of the Mining Recorder for the district and in the office of the Gold Commissioner, and may be registered at any time within thirty days after the first day's labour for which the wages are payable, was performed, or on which the wood was furnished, or within thirty days after the time fixed for payment, or if the labour was performed or wood furnished between the 1st of November and the 30th of April following, at any time within thirty days after the last mentioned date. The lien shall take effect upon the date of the registration thereof.

If, within sixty days, proceedings are not instituted to realize the claim, and a certificate thereof duly filed in the office of the Gold Commissioner, the lien shall absolutely cease to exist.

Land.

Every person who is the sole head of a family, and every male who has attained the age of eighteen years, shall be entitled to obtain homestead entry for 160 acres of agricultural land in the Yukon Territory. Entry shall not be granted for lands valuable for timber, and such entry shall not give the holder thereof any right to the minerals under the land.

Homesteads, when located on a water front, shall be marked by two legal posts, one at each end of the front boundary, and such frontage shall not exceed forty chains. A homesteader shall take possession and commence residence on the land within three months from the date of entry, and at the expiration of two years, upon having a survey made and upon submitting evidence that he has resided on the land during the months of May, June, July, August, September and October in each year, and brought at least ten acres under cultivation and erected a habitable house thereon, he will be entitled to receive a patent for the land homesteaded.

Applications for lands for purposes other than agriculture should be made to the Crown Timber and Land Agent for submission to the Commissioner of the Territory, who is empowered to dispose of the same at a price varying from \$1 to \$10 an acre, one-half of the purchase price being payable at the time of the sale and the balance in twelve months, with in-

terest at five per cent. Such lands are sold subject to the minerals which may be found thereunder, and if the land is at any time valuable as a townsite then the Government shall own absolutely one-third of the blocks of lots in such townsite, and the sale of such blocks will be by public auction.

Leases may also be obtained of lands for agriculture and other purposes.

Timber.

Permits may be granted by the Crown Timber and Land Agent, with the approval of the Commissioner of the Territory, to cut timber within certain specified districts, upon payment of an office fee of \$5 and dues on the timber cut at the rate of \$4 per thousand feet B.M., and of ten per cent ad valorem on the products of the berth not enumerated.

In such districts as the Commissioner may designate permits may also be issued to cut, free of dues, logs for the erection of road-houses and for fire wood to be used therein.

Any person who is bona fide settled upon land which he is using for agricultural or grazing purposes may be granted a permit, free of dues, to cut such timber as he may require for use on his own land.

Grazing and Hay.

Leases of grazing lands may be issued for a term of ten years, at an annual rental

of \$100 per square mile. In unsurveyed territory the applicant shall mark one corner of the ground applied for by a legal post and lay off the tract from such corner.

Leases of hay lands shall be for a term of ten years, at a rental of fifty cents an acre per annum. Permits to cut hay may also be obtained from the Crown Timber and Land Agent, upon payment of a fee of \$2.50 and dues at the rate of \$3 a ton.

Water Fronts.

Leases of water fronts on rivers in the Yukon Territory may also be obtained upon application to the Commissioner. The term of the lease is fifteen years and the rental varies from \$1 to \$5 per foot frontage, according to the position of the tract sought to be leased.

