

NEWS



Roy Forbes

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Mike Carter
Alaska Highway News

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Well-known Dawson Creek musician Roy Forbes and accomplished writer Caroline Woodward will select the winner when the competition ends.



Caroline Woodward

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The Northern
OCT 16, 2015

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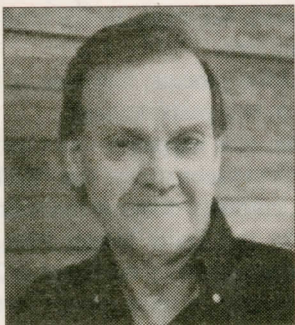
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The theme song contest deadline is Nov. 30. Songs can be emailed as audio files to the council Director Donna Kane at: dkane@peace-liardartists.org.

For more information, visit www.peace-liardartists.org.

dcreporter@dcdrn.com



Roy Forbes



Caroline Woodward

Voting open for Alaska Highway theme song contest

Mike Carter
Staff Writer

PEACE REGION — The judges have been named, the song submissions are all in and now it's time for residents to vote for their choice for a theme song for the Alaska Highway ahead of its 75th anniversary in 2017.

Alaskahighwaysong.ca was launched Wednesday night by the

Peace Liard Regional Arts Council where members of the public can listen to all 23 submissions.

Submitting your vote is as easy as clicking the "thumbs up" icon next to the song or songs you like best.

Voting will end Feb. 29.

Song submissions were entered into the contest by Nov. 30.

In October, the arts council

named Dawson Creek musician Roy Forbes and Peace Region writer Caroline Woodward as judges for the contest.

"The judges' (song) choice has been made, but we are keeping it confidential until after the people's choice contest has finished," Donna Kane, executive director of the council, said.

Most of the submissions were

from artists based in the Peace Region, Kane said, with a few others from artists based in other parts of the province.

The songwriter whose work is chosen as the theme song for the highway will receive a \$1,000 prize.

dcreporter@dcdn.ca



The Alaska Highway slices its way through the Northern Rockies north of Pink Mountain.

JONNY WAKEFIELD PHOTO

JAN 15, 2016



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LOCAL NEWS

Jody Peck, Chris Gale win Alaska Highway theme song contest

PEACE REGION — Jody Peck and Chris Gale have been named the winners of the Alaska Highway theme song contest.

Contest judges selected Peck's song *Alaska Highway* as the Judge's Choice Award, while Chris Gale earned 5,039 votes to win the People's Choice Award for his tune *That's Where I Was Raised*.

"Jody Peck has a true gift for evocative lyrics that create a flow of visual and auditory images in the listener's mind," said contest judge Caroline Woodward.

"Her beautiful and powerful alto voice delivers the Alcan's twists and turns, its grinding gears and straight stretches. I think this will become another classic driving song."

Judge Roy Forbes called Peck's song a "gritty yet melodic work, evoking the twists and turns of that storied ribbon of road that is so much a part of everyday Peace Country life."

Twenty-three musicians submitted songs to the contest, put on by the the Peace Liard Re-

gional Arts Council to celebrate the 75th anniversary of the Alaska Highway in 2017.

"We listened to folk ballads, classic country, alt country, rockabilly, rhythm and blues, purely instrumental ... so many musical tributes to this legendary highway," Woodward said.

Peck, who was born and raised on the banks of the Peace River and fronts the band Miss Quincy, wins \$1,000. Peck also launched the My Peace River music and multimedia project, described as a snapshot of the people, stories, and life in the Peace Valley. Chris Gale, from Fort Nelson, wins \$200.

The Arts Council will be making a CD with Peck's and Gale's songs, along with others that were submitted to the contest. The Arts Council says the CD will be made available during the celebrations of the Alaska Highway in 2017.

Listen to the songs here: alaskahighwaysong.ca



—AHN Jody Peck performs at a concert in August in support of her My Peace River project.

MATT PREPOST PHOTO

ARTS&CULTURE

Submissions wanted for theme song contest

BRONWYN SCOTT

reporter@northeastnews.ca

FORT ST. JOHN – Tom Cochrane’s classic hit “Life is a highway” would be the perfect kind of submission for the

Peace Liard Regional Arts Council’s Alaska Highway 75th Anniversary Theme Song Contest.

To mark the highway’s milestone year in 2017, which happens to coincide with the 150th anniversary of our great nation, the Peace Liard Regional Arts Council is planning to host several different events, one of which is the theme song contest.

The winning entrant will receive \$1,000, and have their song professionally recorded. Additionally, as the theme song would be played in all venues where there are celebrations taking place, the winner would become known across the region as a winning songwriter.

“We’re hoping that not only whoever is selected have opportunities to play their song at different events, but that it will also get air play, and we’ll have it on the web as well,” Kane said, in an interview with the Northeast News.

There’s no fee to enter, and songwriters can enter as many songs as they want.

Submissions should be between three and five minutes in length, and the lyrics should relate to the 75th anniversary of the Alaska Highway, or the Alaska

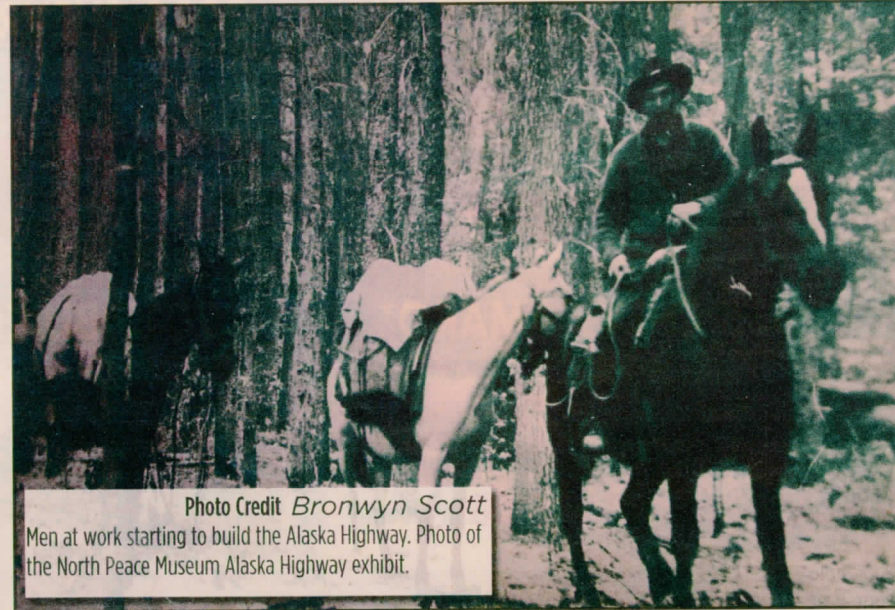


Photo Credit Bronwyn Scott
Men at work starting to build the Alaska Highway. Photo of the North Peace Museum Alaska Highway exhibit.

gers and dance to.

The chosen song will have universal appeal, addressing all ages, culture and ethnic backgrounds. Songwriters must provide a performer for their song, and performers must be able to perform during 2017 celebrations.

“Anyone who wants to enter, we want to hear what they’ve put together.”

The arts council has already received a few submissions, and are hoping for many more.

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their song professionally recorded. Additionally, as the theme song would be played in all venues where there are celebrations taking place, the winner would become known across the region as a winning songwriter.

"We're hoping that not only whoever is selected have opportunities to play their song at different events, but that it will also get air play, and we'll have it on the web as well," Kane said, in an interview with the Northeast News.

There's no fee to enter, and songwriters can enter as many songs as they want.

Submissions should be between three and five minutes in length, and the lyrics should relate to the 75th anniversary of the Alaska Highway, or the Alaska Highway in general. It should be a crowd pleaser listeners can snap their fin-

Photo Credit *Bronwyn Scott*

Men at work starting to build the Alaska Highway. Photo of the North Peace Museum Alaska Highway exhibit.



gers and dance to.

The chosen song will have universal appeal, addressing all ages, culture and ethnic backgrounds. Songwriters must provide a performer for their song, and performers must be able to perform during 2017 celebrations.

“Anyone who wants to enter, we want to hear what they’ve put together.”

The arts council has already received a few submissions, and are hoping for many more.

"We have a lot of fantastic singer songwriters who are touring professionally, but just the person who maybe hasn't even come out as a singer songwriter yet, if they have something that they want to put forward that's fantastic as

well. Anyone who wants to enter, we want to hear what they've put together," said organizer Donna Kane.

The deadline is Nov. 30, 2015.

Entries should be submitted as an audio recording.

"We're hoping that will be fairly easy, these days you can use even your cell phone to record yourself," said Kane.

If they receive enough submissions of high enough quality, it's possible that not just the winning song will be performed on stage, but several of the submitted songs as well, giving multiple musicians the chance to showcase their work.

For more information about the contest and how to enter, visit the Peace Liard Regional Arts Council website at Peaceliardarts.org.