

Segment 06 – “The Office Sweet”

[CLIP: Theme from “The Office”]

As Yukoners, we might laugh at the pop culture cliché of the hopeless worker cooped up in a cubicle, lucky to see light of day during working hours. .

[CLIP: *Office Space*: they moved my desk to storage room B and there was garbage on it...” 18: 20-18: 40+ 1: 18: 00-1: 18: 13 **33 seconds MAX**]

The sad truth is, a lot of Yukoners actually do work in offices. Day in, day out, we’re parked at our desks in ruffled button-downs, dreaming about being somewhere else. Anywhere better.

In my case, I’ve got it pretty good. When Mark dropped by my office in downtown Whitehorse the other day, He was totally impressed by my corner cubicle with its big, bright window overlooking 3rd and Main.

Still, we both knew there *had* to be somewhere even better. You know, a sweet corner office that could *really* make a desk jockey feel like they’re working in Yukon’s scenic grandeur – and not in some obscure line branch.

After ruling out cheeky options like the cockpit of Air North’s 737, we came up with three solid candidates for “Best Office in Whitehorse” – at least in terms of location and view.

And then, one sunny afternoon, we hit the road to visit them.

[CLIP: Muppet Song]

Our first office was in a building that often caught our eyes when walking the Millennium Trail.

[SFX: Car brakes?]

[CLIP: "My name is Steve Blysak, I work at Yukon Energy... Whitehorse Dam..." Track 01 00:07-00:16 **9 seconds**]

[CLIP: "Can you tell me what you see?" / "The view's got to be Number one here..." / "A lot of wildlife on river... Just one sec..." Track 01 00:20-00:25 / Track 07 00:13-00:17? / Track 01 00:36-00:45 **18 seconds**]

Steve had to duck away and make sure Yukoners could finish nuking their Pizza Pops or something. Mark and I took a moment to savour the view through the floor-to-ceiling windows.

With a view of Grey Mountain, floatplanes coming off Schwatka Lake, and the Rotary bridge just below, it was amazing. But the seven computer consoles, countless buttons and frequent alarms reminded us that a view isn't always a luxury.

We left Steve in his amazing control room and were glad that he didn't get too distracted with his great view.

[MUSIC]

For our next candidate, we climbed out of the valley and up to Physio Plus on the 2nd floor of the Multiplex. There, we met debonair physiotherapist Thane Phillips, who opened our eyes to factors besides his sweeping view of Mount MacIntyre, top of Grey Mountain, and the traffic on Hamilton Blvd.

[CLIP: "Well, I think that one of the highlights is that Midnight Sun Coffee is right downstairs... It's all under one roof... when downtown is smothered in ice-fog..." Track 08 00:48-01:07 + 01:24-01:31 **26 seconds**]

Physio Plus's nearby amenities and sunlight were making it seem even nicer than Yukon Energy. But we couldn't help point out that some pesky trees across the road were maybe blocking an even better view.

[CLIP: "Basically, I'm in favour of flattening..." "Not that you're suggesting..." "That would be wrong..." Track 09 00:47-01:01 **14 seconds**]

Unable to encourage any large scale logging, we dropped back downtown to the BDC building on 2nd avenue. Once we got there, we went straight to the Big Delicious Corner on the 4th floor.

That sunny southern corner is occupied by Health and Social Services. Managers Pat Duncan and Pam Buckway were more than happy to tell us why they thought this office the best in Whitehorse.

Here's Pam, on their great view:

[CLIP: "We have a beautiful view east to Grey Mountain... People come in all the time, say 'wow you've got a great view. Yeah, we do.'" Track 13 01:08-01:30 **22 seconds**]

One of the best things, as Pat pointed out, was the fact that so many employees got to share the view. It wasn't just one person—typically the boss—hogging the best corner.

[CLIP: "We're dealing with the general public, we have open office spaces..." Track 12 02:11-02:22 11 seconds]

And, on top of all that, Pam put the prime downtown location in perspective.

[CLIP: "We have our choice of coffee places..." "Dairy Queen?" "That's a problem..." Track 13 03:25-03:42 17 seconds]

And just like that, our research was done. Which office was the best?

It's usually at this point where we might talk about how every place is a winner and we can all find super qualities at any office in town.

But not this time. The Health and Social Services office was easily the winner.

It's a sunny, beautiful spot with sweeping, unbroken views. And it's shared by all staff and open to the public!

Talk about good health promotion.

So if your dream of working in the Yukon was shattered by a windowless grey cubicle, take heart. There are some amazing offices out there.

You might even call it the motherlode of modern day Yukon. Sitting by the window, filing reports and smelling like toner.

Segment 06 – “The Office Sweet”

SCRIPT DRAFT #1

Clips: maximum 187 seconds (easily less)

V/O: 567 words (rough)

[CLIP: Theme from “The Office”]

As Yukoners, we can laugh at the pop culture cliché of the hopeless sucker cooped up in a cubicle, lucky to see light of day during working hours....

[CLIP: Milton Waddams from *Office Space*: “... I told Bill that if they move my desk one more time, then, then I'm, I'm quitting, I'm going to quit. And, and I told Don too, because they've moved my desk four times already this year, and I used to be over by the window, and I could see the squirrels, and they were merry, but then.... they moved my desk to storage room B and there was garbage on it...” 18:20-18:40+ 1:18:00-1:18:13 **33 seconds MAX**]

The sad truth is, a lot of Yukoners actually work in offices. Day in, day out, we're parked at desks in ruffled button-downs, **suffering the same petty injustices and** dreaming about the ultimate open space concept:

It's called being outside. Or at least some place better than your own office....

In my case, I realized I actually have it pretty good when Mark dropped by my office in downtown Whitehorse. He was totally impressed by my corner cubicle with its big, bright window overlooking **the action at 3rd and Main.**

Still, we both knew there *had* to be somewhere even better. You know, a sweet corner office that could *really* make a nine-to-fiver feel like he or she's working amidst the Yukon's scenic grandeur—not in some obscure line branch.

After ruling out cheeky options like the cockpit of Air North's 737, we came up with three pretty decent candidates for “Best Office in Whitehorse”—at least in terms of location and view.

Then, one sunny afternoon, we hit the road....

[CLIP: Muppet Song]

Our first stop was a building that had often caught our eyes when **driving down Robert Service Way or** walking the Millennium Trail.

[SFX: Car brakes?]

[CLIP: “My name is Steve Blysak, I work at Yukon Energy.... Whitehorse Dam...” Track 01 00:07-00:16 **9 seconds**]

[CLIP: “Can you tell me what you see?” / “The view’s got to be Number one here...” / “A lot of wildlife on river.... Just one sec...” Track 01 00:20-00:25 / Track 07 00:13-00:17? / Track 01 00:36-00:45 **18 seconds**]

While Steve made sure that guy in Carmacks could finish nuking his Pizza Pops, we took a moment to savour the view through the floor-to-ceiling (?) windows of the corner control room. Even better than Steve said, with a view of Grey Mountain, floatplanes on approach to Schwatka Lake, Rotary bridge.... But the seven consoles, countless buttons and frequent alarms reminded us that a view isn’t always a luxury (and/or you don’t want him to enjoy it too much...]

[CLIP: “We operate the damn, it’s nice to be able to see when we open the gates etc...Track 07 01:39-01:55 **16 seconds**]

[MUSIC]

For our next candidate, we climbed out of the valley and up to Physio Plus on the 2nd floor of the Canada Games Centre. There, we met debonair physiotherapist Thane Phillips, who opened our eyes to factors besides his office’s sweeping view **of Mount MacIntyre, top of Grey Mountain, traffic on Hamilton Blvd....**

[CLIP: “Well, I think that one of the highlights is that Midnight Sun Coffee is right downstairs... It’s all under one roof... when downtown is smothered in ice-fog....” Track 08 00:48-01:07 + 01:24-01:31 **26 seconds**]

While Physio Plus’s nearby amenities and sunlight were starting to make Yukon Energy look a little less attractive, we couldn’t help but notice some pesky trees in Valleyview were detracting from our appreciation of Grey Mountain...

[CLIP: “Basically, I’m in favour of flattening...” “Not that you’re suggesting...” “That would be wrong...” Track 09 00:47-01:01 **14 seconds**]

On that note, we dropped back into downtown to the closest thing Whitehorse has to a *real* big city office building. The one on 2nd avenue with the BDC sign on that Big Delicious Corner with southern view.

That fourth floor corner is occupied by Health and Social Services, where [manager?] Pat Duncan and [title?] Pam Buckway were more than happy to talk about what makes this office the tops in Whitehorse...

Pam made a convincing pitch:

[CLIP: “We have a beautiful view east to Grey Mountain... People come in all the time, say ‘wow you’ve got a great view. Yeah, we do.” Track 13 01:08-01:30 **22 seconds**]

One of the best things, as Pat pointed out, was the fact that so many employees got to share the view, wasn’t just one person—typically the boss—hogging this sweet corner...

[CLIP: “We’re dealing with the general public, we have open office spaces...” Track 12 02:11-02:22 **11 seconds**]

Nor was she shy about extolling the benefits of all that shared light...

[CLIP: "It makes a huge difference.... Daylight and sunshine.... Huge difference to mood." Track 12 06:52-07:13 21 seconds – can be compressed]

And in case we were still thinking that Physio Plus was our first choice, Pam put the downtown location in perspective.

[CLIP: "We have our choice of coffee places..." "Dairy Queen?" "That's a problem..." Track 13 03:25-03:42 17 seconds]

CONCLUSION.... Pick a winner, have to go with Health and Social, kind of place that makes your broken dream of coming to the Yukon to conquer the great outdoors as a gold miner or bush pilot seem a little more bearable... This office looks 100% Yukon, but it smells like toner...?