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# MINUS40 REPORT

*Missionaries to the indigenous people of the Far North*

## May 2020

Dear praying friends,

I miss church. I miss freedom.

My past few months has been just like yours.

You might ask, "What have you been doing to earn your support money, Donley?"

Well, you probably deserve a rebate. But here's a report:

I preached a few times online, then turned it over to Roy to handle. It will be his full time responsibility very soon anyway. (spoiler alert!)

I did a month's worth of 5 minute daily video devotionals and put them online. Numerically the response was stunning, but local, personal responses of how God touched lives, way outweighed "views", "clicks" and "reach".

I studied and built messages to preach even with no schedule to preach them.

I rebuilt a beat up .270 rifle.

I refinished a table and countertop.

I baked a batch of home-made dog treats.

I added some to a book I'm writing about ministering to Indigenous Peoples.

I shopped and did mail runs for a family in a required 14 day self quarantine.

I encouraged a friend from Tuk who was detained in Inuvik and forced to remain in quarantine for 14 days after a vehicle trade, in the Yukon, near the NWT border.

I made myself visible around Tuk as much as possible. Waves, smiles and conversations at the store were welcomed contact during the lockdown. (Which at the time of this writing is still in full effect)

I learned what "zoom meetings" were and took part in quite a few.

Lois and I nightly solved the world's and Christianity's problems. Just ask us, we got it all figured out!

(I must confess, we also watched home renovation shows and complained about how spoiled and picky people are these days.)

But the most productive thing that I did was to hear from the Lord as He increased my burden for arctic ministry and love for indigenous souls. I wept after viewing a high quality video showcasing Greenland, Canada and Alaska as the far north and needing the Gospel. Yet this video never showed one clip, one picture or one quote of an indigenous person. Not one. Alaska has a population of 731,000 souls, and over 100,000 are indigenous. Greenland has 56,000 souls and 50,000 of them are indigenous. Canada has 37 million souls and 1.6 million are indigenous people. After I wept, I stewed, and then I surrendered. It is time to put up or shut up as the old schoolyard challenge goes, so check out the "back page" on the back page and see how God has led me.



## Steve & Lois Donley



Steve and Lois Donley began serving The Lord in the Arctic in 1989. The Donley's ministry has been mainly in the Western Canadian Arctic with considerable time in Alaska.

*Psalm 147:17 He casteth forth his ice like morsels: who can stand before his cold?*

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## The Back Page...

The "Back Page" is dedicated to the journey Lois and I are traveling that eventually will lead us to "life after Tuk". This is the 4th entry of this journey.

As soon as the travel restrictions the NWT and Yukon are currently under are lifted, Lois and I will relocate to the Yukon and reach indigenous souls from there. The Yukon has a population of 8,400 indigenous peoples with well over half of that number in the Whitehorse area alone.

The move consists of simply our pickup and a 16 foot utility trailer. It will be about an 18 hour trip pulling a loaded trailer, but split up into 2 days, we will manage just fine. When we get to the Yukon, we will live in our RV and secure housing before winter hits.

As well, after Lois has her hip replacement surgery, rehabbing in Yukon's capital city will be exponentially better than attempting recovery in Tuk. Also, the dietary restrictions I follow will be way more affordable and of unbelievable variety.

In the Yukon, the roads are paved. Several small communities are reachable within a 2 hour drive and the bumpy, gravel roads and ice roads of the high arctic will be left for younger men to tame.

I'm excited to see what the Lord does among indigenous souls. I'm excited to watch God open doors so I can raise awareness of the need to reach the indigenous peoples of Canada and the rest of the circumpolar arctic. Being in the Yukon allows us a true northern base to reach out from. We will be in a strategic spot to be of great assistance to the high arctic churches that have been a part of our lives for over 30 years.

Your generosity in this difficult time is so encouraging. Our support has been strong and every need has been met. We've always felt secure and this pandemic was not a test run but an actual situation where things could have broken down fast. It didn't. Thank you for your faithfulness and we are encouraged to be faithful by your example.

Thank you,

Steve & Lois