

# Spiritual traveller lends WCB a hand

By Greg Ralston  
News Reporter

**A** management guru helping restructure the Yukon Workers' Compensation Board believes descendants of mystical beings inhabit the centre of the earth.

On another plane of existence, of course.

She also believes both Jesus Christ and Hitler made use of Pluto's energy.

And that aliens will descend on our planet, as she writes in *Decoding Destiny*, not to crush us but "as a reminder of what mankind will become and as an encouragement to turn one's vibration to light."

Despite this, Tanis Helliwell is considered one of the foremost purveyors of progress in today's workplace.

Canadians, after all, are not allowed to discriminate on the basis of religious affiliation.

Jim Fulton, executive director of the Vancouver-based David Suzuki Foundation, speaks glowingly of Helliwell's effectiveness.

His organization has used her repeatedly as a facilitator to help implement change, analyze work flows and motivate staff.

"She is, perhaps, more effective than anyone I've seen in both her listening skills and her understanding of advanced structural functioning."

Fulton is so enamored with Helliwell's prowess he provided her with a written endorsement, free of charge, which can be found on her internet homepage.

Her spiritual beliefs have never surfaced in her work with the foundation, he added.

"I admire her for being able to have such a finely developed and vigorous imagination that she can write with while at the same time have a highly refined professional capacity as a facilitator."

Helliwell was in the Yukon late last year to help reorganize the beleaguered Workers' Compensation Board.

A return trip has been

scheduled to fine-tune and analyze progress.

She will also give two lectures — Take Your Soul to Work and Developing Your Intuition for Better Decision Making — at the upcoming WCB's annual conference.

Both address, in part, employee satisfaction and its contribution to a healthy workplace.

WCB president Barry Davidson said Helliwell was recommended by the Yukon's Public Service Commission.

Her skills are being used to make the organization more effective and responsive, as recommended by the Gladish report, added Davidson.

"It's part of our initial thrust at creating change in the organization — getting a new acceptance of who we are, what we're supposed to be doing and trying to get at the core of what we do here."

He said he had neither read nor heard of the book.

"I suppose that's sort of a New-Age concept and we didn't pay much attention to those kinds of things," he said.

"She certainly doesn't make reference in her presentations to anything like that — she speaks in very good management terms, and that's all she does where we're concerned."

The Yukon's Public Service Commission has used Helliwell's services six times over the past five years, said Cheryl Van Blaricom, the department's director of staff development.

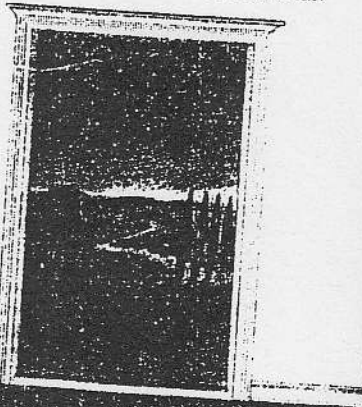
Helliwell has addressed government employees faced with such challenges as workplace change and creative thinking, said Van Blaricom.

Employee evaluations of her services have been overwhelmingly positive, said Van Blaricom, who also has not read *Decoding Destiny*.

Other organizations that have used Helliwell's services include IBM, MacMillan Bloedel Ltd., the federal department of Fisheries and Oceans and, most recently, a provincewide medical convention in Alberta.

## DECODING DESTINY

KEYS TO MANKIND'S SPIRITUAL EVOLUTION



TANIS HELLIWELL

*"Not everything that exists are people actually able to see in the third dimension — it's as simple as that."*

Helliwell the author has not had quite the same amount of success as Helliwell the management guru. Her book has sold just 4,000 copies worldwide.

Prone to fits of contagious laughter, Helliwell — the person — is both engaging and disarming.

She has three degrees from the University of Toronto, including a master's in education and adult counselling.

She has been doing management- and counselling-related work for close to two decades, she said.

Her spiritual pursuits, like

those of others, are just one aspect of her life, she said, noting *Decoding Destiny* is a metaphysical treatise.

"In all cultures and in all religions, there has always been what are called wisdom teachings and that book and my other work is based on that," she said.

Some of the teachings in her book, such as beings living at the centre of the earth, might sound peculiar, she said.

But "not everything that exists are people actually able to see in the third dimension — it's as simple as that," she said.

"I wouldn't say that the book would be for everybody, because some people would say that if you can't see it, you can't believe it."

Helliwell has also been guiding "Magical Mystery Tours" for the last 13 years.

The focus of her most recent journey to New Zealand is perhaps best summed up on her internet homepage.

It says its theme was to re-awaken ancestral memory and reconnect with the Earth.

"Tanis and fellow travellers were joined by Maori and Waitaha elders and visited the famous Waitomo Glow Worm Caves, slept in a Maori Marae to dream their sacred dream (and) walked in the ancient steaming rocks and geysers or the Waimangu Valley," says the page.

Helliwell said she has one overriding purpose in life.

"All of my work, no matter what we call it, is for the same purpose, and that is helping people to develop their potential so they can be happier in what they're doing in their personal and professional life."

But there is no place for metaphysical teachings in the world of business, she added.

"I certainly wouldn't be talking about being at the centre of the earth — I'd get fired."

Whitehorse restaurateur Arthur Giovinazzo initially raised concerns about Helliwell's gig with both the Workers' Compensation Board and the Public Service Commission.

He was relieved to hear Helliwell did not use her business engagements as a pulpit to preach her philosophy.

Giovinazzo said he's open to alternative modes of thinking, as we all should be, and that Helliwell's theories of life aren't necessarily any more far-fetched than those accepted in the mainstream.

"I was raised as a Catholic," said Giovinazzo, "and the Virgin birth is equally as implausible as beings living in the centre of the Earth."