

# Educator Update

April 1, 2021

## Educator Update this week

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## Students in grades 10 to 12 return to a full-time schedule

On Wednesday March 31, we announced that Grades 10 to 12 students at F.H. Collins, Vanier Catholic and Porter Creek secondary schools will be returning to full-time, in-person learning on April 19. Read the [News Release](#).

We have scheduled two planning days to support Grades 10-12 teachers at those high schools to adjust course plans for the remainder of the school year. Students will not attend school during these two days. They will continue their learning away from school. These planning days are scheduled for:

- Thursday, April 15, 2021; and
- Friday, April 16, 2021.

To support a safe transition, the Office of the Chief Medical Officer of Health has provided [updated health and safety guidelines for these schools](#).

Read the attached updated set of Continuity of Learning requirements for Grade 10-12 students for the three Whitehorse secondary schools that have been issued to support this transition, or download it from the [Yukon curriculum website](#).

We will continue to keep you updated through your school principal on any further information as this planning work continues.

## Yukon Education Microsoft Teams-Teacher Feedback Survey

Education is working with a third-party consulting group to determine how best to support the use of Microsoft Teams in Yukon classrooms. To develop a plan, we need to gather teacher feedback to determine how Teams is currently being used, and understand teachers' awareness of the product. Please take a few minutes to complete the survey. This survey is for all teachers, whether you use MS Teams or not. Complete this anonymous [Microsoft Teams survey](#) from April 6-16, 2021.

## Reporting and Assessments

### Grade 10 Numeracy and Literacy Assessments April 12-16

Please refer to the [memos](#) that were sent to administrators last week, for details regarding upcoming assessments.

### Diplôme d'études en langue française (DELFF) on April 12 for Grades 11-12 students

The annual DELFF will take place this month. Hélène St-Onge is organizing these evaluations, coordinated at an international level.

These French "évaluations" will take place at the Department of Education from 1 pm – 3:30 pm on April 12.

### Oral Proficiency Interview (OPI)

Louise Gagné is working with French Programs to help orchestrate the OPI this year. Following the French Second Language (FSL) Assessment Matrix, the oral interview will be conducted with various French Cohorts (gr. 3, gr. 5, gr. 7 and gr.9). Evaluators will be sent to schools in late April or May to run interviews with your students. Evaluators will need a quiet place to run the interviews.

If you have any questions, contact Louise Gagné at 867-334-3547.

## Resources for Educators

### Zoom presentation by Canadian Astronaut Lt. Col Joshua Kutryk

As part of the Yukon Stikine Regional Virtual Science Fair, your class is invited to join a 60-min. Zoom presentation by Canadian Space Agency astronaut, and former Whitehorse resident, Lt. Col. Joshua Kutryk on Friday, Apr. 9 at 1 pm.

Email [yukonstikinर्सfs@gmail.com](mailto:yukonstikinर्सfs@gmail.com) by Apr. 8 to receive the link to view the presentation. Questions from your class can be submitted in advance to the email address above. [More info.](#)

### Agency in the School Approvals

The Agency in the School Approval Committee met in late February. There is one new approval in place:

- S. S. Klondike Steamboat Art Project for Grades 5 by the Parks Canada Yukon Field Unit. [More details.](#)

### Natural Curiosity Webinar Series and Book

In the [Embracing the Shift: Sharing Our Pandemic Stories of Connecting to Land and Children's Natural Curiosity](#) series: *Decolonizing Practice Through Two-Eyed Seeing and Natural Curiosity on the Land*:

April 8, 7:00 - 8:30 pm (EST). [Register here.](#)

We will continue the journey to decolonize our practice and reconcile with the natural world through the four branches of Natural Curiosity.

Download the recording of the second in the series: [Stories from the Yukon](#). If you choose to view the recording and would like a copy of the book, *Natural Curiosity: The Importance of Indigenous Perspectives in Children's Environmental Inquiry 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition*, you can still reach out to [Jesse.Jewell@gov.yk.ca](mailto:Jesse.Jewell@gov.yk.ca).

### Spring 2021 Canoe Booking

The Yukon Education Canoe Program provides wrangling, canoes, and associated gear for spring field trips. Please complete a [canoe booking form](#) by Wednesday, April 21 for each trip.

The wrangling service covers the transportation of canoes and gear. You are responsible for ensuring there is a canoe guide. For questions or more information, contact [jesse.jewell@yukon.ca](mailto:jesse.jewell@yukon.ca).

## Professional Learning Opportunities

### Yukon-based Simon Fraser University (SFU) Master of Education in Numeracy

This opportunity continues to be explored with Peter Liljedahl and SFU for Sept. 2022 or 2024. If you are interested and have not already done so, contact [Tanya.Lewis@gov.yk.ca](mailto:Tanya.Lewis@gov.yk.ca). For more info, here is a [similar program that is currently running](#).

Did you know that you can apply to the YTA PD Committee for credit courses for 75% of the cost of tuition, GST and course fees up to \$5100 per year now for Master level work?

### Hospice Yukon: Supporting the Grieving Child for Professionals Apr. 13, 12 pm – 1 pm via Zoom

This is a free, online 'Lunch and Learn' for educators. Educators play an important role in helping grieving children feel supported outside their home environment. When a child is well supported at school, it helps them integrate their grief experience into their life in a healthy way. Children grieve differently than adults. Knowing what to say and how to support children during this time can be challenging. [Register here](#).

## Other Opportunities for Schools

### Your Voice is Power Learning Experience and Coding Competition

EarSketch. Make beats. Learn Code. Promote equity. Engage your students in a learning experience that explores the ways music, computer science, and entrepreneurship can be tools to advance racial equity. Students can compete with their class or on their own up until June 4. Five students will win a \$5,000 scholarship or grant to start a business, and five teachers will receive \$1,000 for above and beyond instruction. [More info](#).

### Safety Culture Contest 2021 Invitation for Students

Visit [wcb.yk.ca/contests](http://wcb.yk.ca/contests) for the K-12 categories. For more information, email [Natalie.Thivierge@wcb.yk.ca](mailto:Natalie.Thivierge@wcb.yk.ca), YWCHSB Safety Communication Consultant. Completed projects due by 5 pm on May 14.

### Let's Talk Science #Tomatosphere20 Photo and Story Contest

Help celebrate 20 years of Tomatosphere™ by [participating in the contest](#). Share a photo of your class participating in the project or tell us about how you have participated in Tomatosphere™ this year or any time in the last 20 years. There are still 2/3 prize draws — one at the end of April and one at the end of May.

## Action Items for Consideration

- Read the [News Release](#) on Grades 10-12 students returning to full-time in-person learning
- Complete this anonymous [Microsoft Teams survey](#) from April 6-16, 2021.
- Join Grade 10 Numeracy Assessment Development Team Contact: [Tanya.Lewis@gov.yk.ca](mailto:Tanya.Lewis@gov.yk.ca)
- Check out the featured [resources](#) this week.
- Consider engaging in [professional learning opportunities](#)
- Let your students know about the [Other Opportunities for Schools](#).

## Some Reminders from Previous Updates

- Queen's University Post-Grad Math Certificate for BC (and Yukon). [Register](#).
- May 12-13 Network of Inquiry and Indigenous Education (NOIIE) Virtual Symposium. [Register](#).
- UBC Transformative Educational Leadership Program (TELP) for BC/Yukon educators starting October 2021/ Application Deadline: July 11. [Apply now](#).

- International TELP: Starting August 2021/ Application Deadline: May 31. [Apply now](#). [Learn more](#).
- Check out the [2021-22 Graduation Assessment Schedule](#) for the next school year.
- [Learning for a Sustainable Future](#) (LSF) Virtual Climate Action Youth Leadership Forum Mar. 25 – Apr. 27.
- ASCD [2021 Early Kindergarten and Kindergarten Conference](#): [Register](#) to view recordings until May 2.
- The Kids on the Farm Bookings spring farm tour season is May 1 - June 11. [More info and bookings](#).
- April 30 PD day [menu of offerings](#). Have a look at the [recordings from Jan. 15](#) & [recordings from Nov. 20](#).
- Code to Learn with Connected North. [Register](#). High School 10:30am - 2:00pm EST. New date: May 15
- BC Early Years Professional Development (EYPD) – Explore – Learn – Grow: <https://earlyyearsbc.ca/events/>
- Early Childhood Investigations Webinars and recordings: [Early Childhood Webinars](#)
- Go to [www.shareedbc.ca](http://www.shareedbc.ca) to explore resources from the growing curated collection.
- Contact [Natalie.Thivierge@wcb.yk.ca](mailto:Natalie.Thivierge@wcb.yk.ca) for the delivery of lessons in the areas of mental health, digital citizenship and internet safety for grades 6, 8, 9 and 12.
- In the free [@ICTC\\_CTIC](#) 4-course program, students learn about cyber security. [Enroll your class](#).
- Contact [bsherry@takingitglobal.org](mailto:bsherry@takingitglobal.org) for free Virtual Field Trips or to engage with an Indigenous Role Model. [Website](#). Online Session Menu: [English](#) or [French](#). ([Session Statistics](#))
- Review the Laser Cutter Resources Page which includes the [Laser Cutter Schedule](#) and FAQs.
- Check out resources built for you: [Educator Update Archive](#), [Educators' Place](#), [Resource Services Digital Resources](#), and [YESNet Portal](#).

## Quick Education links for 2020-21 School Year

- [Education updates and supports on COVID-19](#)
- [Updated 2020-21 school calendar important dates](#)
- [Find your school operational plan](#)
- [School bus information and schedules](#)
- [Health and Safety guidelines for K-12 school setting \(updated November 2020\)](#)

## Quick Links to Resources on COVID-19 Related Topics

- [COVID-19 Directive 6](#)
- [Non-medical masks in the workplace](#)
- [How to wear a non-medical mask poster](#)
- [Mental health and wellness supports](#)
- [COVID-19 Self-Assessment](#)
- [Talking and Sharing with Kids and Families on COVID-19](#)
- [COVID-19 and teenagers: Supporting Youth Mental Wellness](#)
- [COVID-19 counselling and crisis support](#)
- [Practice Safe 6](#)
- [Wellness Together Canada](#)
- [Yukon information on COVID-19](#)
- [Canada response and Health Canada information](#)
- [Council of Yukon First Nations](#)