

March 8, 2024

Educator Update

[Bridge Building Competition](#)

[Individualized Learning Fund for youth](#)

[Celebration of Swans](#)

[Yukon Wildlife Preserve school programs](#)

[Comprehensive sexual health education resources](#)

[Quick links](#)



Bridge Building Competition

The Engineers Yukon Outreach Committee is excited to announce the 2024 Bridge Building Competition and Engineering Bonanza, to be held at the Canada Games Centre on April 27 from 10am to 4pm. The Bridge Building Competition is an annual event where students from Grade 3 through Grade 12 are challenged to build a small wooden bridge using only wooden popsicle sticks, glue and dental floss. The bridges are collected in early April to be weighed and measured, and then tested to ultimate failure at a public event. The bridge with the best strength-to-weight ratio wins, and the heaviest bridge does not usually win once weight and material efficiency are factored in. The event is a perennial favorite within the Yukon community, and shows the engineering method in a practical and fun way. Engineers Yukon is looking for interested schools, classes, and student competitors.

Contact Darren Thomas outreach@engineersyukon.ca for more information.

Individualized Learning Fund for youth

Communities Building Youth Futures (CBYF) is a collective of young people, youth-serving organizations and community groups working together to support Yukon youth. CBYF Yukon has been working towards creating a Territorial Youth Strategy, a vision where all Yukon Youth have a sense of belonging. Applications are now open for the Individualized Learning Fund to help youth lead and establish student groups within Yukon high schools. This fund can help to establish a new organization or support an existing one.

- Money available – 4 grants of \$2,000
- Who can apply – Yukon high school students with support from a teacher or staff
- What programs can be funded – extra-curricular student organizations/groups in Yukon schools. For example, a student council, social justice club, GSA, math club, film club, book club, coding club, school spirit event, etc.
- What can funding be used for – club materials, training, honorariums for guest speakers, rental or lease of room or space for approved activities, food for events.

[Apply online](#) by March 15.

For questions or help with your application, contact Aliya at aliya.cbyf@gmail.com or 867.393.2824 #201.

Celebration of Swans

Teachers can now book their classes for field trips to Swan Haven in April. Programs for grades 2, 3, and 5 are free for Yukon schools thanks to funding from Department of Environment's Wildlife Viewing and Environmental Education Program (EnviroWild).

Swan Haven is one of Yukon's incredible natural wonders. Each spring, Swan Haven (located on M'Clintock Bay on Marsh Lake) hosts a spring spectacle of migrating swans and waterbirds. Students explore what makes this early-season open water special, its impact on the lives of swans, and experience the sound of 1,000 swans!

The Celebration of Swans Art Contest is also back for another year! Students can submit their art until March 28. Art submissions will be displayed at Swan Haven throughout the Celebration of Swans; winning art will be displayed at the Whitehorse Public Library in May.

Art contest information: <https://yukon.ca/swans>

Field trip information: <https://yukonwildlife.ca/experience/school-programs/>

Yukon Wildlife Preserve school programs

New school programs are available at Yukon Wildlife Preserve starting March 25. Programs are free of charge thanks to funding from Department of Education.

Yukon Wildlife Preserve is a 700-acre zoological facility and preserve located 30 minutes from Whitehorse. Students get the chance to get up close and personal with native wildlife, plants, and ecosystems. Field trips are full of opportunities for inquisitive students to ask questions, get hands on, and spend some time around Yukon's most incredible animals.

Programs are available for grades K and 4 starting March 25, and grades 1 and 7 starting April 29.

Program information: <https://yukonwildlife.ca/experience/school-programs/>

Comprehensive sexual health education resources

The Health Promotion Unit, in partnership with the Department of Education, is releasing a series of comprehensive sexual health education teaching resources called Better to Know, for kindergarten to Grade 12 classrooms. The resources align with the British Columbia Physical and Mental Health Curriculum. The resources are available in hard copies or online at <https://yukon.ca/en/health-and-wellness/comprehensive-sexual-education>. To learn more about these resources and best practices for implementation you can book an information session with Health Promotion's Certified Sexual Health Educators by emailing bettertoknow@yukon.ca.

The Health Promotion Unit also offers Comprehensive Sexual Health Education classroom presentations, professional development sessions, and parent information sessions. Please contact bettertoknow@yukon.ca for all bookings.

For questions regarding content or delivery contact Nikki Krocker, nikki.krocker@yukon.ca or (867) 332-0631

Quick Links

- [School health and safety during COVID-19](#)
- [Mental health and wellness support](#)
- [Yukon Kindergarten to Grade 12 Education Recovery Plan](#)
- [Yukon information on COVID-19](#)
- [Canada response and Health Canada information](#)
- [Council of Yukon First Nations COVID-19 info hub](#)
- [First Nation School Board](#)