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What Happens If There is a COVID-19 Case Connected to a School?

This week, we shared some important reminders with our school communities about the steps we take if there is a COVID-19 case connected to a student, staff or visitor to a school. You may have already received these, but the FAQ and Roles and Responsibilities documents are attached here for your reference.

Finalizing Updates to the Health and Safety Guidelines for Schools

The Office of the Chief Medical Officer of Health (CMOH) is finalizing updates to the health and safety guidelines for K-12 Yukon schools. These important updates will include:

- Students age 10 and older (Grade 4 and up) and staff will be required to wear non-medical masks in all indoor school settings outside of the classroom.
- Students are now permitted to be as close as 1 metre from each other in the classroom.
- Staff must maintain 2 metres from students and from other staff.

The Office of the CMOH is providing time to implement these new guidelines. Schools are expected to implement them when they are ready to do so, but not later than Dec. 21. Once guidelines are shared with school administration, they will update their operational plans and have them reviewed and approved by their school councils and the school superintendent, before implementing these new practices at their school. Check with your school administration for updates.

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Learning During COVID-19 Survey #2

On Monday, November 23, the Government of Yukon will be launching the second Learning during COVID-19 survey to hear from students, families and school staff on school so far this year. The survey will be sent out directly to families and school staff by e-mail.

Long Service Update

Many educators are receiving a Long Service Award this year on Dec. 4. As in previous years, recipients will receive the afternoon off. Recognizing that multiple employees away on the same day can create an issue meeting operational requirements in schools:

- Administrators can coordinate which afternoon each employee will take off for this purpose
- The afternoon can be between Dec. 4 and the last day of the current school year
- The employee or the school will enter leave into the system on the chosen afternoon
- This leave will not be carried over or paid out if not taken prior to the end of this school year

Off-Site Trip Risk Management

As the seasons change please keep the following in mind:

- Tobogganing, sliding, tubing etc. presents significant hazards to students. If this activity is part of a field trip then the trip is considered a Complex Trip and a Risk Analysis needs to be completed.
- Please review the [Transportation of Students in Government Owned or Rented Vehicles Policy](#) as there are some important winter specific guidelines.
- Continue to mitigate the hazard presented by the delayed hibernation of bears when on off-site trips.

Primary Curriculum Consultant Support Shift

As a large part of the mandate of the current government, Education is tasked to plan and implement the transition of child care and early learning from Health and Social Services. Betty Burns is now on special assignment as the lead of the transition. With that, last week we were pleased to welcome Michelle.Gillard@gov.yk.ca to the Curriculum and Assessment team as the Early Learning Curriculum Consultant. Please reach out to Michelle for support in the same way that you previously reached out to Betty.

Assessment and Reporting

Kindergarten Testing

Reach out to Gabriel.Stetkiewicz@gov.yk.ca or Michelle.Gillard@gov.yk.ca if you need help wrapping up Kindergarten testing.

January 25-29, 2021 Graduation Assessments

Students that plan to write a Graduation Assessment during this session can be added to the Online Registry via a TRAX upload during the period Nov. 17 – Dec. 12. Contact Anne.Copland@gov.yk.ca for a support sessions to review how to create the assessment records in Aspen and how to do a TRAX upload.

Resources for Educators

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[ShareEdBC](#), an invitation only online platform, will be resending activation emails to everyone who did not activate their account in October. There are already 206 active Yukon educators taking advantage of this platform. ShareEdBC allows BC and Yukon educators to access curated curriculum aligned resources and to connect with other educators and vetted educational partners. More info? Visit www.ShareEdBC.ca

Career Education in High School

A [new CERIC-funded study](#) has evidence of how career education changes students' career choices and pathways. There are two upcoming opportunities to learn more: a [free webinar](#) on November 23 and a [Learning Lab](#) in January. With that, **Connected North** is continuing the special Spotlight Series to feature Indigenous Role Models for grades 7-12. On Nov. 26, Star Nahwegahbo is set to work with your students virtually on an art activity called "How to Grow a Seed." Interested? Contact: bsherry@takingitglobal.org.

EdTech Team: Minecraft Education Edition on December 8 for Grades 4 - 8

Minecraft - "We're travelling across Canada, virtually, providing free, live, hands-on Minecraft: Education Edition 90-min lessons for your students during the Computer Science Education Week! We want to stop by your classroom virtually to share our love of Minecraft: Education Edition with you and your students

Professional Learning Opportunities

21 Things You May Not Know About the Indian Act

The second "[Live Q&A with Bob Joseph](#)" about his national bestselling book. Connect with Bob and readers who want to learn more about the historical and ongoing impacts of the *Indian Act*. [November 21st, 2020](#)

Move This World: Educator Wellness Series: Practical Self-Care on Dec. 1

[Learn more about Move This World PD offerings here](#). Learning Intentions:

- Practice processing your feelings and experiences from this year and caring for your own wellbeing.
- Discover exercises for yourself, colleagues, and students to support emotional wellbeing.

Credit Courses Update and the Yukon-focused SFU EdD Program

The YTA PD Committee has approved an increase of limits as well as the elimination of the semester restrictions for credit courses. Now available/year: Undergraduate \$3600, Masters \$5100, PhD or Doctoral \$6600. ?s: pd@yta.yk.ca. A Yukon-focused EdD Program from SFU is being planned for Fall 2021. [More info](#).

Other Opportunities for Schools

[Fast ForWord](#) LDAY has limited licenses available for [Fast ForWord](#), an online literacy program. This is an opportunity for students who struggle with reading. [More info](#)

Action Items for Consideration

- Review the updated guidelines for K-12 school settings are now posted on Yukon.ca.
- Complete the Learning During Covid-19 Survey #2 after its launch on November 23.
- Schedule your Long Service Award afternoon off between Dec. 4 and the end of this school year.
- As the seasons change, keep off-site risk management in mind especially with respect to tobogganing.
- Reach out to the new Early Learning Curriculum Consultant, Michelle.Gillard@gov.yk.ca.
- Need help wrapping up Kindergarten testing. Contact Gabriel.Stetkiewicz@gov.yk.ca or Michelle.Gillard@gov.yk.ca.

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- Register students who are interested in writing a graduation assessment in January.
- Active your ShareEdBC account.
- [Book](#) a free Career Education or other virtual visit to your classroom with Connected North.
- Book a [Minecraft Education Edition visit on December 8](#) for your Grades 4 – 8 class.
- Engage in some upcoming [Professional Learning Opportunities](#) and consider the EdD program.
- Get more info about the [Fast ForWord](#) literacy program for your students from LDAY. [More info](#)

Some Reminders from Previous Updates

- Blended Learning: Contact Nikki.Krocker@gov.yk.ca about Connecting with Students Online.
- Register for the Apple Virtual Teaching and Learning with iPad Series [English](#) [French](#)
- Review the [Laser Cutter Schedule](#) and [FAQs](#).
- Watch the Fountas & Pennell Dec. 9 [Literacy Webinar](#). Contact [Nikki](#) for similar offerings on Nov. 23-24.
- Check out resources built for you: [Educator Update Archive](#), [Educators' Place](#) and [YESNet Portal](#)

Quick Education Links for 2020-21 School Year

- [Helpful overview document of school during 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 settings](#)
- [Yukon Learning Continuity Requirements for 2020-21](#)
- [Blended learning handout](#)
- [Guidance on non-medical mask use in schools](#)
- [Learn more about when to keep your child home when sick](#)
- [Can my child go to school?](#) Ages 6 +. Download poster and review daily.
- [Can my child go to daycare?](#) Ages 0-5. Download poster and review daily.
- [Most current version of our Frequently Asked Questions to help answer questions. / FAQ in French](#)

Quick Links to Resources on COVID-19 Related Topics

- [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](#)
- [FAQ for school staff](#)

For General Updates and Health information on COVID-19

- [Yukon information on COVID-19: yukon.ca/en/covid-19-information](http://yukon.ca/en/covid-19-information)
- [Canada response and Health Canada information: canada.ca/coronavirus](http://canada.ca/coronavirus)
- [Council of Yukon First Nations: information and downloadable resources: cyfn.ca/covid-19](http://cyfn.ca/covid-19)