Educator Update October 20, 2021



Educator Update this week

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First Class shifting to M365

Yukon Education will switch email platforms from FirstClass to M365 Outlook on Friday, Oct. 29th at 5:00pm. This will affect all teachers, education assistants, students, and school staff with @yesnet.yk.ca email accounts.

What Do I Need to Know?

- Your email address will not change, only how you access, send, and receive your email will change.
- Users will have the option to:
 - Move some of your old data from FirstClass to Outlook or start fresh
 - Move your contacts from FirstClass to Outlook
- All new email after the cutover (Oct. 29th at 5:00pm) will flow to Outlook.
- You will be able to access your Outlook email through the web app in M365 through Rapid ID, or the
 desktop client on a one-to-one device, or the mobile app on a personal device.
- FirstClass will continue to be accessible in read-only mode until the end of this school year. You will be able to log-in and have access to old email, or files that you stored in FirstClass.
- Students require M365 accounts to have access to Outlook. This is facilitated by sending home the Cloud Services letter and opt out form. Contact david.mcinnes@yukon.ca for more information.

Training Opportunities provided by Microsoft Oct. 22, 2021

Please register in advance.

Da	ate	Time	Topic	Registration Link
	22-Oct	10:30am- 11:45am	Outlook Level 100	https://aka.ms/R-YKED- Outlook100-Oct22
	22-Oct	12:45pm-2:00pm	Microsoft Teams Level	https://aka.ms/R-YKED-Teams100- Oct22

COVID-19 vaccines required for all Yukon government Employees

Yukon government is supporting efforts to increase vaccination rates in the territory by <u>requiring all employees</u> to be fully vaccinated by November 30, 2021.

This requirement for mandatory vaccination for all public servants is based on the recommendation of the Acting Chief Medical Officer of Health – and aligns with measures being taken elsewhere around the country to increase vaccination rates and combat the Delta variant wave now circulating in southern Canada and spreading in Yukon.

Throughout the pandemic, the Yukon government has followed the guidance of Yukon's Chief Medical Officer of Health. As Yukon's largest employer, we have a duty to lead by example and do our part to keep each other and our communities safe from COVID-19.

Details are being finalized for Yukon government's approach to mandatory vaccines for employees. Employees do not need to verify their vaccination status just yet – we ask that you wait until full details and additional supporting resources such as a Q&A have been distributed. These materials are expected to be finalized in the coming weeks and you will be notified when it is time to verify your vaccination status. The supporting resources will also contain information about how the employer will address instances where employees are not vaccinated by November 30.

For more information about the COVID-19 vaccine, please visit the <u>vaccine questions</u> page on the Yukon government's website or book a vaccine appointment on the <u>appointments page</u>.

Assessment and Reporting

The Grade 10 Numeracy Assessment and Grade 10 and Grade 12 Literacy Assessments have upcoming sessions November 1-5, 2021. See Secondary <u>TEAMS Literacy Channel</u> for details on Literacy Assessments and Secondary <u>TEAMS Numeracy Channel</u> for details on Numeracy Assessment.

Professional Learning Opportunities

October 22nd PD day Menu of Options

Featuring key note speaker <u>Shelley Moore</u>, YTA and Department of Education have put together a series of offerings for teachers, Educational Assistants and Administrators to engage in. Session offerings include professional development on Balanced Literacy, Experiential Learning, Numeracy, Early Learning, and more.

The day will be concluded with words from <u>Jody Carrington</u>. If you cannot attend these sessions, watch for recordings available after October 22nd.

Online Diploma for French Teachers

Simon Fraser University (SFU) is offering an online graduate diploma for French Teachers (Core, Immersion, and French First Language). "Inclusion, Interaction and Connection in French Classes" is a 2-year program that begins in January, 2022. <u>Click to learn more</u> and register before the November 12th deadline. Sign up here to try a class on Thursday October 21st: <u>Online Diploma for French teachers</u>

Commissioner of Yukon

The office of the commissioner of Yukon has launched a reference library exhibiting over 185 books on various topics (Yukon and Canadian First Nations, Yukon and Alaska, Children's Books, Canada, Awards and Merits, The Crown).

The library is open during business hours, Monday to Friday, 8:30 am to 4:30 pm at Taylor House, 412 Main Street.

They have also updated the James Smith exhibition on the second floor and their Exhibition on the Discovery of Gold on Bonanza Creek is continuing until the end of the year. Reach out to the Officer of the Commissioner of Yukon at CommissionersOffice@yukon.ca or drop by to arrange a tour for teacher professional development or for your class.

Fontass and Pinnell

There will be a full day zoom session for Kindergarten teachers next week on October 22nd. All Kindergarten teachers are encouraged to attend if possible as this will be an interactive session reviewing the NEW Fountas & Pinnell classroom components provided last spring. I know many educators have been inquiring about this PD opportunity. The details are as follows:

Fountas & Pinnell Kindergarten Classroom Components Presented by Susan Burroughs & Michelle Gillard

Time: 10:30 am – 3:00 pm

This is the first in a series of workshops that will be provided for Kindergarten teachers to learn about the new Fountas & Pinnell classroom components that were provided for all English Kindergarten classes. These components include Interactive Read Aloud (IRA), Shared Reading (SR), Words that Sing, Phonics, Word Study, Reading Minilessons & The Literacy Quick Guide. This will be intensive training on these specific components.

Science Fair Foundation Professional Development

The Science Fair Foundation of BC is offering programming to support students to create great STEM projects. These programs include workshops, financial aid and a mentorship program to connect students with professionals in the scientific community. See SFFBC Programming for more details.

Resources for Educators

Connected North

<u>Connected North Sessions</u> are up and running for this year, with an astounding 123 sessions from 19 participating schools already completed or in the queue for this year! If your school would like a 15 minute

orientation at a staff meeting, or you would like to book a time to get started, simply email your Connected North School Lead, Brenda Sherry to get your students involved! bsherry@takingitglobal.org
So far this year, we've connected with the Holocaust Memorial and Tolerance Centre to talk to survivors, met Dolphins at a research centre in Florida, and learned about democracy from Elections Canada. We've explored Art, Music, the history of Residential Schools, Podcasting, Spoken Word Poetry and the Indigenous Peoples of Canada Atlases led by Indigenous Providers, just to name a few of the sessions available.

Other Opportunties

Physical Activity & Recreation Matter!

Help shape future activities and complete the Yukon Healthy Living Survey by October 31. The purpose of the Yukon Healthy Living Study is to better understand Yukoners' participation in physically active recreation and how participation was affected by COVID-19 public health restrictions.

This anonymous, online survey takes about 25 minutes to complete. The study results will help the Sport & Recreation Branch and Recreation and Parks Association of the Yukon (RPAY) support Yukoners to be physically active through recreation in the future.

Complete the survey then enter a draw for prizes like a kick sled and more.

To complete the survey go to: https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/RPAY. Reach out to Janna Tait (Janna.Tait@yukon.ca), Physical Literacy Education Coordinator for Yukon Schools with any questions.

Action Items for Consideration

 Check out the Professional Learning Opportunities featured in this update.

- Check out the featured resources this week.
- Check out other opportunities featured in this update.

Reminders from Past Educator Updates

 Book a session with ConnectedNorth or reach out to bsherry@takingitglobal.org more information on virtual field trips

Quick Links to Resources Related to Our COVID-19 Response

- K-12 School Guidelines for 2021-22 COVID 19
- Yukon Education Recovery Document: Guidelines for K-12 Schools
- Can your child go to School or return to regular activities
- Education updates and supports on COVID-19
- Talking and Sharing with Kids and Families on COVID-19
- COVID-19 and teenagers: Supporting Youth Mental Wellness

- Mental health and wellness support during COVID-19
- Wellness Together Canada free resources and support
- Yukon information on COVID-19
- COVID-19 Self-Assessment
- Practice the Safe 6
- Non-medical masks in the workplace
- Canada response and Health Canada information
- Council of Yukon First Nations COVID-19 info hub