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The New Survivors' Flag

The National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation has created the Survivors' Flag in collaboration with residential school survivors. It is an "expression of remembrance, meant to honour residential school Survivors and all the lives and communities impacted by the residential school system in Canada". Survivors from across Canada were consulted in the process of designing the flag, and each element was carefully chosen. Read more about this beautiful flag on the [National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation website](#).



World Teachers Day Acknowledgment

The Theme of World Teachers' Day 2021 is “Teachers at the heart of education recovery”. The United Nations (UNESCO) presented this theme for teachers' day in respect of their determined and diligent efforts in the crucial stages of the Covid-19 pandemic. You can read more about World Teachers' Day 2021 on [UNESCO's website](#).

You are encouraged to celebrate the wonderful work you do and celebrate the wonderful work of your colleagues. You have all shown incredible determination and creativity to ensure that our students were able to continue their learning. Thank you for all of your hard work and continued hard work to ensure success for all Yukon students.

Employee Engagement Survey

Every 2 years the government runs an employee engagement survey to gather valuable information on how to improve our workplaces, engage our staff, and improve client services. The results are used to inform positive changes in the day-to-day work of employees. Some examples from across the government include all-staff meetings, employee recognition programs and increased learning and career development opportunities.

Please take the time to fill out this year's [employee engagement survey](#).

Assessment and Reporting

New e-assessment provider

The British Columbia (BC) Ministry of Education has contracted Vretta Inc. to deliver the Graduation Assessments in the 2021/22 school year. The first administration session in the 2021/22 school year is scheduled to run from November 1 – 5, 2021. Beginning from the week of September 27, 2021, school administrators should have started receiving communication from Vretta and the Ministry on accessing the new system and the technical requirements needed to ensure a successful administration.

Registration for November Numeracy and Literacy Graduation Assessments

Please be reminded to pre-register students writing the Numeracy and Literacy assessments coming up November 1-5. Pre-registration closes October 20th.

First Class shifting to M365 Outlook- October 29-31, 2021

We are excited to announce Yukon Education will switch email platforms from FirstClass to M365 Outlook at the end of October. This is for all teachers, education assistants, students, and school staff with @yesnet.yk.ca email accounts. More detailed training materials and guidance will be provided as we approach the date. See the live training events scheduled for [the October 22nd PD day](#). This event is open to all school staff (including Office Admin staff).

Professional Learning Opportunities

Masters of Education Program in Numeracy Information Session

The [MEd program for Yukon](#) with Peter Liljedahl through Simon Fraser University has been approved for a fall 2022 start time.

The [first zoom session](#) to learn about the [Mathematics Education MEd](#) from Dr. Peter Liljedahl will be held on October 13 at 3:30 p.m.

October 22 Professional Development Day

A collaborative PD day menu of options is being put together by the Yukon Teachers Association (YTA) and the Department of Education for the October 22 PD day. Keynote speaker [Shelley Moore](#) will address the day from 8:45-10:00. YTA sent out a copy of her book "One without the Other-Stories of Unity Through Diversity and Inclusion" to every Yukon school. Following Shelly's session, a menu of options will be available on various topics including Balanced Literacy, Early Learning, Experiential Education, Microsoft Outlook, and much more. Please view the [PD day link](#) closer to the date for most up to date sessions.

If you have any requests for sessions you would like to see or have any questions, please reach out to Michel Emery at pd@yta.yk.ca or Tanya Lewis at Tanya.Lewis@yukon.ca.

Microsoft 365 Training-Register in Advance

Date	Time	Topic	Registration Link
October 22 PD	10:30-11:45	Outlook level 100	https://aka.ms/R-YKED-Outlook100-Oct22
October 22 PD	12:45-2:00	Microsoft Teams Level 100	https://aka.ms/R-YKED-Teams100-Oct22

Practical Strategies for Increasing Student Engagement

Increase student engagement by reducing anxiety and increasing executive functioning skills. This two-part webinar is available October 7th and October 14th from 4:30-6:30 at a cost of \$10. The sessions are hosted by Sarah Ward (MS CCC-SLP) and Jessica Minahan (Med, BCCA). The webinars will share easy to implement preventative tools, strategies and interventions for increasing student engagement. Through the use of case studies, humour and every day examples, Sarah and Jessica combine their expertise to show the best ways to build skills in students to reduce anxiety and improve executive functioning, accurate thinking, self monitoring and initiation. To register, email info@autismyukon.org. Limited space available.

Resources for Educators

Connected North Spotlight Sessions

- [Healing Inner Voices with Martin Morberg](#) is available for grades 10-12 students Thursday, October 7th from 1:00-2:00 p.m. Martin is a Two-Spirit and HIV activist, sexual health educator, filmmaker, university student and motivational speaker. Martin is Northern Tutchone and Tlingit and was born and raised in the Yukon Territory. He has recovered from 17 years of addiction and has transformed the darkest parts of his life into teaching tools to empower young Indigenous people. Martin will share his journey of leaving the Yukon and becoming a young leader in Two-Spirit and Indigenous HIV national community. This presentation will end

with a screening of his most recent project Healing Inner Voices. This award winning film has been screened at numerous national and international film festivals.

To register, contact Brenda Sherry at bsherry@takingitglobal.org.

- *Exploring Race and Representation in Picture Books with The Eric Carle Museum* is available for K-8 Teachers and Administrators on Wednesday, October 6 and October 27th. Learn how to select picture books that reflect the lives and identities of all. We'll survey the range of representation in recent picture books and discuss how to use books to talk to about race. We'll share tools on how to build a book collection that fosters inclusivity. This 3-hourworkshop is split into two, 90 minute sessions.

To register, contact Brenda Sherry at bsherry@takingitglobal.org.

New Physical Literacy Education Coordinator for Yukon Schools

As part of a new pilot partnership between the Department of Education and the Sport and Recreation Branch, Janna Tait has been hired as the new Physical Literacy Education Coordinator for Yukon Schools. Janna will be working to provide awareness and education on the importance of physical literacy and physical activity, develop after-school programs focused on children and youth who are currently inactive and underserved for recreation. She will also support Yukon Educators with the delivery of the PHE curriculum through mentorship and training.

Janna brings extensive experience in Physical and Health Education, developing experiential outdoor -play programs, teaching, and leadership. If you are interested in connecting with Janna on anything physical literacy related, please reach out at - janna.tait@yukon.ca or 867-332-2844

Other Opportunities

Join the Locally Developed Curriculum Committee

We are looking for one rural secondary teacher/administrator, and one urban secondary teacher/administrator to join our Locally Developed Curriculum Committee. Please see the "Terms of Reference" in [TEAMS](#) for more details, and respond to David Schroeder by October 13 if interested or require more information. The first meeting will be scheduled in late October, and again in the new year.

Action Items for Consideration

- Fill out the [Employee Engagement Survey](#)
- 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

- Sign up to participate in a [Learning Network](#)
- 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](#)