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FAQ for school staff

Please see the attached FAQ for school staff for answers to common questions. This will be updated and attached each week to ensure school staff are updated on the most current information available. If you have any questions about health and safety, human resources or learning programming this school year, please contact your principal first.

The [Learning During COVID-19 in the Primary Years – Q&A for Primary Educators](#) is now available in [French](#).

Advisory Committee for Yukon Education

The Advisory Committee for Yukon Education reconvened for the first meeting of this school year on Wednesday, September 9, 2020.

The Advisory Committee for Yukon Education was first established in 2016 and ensures opportunities to meet with Yukon First Nations and other partners in education to discuss joint priorities and challenges in education.

The Advisory Committee for Yukon Education includes representation from:

- Educators, the Association of Yukon School Administrators and Yukon Teachers Association
- School Councils, the Commission scolaire francophone du Yukon, the Association of Yukon School Councils, Boards and Committees and the Catholic Education Association of Yukon;
- Yukon University; and
- the Department of Education.

During our first meeting, we discussed our priorities for schools during the COVID-19 pandemic, working together across this school year and how we are moving forward on the inclusive and special education review.

Review of Inclusive and Special Education Extended

We are extending the review of inclusive and special education into the 2020-21 school year due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The engagement opportunities with families, educators, school communities, partners and Yukon First Nations that were originally planned for April and May 2020 are being rescheduled for fall 2020. An update has been sent out to all school staff. An interim update on this review is now available: [Review of Inclusive and Special Education Interim Update](#). You can also read the full [news release update](#).

Updates on Staying Home When Sick for Students

Yukon's Chief Medical Officer of Health announced during his Wednesday update that more guidance is being developed to help parents and guardians know when to keep children home from school or day care.

A guidance document is being finalized based on the three colours of a traffic light: Green, Yellow and Red. The guidance document is still being finalized and will be sent to school staff and home to parents and guardians next week.

We encourage you to [read the full update to learn more](#).

Professional Learning Opportunities

- **Join the Curriculum and Assessment Team**

There is a job posting for an Early Learning Consultant on yukon.ca/en/employment/view-all-current-job-postings. The posting is restricted to Yukon Government (YG) employees.

[Create your account](#) to apply. Ensure that your e-recruitment e-mail in the HRMS system, where you apply for leave online, matches the e-mail that you used to create your account. This ensures that the system recognizes you as a YG employee and displays all the job postings that are restricted to YG. If you need to change your e-recruitment e-mail, it will take place over night and you will be able to view the postings internal to YG within 24 hours.

- **More October 2 PD Day Offerings**

Numerous virtual offerings are already in place for October 2 and continue to be available for viewing. [October 2 PD day offerings](#).

If you have any questions or need help viewing the documents, contact Paula.Thompson@gov.yk.ca.

- **Communication Styles for (Online) Collaboration**

Learn strategies for making communication more effective. Discover four different ways of presenting ideas and how to combine them to get your message across. October 7 10AM-12PM.

Register for this workshop: zoom.us/meeting/register/tYkc-ytqzgjGtXs0SWt0cs3N1vrTrPh4r8s

Reporting and Assessments

- **Kindergarten Testing**

The Boehm and the Early Years Evaluation (EYE) testing materials will soon be arriving at schools. The fall administration dates for fall kindergarten testing: October 13th to November 20th.

Resources for Educators

- **Connected North**

Through this short [overview and welcome video](#), we are pleased to continue to be able to invite interested educators to sign up for free offerings including but not limited to virtual field trips, virtual visits with experts, customized professional learning, and connections with Indigenous role models and student leaders. The catalogue of offerings has been updated and a [French catalogue of offerings](#) has also been developed. Review the [catalogue of offerings](#) and complete the [sign up form](#).

For help or more info as well as info on other offerings, contact Brenda at bsherry@takingitglobal.org or join her and the TakingITGlobal team for an online session on the [October 2 PD day](#).

- **Service Learning**

There are many inspiring examples of Yukon educators integrating service learning into their classrooms. As noted in the key principles of the [Yukon Learning Continuity Requirements for 2020-21](#), service learning has the potential to accelerate student achievement and has been part of the natural human response during the pandemic.

At the [October 2 PD day](#), join the *Service Learning to Support Student Success* session to learn about how to apply for a grant to help integrate these types of opportunities into your practice.

- **Orange Shirt Day – September 30**

The Indigenous Relations Bulletin: Reading Corner brings you: [What is Orange Shirt Day?](#) It is a movement that officially began in 2013 but really originated in 1973 when six year old Phyllis Webstad entered the St. Joseph Mission Residential School and was wearing a new orange shirt for her first day of school.

[Read more](#) on this story and consider this [one-pager of resources and ideas](#) to support classroom instruction from the First Nations Initiatives unit.

- **Education and the Skilled Trades**

You are already a member of the EdCan Network and can [activate an account](#) which includes access to Education Canada Magazine. The current issue, *Education and the Skilled Trades*, looks at the role our schools play in exposing students to these career pathways, preparing them for future labour market needs, and facilitating their transition to trades training. [The full edition is now online](#).

- **Let's Talk Science Updates**

To make sure educators, caregivers and youth have what they need to support them in this new environment, Let's Talk Science has:

- built and expanded their database of easy to use and curriculum aligned [online learning resources](#);
- maintained their [STEM at Home](#) space to support educators and parents.

Other Opportunities for Schools

- **MacBride Museum**

The museum is open and offering COVID-compliant school tours and programs. Pre-book for special tours and Yukon-themed programs for Kindergarten to Grade 12. \$75/class flat fee.

macbridemuseum.com/activities/programs/school-programs.

Action Items for Consideration

- Check out the attached FAQ for school staff.
- [Read the full update to learn more](#) about the updates on staying home when sick for students
- Consider the [job posting](#) for an Early Learning Consultant.
- Check out the [October 2 PD Day Offerings](#) after you have logged into [Rapid Identity](#) with your yesnet e-mail and Rapid Identity password and do not hesitate to [ask](#) if you need help with viewing the document.
- The [Corwin Monday Webinar Series](#) is back.
- Consider the LDAY offering of [Communication Styles for \(Online\) Collaboration](#)
- Watch for the Kindergarten Boehm and the Early Years Evaluation (EYE) testing materials.
- As well as the [English offerings](#), Connected North now has a [French catalogue of offerings](#).
- At the [October 2 PD day](#) join the service learning session to learn about how to apply for a grant.
- Plan for [Orange Shirt Day](#). See the [one-pager of resources and ideas](#). [What is Orange Shirt Day?](#)
- The [Education and the Skilled Trades edition](#) of Education Canada Magazine is available to you online.
- Check out the [online learning resources](#) and [STEM at Home](#) from Let's Talk Science
- MacBride Museum is taking [bookings](#) for tours and Yukon-themed programs for K-12.
- For resources and support check out the websites built for you including the; [Educator Update Archive](#), [Educators' Place](#), and [YESNet Portal](#)

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](#)

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/covi](http://cyfn.ca/covi)