

Educator Update this week

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National Day for Truth and Reconciliation

On September 30, the Government of Yukon will observe the first National Day for Truth and Reconciliation—a day to pause, reflect, and acknowledge the tragic history and ongoing legacy of residential schools.

The National Day for Truth and Reconciliation was first proposed in 2015 by the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada, which called upon the federal government, in collaboration with Indigenous peoples, to establish a statutory holiday to honour Survivors of residential schools, their families, and communities, and ensure that public commemoration of the history and legacy of residential schools remains a vital component of the reconciliation process.

This date coincides with Orange Shirt Day, which began in 2013, and involved wearing orange shirts to honour Indigenous children forced to leave their families to attend residential schools.

Schools across the territory will be closed on this day, and students, staff, and educators are encouraged to use this time to reflect on the role they play in truth and reconciliation; learn more about First Nations communities; and recommit to understanding Canada's history with Indigenous peoples.

The National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation will be hosting a series of virtual events for Truth and Reconciliation Week free of charge. For more information and registration details [click here](#).



Assessment and Reporting

Yukon Foundation Skills Assessments (YFSAs)

The 2021-22 YFSA administration in schools will take place between Oct. 4 and Nov. 12, 2021. Schools should receive their YFSA supplies parcel by the end of September. The YFSA Assessment Description and Specifications are available on the [BC Ministry of Education Website](#). The [sample YFSA's](#) provide teachers and students with a preview of the sample online questions, sample student booklet and sample collaboration activity.

YFSA Important Dates

September 7-10	Daily online after school training sessions 3:30-4:30 (teachers/administrators)
October 4-November 12	YFSA Administration
November 16-17	Marking (see professional opportunities)
November 26	Score Entry Deadline
December	Booklets sent back to schools
January	Standard setting session
February	Final Student Results

Grades 2-9 School Wide Write (SWW) and District Assessment of Reading Test (DART)

Deadline Dates:

- Fall DART and SWW: to be completed, inc. data entry, by the Friday before Thanksgiving holiday.
- Spring DART and SWW: to be completed, inc. data entry, by the Friday before Victoria Day.

To find an outline of the process and information on data entry:

- Login to Rapid Identity and locate the [Intermediate Educators Yukon Team](#).
- If you have any question, contact Nikki.Krocker@yukon.ca

Grade 12 Literacy Assessment

First administration of the Grade 12 Literacy Assessment (LTE 12) will take place in the November 2021 session and first administration of [Évaluation de littératie de la 12e année – Français langue première](#) (LTP 12) and [Évaluation de littératie de la 12e année – Français langue seconde-immersion](#) (LTF 12) will take place in the January 2022 session. Please consult the [2021/22 Graduation Assessment Schedule](#) for further details. Sample assessments and resource materials are now available for [LTE 12](#), [LTP 12](#) and [LTF 12](#).

Professional Learning Opportunities

Learning Networks 2021-2022 Expression of Interest

Harnessing the Spiral of Inquiry, Learning Networks strive to help teachers improve learning conditions for their students. With an open and curious mind Yukon teachers have been doing just this for the past several years. Yukon Education is once again offering Learning Networks as an option for the 2021-22 school year.

What does participation in a Learning Network involve? Think of it as a type of action research. All participants will take a deep dive into an aspect of their teaching practice utilizing the [Spiral of Inquiry](#) as a guide. This is a

highly collaborative and facilitated process. Participants will attend three full-day collaboration sessions between now and April, culminating with a Celebration of Learning in April, 2022. At the Celebration of Learning participants are given the opportunity to present a brief overview of their work to all network participants.

If you are interested and have spoken with your principal, please take a moment and complete the expression of interest form: <http://lss.yukonschools.ca/2021-22-learning-networks.html>

Collaborative Marking Opportunity

If you are a grades 3 – 8 educator and interested in an opportunity to gather with colleagues from across the territory in a **standards-based collaborative marking session** of the YFSAs on November 16 – 17, 2021 please consider signing up [here](#).

Resources for Educators

Pictures Don't Lie by Lulu Keating (Link expires September 15)

JJ Van Bibber was a prolific photographer in the Yukon who travelled the interior with his family, hunting, trapping, and surviving on the land. *Pictures Don't Lie* presents a beautiful montage of Van Bibber's black and white photographs with recorded stories he told as an Elder, made available by his descendants.

Link to Video: [Pictures Don't Lie: JJ Van Bibber](#)
Password: keating

Freshgrade

If you are interested in using FreshGrade Classic this year, email yukonportfolios@yesnet.yk.ca. Notification forms must be sent home.

For more info, visit the following site: <http://smaurice.yukonschools.ca/freshgrade-resources-and-support.html>

Yukon Wildlife Preserve Programming for Schools

The Yukon Wildlife Preserve will be running their successful winter program for grades 2, 3 and 7. The programs will run in February and March 2022 but not during November/ December as for previous years. YWP will confirm dates, details and how to register during late fall. This change has been made to allow for greater daylight, more consistent snow conditions and to minimize the impact on other YWP operational priorities that occur during November and December. Please follow the link for more information regarding the program offerings - <https://yukonwildlife.ca/experience/school-programs/>

Action Items for Consideration

- Register your class for [virtual events for Truth and Reconciliation Week](#)
- Consult the [2021/22 Graduation Assessment Schedule](#)
- Check out the [Professional Learning Opportunities](#) featured in this update
- Check out the featured [resources](#) this week.

Reminders from Last Educator Update

- Encourage your students and their families to participate in the [From the Ground Up](#) initiative.
- 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](#)
- [“Stop light” symptom check tool for children 6 months to 5 years old](#)
- [“Stop light” symptom check tool for non-immunized children 6 years and older](#)
- [“Stop light” symptom check tool for immunized children 6 years and older](#)
- [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](#)
- [Yukon vaccination clinics and information about the vaccine](#)