



Government of Yukon

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NEWS *release*

FOR RELEASE #10-059

April 9, 2010

Partnerships featured in Education Week celebrations

WHITEHORSE – The importance of partnerships and technology will be highlighted as the territory celebrates Education Week from April 12 to 16.

"This week is the perfect time for Yukoners of all ages to learn about and engage in different educational opportunities available to them in the territory," Education Minister Patrick Rouble said. "This year's theme is Partnerships: Supporting 21st Century Learning, which underlines the importance we place on forming solid partnerships and promoting technology in order to prepare Yukoners for Yukon opportunities."

The annual event serves to raise awareness of the many educational opportunities available. It features events across the territory hosted by many organizations with an interest in education including schools, Yukon College, First Nations, non-governmental organizations and the Department of Education.

During the week there will be a variety of events including: a brown bag lunch in Whitehorse promoting apprenticeship; a Wii Fit night in Haines Junction; an information session in Whitehorse about government funding opportunities to go back to school; and Kaska language lessons in Watson Lake.

To celebrate the week, the Department of Education will once again host an open house featuring displays on experiential education, student financial assistance, First Nations programs and partnerships, and information from its partners. All are welcome to attend on April 14, from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. at 1000 Lewes Boulevard.

For more information and an extensive list of Education Week activities visit [Education's website](#), or check April 9 newspapers.

People interested in specific activities and events are encouraged to contact organizations directly for information.

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Please check out Education Week's calendar of events available below.

Contact:

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Backgrounder: Education Week calendar of events

Monday, April 12 and Tuesday, April 13

Second New Horizons Education Summit

The Department of Education and the Council of Yukon First Nations are partnering to host the second New Horizons Education Summit at the Westmark Whitehorse Hotel. Formal invitations have been sent to organizations and partners with an interest in education. This two-day event

focuses on current issues such as resiliency and transitions, the French Second Language Program review, adult literacy, innovative practices in the classroom and new partnership initiatives with First Nations. This year's summit will also feature a special forum on literacy. Participants can register online: www.latitudeyukon.com/newhorizons. For more information contact Danielle Sheldon at 667-5690.

Monday, April 12

Public talk: Graduation requirements and multiple pathways to graduation

Discussion and Dessert

The public is invited to this special talk featuring Superintendent Mike Woods and team at the Westmark Whitehorse hotel from 7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Engage in an up-to-date overview of the Yukon secondary school graduation requirements, learn about the multiple pathways to graduation, including optional programs, alternative time frames, distributed learning technologies and technical vocational opportunities. Learn what information you need to best support your children and assist them in making decisions about secondary and postsecondary options.

For more information contact Jennifer England, the New Horizons coordinator at 456-5545.

Watson Lake

Liard First Nation's Education Department will be hosting an open house, all day, with events such as Kaska Language Lessons, Lingo Bingo, brochures for each program in the Education Department, a colouring contest, and an essay contest for youth on "what does education mean to you." There will be a door prize and draws. All events will be held at the Liard First Nation Administration Building.

For more information contact Education director Dorothy Magun at 867-536-5203 or dodickson@kaska.ca; or education assistant Deanna McDonald at 867-536-5204 or dmcDonald@kaska.ca.

Yukon College

Yukon College, Ayamdigut Campus (Whitehorse) will be running a draw beginning Monday, April 12 to mark Education Week.

Visit www.yukoncollege.yk.ca/win for more information and to enter your name for prizes including a netbook, tuition-free semesters and a wilderness and remote first aid course.

Yukon Learn Society

Yukon Learn Society is inviting the public to drop by its offices at 107 Main St. Whitehorse, throughout the day to get a free membership.

For more information, contact Breanna Blottner at 668-6280 extension 0.

Wednesday, April 14

Department of Education

The Department of Education is hosting an open house at 1000 Lewes Blvd., from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. All welcome. Learn about different education opportunities in Yukon, featuring topics such as experiential education, apprenticeship, First Nations programs and partnerships, information from our partners and more!

For more information contact Yumimi Pang at 456-6789.

Teachers Make a Difference Campaign

Individual school draws will be held today for students and educators as part of the Teachers Make a Difference Campaign. This campaign celebrates Yukon educators and encourages students to reflect upon and express their own account of an educator who has/is making a difference in their school life through a contest entry. The submission deadline is April 9. Draws will be held at the Yukon Teachers' Association Annual General Meeting on April 24.

This contest is sponsored by the Yukon Teachers' Association, the Department of Education, Air North and CKRW.

Yukon Literacy Coalition

Yukon Literacy Coalition will be hosting activities at the TD Canada Trust Family Literacy Centre on the 2nd floor of the Canada Games Centre including a gathering for a Storybook Parade.

Come dressed as your favourite storybook character for the parade from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. The parade will be followed by interactive stories and games.

For information call 668-8698.

Employment Central

Employment Central will be holding an information session about government funding opportunities to go back to school to learn new skills. The session will be from 1:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. in the Employment Central boardroom at #202 - 204 Black Street, Whitehorse. For more information, please call 393-8274.

École Whitehorse Elementary

The Whole Child Program will be hosting its regular Wednesday evening free family night of fun (gym activities, computer lab, cooking and watercolour painting) from 5:30 p.m. to 7 p.m. at École Whitehorse Elementary School.

For information contact Crystal Pearl-Hodgins or Barbara Curtis at 667-8676.

St. Elias Community School

St. Elias Community School in Haines Junction is hosting a Wii Fit night from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. Five high school students who attended the Tobacco Summit last October will host a Wii Fit challenge. Students are welcome to work at one of five or six stations. Scores will be noted and prizes awarded for top scores. As well, popcorn and smoothies will be available.

For more information contact Ruth Lawrence at 634-2231.

Selkirk School

Selkirk will be hosting the annual Math Night in the gym from 6:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. Come and explore math games and have fun. It's an excellent opportunity to view student research, photos, stories, anecdotes and historical events leading up to Selkirk Sings, a celebration of the school's 50th anniversary.

For more information contact 667-3688.

Teslin School

Teslin School will be hosting a writers' tea.

For more information contact Dennis Darling at 390-2570.

Thursday, April 15**Yukon Council on disABILITY**

The Yukon Council on disABILITY will be hosting an open house from 12 p.m. to 3 p.m. at its offices on 4194B – 4th Ave, Whitehorse. The public is invited for coffee, to meet the staff and have an introduction to services including demonstrations of various adaptive and augmentative equipment/software that clients are able to utilize for work or training.

For more information contact Lisa at 668-6703.

École Whitehorse Elementary

École Whitehorse Elementary will host a Math Games Night on from 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

For more information contact Hélène Saint-Onge at 667-8083.

Thursday, April 15 through Saturday, April 17**Spring School Councils' Conference**

The Department of Education will be hosting the Spring School Councils' Conference at the Westmark Whitehorse hotel.

For more information contact school council liaison Bob Walker at 667-8226 or by email at bob.walker@gov.yk.ca; Carol Coote, the executive director of the Association of Yukon School Councils, Boards and Committees at exec.director@ayscbc.org.

Friday, April 16**Brown bag lunch session for parents of high school students**

Does your son or daughter:

- Want to go to college/university but is scared of student debt?
- Work hard part-time or in the summers, but has no plan for the future?
- Want to start working towards a career that pays enough and is flexible enough for travel, to study abroad or start their own business?
- Plan on attending college/university but is unsure of what program to take?
- Want a good balance of academic and hands-on skills for their resume?

If so, bring your lunch and find out how apprenticeship could be a great option:
Room 1 in the Whitehorse Public Library at 2071 2nd Avenue, from 12:10 p.m. to 12:50 p.m.
with a question period to follow. Tea and coffee will be available.
For more information call Lisa at 667-5906 or email lisa.turner@gov.yk.ca.

Carcross/Tagish

Ghùch Tlâ Community School and Carcross/Tagish First Nation (CTFN) will be facilitating the following community activities:

- Bannock and Stew Making Contest with a Community Lunch to follow
- Student versus Community Floor Hockey Game
- Open house at Ghùch Tlâ School with activities such as writing clothesline and presentations of student displays.

For more details contact principal Carol Sherlock at 821-2929 or carol.sherlock@gov.yk.ca; or Svenja Weber with CTFN at 332-1717 or svenja.weber@ctfn.ca.

Yukon Legislative Assembly

The Annual Youth Parliament will be holding its debates in the Chamber of the Yukon Legislative Assembly from 1:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. The public is invited to attend to see our leaders of tomorrow debate. This debate is the highlight of a three-day event in which youth from across the territory meet with government representatives and legislative staff to learn about how the legislature works.

For more information contact the secretary to the speaker Sue MacDonald at 667-5494.

Association of Yukon School Councils, Boards and Committees Annual General Meeting (AGM)

The AGM for the Association of Yukon School Councils, Boards and Committees will be held at the Westmark Whitehorse Hotel at 4 p.m. The public is invited to attend this meeting to learn more about the association, learn what it has been doing this past year and some of the plans for the future.

For information contact Carol Coote at 633-2692 or exec.director@ayscbc.org.

Challenge – Community Vocational Alternatives(CVA)

Challenge CVA will be hosting a walk-through of its Greenhouse Program site at 1st and Strickland, next door to the Challenge CVA office from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. The Greenhouse Program is a summer vocational skills program with a life skills component for people with disabilities.

For more information call Rhonda at 668-4421.

Yukon Literacy Coalition

Yukon Literacy Coalition will be releasing a new resource for partnerships, which was developed in consultation with many Yukon organizations and agencies. The resource will be released through the coalition's electronic newsletter, the Literacy Connection.

Call 668-6535 to receive the newsletter and/or to receive the partnership package.

Teslin School

Teslin School will be hosting a viewing of student-created documentaries about school life.

For more information contact Dennis Darling at 390-2570.

Selkirk School

Selkirk students and staff will be treated to a performance of the F.H. Collins and Porter Creek Junior bands on Friday morning.

For more information contact the school at 667-3688.

Yukon Learn Society

Yukon Learn Society will provide snacks and information about its services from 12 p.m. to 4 p.m. at its offices on 107 Main St., Whitehorse.

For more information contact Breanna Blottner at 668-6280 extension 0.

Saturday, April 17**Bridge Building Competition**

The Annual Bridge Building Competition will be held at Porter Creek Secondary School for Grades 4-12 students and an open class for families and the general public. Thousands of wooden stir sticks are just waiting to be glued, tied and destroyed. Public viewing is at 12 p.m. and the bridge testing starts at 1 p.m. Offered by the Innovators in the Schools program and

the Association of Professional Engineers of Yukon. Contact Heather Dundas at 668-8739 or visit: <http://dl1.yukoncollege.yk.ca/innovators/bridgebuilding>

Environment Fair: Biodiversity in Your Back Yard

This interactive, day-long event connects the public – especially families – with a diverse range of organizations and government services involved with protecting or enhancing Yukon's environment. The free fair is from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the ATCO ice space at the Canada Games Centre and is sponsored by Environment Yukon and Environment Canada.

Environment After Hours

Hear Dr. Wade Davis speak about the links between vanishing cultures and climate change and the importance of biodiversity. Davis is Explorer-in-Residence with the National Geographic Society and an award-winning ethnographer, writer, photographer and filmmaker. 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. at the Yukon Beringia Interpretive Centre.

The event is free, but ticket(s) must be picked up at the Environment Fair due to limited seating. Sponsored by Environment Yukon and Environment Canada.

All Week

Yukon College

Yukon College, Ayamdigut Campus (Whitehorse) will be hosting daily guided tours of the college and its facilities throughout the week. These scheduled, free tours will be available on: Monday, April 12 at 4:30 p.m., Tuesday, April 13 at 12 p.m., Wednesday, April 14 at 8:30 a.m., Thursday, April 15 at 12:00 p.m., and Friday, April 16 at 3 p.m. Guests are asked to meet in the 'Pit', just inside the front doors beside reception. For information call 456-8619.

Yukon Literacy Coalition

During Education Week, Yukon Literacy Coalition will be launching its new website, revamped with the assistance of the National Adult Literacy Database. Visit www.yukonliteracy.ca

Jack Hulland School

Jack Hulland School will be hosting a Literacy Week April 12 to 16. Each classroom will be locating and displaying information on a Canadian author, and classes will have the opportunity to visit other classes to learn about authors on showcase. Students are encouraged to complete extra reading and writing at home, with follow-up activities at school. For more information contact the school at 667-8496.

Teslin School

Each day during Education Week, "Celebrity Readers" will visit Teslin School. For more information contact Dennis Darling at 390-2570.

Yukon Learn Society

Yukon Learn Society will be hosting daily drop-in computer literacy sessions at the Yukon Learn computer lab (107 Main St., Whitehorse), from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. For more information contact Breanna Blottner at 668-6280 extension 0.

Kluane Lake School

Kluane Lake School is hosting events throughout Education Week:

- On April 13, from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m., Active Yukon Schools is providing workshops for the school with an invitation to the community to attend in the afternoon. Come out and review, look and participate in the new health targets: healthy bones, healthy hearts, healthy muscles and healthy self.
- On April 14, the school will be hosting a fundraising dinner from 5 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. with dessert made by one of its Grade 5 students using a recipe from "My Amazing Little Cookbook."
- On April 15, students will play piano in a special school concert scheduled for 2:30 p.m.
- On April 16 from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m., substitute teacher Cecile Cox will be helping students with a pussy willow project to make pictures and bouquets for Mother's Day.

- To wrap up the week, on April 16 and 17, two teachers, a secretary and a bus driver at Kluane Lake School will be participating in a 30-hour famine for World Vision. They are welcoming pledges from sponsors to benefit those in developing countries and they are challenging others, including teachers, to participate in this worthy cause.

For more information about these events contact Rose-Marie at 867-841-4506.

Grey Mountain Primary School

Grey Mountain Primary School will be hosting numerous events to mark Education Week:

- On April 13, the school will host its second annual muffin morning from 8:40 a.m. to 9:10 a.m. with parents/caregivers reading with children. A school assembly will follow and will include a choir performance and parents talking about their experiences and the importance of education.
- On April 14, students and teachers will shake things up with a teacher exchange in the classrooms from 11:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.
- On April 15, the school will welcome students' grandparents, who will talk to classes about school in "their day," followed by a tea for grandparents and their grandchildren.
- On April 16, the school will host a School Spirit Day featuring crazy hair/hats. Parents are invited to a paid pizza lunch. Science Olympics will be held from 1:30 p.m. to 3 p.m.

For more information on these events contact Gloria Coxford at 667-5189.

Johnson Elementary School

Johnson Elementary School will be hosting the following events to mark Education Week:

- On April 12, there will be a school assembly at 1 p.m. on the theme of Partnerships: Supporting 21st Century Learning.
- On April 13, there will be a spaghetti lunch. Parents and community welcome.
- On April 14, there will be a Read with a Student session with participation from the whole school from 11:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Community participants will be arranging a bag lunch.
- On April 15, Johnson Elementary School will be hosting a Cultural Day with families and community welcome. There will be a soup and bannock lunch for the whole school and guests. In the afternoon, there will be participation by the whole school in activities featuring Métis, Inuit, handgames, clothing, legends and inventions, trapping and medicine.
- On April 16, there will be an Art Gallery and Fancy Pants Day. Families and community are welcome to this event which will feature participation by the whole school. There will be a macaroni and cheese lunch for all.

For more information on these events contact the school at 536-7333.

Old Crow

Check out the Sarah Abel-Chitzi Building during Education Week, where you can try your luck at winning one of the daily door prizes and at week's end, enjoy an office snack day - both activities are hosted by the Education Department of the Vuntut Gwitchin Government. The Alice Frost College Campus, the Chief Zzeh Gittlit School and the Vuntut Gwitchin First Nation will be hosting a one-day career fair during Education Week highlighting the theme "Supporting 21st Century Learning."

For more information contact Tracy at 966-3261 extension 255.

Raven Recycling

The Raven Recycling Society offers free tours of the recycling centre. These tours can be suited for participants from age 4 to 104. Contact the education coordinator at 667-7629 for details. Advance bookings are required. The Raven Recycling website has links to several recycling facts and information as well as what we take and how we sort it.

Visit <http://www.ravenrecycling.org>.

Swan Haven Interpretation Centre (April 1 – 30)

Open weekdays 5 p.m. to 9 p.m., weekends and holidays 12 p.m. to 7 p.m. at North M'Clintock Bay. Displays, spotting scopes and on-site interpretation focused on Yukon wildlife, especially the waterfowl now beginning their migration north.

Visit: www.environmentyukon.gov.yk.ca/wildlifebiodiversity/swanhaven.php

Celebration of Swans (April 17-25)

Events include area birding tours, family activity weekend, bird identification and photography workshops, storytelling, guest speakers from different parts of the swans' flyway, contests, and good, peaceful swan watching opportunities around southern Yukon. Keep an eye out for the "swan flyer" schedule of events.

Visit: www.environmentyukon.gov.yk.ca/wildlifebiodiversity/CelebrationofSwans.php

Takhini School

Takhini School congratulates the Takhini Dunena Ali drummers and dancers, who are travelling to Vancouver Island April 10 to 17 to share Yukon First Nation culture. The trip involves 20 students from Grades 1-7, two staff, and five parents.

Skills Canada Yukon

Skills Canada Yukon is preparing for the 16th Annual Canadian Skills Competition to be held in Waterloo, Ontario, from May 20 to 23. This Olympic-style competition is the only one of its kind in Canada. Skills Canada Yukon would like to encourage any Yukon apprentice/Yukon high school student interested or looking for more information visit: www.skillsyukon.com or contact Dan Curtis at 668-2709 or danc@skillscanada.com.

Thursday, April 29**2010 Yukon Job Fair**

Yukon WorkinfoNET (YuWIN) is hosting what we expect to be another successful Yukon Job Fair! Job seekers will benefit from face-to-face contact with prospective employers. People who want to come to Yukon for the summer are encouraged to consider this an event suited to their job search needs. All sectors of the labour market are invited including: tourism, mining, construction and retail. Employers and job seekers – plan to attend the 2010 Yukon Job Fair!

Visit: www.yuwinjobfairs.ca.

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