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FOR RELEASE #10-163

August 27, 2010

Yukon students awarded scholarships to prestigious college

WHITEHORSE – Two Yukon students will soon be leaving for a prestigious college in Victoria on scholarships, Education Minister Patrick Rouble announced today.

"I am pleased that two Yukoners, Luke Hunter and Andrea Abbott, will continue to strive for success as students at the Lester B. Pearson United World College of the Pacific," Rouble said. "We work to ensure that all Yukon students have the opportunity to pursue multiple pathways and it is with great pride that Luke and Andrea are afforded the opportunity to grow as individuals and as territorial representatives at this highly regarded institution."

Each year, the Education department provides a scholarship in the amount of \$34,000 to one student who is selected to attend Pearson College for two years, at an equivalent of Grades 12 and 13.

Sixteen-year-old Luke Hunter of Dawson City, who previously attended Robert Service School, will begin the first of his two-year pre-university studies at Pearson College.

"I feel very fortunate to have been given such an extraordinary opportunity to further my education. I am excited about the challenges and opportunities that lie ahead in my years at Pearson College," Hunter said. "I have no doubt that the education I will be receiving at Pearson College will give me the chance to represent the Yukon and bring a Northern perspective to this international school."

Eighteen-year-old Andrea Abbott, who attended the F.H. Collins French Immersion program, will be returning to the Pearson College for her second and final year of studies.

"Living with students from around the world has been a wonderful chance to gain insight into different cultures as well as share my knowledge and love of the Yukon. It has also given me unique perspectives on many diverse issues and challenged my beliefs and opinions," Abbott said. "Although I am unsure of what profession I will pursue in the future, I feel that both my unique education in the Yukon and my time at Pearson will continue to have a large and influential role in my life."

Pearson College blends academic excellence with leadership, international and intercultural understanding, personal responsibility and other core values of the United World colleges.

Yukon has been awarding the Lester B. Pearson Scholarship for Yukon students since the mid-1970s. It is one of several scholarships available to Yukon students. For more information about this scholarship and other student financial assistance visit www.education.gov.yk.ca.

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Contact:

Emily Younker
Cabinet Communications

Yumimi Pang
Communications, Education

867-633-7961

emily.younger@gov.yk.ca

867-456-6789

yumimi.pang@gov.yk.ca



Dawson City resident Luke Hunter, 16, will be starting his first year as a scholarship recipient for the Lester B. Pearson United World College of the Pacific in Victoria.



Whitehorse resident and scholarship recipient, Andrea Abbott, 18, is shown during a Gabriola Island camping trip that she organized last year with a group of students from Pearson College as part of the school's curriculum. Abbott is returning to Pearson College this fall to complete her second and final year of study.

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