

FOR RELEASE  
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## **Government of Yukon and Yukon Francophone School Board confirm planned location of new school**

The Government of Yukon and the Yukon Francophone School Board (CSFY) confirmed today that they plan to build the new French First Language high school on the Riverdale Education Reserve.

This site was identified by the CSFY as the preferred location for the new school in 2016. After an extensive review of the possible site options, the new Government of Yukon agreed this site was the most viable location. It offers significant savings in projected construction costs for required site work and the new school would be able to use existing infrastructure.

The Government of Yukon announced \$8 million in funding for the new French First Language high school in its budget speech to the Yukon Legislative Assembly yesterday. Further details about the plan for the new French First Language high school are still under discussion in the confidential negotiations between the Government of Yukon and the Yukon Francophone School Board.

### **Quotes**

"With the funding in the 2017-18 budget and agreement on a site location, the Government of Yukon is moving forward with the CSFY and community stakeholders to plan and build this new school for French First Language students. We will continue to work with the Yukon Francophone School Board, the Francophone and Riverdale communities, the neighbouring schools and school councils and the City of Whitehorse on this project."

*–Minister of Education Tracy-Anne McPhee*

"We are very pleased that this project continues to move forward. We would also like to acknowledge the continued support of the new Government of Yukon for this vital project for our community."

*–CSFY President Jean-Sébastien Blais*

### **Quick facts**

- The Government of Yukon and CSFY have been negotiating outstanding issues from a 2009 lawsuit, including the construction of a new francophone high school, since 2015 through two joint settlement committees.
- The two parties have agreed to keep their negotiations confidential and to jointly announce key decisions as they reach agreement on each issue.
- The new proposed location in the area between the new F.H. Collins Secondary School and Selkirk Elementary School offers advantages such as simplified site work needs, more space and flexibility for the design of the school and shared infrastructure.

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