



## Government of Yukon

Government of Yukon » April 2011 » News Release #11-048

### Newsroom

Latest news releases

### News by theme

News by department

- Community Services
- Economic Development
- Education
- Energy, Mines and Resources
- Environment
- Executive Council Office
- Finance
- French Language Services Directorate
- Health and Social Services
- Highways and Public Works
- Justice
- Public Service Commission
- Tourism and Culture
- Women's Directorate

### News by corporations

- Yukon Development Corporation
- Yukon Energy Corporation
- Yukon Housing Corporation
- Yukon Liquor Corporation
- Yukon Workers' Compensation Health and Safety Board

Joint news releases

Premier's News

### News by date

2017 news releases

- January
- February
- March
- April
- May
- June
- July
- August
- September
- October
- November
- December

News archive



**NEWS** *release*

FOR RELEASE #11-048

April 8, 2011

### Education Week celebrations taking place across Yukon

WHITEHORSE—The importance of lifelong learning and its ability to enrich our lives will be highlighted as the territory celebrates Education Week from April 11 to 15.

"This is an excellent opportunity for Yukoners to gather in each community to explore learning and find out more about the educational opportunities available to them, all while having fun," Education Minister Patrick Rouble said. "This year's theme is *Enriching Lives Through Learning*, which underscores just how much an impact education has on our lives."

The annual week-long event serves to raise awareness about the importance of education as well as the educational opportunities available to Yukoners. It features events across the territory hosted by organizations with an interest in education including schools, Yukon College, First Nations and non-governmental organizations.

Over the course of the week there will be over 30 events including a Na-Cho Nyäk Dun-sponsored traditional lunch in Mayo, Ukrainian egg decorating workshops in Watson Lake, a week-long community trivia challenge in Carcross and a beading, drumming and singing workshop in Whitehorse.

The Department of Education will once again host an open house featuring schematic design drawings of the new F.H. Collins Secondary School, LEGO® physics lessons, web conferencing demonstrations and displays and information from numerous community partners.

For more information and a full list of Education Week activities, visit [www.education.gov.yk.ca/education\\_week.html](http://www.education.gov.yk.ca/education_week.html) or check today's newspapers.

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See backgrounder below.

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### Backgrounder: Education Week Calendar of Events

#### Brown Bag Lunch Seminars

Monday, April 11 to Friday, April 15: 12:15 to 12:45 p.m. Room 1, Department of Education Building, 1000 Lewes Blvd.

Join us at the Department of Education for short, informative seminars that cover a wide variety of topics over lunch hour.

#### Monday: Ed Schultz – First Nations Final and Self-Government Agreements

Learn about Yukon First Nation Final and Self-Government Agreements. This information session describes the content and implications of the agreements as they relate to public education. Learn how Yukon First Nations are making the extraordinary transition from self-rule, colonial rule, Indian Act control and self-government in our modern age.

#### **Tuesday: Penny Prysuk – Pyramid of Intervention**

The Pyramid of Intervention is a systematic approach to providing high quality, evidence-based assessment and instruction and appropriate interventions that respond to students' individual needs. The approach can be used to address both academic and behavioural needs. The nature of interventions and intensity may be decided by teachers individually or in collaboration with school-based teams, always on the basis of evidence that is derived from monitoring student achievement.

#### **Wednesday: Shawn Kitchen – Labour Market Framework**

An overview of the Labour Market Framework for Yukon: where we have come from; where we are now; where we are going.

#### **Thursday: Paula Thompson – Moose Mathematics**

There are 'moose-maticians' on the loose! Come out and make the 'moose' out of your lunch hour! Play some moose math games that will include some or all of the following:

MOOSE (a.k.a. Skunk), Moose Farkel, Moose Track Math Bingo, Six Moose (a.k.a. Double Dozen) and Moose Nim. This talk is appropriate for Grade 1 – 11 educators and parents of children in these grades. Put this talk on your 'moose do' list. Participants will leave as moosified moose-maticians with the games that we play in hand.

#### **Friday: Deputy Minister Pamela Hine – Yukon Education: Our Commitment to New Horizons.**

Hear firsthand how Yukon compares with education reform in other countries. Pam Hine will give an overview of the key findings from the Education World Forum that was held in London, United Kingdom, in January 2011.

### **Multi-Day Events**

#### **Department of Education, Council of Yukon First Nations and Yukon College**

Yukon College First Nations Education Summit and New Horizons Education Summit: April 11 to 13 at Yukon College: 8:30 to 4:30 p.m. Register online at [www.education.gov.yk.ca](http://www.education.gov.yk.ca). On April 11, join Yukon College as they focus on transitions, examine past accomplishments and develop action items for the coming year. Contact: Tosh Southwick 456-8673 or [tsouthwick@yukoncollege.yk.ca](mailto:tsouthwick@yukoncollege.yk.ca). On April 12-13, join the Department of Education and CYFN in the development of a Rural Strategy to enhance success for rural learners. Contact: Jennifer England at 456-5545 or [jennifer.england@gov.yk.ca](mailto:jennifer.england@gov.yk.ca) and/or Kluane Adamek at 393-9243 or [kluane.adamek@cyfn.net](mailto:kluane.adamek@cyfn.net).

#### **Carcross – Ghùch Tlà Community School**

School-wide Trivia Challenge: April 11 to 15 during morning announcements. Everyone from the community is welcome to join us and help celebrate Education Week. Prizes, snacks and grand finale on Friday when we'll host a fun and interactive game show in the library. Contact: 821-2929.

#### **Marsh Lake – Environment Yukon**

Swan Haven Interpretation Centre: April 11 to 29. Environment Yukon's Wildlife Viewing program offers curriculum-based outdoor education opportunities for Grades 2 to 6. Visit "School Programs" at [www.swanhaven.gov.yk.ca](http://www.swanhaven.gov.yk.ca), or contact Wildlife Viewing at 667-8291.

#### **Watson Lake – Johnson Elementary School**

Ukrainian Eggs: April 12 through April 14 from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. Miss Fitzpatrick will present a Ukrainian egg decorating workshop for all children accompanied by a parent. Call 536-7333 for more information.

#### **Elementary Schools of Whitehorse**

Annual Invitational Floor Hockey Tournament: April 15 and 16 from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

This tournament is open to all Yukon elementary school teams comprised of students from Grades 4 through 7. School venues TBA. All games are open to the public. Round robin games will be on Friday April 15 and playoff games will be on Saturday April 16. Contact: Ted Hupe at 667-3500.

**Spring School Councils' Conference**

Creating a Positive Climate in our Schools: April 14 to 16 at the Westmark Whitehorse. Join special guests Timi Tullis and Lori Klein from the Association of Alaska School Boards to discuss School Climate and Connectedness. Register online at [www.education.gov.yk.ca/psb/school\\_council\\_conference.html](http://www.education.gov.yk.ca/psb/school_council_conference.html). Contact: Bob at [bob.walker@gov.yk.ca](mailto:bob.walker@gov.yk.ca) or 667-8226, or Carol at [exec.director@ayscbc.org](mailto:exec.director@ayscbc.org), or 633-2692.

**Volunteer Yukon**

National Volunteer Week: April 10 to 16. A heartfelt thank you goes out to all Yukon volunteers for their work in education and in many other sectors. Join Volunteer Bénévoles Yukon and the City of Whitehorse in celebrating the efforts of volunteers during National Volunteer Week by nominating individuals to the City of Whitehorse Volunteer of the Year Award. Contact: MJ O'Neal at 668-8611.

**Yukon College – Ayamdigut Campus**

College Tours: April 11 at 12:00 p.m. and April 12 at 4:30 p.m. The 40-minute tours begin at the main reception area next to the Pit. Your tour guide will be waiting for you and will depart promptly at the start time. Contact: College Relations at 668-8786 or [collegerelations@yukoncollege.yk.ca](mailto:collegerelations@yukoncollege.yk.ca).

**Yukon Literacy Coalition**

TD Family Literacy Centre (2nd Floor, Canada Games Centre): April 11 through April 14 from 12:00 to 4:00 p.m. Join us for exciting discoveries! Crafts, storytelling, theatre play and music. Contact: Brendan Wiklund, Program Coordinator, at [brendan.literacy@northwestel.net](mailto:brendan.literacy@northwestel.net) or 668-8698.

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**Monday, April 11****Watson Lake – Johnson Elementary School**

J.E.S. CARES Assembly: 8:45 to 9:00 a.m. Kick off Education Week in style in our school gymnasium. All are welcome.

Kid's Convention and Workshop: 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Workshops for parents of students include: bacon & eggs on a stick, t-shirt dyeing, quilting and more. Contact: 536-7333.

**Yukon College**

Beading, Drumming & Singing: 12:00 to 1:00 p.m. in the Pit. Learn the traditional art of beading from skilled mentors. This event is free, and all materials are provided. You can also participate in drumming and singing. Drums will be available to those who attend.

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**Tuesday, April 12****Child Development Centre**

CDC Library Open House: 10:00 a.m. to Noon at 1000 Lewes Blvd. In-house library has a large selection of books for young children (infant to five years old) and parents. There will be refreshments and a book draw for the kids. Contact: 456-8182.

**Grey Mountain Primary School**

Third Annual Muffin Morning: 8:40 to 9:10 a.m. Parents/caregivers of students are invited for muffins, coffee and juice while they read with their child(ren). Contact: 667-5189.

**Whole Child Program**

Selkirk Elementary School: 5:30 to 7:00 p.m. Open gym, crafts and cooking. Free whole family recreation/arts programming open to any family in Whitehorse. Contact: Peter Gubbe at 667-3688.

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**Wednesday, April 13****Mayo – J.V. Clark School**

Na-Cho Nyak Dun-sponsored Traditional Lunch: 12:00 to 1:00 p.m. Contact Joanne Buyck,

Community Education Liaison Coordinator: 996-2275.

**Watson Lake – Johnson Elementary School**

Reading Fun Day: 11:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. The community is invited to read with a student for 30 minutes. Also, poetry reading and a Reader's Theatre will take place in the school library throughout the day. Contact: 536-7333.

**Employment Central**

Information Session: 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. in the Employment Central boardroom, Suite 202-204 Black St. Topic: obtaining financial assistance to take skills training or upgrading programs. First-come-first-serve seating. Contact: 393-8270.

**Grey Mountain Primary School**

Grandparents' Talk and Tea: 1:00 to 2:00 p.m. Grandparents of students are invited to talk to classes about how their lives have changed through learning followed by a "Grandparent's Tea" in the library. Contact: 667-5189.

**Whole Child Program**

Whitehorse Elementary School: 5:30 to 7:00 p.m. Volunteer Appreciation Celebration, open gym, crafts for kids and cooking workshops. Free whole family recreation/arts programming open to any family in Whitehorse. Contact: Barbara Curtis or Crystal Pearl-Hodgins at 456-3871.

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**Thursday, April 14****Department of Education**

Open House: 4:00 to 6:00 p.m. at 1000 Lewes Blvd. Everyone is welcome to learn more about the educational resources and opportunities available in Yukon. Featuring LEGO® physics lessons and information on topics such as experiential education, apprenticeship, and First Nations Programs and Partnerships just to name a few. Come see conceptual drawings of the new F.H. Collins Secondary School. Several of our community partners will be in on the fun with displays and activities too. Free refreshments and entertainment. Contact: Christopher Madden at [chris.madden@gov.yk.ca](mailto:chris.madden@gov.yk.ca) or 456-6789.

**Watson Lake – Johnson Elementary School**

Culture Day: All day. All are welcome. Free moose stew & bannock lunch at Noon. Contact: 536-7333.

**Elijah Smith Elementary School**

Bison Feast: Contact 667-5992 for information.

**Grey Mountain Primary School**

Buddy Reading: 8:35 to 9:00 a.m. Parents/caregivers of students are invited to participate in "Buddy Reading" when classes combine to read with each other. Contact: 667-5189.

**Hidden Valley Elementary School**

Bison Feast: 5:30 to 8:00 p.m. This is always a special event and we look forward to sharing it with the school community, volunteers, supporters and invited guests. Contact: 667-8164.

**Yukon College**

Business After Hours: 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. A celebration and grand opening in the Yukon Research Center of Excellence Phase II building, located to the right of the family residence building and just behind the staff parking lot. Contact: College Relations at 668-8786 or [collegerelations@yukoncollege.yk.ca](mailto:collegerelations@yukoncollege.yk.ca).

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**Friday, April 15****Watson Lake – Johnson Elementary School**

Art Gallery & Fancy Pants Day: 8:30 a.m. to 3:10 p.m. Families and the community are welcome to view student photography of Watson Lake at the art gallery. Wear your fanciest pants!

Hot Dog Lunch: 12:00 p.m. \$2.50 per hot dog. Fundraiser for the Grade 7 class. Contact: 536-7333.

**The Association of Yukon School Councils, Boards & Committees (AYSCBC)**

Annual General Meeting: 4:30 p.m. Westmark Whitehorse Hotel. All are welcome. AYSCBC is a non-profit organization that provides services to its members with a focus is on working collaboratively to increase student success. Contact: Carol at [exec.director@ayscbc.org](mailto:exec.director@ayscbc.org) or 633-2692. Website: [www.ayscbc.org](http://www.ayscbc.org)

**Challenge – Community Vocational Alternatives**

Tours: 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. The Challenge Bridges EmployAbility Program will host a walkthrough of its Greenhouse Program site at 1st and Strickland (next door to the Challenge CVA office), the Career Woodshop site at 1148 First Ave. and the Bridges Café at the Shipyards Park Frank Slim Building. Tours are approximately 20 minutes. Contact: 668-4421 or [admin@ccva.ca](mailto:admin@ccva.ca).

**Environment Yukon**

Spring Stories around the Campfire - Tagish River Bridge, Day Use Area: 7:30 to 9:00 pm. Come to this great swan viewing area and sit around the campfire enjoying a cup of tea and homemade bannock. Join Carcross/Tagish First Nation elder Ida Calmegane as she shares some traditional stories of spring in Yukon. Be sure to bring a mug for tea, lawn chair, and a blanket so you can sit back and relax! Contact Wildlife Viewing at 667-8921.

**F.H. Collins Secondary School**

Leaping Feats Educational Dance Tour: 2:00 p.m. Join us in the school gym for a presentation and explanation of various dance genres. Contact: 667-8665.

**Grey Mountain Primary School**

Crazy Hair/Hat Day: All day. Parents/caregivers of students are invited to have pizza lunch with their child(ren) from 12:05 to 12:30 p.m. Crazy hats and hair encouraged! Contact: 667-5189.

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**Events Before and After Education Week**
**Saturday, April 9, 2011****18th Annual Bridge Building Competition**

Porter Creek Secondary School gym: Bridge viewing at 12:00 p.m. Bridge breaking at 1:00 p.m. To help promote the engineering profession within the Yukon, the Association of Professional Engineers of Yukon and the Innovators in the Schools program are sponsoring this annual model bridge building competition. Everyone is invited to watch this hands-on contest. Visit [www.yukoninnovators.com](http://www.yukoninnovators.com) for more information.

**Thursday, April 28****Golden Horn Elementary School**

School Heritage Fair: 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. Display of student projects in the school gym. Contact Wendy Close: 667-8130 or [wendy.close@gov.yk.ca](mailto:wendy.close@gov.yk.ca).

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