



FOR RELEASE  
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## **Closure of Ross River School**

Parents, students, staff and local residents are advised that Ross River School is closed indefinitely, pending repairs to the school. Education is working with the community to make plans to minimize disruption to students and staff.

Last week concerns were raised regarding cracks in the walls of the facility and, as a precautionary measure, the school was closed and all students and staff sent home. Subsequently, two independent structural engineers examined the cracks and provided a preliminary assessment that the facility was safe for occupancy.

Further investigation of the facility this week, outlined in an engineering report submitted to Highways and Public Works late Friday, indicated that there are concerns with the structural integrity of the facility. Based on these findings, the department recommended the immediate closure of the facility until repairs are completed.

Education is working closely with the Chief and Council, school council, school administration, school staff and the community to develop an alternative plan to minimize the disruption for students and staff.

The closure affects approximately 50 students in kindergarten to Grade 10, and some students attending the Yukon College Ross River Dene Cho Kê'endj campus. Yukon College is planning to continue some training programs in the Mobile Trades Trailer which is presently in the community. The community library located in the school will also be closed.

Additional details will be provided as they become available.

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