



FOR RELEASE
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Yukon students discover diversity and opportunity in Canada

WHITEHORSE—The Government of Yukon is supporting 26 Yukon students to participate at Encounters with Canada, Canada's largest youth forum. The program brings students to the national capital to interact with their peers from across the country in experiential learning activities.

"I'm proud to continue support for Encounters with Canada so that students from across the territory can explore the diversity of our nation's cultures, heritages, institutions, histories and leaders while in Ottawa," Minister of Education Elaine Taylor said. "The chance to meet other students, travel, explore career paths and learn about Canada is important for the personal and academic development of Yukon youth."

The Department of Education has provided \$10,400 to offset the participation costs for 26 students in 2014-15. Travel costs are covered by Encounters with Canada.

Throughout the school year the national initiative offers thematic programming. Students choose the week that matches their interests—international affairs, science and technology, arts and culture, or journalism and communication—then visit associated institutions and workplaces as well as participate in cultural activities associated with their chosen theme. The program runs throughout the school year with intakes based on thematic choice; generally one Yukon student participates per intake.

"Encounters with Canada participants take home a new appreciation of Canada, pride in their country and a greater knowledge of its history, important institutions and achievements," director general of Encounters with Canada Linda Brunet said. "Further, students become more engaged in their local communities and their provinces and territories, and they form lasting connections with other young Canadians from across the country."

Open to Canadian citizens or permanent residents between 14 and 17 years of age, students are recommended by their school for participation in the program. Since 2007, Yukon's Department of Education has helped more than 150 of the territory's students to participate in the program.

Learn more: Encounters with Canada

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Contact:

Elaine Schiman
Cabinet Communications
867-633-7961
elaine.schiman@gov.yk.ca

Ronuk Modha
Communications, Education

867-332-5082
ronuk.modha@gov.yk.ca

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