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More students interested in CHAOS than ever before

WHITEHORSE—Enrolment in the Community, Heritage, Adventure, Outdoors and Skills (CHAOS) experiential learning program this year is the strongest ever for both the fall 2014 Grade 10 and winter 2015 Grade 9 classes.

"The Department of Education is committed to supporting student success by delivering experiential learning opportunities and promoting First Nations knowledge and perspectives in Yukon schools," Minister of Education Elaine Taylor said. "The increased enrolment reflects Yukon students' interest in learning more about First Nations knowledge, culture and history outside the traditional classroom setting."

The CHAOS program was developed by the First Nations Programs and Partnerships (FNPP) unit in the Education department and began at the Wood Street Centre in 2011. Enrolment for CHAOS 9 and CHAOS 10 has more than doubled since 2011-12 and increased 60 per cent over last year.

The program integrates regular Grade 10 course requirements with on-the-land experiences. Course credits through CHAOS include: English First Peoples 10, a language arts credit that studies First Peoples' literature; social studies 10 with a focus on Yukon history, geography and geology; ancestral technologies, exploring the diverse technologies of Yukon First Nations; and outdoor education. CHAOS offers students the opportunity to participate in multi-day trapping, sea kayaking, hiking and other expeditions.

"Experiential learning programs like CHAOS encourage students to pursue their individual interests, which leads to improved student engagement and achievement," Taylor added.

Learn more: CHAOS at the Wood Street Centre

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