



FOR RELEASE
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Porter Creek hosts Yukon Robotics Challenge

WHITEHORSE— Porter Creek Secondary School hosted the first Yukon Robotics Challenge today as part of Yukon Education Week celebrations.

"The Yukon Robotics Challenge showcases both the skills and community spirit of Yukon students," Minister of Education Elaine Taylor said. "This new competition is a great example of the kind of hands-on experiential learning opportunities being offered to Yukon students in our schools."

The Association of Professional Engineers (APEY) and the Department of Education partnered to create and sponsor the challenge. Minister Taylor welcomed an audience of invited guests and about 60 student participants from grade five and six classes at Jack Hulland Elementary, Elijah Smith Elementary, Takhini Elementary and Holy Family Elementary at the opening ceremony this morning.

"The Yukon Robotics Challenge demonstrates how experiential learning can engage students in their education," Taylor added. "Congratulations to the organizers at Porter Creek Secondary School, the participating schools and community partners for their invaluable work in hosting this unique event."

The theme of this year's challenge was renewable energies, which encouraged students to consider the principles of sustainability in robotics engineering in constructing their Lego® robots. Twelve APEY members volunteered to judge the competition and awarded medals to the top three teams and a plaque to the school with the best overall scores.

"The Association of Professional Engineers of Yukon has promoted the principles of engineering to Yukon students since 1994 through its bridge building competition," APEY President Brian Crist said. "The association is very pleased to partner with Yukon Education to create this new experiential learning opportunity, the Yukon Robotics Challenge. The challenge is an excellent activity to excite Yukon students to study science and math and to develop the critical thinking and problem-solving skills necessary for an engineering career."

Learn more:

Education Week 2014: www.education.gov.yk.ca/about/education_week.html

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