



FOR RELEASE

April 1, 2014

School calendar options set for 2014 to 2016

WHITEHORSE—Following consultation with its partners, the Department of Education today announced a new three-year school calendar. Schools in Whitehorse will share the same start date and a two-week spring break. Rural schools will be given more flexible options to accommodate regional and cultural needs.

"This approach provides certainty for planning over the next three years, while maintaining the flexibility required by rural schools," said Minister of Education Elaine Taylor. "I'd like to thank all those who participated in the calendar consultation process and provided feedback."

The findings of a stakeholder survey about school calendar options were presented to school councils, administrators and the Yukon Teachers' Association. The strong level of support for a three-year calendar and consistent start dates in Whitehorse determined the new approach to setting the calendar.

All elementary and secondary schools in Whitehorse will start on the same day in 2014, 2015 and 2016 – the Monday before Labour Day.

To accommodate local and seasonal needs, cultural traditions and on-the-land activities, rural school councils will be able to select from three possible start dates and will also determine whether to hold a one-week or a two-week spring break.

Each school calendar will remain 186 days in length: 180 instructional days for students, three departmental non-instructional days, and three non-instructional days determined by the school councils.

Learn more:

School calendar survey results: www.education.gov.yk.ca/kto12/calendar_consultation.html

-30-

Contact:

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

Mark Hill
Communications, Education
867-332-5082
mark.hill@gov.yk.ca

News Release #14-081