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Functional planning begins for new French First Language high school

WHITEHORSE—The Yukon Francophone School Board and Government of Yukon have awarded a contract to Thibodeau Architecture and Design to complete functional planning of the new French First Language high school.

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"We are pleased to be working with our partners at Commission scolaire francophone du Yukon to support francophone education in the Yukon," Minister of Education Doug Graham said. "This is an important step in our joint work supporting French first language students in Yukon."

Thibodeau Architecture and Design is a fully bilingual firm with offices in Whitehorse, Vancouver and Montreal. Functional planning includes developing space and site requirements, recommending a construction delivery method and establishing a preliminary construction schedule and budget.

"Functional planning is the first step in the planning phase for the construction of the new French First Language high school and is a requirement to apply for Government of Canada funding," Minister of Highways and Public Works Scott Kent said.

Thibodeau will work closely with school and board staff to capture all the requirements for a new school. They will also carry out a public engagement process to ensure the community's vision for the project is considered as part of this early-stage planning process.

"We are very excited to take this next step and to start working on the specifics of the new francophone high school," Yukon Francophone School Board executive director Marc Champagne said.

The work is anticipated to be complete by the end of March 2016.

Negotiations between the Government of Yukon and the Yukon Francophone School Board at the joint settlement committees, including the construction subcommittee, are on-going.

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