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## **Government of Yukon and First Nation of Na-Cho Nyäk Dun sign new education agreement**

WHITEHORSE—Minister of Education Doug Graham and First Nation of Na-Cho Nyäk Dun Chief Simon Mervyn signed a new three-year education agreement last month in Whitehorse.

"This education agreement will strengthen relationships between educators and the community by engaging students, staff, parents and Na-Cho Nyäk Dun citizens in the work of the school," Graham said. "We are moving towards a model that embeds Northern Tutchone culture and knowledge more deeply into the fabric of the school community to the benefit of all students in Mayo."

The new education agreement outlines joint communication and participation on curriculum development, school programming and staffing on the First Nation of Na-Cho Nyäk Dun Traditional Territory. Priorities identified in the agreement include: extra-curricular activities, experiential learning, student achievement, a greater focus on Northern Tutchone culture and language, and an increased number of pathways to graduation for local students.

"We look forward to working with J.V. Clark School and the Yukon government to build a better future for our children," Mervyn said. "As we embrace the future, we would like to ensure that our love for our land and our traditional knowledge and values are nurtured and shared with the entire school community."

The agreement includes the development of a three-year action plan based on the priorities. Annual reviews of Na-Cho Nyäk Dun First Nation students' progress will be conducted by the Government of Yukon, Na-Cho Nyäk Dun First Nation and the J.V. Clark School Council.

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