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## Faro hosts its first rural experiential model

FARO—Eighty Grade 7 and 8 students from 11 schools in 10 rural communities travelled to Faro this week to participate in a two-day Junior High Rural Experiential Model (REM).

"The Junior High REM is designed to empower students in their early teens and help them realize their cultural, emotional, mental and physical potential," Minister of Education Doug Graham said. "This is the first time we are hosting an event like this here, and we thank the people of Faro and Ross River for accommodating so many students on the Traditional Territory of the Ross River Dena Council."

Students choose six daytime sessions to attend out of a total 29 on offer. The themes for the sessions include Yukon culture, personal wellness and applied skills. Evening events include activities such as baseball, golf and an Amazing Racethemed challenge.

Yukon First Nation Elders from the Ross River Dena Council are helping to lead sessions, sharing their wisdom, knowledge, perspectives and language. Subject matter experts from both the private and non-profit sectors are on hand to help rural teachers, department support staff and Elders lead the sessions.

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