

# Department of Education

2022 Annual Report







# Contents

Message from the Minister	3
Message from the Deputy Minister	4
Introduction	5
Collaboration with First Nations	7
Improving educational programs, services and outcomes for Yukon students	13
Capital planning and building new schools	19
Universal Early Learning and Child Care	23
Celebrating staff and students	25
Looking ahead to 2023	31
Appendix	33



## Message from the Minister

I am pleased to present the 2022 Annual Report for the Department of Education. We are reimagining the Yukon school system with our partners in education. It took many decades for Yukon's education system to become what it is today. Our government is committed to doing the hard work and the right work to create new system structures together. By prioritizing collaboration and listening, this year we were able to make significant progress in developing new systems to better support learners where they are at, honour long-standing commitments with Yukon First Nations, and ensure the health and safety of students and staff. We are committed to doing this work together.

I would like to acknowledge and thank all of the administrators, educators and staff who have been working hard for the benefit of students and all Yukoners. Your efforts have not gone unnoticed and are very much appreciated. I commend you for your ability to effectively make adjustments where the impacts of both the pandemic and a national teacher shortage have put increased demands on staff resources. Thank you for your commitment to supporting learners of all ages and supporting one another.

The Government of Yukon, Chiefs Committee on Education, and the Yukon First Nation Education Directorate share the common goal of providing high quality and culturally appropriate education, based on an Indigenous worldview, for all Yukon students. After years of collaborative work, at the beginning of 2022 we celebrated the historic establishment of the new First Nation School Board on the 49th anniversary of Together Today for our Children Tomorrow. Eight schools that voted in a referendum officially began learning under the administration of the First Nation School Board at the start of the 2022-23 school year. I was honoured to join in ceremony and help swear-in the inaugural elected trustees of the First Nation School Board in November. Thank you to the Interim Governance Committee for their strong leadership in shepherding the board to this historic stage.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'J McLean'.

**Hon. Jeanie McLean, Minister of Education**

## Message from the Deputy Minister



Over the past year, the Department of Education navigated significant challenges, progressed work on many impactful initiatives, and celebrated historic advances.

The department is making system-wide changes that aim to advance reconciliation in meaningful ways and decolonize the education system. The historic establishment and transition of eight schools to the administration of the First Nation School Board is an incredible accomplishment to celebrate. I thank the Chiefs Committee on Education and Yukon First Nation Education Directorate for their years of collaboration and advocacy. I also thank the board's Executive Director, the Interim Governance Committee, and the new board trustees for their incredible work and dedication.

We are working with partners and stakeholders to reimagine and create schools that are safe, inclusive, that build on student strengths and ensure that every child feels connected and supported to thrive. We are focused on the important work of recovering from the pandemic and responding to the Auditor General of Canada's Review of Kindergarten to Grade 12 education in the Yukon, and the 2021 Review of Inclusive and Special Education.

In 2022, we launched the Ready-to-Learn Schools initiative, based on the ground-breaking work of Dr. Bruce Perry's Neurosequential Model. We made progress on the Reimagining Inclusive and Special Education workplan, which was created with Yukon First Nations and education partners. In the fall we completed engagement with Yukon First Nations on development of the Student Outcome Strategy, which will look at root causes of poor student outcomes, create targets and evaluate progress on closing gaps. While we've made significant strides in some areas, we know we still have much work to do to reach our vision for a renewed, safe and inclusive education system that better supports all students to succeed.

We cannot undertake this transformative work without partners and their trust, educators, students and families who are at the heart of our work. We need to strike a balance between making actionable progress and taking the time needed to build trusting relationships. We need to allow time to ask questions, to listen and seek other perspectives, and to create a new system together. We must do things differently if we want to see different results. It is not easy, but we know the importance of education in our society, and we are dedicated to improving.

A stylized, handwritten signature in dark ink, likely belonging to Mary Cameron.

Mary Cameron, Deputy Minister of Education

# Introduction





This report fulfills the requirement of Section 5 (h) of the *Education Act*, which requires the Minister of Education to table an annual report on the state of education in the Yukon.

Under the *Education Act*, the Department of Education is responsible for delivering accessible and quality education to Yukon learners. We work closely with our partners in education – including school boards and Yukon First Nations – and school communities to develop and improve our programs and practices. This report highlights the activities of 2022 and reflects information current as of December 31, 2022.

## 2022 Highlights



This report shares some of the work done this year to advance:

- Creation of the First Nation School Board;
- Implementation of recommendations from the Auditor General of Canada's audit report on Kindergarten to Grade 12 programs in the Yukon;
- Implementation of recommendations from the Final Report on the Review of Inclusive and Special Education;
- Collaboration with First Nations and educational partners to improve programs, services and outcomes for students, including learning indigenous languages;
- Development of a student outcomes strategy;
- Implementation of universal early learning and child care, and reviewing the *Child Care Act*;
- Work to build new schools that reflect modern learning practices;
- Planning processes for the replacement of an elementary school in Whitehorse;
- Development and implementation of school safety transportation plans; and
- Collaboration with Yukon University on programs and infrastructure, including meeting the demands for early childhood educators and licenced practical nurses in the Yukon.

More student and school performance indicators and data are available online on [Yukon.ca](https://www.yukon.ca) and in the annual Yukon Wide Student Data Report.

# Collaboration with First Nations







## First Nation School Board

Through years of collaboration with the Chiefs Committee on Education and the Yukon First Nations Education Directorate, the historic creation of the First Nation School Board came to fruition in 2022. Eight schools voted to join the new school board in a January referendum held by Elections Yukon. On the 49th anniversary of Together Today for Our Children Tomorrow, the school board was officially established under the direction of an Interim Governance Committee. The eight schools transitioned to the First Nation School Board authority for the 2022-23 school year, and in November five trustees were elected to the board.

### Above

Minister McLean participated in the swearing in ceremony for the First Nation School Board trustees.

### BACK ROW

Mark Wedge, Chief Stephen Charlie, Melanie Bennett, Kirk Cameron, Melissa Flynn, Linda McDonald.

### FRONT ROW

Daryn Leas, Dana Tizya-Tramm, Minister McLean, Erin Pauls, Dr. Alyce Johnson, Shadelle Chambers, Chief Amanda Leas, Gillian Staveley, Jocelyn Joe-Strack.

### January 2022

Initial First Nation School Board (FNSB) referendum

- **January 31:** results announced, 8 schools to transfer to the FNSB

### February 2022

- **February 14:** 49th anniversary of Together Today for Our Children Tomorrow, FNSB officially established under the direction of an Interim Governance Committee

### August 2022

School year 2022-23 begins with 8 schools under FNSB authority

### October 2022

FNSB trustee nominations

### November 2022

FNSB trustee elections

- **November 7:** five trustees are elected
- **November 19:** trustees are sworn in

### December 2022

- **December 1:** Timelines announced for 2023 FNSB referendum





#### Above and Left

Students at St. Elias Community School speak Southern Tutchone and wear traditional clothing as part of their welcome ceremony to the First Nation School Board in September 2022.

#### Right

Students in the CHAOS program (community, heritage, adventure, outdoors and skills) went on a trapline trip.



## Yukon Education First Nations Initiatives

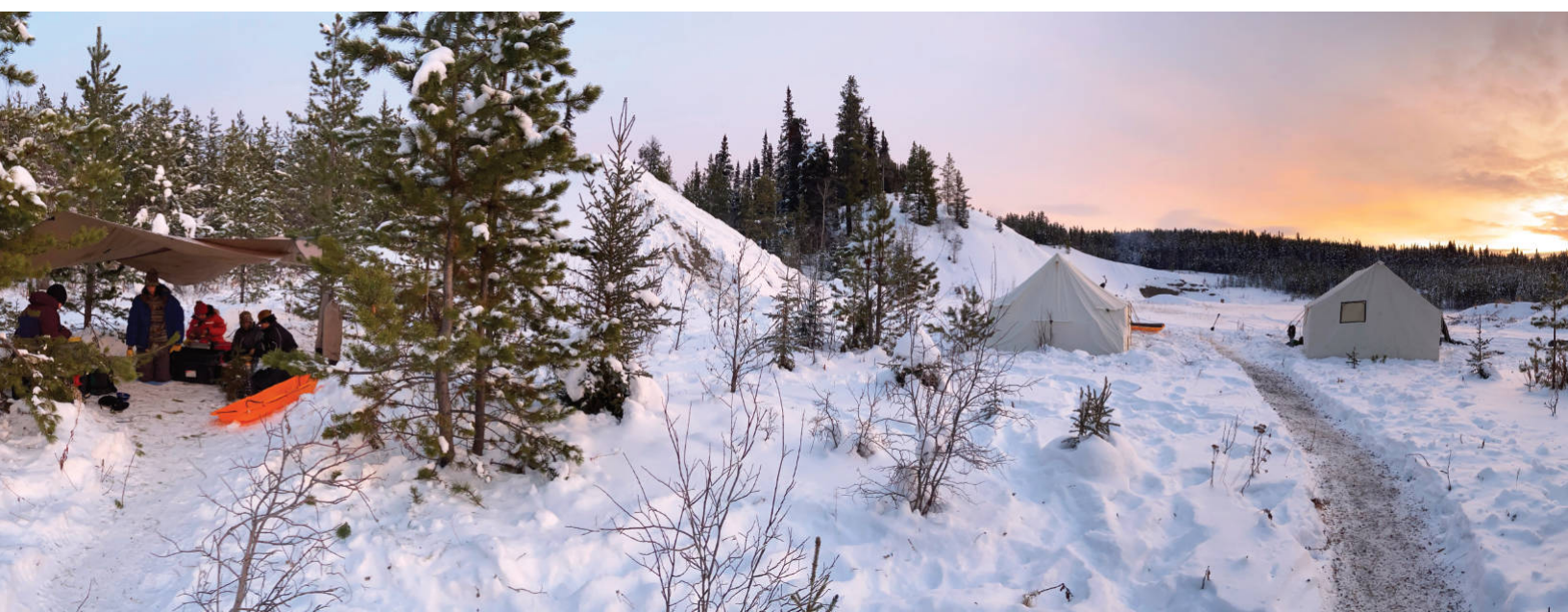
Over the past year, the First Nations Initiatives branch continued to foster effective partnerships with Yukon First Nations to support Yukon-wide and community-specific joint education priorities.

In February 2022, department officials and members of the First Nations Education Commission (FNEC) finalized and approved the *Department of Education/Yukon First Nation Collaboration Framework for Education*. This is a framework is intended to highlight the collaboration activities being undertaken or being planned among the department and Yukon First Nations to address joint education priorities alongside the work being done under the Joint Education Action Plan (JEAP). This year, the department continued to provide funding to implement JEAP and advance the four priority areas:

- K-12 culture and language;
- Authority, control and responsibility;
- Sustainability supports and success; and
- Closing the academic achievement gap.

First Nation governments are essential partners in supporting students and in teaching about Yukon First Nation ways of knowing, doing and being. In 2022, the department worked with individual First Nation governments on government-to-government funding agreements to improve educational outcomes for their citizens and learners on their traditional territories at local schools. The department has been in discussions and exploring joint education priorities with a number of Yukon First Nation governments and expect new signed Education Agreements in 2023.

The First Nations Initiatives branch created a position solely focused on Yukon First Nations language education in Yukon schools. In 2022, the department continued to provide funding to the Yukon Native Language Centre (YNLC) to support Yukon First Nation language revitalization initiatives and explore opportunities for First Nations language teacher training to support continued language development and proficiency.





Yukon First Nations graduates of 2022.  
Photo by YFN Graduation









# **Improving educational programs, services and outcomes for Yukon students**





## Reimagining Inclusive and Special Education

In 2021, the department made a commitment to collaborate with its partners to improve outcomes for Yukon students, with a focus on inclusive education. Reimagining Inclusive and Special Education (RISE) is the department's plan to achieve this goal. The vision of this initiative is a future where every child belongs, connects and thrives.

Participants at the 2021 Education Summit on Inclusive and Special Education identified four key themes to guide this important and actionable work in 2022. The department created 8 working groups called Communities of Inquiry to address these themes. Some Communities of Inquiry provided recommendations, while others continue their work.

### **In 2022, priority work included:**

- processes for assessments and Individual Education Plans,
- Ready-to-Learn Schools, and
- preliminary work on comprehensive mental health approach for schools.

## Ready-to-Learn Schools

A universal support program for all Yukon students, Ready-to-Learn Schools (R2L) provides training for teachers and school staff to help them better understand, honour, support and guide children so they are ready to learn as they travel along their own unique path. Tuned to the basic needs of children, R2L is based on the understanding that children can only be ready to learn when they feel safe and calm. R2L will eventually be implemented in all Yukon schools.

### **As of December 31, 2022, R2L is underway at 6 schools:**

- Takhini Elementary
- Selkirk Elementary
- Nelnah Bessie John School
- St. Elias Community School
- Jack Hulland Elementary
- Grey Mountain Primary School





## Safer Schools Action Plan

Amanda Rogers' Independent Review Report was published in January 2022. The Premier accepted and committed to all 7 recommendations included in the report for the Department of Education.

In response to the report, the Action Plan for the Hidden Valley Review Report was published in February 2022, which developed the 7 recommendations into 23 actions that involved most Yukon government departments. The Department of Education holds lead responsibility for 11 of the 23 actions and has joint responsibility with other government departments on an additional 4 actions.

One of these actions was to create a stand-alone policy on prevention and reporting of serious school incidents. This policy helps to:

- improve practices for reporting and responding to incidents of threat and violence, including integration of a new communication tool; and
- establish better processes and protocols between the departments of Education, Health and Social Services, Justice, and the RCMP.

The department consulted with education partners for input on a draft version of the new policy. This action was finalized with version 1 of the Student Protection Policy: Preventing and Responding to Harm by Adults. In September 2022, this policy and its related procedures, reporting form and communication tool were implemented in all Yukon schools, involving all educators. Implementation is underway with detailed training to be provided to all adults working in schools. To supplement this training, the department partnered with the Centre for Child Protection on a course called Commit to Kids: Child Sexual Abuse Prevention Training.

**Above**

Elementary students showcased their art in the RCMP's Colour the Cruiser campaign.

**Right**

École Whitehorse Elementary School.



## French language education

The Yukon follows Québec and New Brunswick with the third-highest percentage of bilingual speakers in Canada. The Department of Education provides three French Second Language educational programs: French immersion, intensive French, and core French. The Commission scolaire Francophone du Yukon (CSFY, the French school board) oversees 3 schools with French First Language programming. A report from the CSFY is available in the appendix.

French first language	French immersion	Intensive French	Core French
<u>École Émilie-Tremblay</u>  Centre Scolaire Secondaire Communautaire Mercier  <u>École Nomade</u>	<u>École Whitehorse Elementary School</u>  <u>Selkirk Elementary School</u>  <u>FH Collins Secondary School</u>	<u>Christ the King Elementary</u>  <u>Holy Family Elementary</u>  <u>Selkirk Elementary School</u>  <u>Robert Service School</u>  <u>St-Francis of Assisi Catholic Secondary School</u>	In schools where Core French is the only second language offered, Core French is mandatory for all students from Grades 5 to 8, and elective in Grades 9 to 12.

The unique French language education needs of Yukon students are addressed in a financing agreement with the federal government. The department collaboratively develops programming with the community and partners: CSFY, French Second Language Advisory Committee, and Canadian Parents for French.

**In October 2022, 934 students were enrolled in French Immersion programs.**

The department is also a DELF (Diplôme d'études en langue française) Examination Centre. Recognized in 165 countries and valid for life, the DELF is the official French-language diploma awarded by France's Ministry of National Education.





## Adult education and training programs

The Training Programs unit encourages exploration of trades within schools, support for employment goals and post-secondary education. They work closely with partners and stakeholders to ensure learners can access the necessary tools and resources to succeed.

### 2021-22 fiscal year stats

- 456 apprentices registered, including 117 who identified as First Nations.
- 232 apprentice-level exams written
- 66 interprovincial exams written
- 50 journey person certificates issued
- 124 private and public sector positions filled through the Summer Career Placement and Student Training Employment Placement programs

**In 2022, more than \$7.5 million was awarded through student financial assistance programs.**

The Student Financial Assistance unit administers several programs to assist students who are pursuing post-secondary education, this includes the Yukon Grant, Student Training Allowance, Yukon Excellence Awards, and Canada Student Loans.

The Virtual Learning Strategy (VLS) program provides apprentices with the support and guidance needed for different types of learning styles and needs. As of 2022, 24 apprentices are engaged with the VLS program. Through VLS, apprentices have the opportunity to engage with a learning strategist and/or have access to additional supports such as trade specific tutoring and learning assessments.

The Working Up program provides broad funding supports to individuals to advance their career goals. 209 individuals were supported through this program between April 1, 2022 and February 17, 2023.



The department also has several collaborative initiatives with Yukon University (YukonU) to support adult learners. Highlights from 2022 include:

### Early Learning PDP

A new Professional Diploma Pathway program launched at YukonU, with \$217,000 in funding support from the department. Early learning educators can upgrade from Level 3 Equivalent to fully-qualified Level 3, enhancing program quality for children across the Yukon.

### Practical Nursing Program

The Practical Nursing Program provided opportunities for 18 new students to pursue a career in healthcare. Education was proud to support the graduates of this program, providing much-needed talent to fill vacancies in this essential role in Yukon's health care system.

### Varsity sports

The department helped conduct a feasibility study to assess the viability of a varsity sports program at YukonU. The Department of Education was honoured to be part of the steering committee for the initial study and to collaborate with the Yukon Aboriginal Sport Circle, Sport Yukon, and the Department of Economic Development.

#### Below

After a 2-year hiatus, the territorial Skills Canada Yukon competitions returned in 2022. Braden Ponsioen, a Grade 8 student at St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Secondary School, was both the youngest student in the Yukon competitions and the first secondary level competitor to fully complete their carpentry project within the time limit.



# Capital planning and building new schools





## Kêts'ádañ Kù project

Kêts'ádañ Kù means “house of learning” in the Southern Tutchone language of Kluane First Nation. In September 2022, the governments of Yukon and Canada announced preliminary construction funding of \$22.5 million for a Kêts'ádañ Kù in Burwash Landing. At a community celebration, Kluane First Nation Elder “Gramma” Lena Johnson spoke about the community’s history with colonial education and residential school, but emphasized how “our skin may make us look different but, in our hearts, we are the same.” Gramma Lena praised the opportunity to “teach them [the children] to do our best, to help each other out, and about community – both sides.”

Minister of Highways and Public Works Nils Clarke, Kluane First Nation Chief Bob Dickson and Minister of Education Jeanie McLean celebrated the Kêts'ádañ Kù funding announcement with the Burwash Landing community in September 2022.



### Above

Gramma Lena at the community celebration in Burwash Landing.

### Below

Minister Nils Clarke, Chief Bob Dickson, and Minister Jeanie McLean at the Kêts'ádañ Kù announcement event.



## Whistle Bend Elementary School

Construction of the new school in Whistle Bend continued on schedule this year. In October 2022, five candidates were elected to the new school council: Tia Campbell, Cassandra Malach, Brian Laird, Andrea Oldridge and Rebecca Hutchings-Archibald.

## St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Secondary School

In June 2022, St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Secondary was announced as the new name of the school previously known as Vanier Catholic Secondary School. The school council, staff, student body, Diocese of Whitehorse and school community supported changing the school's name, and picked this name after accepting suggestions from students and families. The new name embodies the school's focus on the Catholic faith, respect for the land, animals, natural resources, and social, economic and environmental justice.

## Holy Family Elementary School outdoor classroom

Holy Family Elementary School opened a new outdoor classroom in October 2022. The gathering space serves as a place to foster reconciliation, behavioural regulation, mental wellness, respect for all things, and learning in nature. The school received \$25,000 in Every Student, Every Day funding from Victoria Gold for this project, and the Department of Education covered the remainder of the costs.

Right

Outdoor classroom at  
Holy Family Elementary.







**Left**  
Modular classroom  
at Robert Service  
School.

## Robert Service School modular classroom

A modular classroom addition to Robert Services School in Dawson was completed. The community came together to host an opening ceremony in December 2022 before the new learning space officially opened to students and staff at the beginning of January. The addition includes four new classrooms, two additional staff offices and three gender-neutral washrooms.

## Whitehorse school replacement

In June 2022, we took the next steps in a long-term plan to replace aging schools. École Whitehorse Elementary School was identified to be replaced with a new, modern facility to meet the needs of the students, staff and community for future years. The Project Advisory Committee was established in 2022 and meets regularly to discuss advancement of the Whitehorse Elementary School Replacement project.

## School safety transportation plans

The departments of Education and Highways and Public Works developed materials to educate students on school campus road safety. This included a safety activity booklet to engage students and a school-specific parent handout with information about safely navigating school campuses.

Following up on the 2018 mobility report, in 2022 the Department of Education also began coordinating assessments of new infrastructure implemented and will be working on a report to evaluate the impacts of infrastructure upgrades since 2018.



# Universal Early Learning and Child Care



The Government of Yukon launched universal child care in 2021. Child care now costs less than \$10/day on average for Yukon families, and early childhood educators (ECEs) have one of the highest wage scales in Canada at over \$30/hour for level 3 ECEs.

To enhance both the quality and inclusivity of programming, the Early Learning and Child Care (ELCC) unit focused on initiatives to support the early learning workforce in 2022. Bolstered with additional funding from the Government of Canada, the ELCC unit:

- developed a new Early Learning Professional Diploma Pathway (PDP) program in partnership with Yukon University (YukonU) for ECEs where educators assessed as “level 3 equivalent” can complete the requirements for a level 3 certificate;
- funded YukonU to offer additional early learning course in rural communities;
- launched a learning and professional development web hub for ECEs;
- published monthly newsletters and offered professional development workshops;
- provided a bursary program for students in early childhood development studies;
- created a fund for organizing workforce professional development activities; and
- purchased and provided professional development resources for ECEs.

## 2022 highlights: supports for ECEs

38

ECEs enrolled in the PDP program at YukonU in October 2022.



17 graduates from the YukonU Early Learning Program, with 3 from rural Yukon.

47

\$145,000 for enhanced indigenous and rural course offerings at YukonU, and 47 rural ECEs participated.



\$37,650 for the ECE web hub.

\$500

ECEs can each apply for up to \$500 in learning bursaries.

Additionally, the ELCC unit:

- met regularly with the Yukon Child Care Board;
- engaged a consultant to review the supported child care program;
- engaged consultants to work on a recruitment and retention strategy for ECEs;
- began work on a data management system; and
- began preparing an outline of themes from recent engagement sessions to inform the next steps of the *Child Care Act* review.



# **Celebrating staff and students**





## Premier's Award of Excellence and Innovation

The Universal Child Care Research and Development Team was awarded for outstanding work developing and implementing a robust, Yukon-wide, families-first universal child care system under an ambitiously tight timeline. The successfully launched program incorporates extensive partner and stakeholder engagement feedback as well as best practices research for improving children's learning opportunities and outcomes. The team represents the departments of Education and Health and Social Services: Betty Burns, Julie Menard, Clara Northcott, and Colin MacDonald.





Above

Connor Kaszychi took home the gold medal post-secondary level electrical installations – bravo!

Photo by Skills Canada Yukon



Above

Bridgeen Barber competed in post-secondary level cooking.

Photo by Skills Canada Yukon

## Team Yukon at the Skills Canada competitions

Congratulations to the members of Team Yukon who competed at the 2022 Skills Canada competition in Vancouver:

- Bridgeen Barber,  
post-secondary level cooking
- Connor Kaszychi  
post-secondary level electrical installations
- Dustyn Phelps-Van Bibber  
post-secondary level carpentry
- Hunter Sandluck  
post-secondary level sheet metal work
- Keona McLaughlan  
post-secondary level heavy vehicle  
service technology
- Lucas Henderson  
post-secondary level mechanical  
engineering CAD
- Pelly Vincent Braun  
post-secondary welding
- Phineas Pearson  
secondary-level mechanical engineering CAD
- Sarah Booth  
secondary level baking
- Terje Kristensen  
secondary level welding



Above

Keona McLaughlan competed in post-secondary level heavy vehicle service technology.



Above

Sarah Booth competed in secondary level baking.

Right

Dustin Phelps-Van Bibber competed in post-secondary level carpentry.







## Excellence in Education Award

The 2022 Excellence in Education Award for outstanding and positive impact on public education was awarded to Janet Burns, also known as Tadūra - her First Nation name. Tadūra is an Elder, and the Southern Tutchone Language teacher at Elijah Smith Elementary School, but she does so much more than teach a language. She goes above and beyond to ensure the success and well-being of the school's students, teaching respect, compassion, language and First Nations ways of knowing and doing. Her colleagues say that through her guidance, everyone learns to be a better person and educator. Congratulations Tadūra!



## 2022 Indigenous Employees Award of Honour

Pat Joe received a 2022 Indigenous Employees Award of Honour. The award recognizes accomplishments of Indigenous public servants who make exceptional contributions and provide excellent service to Yukoners and their fellow employees. The department had two nominees:



**Pat Joe, First Nation Curriculum Integration Teacher**

Pat Joe is Wolf, Tagish Kwan of the Dakl'awedí Clan, citizen of Kwanlin Dun First Nation. She's worked for the Yukon government for 19 years, and is the longest serving team member of the Individual Learning Centre (ILC). She is one-of-a-kind person who fills the roles of teacher, Elder, mentor, grandmother, Auntie, knowledge keeper, and friend at the ILC.



**Ruby Grant, Administrative Assistant to the ADM Office of First Nation Initiatives**

Ruby, whose Indigenous name is Khàshdàxh Tlà, is of the Teslin Tlingit Council. She's worked for the Yukon government for 15 years, and is one of the strongest voices to pass on knowledge and experiences with pride, confidence, empathy and respect.



# Looking ahead to 2023





In 2023, the department will continue the work to develop systems to better support learners where they are at, honour long-standing commitments with Yukon First Nations, and ensure the health and safety of students and staff from pandemic recovery through to how we respond as unique situations arise.

**Above**  
Golden Horn  
Elementary spring  
canoe trip.

- **FNSB:**
  - First Nation School Board referendum vote in February 2023.
- **RISE: Based in recommendations from the Communities of Inquiry (COIs), priority work from 2022 that will continue in 2023 includes:**
  - processes for assessments and Individual Education Plans (IEPs),
  - Ready-to-Learn Schools, and
  - a comprehensive mental health approach for schools.
- **Student Outcome Strategy:**
  - In 2022, the contract work to develop student outcome statements for the Student Outcome Strategy was completed.
  - The next phase, which as of 2023 is currently underway, includes sharing the draft student outcome statements with our partners on the Advisory Committee on Yukon Education. It is also being shared with teachers, students, families and other education partners. These statements would help us focus our efforts and resources where they are needed most.
- **Capital planning:**
  - Public engagement in spring 2023 on planning for Whitehorse school replacements and renovations
  - Construction of the new elementary school in Whistle Bend is expected to be complete by winter 2023-24. The K-7 school will accommodate up to 425 students and aims to welcome students and staff in August 2024.



# Appendix



# Commission scolaire francophone du Yukon 2021-2022

It is with gratitude and respect that we acknowledge that we live and work on the Traditional Territory of the Kwanlin Dün First Nation, the Ta'an Kwäch'än Council, and the Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in First Nation.

## **My culture, my language, my bilingualism**

The Commission scolaire francophone du Yukon (CSFY) was created in 1996. It is responsible for education in French as a First Language throughout the territory. It runs three schools:

- Émilie-Tremblay School (EET), four-year-old kindergarten to grade 6
- Paul-Émile-Mercier Secondary School Community Centre (CSSC Mercier), grade 7 to 12
- Nomad School, home schooling program, five-year-old kindergarten to grade 12

Here is a brief overview of the CSFY's 2021-2022 annual report which highlights the four pillars of our strategic plan: our students, our education, our promotion and visibility, and our leadership.

The report is available in French at [commissionscolaire.csfy.ca/publications/](https://commissionscolaire.csfy.ca/publications/)

## **Students**

### **Number of students in 2021-2022**

- Émilie-Tremblay School: 243 students
- CSSC Mercier: 120 students  
(an increase of more than 40% compared to the previous year)
- Nomad School: 9 students

**Total**, 372 students, compared to 339 students in 2020-2021

### **Official inauguration of CSSC Mercier on August 27, 2021**

The year 2021-2022 was the first full school year at CSSC Mercier. We had 12 graduates, which is the largest cohort of students to complete Grade 12 since the French First Language program began in 1984.



## Education

### New program at CSSC Mercier

The Connexions experiential learning program is offered to our school's Grade 9 students and French Immersion students who wish to learn through experiential field trips and workshops with First Nations members.

### Here is what sets us apart:

- English and French First Language courses
- Multilingual Early Childhood and Family Services
- Workshops for families with local stakeholders
- Forest School; nature classes for preschool and elementary school students
- Cultural integration and francization
- CSFY scholarships and bilingualism certificate
- Online courses in French thanks to agreements with the [CFED](#) in Alberta and the Virtual School in British Columbia (l'école Virtuelle).

## Promotion and visibility

### 3rd symposium on professional training in early childhood

The CSFY and the Garderie du petit cheval blanc coordinated a symposium with 15 virtual workshops on the theme of the uniqueness of the child. Thanks to funding from the Government of Quebec [sqrq.gouv.qc.ca](http://sqrq.gouv.qc.ca) under the financial support programs for the Canadian Francophonie. We also thank the Government of Yukon for their financial support.

### A digital library for the community

Our digital library is available for the whole community:  
[csscmerciercantookstation.com](http://csscmerciercantookstation.com)

### Toy Library

The CSFY and the Garderie du petit cheval blanc administer the [Toy Library](#), which is a free game borrowing service for 0-99 year olds from the entire community.

### French Book Fair

The CSFY organized the 13th edition in March 2022 and donated the profits to community organizations that have an impact on families.

## Leadership

### **French Educational Services in Dawson**

The CSFY was contacted by several right holders' parents in September 2021 who wish to receive school services in French as a First Language. A large number of eligible students have been identified and a total of 15 school-aged students were pre-registered for the future program. Work is ongoing on this project.

### **Support for the Yukon First Nation Education Directorate**

The CSFY provided support to the Yukon First Nation Education Directorate (YFNED) in its process to establish the First Nation School Board in February 2022, following a historic vote by eight school councils in the Yukon.

### **Local and national partnerships**

The CSFY is part of the Yukon Francophonie Leaders Table, the Early Childhood Table and the Community Education Partnership (PCÉ). The CSFY is a member of several national organizations working in education: National Federation of Francophone School Boards (FNCSF), Association of Western and Northern Chairs of Education (APÉON), Association of Western and Northern Executive Directors in Education (ADÉON), National Association of Education Executive Directors (RNDGÉ).

For more information about French First Language school programs, please see the Commission scolaire francophone du Yukon's annual report: [commissionscolaire.csfy.ca/publications](https://commissionscolaire.csfy.ca/publications).



