

FOR RELEASE February 11, 2015

Department of Education selects new student information system

WHITEHORSE—The Department of Education has selected Aspen, a web-based system offered by Follett and hosted by Fujitsu Canada, as the new student information system to replace existing software that will be discontinued in 2016.

"I'm pleased that the student information system working group was able to recommend a system that meets the needs of diverse users, and that the Department of Education can adopt the new system with time for testing and training," Minister of Education Doug Graham said.

A student information system collects the information teachers and administrators need to manage and report on students, schools and programs and provides the department with the essential data needed for decision making and policy development.

The system currently used in Yukon schools is being discontinued by its provider, Pearson Canada. To select its replacement, a student information system working group—composed of stakeholders from the Yukon Teachers Association, teachers, administrators, department staff, school administrative assistants and the Yukon government's Information, Communications and Technology branch—examined requirements for the new system. In 2013, users were surveyed about weaknesses in the current system and desired features for a new system.

The working group recommended Aspen, which is used by the B.C. Ministry of Education. The Yukon Department of Education signed a memorandum of understanding with British Columbia in August 2014 for the implementation of the service in Yukon schools.

Phased-in Aspen training will begin this spring.

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News Release #15-046



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