



FOR RELEASE
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Government preparing to construct new school

WHITEHORSE—The Yukon government is publicly tendering the reconstruction of F.H. Collins Secondary School based on a new design chosen earlier this year. The tender was published October 30.

The selected school design has been successfully built several times in Alberta and has been modified with additional features such as an industrial kitchen, a cafeteria, larger science labs and more learning spaces to meet the needs of F.H. Collins students.

"The Yukon government is planning to get this project underway after the ground thaws next year," Minister of Highways and Public Works Wade Istchenko said. "With this approach we are able to meet both the needs of the students and remain within the construction budget."

The school is designed with LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) principles and will be two storeys high with the gym centrally located and classrooms on the outside walls. Construction of the new design concept will feature:

- Continuous operation of the gym—the current gym won't be closed until a new one is built
- A fitness room and retention of the lower soccer field
- A First Nations area with language labs and an Elders' lounge
- Flexible work areas for teachers and meetings
- A band room that opens to a common area
- Flexible learning places
- A distance learning area
- A wireless school network
- A main level cafeteria that opens to the second floor
- Excellence in accessibility

The school is designed for a population of 750 students and will be just over 7,400 square metres in area.

The design/build tender will close on December 12, 2013 with substantial completion of the new facility slated during the 2015/16 school year.

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Contact:

Elaine Schiman
Cabinet Communications
867-633-7961
elaine.schiman@gov.yk.ca

Kendra Black
Communications, Highways and Public Works

867-667-5436
kendra.black@gov.yk.ca

Chris Madden
Communications, Education
867-456-6789
chris.madden@gov.yk.ca

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