



## Government of Yukon

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 March 23, 2009

### Master of Education Program to be Delivered in Yukon

WHITEHORSE – Starting this September, a Master of Education program focusing on leadership will be delivered at Yukon College.

The Government of Yukon Department of Education, Yukon College, and University of Northern British Columbia (UNBC) have partnered to design a three-year program for the working professional that will be delivered on weekends. The program will consist of a minimum of 32 credit hours and include either a project or thesis route.

As part of the New Horizons implementation plan, flowing from the Education Reform project, this program will prepare participants to take on leadership roles in a number of community or educational environments. In particular, graduates will develop skills in collaboration, communication, as well as leadership practices. The program will also examine educational leadership within the context of Yukon First Nation governance and northern communities.

"We are pleased to have this program at Yukon College to support the advancement of Yukon professionals," Education Minister Patrick Rouble said. "Implementing this program is just one more step in working toward our goal of preparing leaders to meet the future needs for education in Yukon."

The master's program has been approved by the Department of Education and courses will be taught at Yukon College. UNBC developed the curriculum in partnership with Yukon College and Yukon Government and graduates will receive UNBC degrees. The Yukon College plans to recognize graduates at its annual graduation ceremony.

"UNBC is delighted to be again working with Yukon College to deliver a graduate degree program that will be relevant to northerners and their opportunities for local leadership," UNBC President Charles Jago said. "As a northern university, UNBC has a track record of delivering graduate degrees through college partnerships."

A program implementation committee will be formed to provide input on the program development. The committee will include members from the three partner organizations as well as a Yukon First Nation representative to help ensure quality programming is developed to meet Yukon needs.

"We're pleased to be able to meet the needs of Yukon First Nations, teachers, and a variety of professionals requiring leadership skill development," Yukon College President Terry Weninger said.

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