



ASSOCIATION OF YUKON SCHOOL COUNCILS, BOARDS & COMMITTEES

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Honourable Doug Graham
Minister, Yukon Education
Government of Yukon
P.O. Box 2703,
Whitehorse, Yukon, Y1A 2C6

August 5, 2016

Dear Minister Graham,

On behalf of the conference planning committee, delegates, and AYSCBC, we wish to express our appreciation for your attendance at the Spring 2016 School Councils' Conference, "***Together We Can Make a Difference***", held at the Yukon Inn, April 7-9th.

Thank you for making the time to deliver welcoming remarks on Friday morning. The conference was well attended events with 18 of the 26 Yukon School Councils represented---comprised of 10 out of 13 Rural and 8 out of 13 Whitehorse or Urban ones. In addition, there were registrants from the Education Departments of: Council of Yukon First Nations, Teslin Tlingit Council, Kwanlin Dun First Nation, Champagne & Aishihik First Nations, Ta'an Kwach'an Council, Yukon Native Teacher Education faculty and students. As well there were senior members of management from the Department of Education, and several teachers in attendance.

Evaluation feedback received indicated that attendees found the conference very helpful. As always, there was a great sharing of ideas, learning, and networking.

The AYSCBC Annual General Meeting took place on Friday afternoon, April 8th with a record number of Members attending for the review of annual reports and discussion and approval of the organization's Workplan. Nominations put forward for the seven Executive Member positions resulted in the following individuals being acclaimed for the 2016-2019 term of office:

Bob Laking (Dawson)
Chris Bookless (Whitehorse)
Cathy Deacon (Whitehorse)
James Kawchuk (Carcross)

Sandra Henderson (Whitehorse)
Ted Baker (Faro)
Leona Kains (Whitehorse)

There were two Recommendations put forward, discussed and approved by the attending delegates at the Spring 201 Conference--they are:

2016A01

*Whereas substitute teachers are excluded as employees under the Education Act;
and, they are not part of the YTA, their salaries are lower, and they do not have the same protections and benefits as teachers;
and, changing this situation would likely make substitute teaching, even in the communities, a more attractive occupation and lead to a greater availability of substitutes;*

Therefore, we recommend that the Department of Education investigate ways to include substitute teachers as employees, or otherwise remunerate them equitably, on days that they work, and report back on progress.

2016A02

We recommend that School Councils may be included, and have input into, the hiring process for new teachers and/or EAs at their schools; leaving the final decision with the Administration.

We have posted the presentations from the conference sessions as well as these Recommendations on our website for easy access at: <http://www.ayscbc.org/event-reports.html>. We would be happy to discuss any of these Recommendations to add context and elaboration if you would like.

We are also appreciative of the time that some members of senior management of Yukon Education take to attend sessions as they can. We believe the shared interest and discussion continues to be a key component of building relationships between partners.

Once again, we thank you for your involvement with the Spring 2016 School Councils' Conference and look forward to our continued work together.

Sincerely,

Bob Laking, Chair

cc. Deputy Minister Judy Arnold
Assistant Deputy Minister Mike Woods
School Council Liaison Bob Walker