



ASSOCIATION OF YUKON SCHOOL COUNCILS, BOARDS & COMMITTEES

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Honourable Scott Kent
Minister, Department of Education
Government of Yukon
P.O. Box 2703,
Whitehorse, Yukon, Y1A 2C6

April 29, 2013

Dear Minister Kent,

On behalf of the conference planning committee, delegates, and AYSCBC, we wish to express our appreciation for your attendance at the Spring 2013 School Councils' Conference, "*Learning From Our Past, Building Our Future*", held at the Kwanlin Dun Cultural Centre, April 18th - 20th.

Thank you for making the time to deliver welcoming remarks on Friday morning and most especially, for offering more time on Saturday at noon for some discussion and questions from attendees. Your interest in meeting with School Councils to respond to concerns and add clarity for future planning and decisions is important to the work we are doing together for Yukon students.

The conference was one of the best attended events for awhile, with 21 of the 26 Yukon School Councils represented. The evaluation feedback received indicated that attendees found the conference very helpful, whether they are in their first term of office or have served for many years. The delegates bring a wealth of experience and perspectives from their school communities, both rural and urban, as well as a keen desire to learn. As always, there was a great sharing of ideas, learning, and networking.

The AYSCBC Annual General Meeting took place on Friday afternoon, April 19th with a record number of Members attending for the review of annual reports and discussion and approval of the organization's Workplan. There were six nominations put forward for the seven Executive Member positions—those who are on the Executive for the 2013-2016 term of office are:

Bob Laking, Chair (Dawson)	Sandra Henderson (Member at Large, Whitehorse)
Neil Salvin, Vice-Chair, (Whitehorse)	Rick Halladay (Member at Large, Carcross)
Chris Bookless, Sec/Treasurer (Whitehorse)	Ted Baker (Member at Large, Faro)

There were two Recommendations put forward, discussed and approved by the attending delegates at the Spring 2013 Conference--they are:

2013A01

We recommend that the Department of Education consider increasing the financial contribution to School Council professional development.

2013A02

We recommend that an update presentation be made at a future conference on the cultural sensitivity session.

Recommendation A01 refers to the suggestion that if there was more funding available to more School Council members to have their conference expenses covered, that more members would be able to attend.

Recommendation A02 refers to a high level of interest in following up the focus on building cultural understanding that was a key theme of this conference.

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 several member 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 2013 Conference and look forward to our continued work together.

Sincerely,

Bob Laking, Chair

cc. Deputy Minister Valerie Royle
Acting Assistant Deputy Minister Judy Arnold
School Council Liaison Lori Choquette