



ASSOCIATION OF YUKON SCHOOL COUNCILS, BOARDS & COMMITTEES

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APRIL 2013 NEWSLETTER



Thanks to all who attended the Spring 2013 School Councils' Conference, your participation was an important aspect of this very successful learning event. With the theme of

“Learning From Our Past, Building Our Future”,

our special guest speakers, Eric Wong and Gayle Bedard shared their knowledge and experience of building cultural awareness and sensitivity. Over 80 people attended the Thursday evening session and there was a record number--**21 of 26** School Councils represented over the 2 ½ days.

Here's just a few comments from the evaluation forms:

- “Each session & presentation was thought-provoking.”
- “It was very helpful to myself being a new member of School Council”
- “Lots of sharing from other schools in how they are doing things differently....helps to keep an open mind & find different solutions for different challenges that come about!”
- “It was informative and had good ideas that I can bring back and use at Council level.”

A big thank you to the wonderful dancers and drummers from Takhini Elementary School and Elijah Smith Elementary School—you put smiles on everyone's faces and warmth in our hearts.

Our appreciation is also extended to the Conference Co-Chairs Bonnee Bingham (Chief Zzeh Gittlit School Council in Old Crow), and Cathy Deacon (Porter Creek Secondary School Council in Whitehorse) and all the presenters. Your commitment, knowledge and skills made this event one of the best yet.



And finally, a special **‘SHOUT OUT’** to the members of the Ghuch Tla Community School Council—five of their eight members were in attendance!



Conference Materials on AYSCBC website

We have begun posting links to materials and documents that were presented at the conference on the [‘Event Reports’](#) webpage. You'll find the two page handout and links to other information that Hank Moorlag used in his session on *‘Privacy Protection for School Councils’*.

Also posted is the [Reference Table--Authority and Responsibility for School Councils](#) that Bob Laking and Greg Storey presented and invited delegates to use in working through scenarios. Note that it is a new creation, a *‘working draft’* document and your feedback on using it and any changes you would recommend are most welcome—please send them to [Carol](#) and they will be shared with others working on it.

There were two [Recommendations](#) made by the assembly on Saturday afternoon. Other presentation materials will be posted as we receive them so check back.

AYSCBC Annual General Meeting

We extend our great appreciation to those AYSCBC Members who attended the AGM on April 19th. We had the highest number of our Member School Councils represented ever! The [Annual reports](#) from the Chair and Executive Director as well as the approved [2013 Workplan](#) are now posted.

AYSCBC Executive Members 2013-2016

Nomination papers were submitted for six candidates for seven Executive Member seats and all were acclaimed, including incumbents: Bob Laking, Chris Bookless, Sandra Henderson, Neil Salvin and Rick Halladay.

We welcome Ted Baker (Del Van Gorder School Council-Faro) back to the Executive (Ted had served 2007-2011) and extend our sincere appreciation to outgoing Executive Members Barb Barchen (Mayo) and Ed Krahn (Whitehorse).

There is one vacancy—if you would like to learn more about the role and responsibilities of an AYSCBC Executive Member, please contact [Carol](#).



POLICY SHARING BETWEEN SCHOOLS AND SCHOOL COUNCILS...

We received a newly developed [Policy regarding Substitute Teachers](#) and have been invited to share it with others who may be interested. We believe this is the first such policy in Yukon! You can view it by clicking the link above and it can serve as a sample template for any schools who want to develop one. Thanks to the Administration of Del Van Gorder School for creating it and to the School Council for sending it on to AYSCBC! We're always happy to receive and share information that others will find useful.



DEADLINES ARE COMING...

All School Councils should already be quite familiar with the annual School Growth Planning process. These Plans, which are a shared responsibility of your school's Administration, staff, School Council and members of the community are due for submission to the Department of Education by May 30th. The deadline for applications to the Innovation Grant Fund is also May 30th. For more information and forms for 2013-2014, go to: http://www.education.gov.yk.ca/psb/innovation_grant.html

SOME UPCOMING EVENTS

May 2nd Yukon/Stikine Heritage Fair

Location: Transportation Museum and Beringia Interpretive Centre

Students in grades 4-9, teachers, parents, and mentors showcase research and presentations on a wide range of historical and heritage topics. The public is welcome from noon-2pm.

More information [here](#).

May 2-4th The Key: Unlocking the Potential of Early Child Development

Yukon Child Care Association's 39th Anniversary National Conference

@ Kwanlin Dun Cultural Centre in Whitehorse

Guest speakers include: Jim Mustard, Joanne Schroeder and Daniel Hodgins

Session topics include:

--*"The impact of community participation & engagement for young children to manage life's challenges & find healthy success"*

--*"Children Build Communities & Communities build Brains"*

The conference information and session descriptions are [here](#). Online Registration [here](#)

May 9 – 11th HEART – MIND CONFERENCE 2013

How Mindfulness Helps Children Thrive

Location: University of B.C, Vancouver

Scientific studies show that practicing mindfulness enhances students' concentration and attention, as well as their ability to make decisions and control impulses. Mindfulness helps children get ready to learn, and it can lead to physical and mental well-being.

Conference details and registration [here](#).

June 25th & 26th Brain Learning and Applications Conference

Location: St. George's School in Vancouver

Topics include:

--*Learning and the Brain: How Can We Keep the Brain Healthy and Actively Engaged in Order to Enable our Students to Learn with Success*

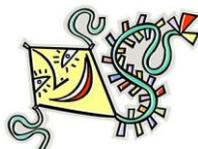
--*Mind Up*

Information is available [here](#).



As a benefit of membership, AYSCBC Members can apply for funding assistance to support attendance at relevant professional development events.

More information and the application form are available [here](#).



AYSCBC promotes School Council, Board and Committee service as a meaningful way to make long term contributions to your local community and society.

SCHOOL COUNCILS WHO ARE MEMBERS OF AYSCBC

Nelnah Bessie John
Chief Zzeh Gittlit
Del Van Gorder
Robert Service
Eliza Van Bibber
Selkirk Elementary
Takhini Elementary

Ghuch Tla
St. Elias
Ross River
Tantalus
J. V. Clark
Teslin
Kluane Lake

Grey Mountain Primary
Watson Lake
Porter Creek Secondary
F.H. Collins Secondary
Hidden Valley Elementary
Golden Horn Elementary
Ecole Whitehorse Elementary

Want to learn more about Membership, please contact us and we'd be glad to talk with you.

If you'd like us to attend one of your meetings, or meet with you at another time, let us know—we'd be happy to do so.



Members of the AYSCBC Executive

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