

Association of Yukon School Councils, Boards & Committees (AYSCBC)

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AUGUST NEWSLETTER



We hope your summer has been a good one, and that you are energized and ready to move forward into the 2010-2011 school year. There are many exciting events and projects ahead, read on to find out about some of them....

📣 This is an ELECTION YEAR....

A reminder that School Council and Yukon Francophone School Board elections will be held this fall on October 4, 2010. Nomination papers will be available at school offices and at the Elections Yukon office as of September 13th with the end of the nomination period being noon on September 23rd.

We hope you will talk with others in your school community about the important role that School Councils play in Yukon public education. We also look forward to seeing many of you putting your names forward again! You have much to offer through your experience with your school and community. And finally, whether you run or not, be sure to get out and vote! ☒

For more information, call the Elections Yukon office 667-8683, or 1 866-668-8683 toll free.

SEPTEMBER IS ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING MONTH 📁

If you haven't already done so, now is the time to be setting the date for your AGM so you can plan for it and get the word out to your school community. Remember to post notices about it in at least 4 places in the community, as per Section 148 of the *Yukon Education Act*. Don't forget to include it in your school's newsletter.

Make sure you invite your school Superintendent to your AGM as soon as you have the date set---he/she should have a spot on the agenda to report on events and activities at the Department of Education, and anything specific to your school.

You might want to hold it during a school Open House or other event that will bring parents and community members to the school, or other location of your AGM.

AGMs provide an opportunity to share the important work that you have been doing as Council members. It allows you to spread the word that Councils serve an important role in our school communities. *(Remember, elections are coming this fall!)* Consider making it a social occasion and build in time to have discussion and give information about the role of your School Council.

★★ A couple of UPCOMING EVENTS ★★

“WALKING TOGETHER, Connecting Practice & Research to Create Change”--

2010 FASD Conference in Whitehorse, Sept 28 & 29th. This event is open to all and seats are filling up so register now if you want to participate. There are some travel subsidies available for people coming from Yukon communities (first come first served) as well as two travel subsidies are being offered to each Yukon First Nation. NOTE: Registration is required however fees are only charged to those who work for a government, parents and others are free.

You can find more details at: www.cnfp2010symposium.ca

FALL 2010 SCHOOL COUNCILS’ CONFERENCE—November 25th-27th

Mark down the dates for this important gathering to network and learn together. The event will be held in Whitehorse. The precise location and further details are being worked out and they will be passed on to you as soon as they are available. If you would like to be part of the Conference Planning Committee, contact Carol at exec.director@ayscbc.org and/or Bob Walker at bob.walker@gov.yk.ca
We’d love to have your input!

AYSCBC Website

Over the last several months, we have continued our work towards setting up a website for the association.

We have had considerable interest in this project and are reviewing three ‘mock ups’ to assist us in deciding which web designer we will be working with.

Stay tuned for further news as AYSCBC takes on this exciting venture!

A FEW WORDS about SCHOOL COUNCILS from YUKON MINISTER OF EDUCATION, PATRICK ROUBLE--

“The involvement of school councils in the system is vital to moving ahead with the plans that are evolving as a result of on-going conversations with our partner groups, and bringing community input together with educational research on best practice.

The shift in focus on continuous improvement within the system at both the local and territorial levels through such structures as our School Growth Planning Process and the planning being monitored by our many partner advisory committees, we believe, will only continue to strengthen Yukon education.”

(excerpt from letter dated May 7, 2010, to AYSCBC)

YUKON EDUCATION COMMITTEES

Here is a list of advisory committees that have been established by the Department of Education and have seats for School Council/Board member representation.

Committees meet at various times through the year---if you are interested to know more about vacancies, and ways to participate on any of them, please get in touch with us and/or the Dept of Education contact person as listed.

Note: Participation by teleconference (or videoconference at times) is usually workable so you do not have to be able to meet in person.

1. TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

This committee will discuss existing bussing situation for students and make recommendations for changes/improvements to the system of moving students to and from school and between school programs.

Dept person: Dea Hrebien---Student Transportation Officer 667-5172.

2. ADMINISTRATOR GROWTH PLANNING ADVISORY COMMITTEE

This committee has been developing the Administrator's Professional Growth Plan, an alternative method of evaluating principals through the use of self-assessment, portfolios, dialogue, action research and more. The standard evaluation model (what has been used previously) is still used in some situations. Council members could provide input to the process, share discussions on the methods and make suggestions as needed to ensure the effectiveness of these practices from the perspective of a School Council member.

Dept person: Judy Arnold, Student Achievement/Systems Accountability 667-5609

3. EDUCATION POLICY REVIEW COMMITTEE

This committee reviews Department of Education policies and provides input and recommendations. Current policies may be reviewed, Draft ones are tabled for discussion, amendment and approval. Areas needing policy development are also discussed for future action.

Dept person: Ann MacDonald, Policy, Planning & Evaluation 667-8181

4. YUKON STUDENT INFORMATION SYSTEM (YSIS) ADVISORY COMMITTEE

YSIS is the student tracking system that will enable a more effective method of understanding how students are doing, recording information and making data more accessible for use in planning school staffing and programming that will be more responsive to their learning needs.

This committee is overseeing the implementation of YSIS as it unfolds this year and in the future. Dept staff, teachers, administrators and School Council members meet to provide feedback and guide the process.

Dept person: JoAnn Davidson, Technology Assisted Learning Coordinator 667-5871

5. SPECIAL PROGRAMS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The Special Education Advisory Committee provides a forum for discussion on issues pertaining to student services and inclusive education. It provides opportunities to discuss the issues, mutual concerns, and policies related to student services or inclusive education with our educational stakeholder groups.

Dept person: Irene Szabla, Manager Special Programs 667-5986

6. SECONDARY PROGRAMMING ADVISORY COMMITTEE

This committee has representatives from many partner groups who all share the interest in the future of programming in all schools at the secondary (grades 8-12) level. A report was completed in Fall 2008 which included directions for future planning.

Dept person: Mike Woods, Superintendent 667-5180

7. EARLY CHILDHOOD TRANSITION COMMITTEE

This committee focuses on the pre-K and Kindergarten programs and services and the important issues around transitions for young children and their families.

Dept person: Jeanette McCrie, Coordinator, Primary Programs 667-5186

8. LEADERSHIP ADVISORY COMMITTEE

This committee has been involved in the development of a leadership training program, offered through Yukon College to train individuals to take on leadership roles. There is a major focus on increasing the skills and interests of educators to take on lead teacher and administrator positions in our schools. Committee members guide the program as well as discuss and plan activities throughout the year.

Dept person: Penny Prysruk, Superintendent 667-3747

9. SCHOOL GROWTH PLANNING ADVISORY COMMITTEE

This committee provides advice re: School Growth Planning process, training, communication and supports needed as it develops and is implemented in Yukon schools. Members will also be invited to participate on external teams for schools going through a review process. Some committee members are also involved in assessing the Leadership in Education/Innovation Grant applications.

Dept person: Judy Arnold, Student Achievement/Systems Accountability 667-5609

10. BUILDING ADVISORY COMMITTEE

This committee has been established to ensure that the community and educational stakeholders are involved in the planned replacement of FH Collins Secondary School. The committee is essential in engaging community involvement and ensuring the objectives of the Secondary School Programming Review Final Report are met. The committee will be active participants in the planning and design of the school.

Dept person: Mike Woods, Superintendent 667-5180

11.FRENCH SECOND LANGUAGE PROGRAMMING REVIEW COMMITTEE

This committee is involved in reviewing the recommendations of the French Second Language Review report and working together to establish strategic goals, objectives and priorities.

Dept person: Madeleine Lanctot, French Consultant 667-8504

Thank for your ongoing interest in carrying out your role in education!

SCHOOL COUNCILS WHO ARE MEMBERS OF AYSCBC (as of August 2010):

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|---|------------------------------------|
| Del Van Gorder School Council | Robert Service School Council |
| Eliza Van Bibber School Council | Ross River School Council |
| F.H. Collins Secondary School Council | Selkirk Elementary School Council |
| Ghuch Tla Community School Council | St. Elias Community School Council |
| Grey Mountain Primary School Council | Takhini School Council |
| Hidden Valley Elementary School Council | Tantalus School Council |
| J. V. Clark School Council | Teslin School Council |
| Porter Creek Secondary School Council | Watson Lake School Council |

To find out more about becoming a supporting member Council of AYSCBC, contact Carol. Your support helps us provide support to you and the work that you do in your school communities.

MEMBERS OF THE AYSCBC EXECUTIVE

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| Bob Laking, Chair (Dawson)
993-5214 Bob.laking@ayscbc.org | Neil Salvin, Vice-Chair (Whitehorse)
996-2044 salvin@northwestel.net |
| Chris Bookless, Sec/Treasurer (Whitehorse)
633-4311 chris.bookless@northwestel.net | Ted Baker (Faro)
994-2442 tsbaker@northwestel.net |
| Sandra Henderson (Whitehorse)
667-2059 sandra.henderson@ayscbc.org | |
| Carol Coote <i>Executive Director</i> (Whitehorse)
633-2692 exec.director@ayscbc.org | |

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

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