



ASSOCIATION OF YUKON SCHOOL COUNCILS, BOARDS & COMMITTEES

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JUNE 2012 NEWSLETTER



☆ CELEBRATION TIME ☆

As we head into the final weeks and days of the 2011-2012 school year, we hope School Council members will take time to recognize the work you have done together over the past year. While there is always more to do, we encourage you to pause and recognize the time you've invested and tasks you've accomplished that have, and/or will have positively influenced your school community and most importantly, your students.

By attending conferences, being a prepared participant at meetings, engaging in informed discussions and decision-making, respectfully working together with your School Council colleagues and other 'partners', and sharing news and information with your school community, you are demonstrating your passion and dedication to enhancing the quality of Yukon public education.

The Executive of AYSCBC would like to add our voices of appreciation for your commitment to being an effective and involved member of your School Council!



SOME IMPORTANT DATES



☒ **SCHOOL COUNCIL ELECTIONS**

Sept 10th - Nomination papers available in school offices

September 20th - Nominations close at noon

October 1st - Elections for all School Councils where nominations exceed the number of seats.

Information available at [Elections Yukon](#)

September 4th-30th – School Councils AGMs to take place

VISION SCREENING FOR STUDENTS

Did you know that as many as 1 in 4 school-age children have an undetected vision problem that can interfere with learning?

(National Association of School Nurses)

In our rural areas, Community Health Nurses usually do the vision testing for schools however in Whitehorse, Public Health has not been providing this service for years. In 2003, a Recommendation was made at a School Councils' Conference identifying the need for a process to be put in place for annual vision screening in our schools. The outcome was the development, in 2004, of a resource that could be used for trained parent volunteers to do initial screenings in their schools. The program was very successful in the schools that used it--for students, parents and teachers, as it allowed for the early identification of students who needed follow up eye exams and possible treatment.

It has come to our attention that this program has not been implemented in our schools for a few years and this concerned us. After checking into it, we have been advised that it will be starting up again in the fall as it is one of the priorities with Yukon Education's Special Services Unit. We look forward to this as it is clearly one more way to work together in the best interests of student learning! We encourage you to ask your principal about vision screening for your students.



WEBSITE UPDATES

In our ongoing role of assisting our School Council members in maintaining the important leadership role you have in your school communities, we have added several sample documents to our [website](#). We encourage you to check these out.

They are on the [Resources](#) page under 'School Council Organization & Operation':

- [Evaluating the Effectiveness of Your Meetings](#)
- [Sample Code of Conduct for School Council Members](#)
- [Sample Code of Ethics for School Council as a Whole](#)

Under the heading 'Schools' on the same page, we've posted a

- [Sample Positive School Climate Policy](#)

You will find many other documents as well---such as a sample AGM Agenda and more.

You are welcome to adapt them for use for your School Council.

Thanks to our colleagues on School Council/School Board organizations in Alaska and Alberta for so eagerly sharing their materials and expertise!

GOTTA DRAW!!



Here's an invitation you might want to share with your children/school students: The Canadian Paediatric Society is running a national art contest with the theme “**Happy kids, healthy kids!**” They're asking children to draw a picture of something they like to do that keeps them healthy and happy.

Information: www.cps.ca/English/healthcentres/ArtContest.htm

The early bird deadline has passed but they did not receive any **Yukon** submissions. Of all submissions received, twelve are chosen to appear in a calendar, and they would love for Yukon to be represented!

Entries should be postmarked by **June 15** but will be accepted as long as they are received before the end of June to allow for delays in the mail.

Any questions about the contest can be directed to: Lindsay Conboy, Communications Coordinator Canadian Paediatric Society, 2305 St. Laurent Blvd, Ottawa, ON K1G 4J8
Tel: 613-526-9397 ext 234 Fax: 613-526-3332 email: lindsayc@cps.ca



SUMMER READING TIPS FROM THE LEARNING PARTNERSHIP

Parent involvement is fundamental to a child's long-term achievement in school. A Canadian organization, *The Learning Partnership*, recognizes that a parent is a child's first – and best – teacher. Parents, like any teacher, need education resources, information and support. So they've launched a brand new initiative called **Ready to Learn** to do just that! Best of all, it's free!

This month you can get important tips on reading with your child. This will be especially useful as you begin to plan activities for your child over the summer holiday. To read this month's tip sheet [click here](#).

Summer is a great time to read for pleasure!

☆ CONGRATULATIONS! ☆

To all those who will be graduating from our schools, to all those entering our schools, to all those transitioning to other schools—to the students, parents, educators, administrators and community supporters...

Thanks for all your dedication and hard work. Have a great safe summer!

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
Grey Mountain Primary
F.H. Collins Secondary
Hidden Valley Elementary

Ghuch Tla
St. Elias
Ross River
Tantalus
J. V. Clark
Teslin
Watson Lake
Kluane Lake
Porter Creek Secondary

Together
we can make a difference

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

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