



ASSOCIATION OF YUKON SCHOOL COUNCILS, BOARDS & COMMITTEES

P.O. Box 20409, Whitehorse, Yukon Y1A 7A2

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OCTOBER 2015 NEWSLETTER



UPCOMING MEETINGS FOR SCHOOL COUNCIL REPS

As you have read about in the *Deputy Minister's Friday Updates*, there will be a gathering on **Wednesday, Oct 7th** to bring together a group of students, parents, teachers, school council reps and First Nations to connect with one another and to start the conversation about a new vision for education in Yukon. Input from all of our partners will help us identify what is and isn't working and how to move forward to support the success of Yukon students.

As many of you know already because you've been contacted, the following day, **Thursday, Oct 8th**, AYSCBC and Yukon Education will host a '**morning only**' session with a rep from each School Council to discuss a short list of topics. We are capitalizing on having a rep from many of the rural School Councils in Whitehorse for the meeting the night before—this presents us with a great opportunity to have a shared meeting with our rural and Whitehorse reps together for a few hours. We are still waiting to hear back from a few councils—we are keen to have as many represented as possible.

If you're not sure whether you're on the 'confirmed' list, please get in touch with [Carol](#) or [Bob Walker](#).

Together
we can make a difference

2014 YUKON EDUCATION ANNUAL REPORT now available

We encourage you to have a look at this report, which provides an overview of many aspects of our public education system, including:

- student enrolment, attendance, achievement, graduation;
- operations and maintenance funding, per student expenditures;
- initiatives and programs;

And more

We've added a link to it on the 'Useful Links' page of our website, under *Yukon Websites and Documents*—you can find it here:

[http://www.ayscbc.org/documentsUseful%20Links/YG Education Annual Report 2014.pdf](http://www.ayscbc.org/documentsUseful%20Links/YG%20Education%20Annual%20Report%202014.pdf)

HEALTH PROMOTION UNIT WANTS TO PARTNER WITH SCHOOL COUNCILS TO OFFER FOOD FAIRS FOR THE 2015/2016 SCHOOL YEAR



WHAT IS A FOOD FAIR?

A school event focused on celebrating healthy food while providing parents with opportunities to model healthy behaviors and get ideas for healthy lunches and snacks they can prepare at home. Children are able to experience food through a variety of fun ways and have the opportunity to prepare their own snacks.

WHAT DOES A PARTNERSHIP MEAN?

Your school council will provide volunteers; location; is responsible for “getting the word out” and advertising the event to parents, staff, and students; and purchasing food. Health Promotion Unit has a budget for this project and is also willing to loan you equipment you may not have (for example: blenders). You will work closely with the Community Dietitian throughout the planning stages, and the Dietitian will provide guidance and suggestions on types of foods to offer at your event, etc.

The sky is the limit for ideas!

This opportunity is available for both rural and Whitehorse School Councils. If you're interested in learning more about FOOD FAIRS, or to express an interest in your school participating, please contact: Kim Hickman, Health Promotion Unit, Kim.hickman@gov.yk.ca
867-456-6160



SCHOLARSHIPS

Here is a 'new to us' scholarship opportunity that some of your students might want to learn about:

Horatio Alger Association of Canada

Every year, 80 need-based scholarships worth \$5,000 and another 5 worth \$10,000 will be awarded to full-time high school students in every province and territory. The scholarships are awarded to students who have demonstrated integrity and perseverance in overcoming adversity, as well as strength of character, a good academic record, a commitment to pursue a post-secondary education, and a desire to contribute to society.

High school students can apply by visiting the Horatio Alger website here:

<https://www.horatioalger.ca/en/scholarships/about-our-scholarships-programs/>

Note that the application deadline is October 25th.

We have linked other scholarship opportunities on our website under USEFUL LINKS—you can find them here:

<http://www.ayscbc.org/scholarships-and-post-secondary-education.html>



SCHOOL COUNCIL MEMBERS NEEDED FOR SCHOOL REVIEW TEAMS

This is a **CALL OUT** to those who would like to learn more about participating on a School Review Team. Reviews are part of the School Growth Planning process and take place once every 3 years in all Yukon schools. It is a most interesting and valuable experience with a very short time commitment (usually 2 or 3 days), and arrangements can be made for covering expenses.

Don't worry if you feel you might not have the needed skill or 'expertise' to fill this role—there will be good support and guidance from others, and the most important element you bring to the Team is your interest in learning more about what is happening in our schools that is affecting our children's learning.

The focus of each School Review Team is to provide recommendations, based on observations and discussions with the students, staff and the School Council, which are aimed at improving successful outcomes for students. You will not be on a Review Team for your own school as it is a view from 'outside' that is being sought.

It is very important that School Council members (both current or past), as well as other parents and community members are represented on each Team to ensure that the Team will be balanced in terms of having a variety of perspectives, experiences and groups involved.

To learn more, contact [Simon Blakesley](#) or [Carol](#). We'll be happy to answer your questions.

SOME UPCOMING CONFERENCES OUTSIDE OF YUKON

November 5-8 in Anchorage, Alaska

Association of Alaska School Boards (AASB) Conference,

Theme: ***“Leading Children to Excellence”***

<http://aasb.org/aasb-annual-conference>

Nov 27-28 in Vancouver, B.C.

First Nation Education Steering Committee (FNESC) conference,

Theme: ***“Respect and Recognition”***

<http://www.fnesc.ca/conference>

☆AYSCBC Members might like to refer to the organization's policy on:

[Financial Support for AYSCBC Member School Councils to attend Professional Development Events](#)

Please note that ample lead time is needed for any applications for funding support to be reviewed (several weeks before an event) as outlined in the guidelines.

Questions are always welcome, contact [Carol](#).

2015-2016 SCHOOL YEAR—IMPORTANT DATES!!

The annual synopsis (compilation) of the dates to remember, such as holidays, Spring Break, non-instructional days, etc. for all Yukon schools is available on our website and you can find it [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 CURRENT MEMBERS OF AYSCBC** ☆

| | | |
|-------------------------|-------------|-----------------------------|
| Nelnah Bessie John | Ghuch Tla | Grey Mountain Primary |
| Chief Zzeh Gittlit | St. Elias | Watson Lake |
| Del Van Gorder | Ross River | Porter Creek Secondary |
| Robert Service | Tantalus | F.H. Collins Secondary |
| Eliza Van Bibber | J. V. Clark | Hidden Valley Elementary |
| Selkirk Elementary | Teslin | Golden Horn Elementary |
| Takhini Elementary | Kluane Lake | Ecole Whitehorse Elementary |
| Elijah Smith 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—one of us would be happy to do so.

Together
we can make a difference

Members of the AYSCBC Executive

Bob Laking, Chair (Dawson)
993-5214 bob.laking@ayscbc.org

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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Carol Coote *Executive Director* (Whitehorse)
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