



ASSOCIATION OF YUKON SCHOOL COUNCILS, BOARDS & COMMITTEES

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DECEMBER 2017 NEWSLETTER



A Message from Ted Baker, AYSCBC Chair

A CHANGE IS A COMIN'....

Ever since AYSCBC was first formed 17 years ago, Carol has been the Executive Director (E.D.) of the organization - our first and only E.D. Even before she assumed this role she participated in School Councils at the local level. In all my many years involved with School Council conferences I have never known a time when Carol was not a participant. But sadly the time has now come; Carol has expressed her desire to step down from this contract position in mid December.

Carol's passion for education is well known, and her many years of involvement as detailed above testify to that fact. Because of her dedication, and her organizational and administrative skills, vast historical knowledge, and many contacts, she has been invaluable in moving AYSCBC forward. She has been instrumental in seeing us become the stakeholder in education that we are today. Frankly, it will be difficult to think of AYSCBC without Carol's name being mentioned.

A simple "thank you" doesn't seem sufficient as Carol passes the baton to Tracy Thomas, our new Executive Director. It has been my pleasure to have worked with her and witness her zeal and enthusiasm for all things educational. We hope to see her from time to time and will no doubt seek her out when we get stuck trying to find some piece of information that only she would know. And Carol, whatever you choose to be involved with in the coming days, I am sure you will be a great addition. On behalf of the AYSCBC Executives, and the myriad of School Council members past and present, we thank you!

A New EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR for AYSCBC

With Carol's announcement of stepping down as Executive Director, the AYSCBC Executives began a search for her replacement. After considering a number of interested applicants, conducting interviews and reviewing references, we are very pleased to announce **Tracy Thomas** as our new Executive Director. Tracy comes with a wealth of experience, especially across the northern territories. She has raised her children in the same context that we all have,

so she will have that first-hand knowledge when representing us. Her impressive resume and subsequent conversations convinced us she is more than capable for this role.

As would be expected, she will be sitting down with Carol to receive all the necessary materials, and no doubt inside knowledge :-), that go with this position. We welcome Tracy aboard and will show her off at our next Conference April 5-7th, although I wouldn't be surprised if she appeared at some of the local School Council meetings before then. We look forward to working with Tracy as this new era begins.



AND A NEW EXECUTIVE MEMBER!

We extend a warm welcome to Ashley Doiron as a new Member of the AYSCBC Executive. She has been working in the field of education with Tr'ondek Hwech'in in Dawson for several years and we look forward to having her involvement in our discussions, planning and decision-making as we work together for the benefit of all students and school communities.

AN ARTICLE OF INTEREST....

Debbie Pushor, one of our guest speakers at the Spring 2016 School Councils' Conference has written a piece titled: "**Family Centric Schools—Creating a Place for all Parents**", check it out at: <https://www.edcan.ca/articles/familycentric-schools>

SOME IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

SPRING 2018 SCHOOL COUNCILS' CONFERENCE, April 5-7 Whitehorse, Yukon Inn—
stay tuned for more details in the new year!

SPRING 2018 SCHOOL COUNCIL ELECTIONS—Monday, May 7th
Nominations will open on April 9th and close at noon on April 26th



SHARING GOOD NEWS FOR PARENTS, PASS IT ON!!

The Canada Learning Bond is available for children from low-income families born in 2004 or later. This education savings incentive consists of an initial payment of \$500 plus \$100 for each year of eligibility, up to age 15, for a maximum of \$2,000. No personal contribution is required to receive the CLB. Through the Canada Learning Bond, the Government of Canada will add money to the RESP for an eligible child every year.

An RESP is an education savings account set up with a financial institution like a bank or a credit union, or group plan dealer. The money in the RESP will grow tax free until it can be used for expenses related to their studies in: apprenticeship programs; CEGEPs; colleges; trade schools; or universities.

To learn more, go to:

<https://www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/services/learning-bond.html>



DON'T FORGET---

ONE-TIME FUNDING OPPORTUNITY for AYSCBC MEMBER SCHOOL COUNCILS!

We want to remind those AYSCBC Member School Councils who haven't applied yet---don't miss out on this opportunity to receive a contribution of up to \$5000 to enhance school-community connections in support of student learning.

We've received and approved applications from 14 AYSCBC Member School Councils so far and look forward to receiving more. The projects and activities that we are already learning about through the submissions should be of great benefit to the students and the school communities! Applications are being accepted and reviewed on a continuous intake basis, the only deadline is that projects and activities must be completed by August 31, 2018 to coincide with the conclusion of the term of office of currently sitting School Council officials.

For more information and the application form and process, go to:

<http://www.ayscbc.org/blog/News/post/reminder-to-ayscbc-members--do-not-miss-this-one-time-funding-opportunity>.

We've also posted the approved '**Projects List**' and we'll keep updating it, you can see it here:

<http://www.ayscbc.org/blog/News/post/some-great-projects-supported-by-school-councils/>

It's great to see the ideas and innovative plans that are being submitted!

Thanks for all the creative thought, time and energy that is being put into action!!

AYSCBC IS LOOKING FOR EXECUTIVE (BOARD) MEMBERS...

The AYSCBC Executive has some vacancies---we are looking for individuals who are interested in being considered to fill one of the positions. The work of an Executive Member requires a commitment of time and energy, some knowledge of public education and parental involvement, and the ability to work together with others. Seats are open to those in the rural communities as well as Whitehorse area and while you don't need to be a current member of any School Council, it is important that Executive Members:

- ☆ have a genuine commitment to striving for high quality public education for all children;
- ☆ participate in meetings, discussions and decision-making;
- ☆ are familiar with the Constitution, Bylaws and all policies governing the Association;
- ☆ abide by the Code of Conduct and the Conflict of Interest guidelines;
- ☆ carry out all responsibilities in good faith and in the best interests of the Association.

More information about the important role that the Executive have in providing direction and support for the activities of the organization can be found under the '**ABOUT US**' tab at <http://www.ayscbc.org>.

Questions always welcome by email or phone, see contacts at the end of this newsletter.

The Executive and staff of AYSCBC wish all of you and your families a happy safe holiday season!



The AYSCBC office will be closed December 20th - January 7th

***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 |
| Jack Hulland Elementary | Elijah Smith Elementary | |

Members of the AYSCBC Executive

Ted Baker (Faro) Chair
Ted.baker@ayscbc.org

Sandra Henderson (Whitehorse) Vice-Chair
sandra.henderson@ayscbc.org

Chris Bookless (Whitehorse) Secretary/Treasurer
chris.bookless@ayscbc.org

Ashley.Doiron (Dawson) Member at Large
Ashley.doiron@ayscbc.org

Carol Coote (Whitehorse) *until December 20th*
exec.director@ayscbc.org

Tracy Thomas (Whitehorse) *as of January 7th*
exec.director@ayscbc.org

