



**YELLOWKNIFE EDUCATION
DISTRICT NO. 1**

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**ADMINISTRATION SCOLAIRE DE
DISTRICT N° 1 DE YELLOWKNIFE**

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March 31, 2020

To all parents and stakeholders:

RE: Continuation of learning for remainder of 2019-2020 school year

By now I hope you've had a chance to read through the NWT Education Bulletin that was released by the Department of Education, Culture and Employment (ECE) on Monday. It outlines how junior kindergarten to Grade 12 academic learning and high school course completion will be captured for the remainder of the 2019-2020 school year while schools are closed.

It also discusses:

- Grade progressions and reporting
- Continued learning opportunities
- Support for online and offline learning
- Resources for parents
- On-the-land learning
- Remote counselling
- Food programs
- Assistive technology

NWT education bodies have been instructed to work towards being able to deliver services in accordance with this bulletin by April 14. That gives us two weeks to plan, communicate and prepare to deliver these services. Yellowknife Education District No. 1 (YK1) recognizes the serious impact school closures will have on families so our district is working hard to ensure that learning continues and teachers reconnect with their students soon. You can expect to hear from your child's teacher over the next couple days.

In the coming days we'll also be sharing more information about school access. We understand that students need to retrieve personal belongings and learning resources from our buildings so we're working on a plan to do that safely. At this time schools are closed to everyone - including most staff - and any plans to enter them must be planned in great detail and approved by the territory's chief public health officer. Expect more information from the district office and your child's principal on this matter soon.

The provision of counselling services and food programs is another priority of ours right now. Counsellors at all YK1 schools are available to support students via email, phone or video conference so as to not violate physical distancing measures. This is a time of great

uncertainty for students and their families so we want to ensure these supports are in place. YK1 is also working with principals and local partners on a plan to provide food to families in need, and will share those details once they're finalized. Please don't hesitate to reach out to your child's principal if your family could benefit from either of these programs.

We continue to work closely with ECE, the Northwest Territories Teachers' Association and other regional education bodies on shared objectives and priorities and will keep you apprised of those discussions. We're asking for your patience and understanding as we navigate this unprecedented situation, but please know that we have our students' best interests at heart and are committed to finding the best options for their continued learning.

Thank you and stay safe,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Metro Huculak". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Metro Huculak
Superintendent/ CEO
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