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April 8, 2022

MEDIA ADVISORY

SCHOOL COUNCIL GENERAL ELECTION UNDERWAY CANDIDATE NOMINATION PERIOD OPENS MONDAY, APRIL 11, 2022

School councils provide a way for Yukoners to be involved in student education. They provide a significant voice to promote high-quality education, raise student achievement, and improve school performance.

Monday, April 11, 2022 – Notice of Nominations

The general election of members of a school council for the 19 attendance areas begins Monday, April 11, 2022 with the notice of nominations. Candidate nominations can be submitted to the Returning Officer for the school up to the close of nominations on Thursday, April 21 at 12 noon. Nomination papers are available at schools with councils, with the school Returning Officer, at Elections Yukon's office and online at ElectionsYukon.ca.

Thursday, April 21, 2022 – Close of Nominations (10 am to 12 noon)

This set period is the final opportunity for candidates to submit their nomination papers. Nomination papers must be submitted to the Returning Officer responsible for the election of the school council. The Returning Officer will be available at the school between 10 am and 12 noon to accept nomination papers.

If the number of nominations for candidates does not exceed the number to be elected, the Returning Officer will declare the persons nominated to be elected by acclamation. If there are more candidates than positions, a poll will be required to take the vote.

Voting opportunities, where required

Where required, electors will have multiple opportunities to vote at the school:

- **Wednesday, April 27, 2022 – Early Voting (3 pm to 6 pm)**
- **Saturday, April 30, 2022 – Early Voting (1 pm to 4 pm)**
- **Monday, May 2, 2022 – Polling Day (3 pm to 8 pm)**

Additional Voting Opportunities

Electors will have additional opportunities to cast their vote during the election period by appointment with the Returning Officer, by mail out ballot, or at the Main Administration Building in Whitehorse from 10 am to 4 pm Monday to Friday.

Information updates

Throughout the election period, ElectionsYukon.ca and social media channels will be updated regularly.

For more information, contact:

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Attachments: Backgrounder on School Councils
Listing of Yukon School Councils

BACKGROUNDER ON SCHOOL COUNCILS

School councils

School councils in the Yukon are consultative institutions whose authority derives from the *Education Act*. They provide a way for Yukoners to be involved in student education and a significant voice to promote high-quality education, raise student achievement, and improve school performance.

School council members

Each school council has between three and seven elected positions. Members are elected to represent one of the 19 attendance areas in the territory, three of which also receive guidance from the Catholic Episcopal Corporation with respect to the residency of electors and candidates. Members receive honoraria for attending regular meetings.

Term of office

General elections for school councils are held every two years; the last being in the fall of 2020. Occasionally there will be by-elections or appointments to fill vacancies subsequent to the election; these positions also terminate at the end of the two-year term.

Role of school council

The duties and powers of school councils are described in the *Education Act*; specifically:

- Reviewing and approving school growth plans;
- Establishing school-based policies on attendance, discipline, and dispute resolution
- Participating in the hiring of school principals;
- Making recommendations on how school budgets are spent; and
- Advising on other matters, such as:
 - Locally-developed courses of study
 - School closures
 - Student transportation
 - Length of the school year
 - Staffing needs
 - School renovations and capital expenditures and
 - Recommending evaluation, discipline, demotion, or dismissal of teachers or the principal

Eligible electors

To be a candidate or vote in school council elections, electors must be:

- A Canadian citizen; and
- At least 18 years of age on polling day (Monday, May 2, 2022); and
- Qualified to vote in the attendance area based on:
 - Being a parent* of a student who attends the school; and/or
 - Being a resident** in the attendance area for three or more months.

* Parent refers to the biological parents, the adoptive parents by custom or otherwise, the persons legally entitled to custody, or the persons who usually have the care and control of the child.

** for schools established on the basis of religion, to qualify under residence, electors must also be a registered members of Sacred Heart Cathedral parish or Our Lady of Victory parish, or have a letter of authority from the Bishop of the Episcopal Corporation of the Diocese of Whitehorse.

LISTING OF YUKON SCHOOL COUNCILS

The following schools will elect members to school council. The number of elected school council positions varies by school.

School	Community	Elected school council positions
Christ the King Elementary School*	Whitehorse	5 members
Del Van Gorder School	Faro	5 members
École Selkirk Elementary School	Whitehorse	5 members
École Whitehorse Elementary School	Whitehorse	7 members
Elijah Smith Elementary School	Whitehorse	3 members
Eliza Van Bibber School	Pelly Crossing	3 members
F.H. Collins Secondary School	Whitehorse	7 members
Ghùch Tlâ Community School	Carcross	5 members
Golden Horn Elementary School	Whitehorse	5 members
Hidden Valley School	Whitehorse	5 members
Holy Family Elementary School*	Whitehorse	5 members
J.V. Clark School	Mayo	3 members
Jack Hulland Elementary School	Whitehorse	7 members
Khàtinaxh Community School	Teslin	3 members
Kluane Lake School	Destruction Bay	5 members
Porter Creek Secondary School	Whitehorse	7 members
Robert Service School	Dawson City	6 members
Tantalus School	Carmacks	3 members
Vanier Catholic Secondary School*	Whitehorse	5 members

* Indicates a school established on the basis of religion