

January 4, 2024

MEDIA ADVISORY

FIRST NATION SCHOOL BOARD BY-ELECTION CALLED

The Minister of Education, the Honourable Jeanie McLean, has directed Elections Yukon to conduct a by-election to fill one vacant trustee position on the First Nation School Board (FNSB).

The by-election period is January 18 to February 12, 2024. Key dates (see attached) include an early registration period to open on Monday, January 15, 2024. Candidate nominations can be submitted to Elections Yukon between January 18 and noon on February 1, 2024. Polling Day is February 12, 2024.

Eligibility to vote or be a candidate in the by-election is open to all Canadian citizens at least 18 years old who are either:

- the parent of a student attending a FNSB-operated school (see attached list) OR
- a member (or entitled to be a member) of a Yukon First Nation, has an ancestral language that is a Yukon First Nation language, and has been a resident of the Yukon for at least three months.

Voting options during the by-election will be exclusively by mail and by internet. There will be no in-person voting option.

To learn about the voting process, nominations, and candidates, or to access important election updates, visit <u>ElectionsYukon.ca</u> or follow @ElectionsYukon on Facebook or X (formerly Twitter).

Quote:

School board election delivery has changed significantly, in scale and scope, with the establishment of the First Nation School Board. They are truly territorial in nature. Innovations introduced during the 2022 school board elections for the two boards focused on expanding elector access to the vote while ensuring integrity and fairness. Mail in voting and internet voting during this by-election will be available to all electors, regardless of their location. It will also offer an extended period for electors to register and to vote.

School boards are key partners in school governance in the Yukon; elected trustees support the delivery of accessible quality education to Yukon learners. In delivering to our mandate, Elections Yukon remains committed to introducing new levels of service, convenience, and access in support of school elections and the right to vote.

Max Harvey, Chief Electoral Officer, Elections Yukon

For more information, contact:

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For more information on the First Nation School Board, visit fnsb.ca.

Attachments: FNSB By-Election – Key Dates Yukon Schools Operated by the First Nation School Board

FIRST NATION SCHOOL BOARD BY-ELECTION – KEY DATES

- **Monday, January 15: Early registration**. Applications open to vote by mail or by internet. This will support early mail out of voting packages to electors who wish to vote by mail.
- **Thursday, January 18: Notice of Nomination**. Candidate nominations forms can be submitted to Elections Yukon.
- **Thursday, February 1 at noon: Close of Nominations.** If one or more nominations are received, a poll will be held.
- Friday, February 2 Close of Polls (8 PM) on Monday February 12: Voting period.
- Monday, February 5, 2024 at noon. Application period ends for mail-in ballots. This is to accommodate mail delivery times. Ballots must be returned to Elections Yukon by close of polls to be counted.
- Monday, February 12 at 7 PM: Application period ends for internet votes. This is to allow for application approvals and time for the elector to vote before polls close at 8 PM.

YUKON SCHOOLS OPERATED BY THE FIRST NATION SCHOOL BOARD

FIRST NATION SCHOOL BOARD (FNSB) OPERATED SCHOOLS	COMMUNITY
Chief Zzeh Gittlit School	Old Crow
Eliza Van Bibber School	Pelly Crossing
Ghùch Tlâ Community School	Carcross
Grey Mountain Primary School	Whitehorse
Johnson Elementary School	Watson Lake
Kluane Lake School	Destruction Bay
Nelnah Bessie John School	Beaver Creek
Ross River School	Ross River
St. Elias Community School	Haines Junction
Takhini Elementary School	Whitehorse
Watson Lake Secondary School	Watson Lake