

Information about the Yukon First Nation School Board referendums

On June 3, 2021, the Government of Yukon and the Chief's Committee on Education announced the finalization of the Yukon First Nation School Board Framework Agreement.

The agreement sets out the process for the creation of a First Nation School Board under the [Education Act](#).

Any existing school in the Yukon can operate under the Yukon First Nation School Board if a resolution or petition is passed and approved by the Minister of Education. The next step is a referendum. This means all people in the school's attendance area will have the opportunity to vote on the decision.

Which schools have submitted resolutions or petitions

These school councils have submitted resolutions:

- Chief Zzeh Gittlit School;
- Grey Mountain Primary School;
- Johnson Elementary School and Watson Lake Secondary School, which includes one referendum;
- Ross River School; and
- St. Elias Community School.

The deadline for resolutions was October 31, 2021.

These school communities have requested petition packages:

- Dawson City
- Mayo

The deadline for petitions is December 13, 2021. Successful petitions will be posted here in December.

How to submit a petition

- The deadline for petitions is December 13, 2021.
- Petitions need signatures from 20% of eligible voters in the school attendance area.
- Information about packages is available from the School Council Liaison, email Lori.Choquette@yukon.ca or phone 867-667-8226.

Referendum process

A resolution or petition triggers a referendum. The referendum voting period will take place from January 11 to January 27, 2022. Voting will be by special ballot. Elections Yukon will oversee the referendum process.

You can vote if you are:

- over 18 years of age,
- a Canadian citizen,
- and living in the school's attendance area;
- Or have a child enrolled at the school.



Your ballot will ask you a yes or no question.

Voting yes means that you would like the school in your attendance area to be run by the First Nation School Board, under the school board authorities outlined in the Education Act (see below). This would change starting in the 2022-2023 school year.

The current school council would then be disbanded when the new school board takes effect.

Voting no means that you would like the school council to continue local decision making for schools directly run by the Department of Education as outlined in the Education Act.

If the majority of voters vote yes, the school will transfer to the First Nation School Board in the 2022-2023 school year.

Further information will be made available on the election process at Electionsyukon.ca

What authority and responsibilities will the Yukon First Nation School Board have?

The Yukon First Nation School Board will carry the authorities and responsibilities of a school board under the Education Act including the following:

- Hire an executive director and oversee the running of the school board. The school board will select staff, including principals and teachers.
- Review, modify and approve the school plan.
- Provide educational programs for students.
- Establish policies for the operations of the school(s).
- Receive and manage funds from the Minister of Education.
- Assess and evaluate the schools every 5 years.
- Provide reports to the Minister of Education.
- Arrange for the examination and investigation of student progress and the system of instruction.

Who can attend?

All students in the school's attendance area will be welcome to attend a school operated by the First Nation School Board.

What will the curriculum look like?

The curriculum will continue to draw upon British Columbia's curriculum. The school board will decide on teaching materials, resources and approaches.