



Box 2703 (A-9) Whitehorse, Yukon Y1A 2C6
(867) 667-8683 1-866-668-8683 Fax (867) 393-6977
www.electionsyukon.ca info@electionsyukon.ca

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NEWS RELEASE

ELECTIONS YUKON TO HOST A VIRTUAL TOWN HALL TOMORROW ON THE REFERENDUM PROCESS

Elections Yukon will host a virtual town hall tomorrow, Wednesday, January 18 at 6:30 p.m., to answer questions about the voting or petition process for school communities requesting a referendum vote to determine if their school will join the First Nation School Board.

To date, the Minister of Education has not accepted any school council resolutions or community petitions.

The Minister of Education continues to accept resolutions from school councils and petitions. All resolutions and petitions must be approved by the Minister by 4 p.m. on Monday, January 30, 2023 to be included in the referendum vote.

On the Minister's acceptance of the resolution or petition, Elections Yukon will conduct a vote for those school attendance areas in February 2023.

School council resolutions and community petitions are separate and independent processes – either or both may be submitted until 4 p.m. on Monday, January 30, 2023. Any school council or community member considering submitting a resolution or initiating a petition should contact Lori Choquette, the Department of Education's School Council Liaison at lori.choquette@yukon.ca or 867-667-8226 for additional information.

Elector eligibility: Eligibility is the same as for school council elections: to be eligible to sign a petition or vote in a school referendum, electors must be:

- A Canadian citizen; and
- At least 18 years of age; and
- Either:
 - a resident in the school attendance area for three or more months, and/or
 - a parent¹ of a student who attends the school.

¹ 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.

Key dates: This information is also available on the Elections Yukon website, [ElectionsYukon.ca](https://electionsyukon.ca)

- **Thursday, January 5, 2023, to Monday, January 30, 2023 – Submission Period:** The Department of Education will accept resolutions from school councils and petitions from community members requesting their school hold a referendum vote on joining the First Nation School Board.
- **Wednesday, January 18, 2023 – Virtual Town Hall (6:30 p.m.):** Elections Yukon will host an information session; Department of Education officials will be in attendance. [Zoom details](#) available at [ElectionsYukon.ca](https://electionsyukon.ca).
- **Thursday, February 16 to Monday, February 27, 2023 – Referendum Voting Period:** Where resolutions or community petitions are accepted, eligible electors will have multiple options to cast their vote – mail-in ballots, early voting in-person (Saturday, February 25), Polling Day (Monday, February 27), and walk-in service at Elections Yukon in Whitehorse.
- **Monday, February 27, 2023 – Polling Day:** Final day for eligible electors to cast their vote. Polling will close at 8:00 p.m.. The unofficial results will be posted as they are reported.
- **Tuesday, February 28, 2023 – Official Addition:** Official results released. Schools where 50% plus 1 of the votes cast support joining the First Nation School Board will for the start of the 2023/24 school year.

For more information, contact:

Colleen Madore Elections Yukon
(867) 667-8940

Assistant Chief Electoral Officer
colleen.madore@electionsyukon.ca