

FOR RELEASE

#07-022

February 15, 2007

**YUKON STUDENTS EMBARK ON THEIR OWN YUKON QUEST CHALLENGE**

WHITEHORSE – The Department of Education’s Yukon Quest Student Challenge website utilizes innovative technology-assisted learning techniques to bring a Yukon tradition into the classroom.

“The Department of Education strives to make the Yukon classroom an engaging and relevant place,” Education Minister Patrick Rouble said. “Incorporating cultural events like the Yukon Quest is a great way to get students engaged in learning.”

The Yukon Quest Student Challenge began Saturday, Feb. 10 to coincide with the beginning of the world famous 1,000 mile sled dog race from Whitehorse to Fairbanks. Students in Yukon and across North America will be incorporating the “toughest sled dog race in the world” into their daily lessons when they download or post items to the Department of Education’s website.

“Students and their teachers can become involved in the Yukon Quest in a variety of ways,” Cathi Dunham, a Selkirk Elementary teacher and a 21-year volunteer for the Yukon Quest, said. “On the website we have topographic maps that students can follow during the race, a musher message board, a variety of photo galleries, vocabulary lists, reading and math exercises, media updates and a discussion page where students can post messages and respond to each other.”

To join the Department of Education’s Yukon Quest Student Challenge website and to follow the dogs go to: <http://dl1.yukoncollege.yk.ca/yukonquest/>.

-30-

Contact:

Roxanne Vallevand  
Cabinet Communications  
(867) 633-7949  
[roxanne.vallevand@gov.yk.ca](mailto:roxanne.vallevand@gov.yk.ca)

Cam Good  
Technology Assisted Learning Consultant  
(867) 667-8876  
[cam.good@yesnet.yk.ca](mailto:cam.good@yesnet.yk.ca)

Clea Ainsworth  
Communications, Education  
(867) 393-7102  
[clea.ainsworth@gov.yk.ca](mailto:clea.ainsworth@gov.yk.ca)

Cathi Dunham, Teacher/Vice Principal  
Selkirk Elementary  
(867) 667-3688  
[cathi.dunham@yesnet.yk.ca](mailto:cathi.dunham@yesnet.yk.ca)