

FOR RELEASE #07-060
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YUKONERS CELEBRATE EDUCATION WEEK APRIL 16-20

WHITEHORSE – Across the territory Yukoners will be celebrating Education Week April 16-20. The theme of Education Week is “Opening Doors to Lifelong Learning”.

The purpose of Education Week is to create awareness of education opportunities available to Yukoners and to celebrate the hard work and dedication of everyone involved in education throughout the territory.

“It’s important that we all approach education as a lifelong learning process,” Education Minister Patrick Rouble said. “The Department of Education is working to provide that kind of education for Yukoners.”

Various organizations will showcase the many excellent educational opportunities available to Yukoners of all ages and in all communities. Many elementary and secondary schools, First Nations, Yukon College campuses and non-profit organizations that provide education services to Yukoners will take part in celebrating Education Week.

“I encourage all Yukoners to find out what kind of education opportunities interest them and to open the doors to lifelong learning during Education Week,” Rouble added. “Take in a display, attend an open house or participate in one of the many available workshops.”

For more information about Education Week activities in your community, check the newspapers on Friday, April 13. Those interested in Education Week activities are also encouraged to call (867) 393-7102 for information on special events or visit www.education.gov.yk.ca/general/education_week.html.

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Attachment: A seven-page list of upcoming events during Education Week

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BACKGROUNDER: Full list of upcoming events during Education Week

MONDAY, APRIL 16

Swan Haven Interpretation Centre	Swan Haven is open today through to April 30: weekdays 5 – 9 p.m. and weekends 12 noon – 7 p.m. Contact Wildlife Viewing at 667-8291 for more information.
Yukon Arts Centre	This Education Week, visit the Yukon Arts Centre Public Art Gallery. Today the Gallery is hanging a new show on its walls. At 12:15pm you can find out how a show is hung and get a sneak peak at the new show while you're at it! Call 667-8476 for more information.
Skookum Jim Friendship Centre	Join Skookum Jim Friendship Centre staff for the after school youth sports program at Takhini Elementary. Call 633-7691 for more information.
Staff Development Branch	The Yukon government Staff Development branch is hosting an Open House 1 to 3 p.m. Call Marie at 667-5991 for more information.
MacBride Museum	MacBride Museum is open Tuesday to Saturday 12 noon to 4 p.m. Call 667-2709 for more information.
Yukon Biodiversity Month	Check out www.taiga.net/spring for educational ways to celebrate spring during Education Week.

TUESDAY, APRIL 17

Yukon Council on Disability	Are you interested in trying speech recognition software? Reading the computer screen without wearing your bifocals? Learning about preventing repetitive injuries like carpal tunnel syndrome? Visit the Yukon Council on Disability Open House from 1 to 4 p.m. to see and try demonstrations on adaptive technology! The Yukon Council on Disability is located at 1154A – 1 st Avenue. Call 668-6703 for more information.
Yukon Arts Centre	The Community Gallery at the Yukon Arts Centre is hosting an art exhibit of work by Marlene Collins during Education Week. Call 667-8476 for more information.
Selkirk Elementary School	Selkirk Elementary School will hold a Math Fair this evening. Call Penny at

	667-3688 for more information.
Ghùch Tlâ Community School	Ghùch Tlâ Community School and the Carcross/Tagish First Nation will host a Friends of the School Tea for Elders and volunteers. Exhibits on the skiing and pottery programs, and the spring and fall Culture Camps will be on display. Call Cynthia at 821-4603 for more information.
Crime Prevention Yukon & Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD)Whitehorse	<p>Crime Prevention Yukon and MADD will be hosting a number of events today:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Open House at 205b Rogers Street from 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. This is a good opportunity to tour the Crime Prevention Yukon & MADD offices as well as the Vital Communities Resource Centre, explore resources, learn more about community education programs, and meet staff. ▪ From 12 noon - 5 p.m. enjoy movies and popcorn at Crime Prevention Yukon – Featured movies include: <i>Through a Blue Lens</i>, <i>Prisoner for Life</i> (MADD), <i>The Mourning After</i> (MADD), <i>Killing us Softly 3: Advertising's Image of Women</i>, and <i>Crime Proofing: It's Your Choice</i>. ▪ There will also be a special workshop from 5 - 6 p.m. on identity theft prevention followed by a screening at 6:30pm of <i>Tough Guise: Violence, Media, and the Crisis in Masculinity</i>. <p>For more information on any of these events please call Kirsti at 668-4426.</p>
Yukon Arts Centre	Today the Yukon Arts Centre Public Art Gallery is hanging a new show on its walls. At 12:15 p.m. you can find out how a show is hung and get a sneak peak at the new show while you're at it! Call 667-8476 for more information.
Learning Disability Association of Yukon (LDAY)	LDAY will host an Open House today from 12 noon - 3 p.m. at 1154 C - 1 st Avenue at Strickland St. Call 668-5167 for more information.
Ducks Unlimited	Dunk yourself into the intriguing world of swamps, ponds, sloughs and bogs with Ducks Unlimited staff Amy Leach and Erin Spiewak as they interpret the beauty and benefits that wetlands bring to the Yukon. Meet at the Centre de la francophonie at 302 Strickland at 7 p.m.
Whitehorse Public Library	Bring your babies, up to 2 years old, for a

	half-hour full of books, songs, bounces, tickles and fun! This new program runs Tuesdays at 10:30 a.m. Just drop in--no registration required. For more information call 667-5239.
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WEDNESDAY, APRIL 18

Skookum Jim Friendship Centre	Join Skookum Jim Friendship Centre staff for the after school youth sports program at Elijah Smith Elementary. Call 633-7691 for more information.
Canadian Cancer Society	The Canadian Cancer Society will be hosting an Open House at their new office at 2-211 Wood Street (next to the Yukon News) from 11 a.m. - 1 p.m.
Vuntut Gwitchin First Nation	The Vuntut Gwitchin First Nation will be hosting an Education Fair at the Community Hall, in Old Crow from 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Coffee, tea & snacks will be served.
Yukon Arts Centre	Join Yukon Arts Centre Public Art Gallery staff for a tour of the permanent art collection display in the lobby. The tour begins today at 12:15 p.m.
Tantalus School	Students at Tantalus School will enjoy a Reading Day today. Every student in every class will read for 20 minutes starting at 2 p.m. today. Parents are invited to join in and stay for coffee. Call 863-5371 for more information.
Yukon College	Are you thinking of applying to Yukon College? Apply early at Yukon College's registration Open House from 3 - 5 p.m. today. Drop by for pizza and pop and fill out a registration form today!
Golden Horn School	Golden Horn School will hold a Heritage Fair today as part of their Education Week activities. Judging will take place in the morning and the displays will be open to public viewing in the afternoon and Thursday, April 19.
École Émilie-Tremblay	Join École Émilie-Tremblay staff at their Open House from 1 p.m. - 3:30 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. tonight. Parents can register their children in Le Jardin de Emilie or Kindergarten at the Open House. Call 667-8150 for more information
Society of Yukon Artists of Native Ancestry (SYANA)	SYANA is proud to announce traditional First Nations storytelling for children ages 4 to 6 years old. SYANA will be in

	Whitehorse schools this morning, and at noon will host a lunch and storytelling event at their office at 205-302 Steele St. Contact Sonny at 668-2695 for more info.
Nelnah Bessie John School	Nelnah Bessie John School will host Literacy Games from 4:30-5:30 today. Call 862-7904 for more information.

THURSDAY, APRIL 19

Department of Education	<p>Come to the Department of Education at 1000 Lewes Boulevard from 4 p.m. - 6 p.m. for our Open House. Meet the people at Public Schools and Advanced Education and find out more about our programs and services for Yukoners.</p> <p>Visit the Community Education Fair at our Open House for information on a variety of education opportunities available in the Yukon. Featured groups are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Association Franco-Yukonnaise ▪ Yukon Women in Trades and Technology ▪ MacBride Museum – Materials and resources for teachers ▪ Department of Environment – How to bring the environment into the classroom ▪ Health Promotions Unit – The connection between health and learning ▪ Teen Parent Centre ▪ RPAY – How to incorporate healthy living practices into the classroom ▪ Innovators in the Schools
Ghùch Tlâ Community School	Ghùch Tlâ Community School and the Carcross/Tagish First Nation will host a Bison Feast. Exhibits on the skiing and pottery programs, and the spring and fall Culture Camps will be on display. Call Cynthia at 821-4603 for more information.
Employment Central	Are you thinking about going back to school? Join Employment Central staff to learn about funding assistance and eligibility for the Skills Development Program from 1:30 p.m. – 2:30 p.m. at 202-204 Black Street. For more information call Carol at 393-8274.
Yukon Arts Centre	Tonight at 7:30 p.m. the Yukon Arts Centre Public Art Gallery will officially open three new shows: Janet Cardiff's <i>Paradise Institute</i> , Lillian Loponen's

	<i>Footsteps in the Snow</i> and Fiona Bowie's <i>Tree</i> . Refreshments served.
Yukon Bird Club	Get ready for the field season with a songbird ID workshop from 7 - 9 p.m. at the Whitehorse Public Library. Presented by the Yukon Bird Club, this workshop will help you brush up your skills at identifying the songbirds that enchant Yukon forests.
Watson Lake Secondary	Watson Lake Secondary students will do a career tour at Yukon College today.
Association of Yukon School Councils, Boards and Committees (AYSCBC)	The Spring 2007 School Councils' Conference starts today and runs through to April 21 at the High Country Inn. The theme of the conference is "Working Together for Positive Learning Environments". Barry MacDonald is the conference guest speaker. He is a Canadian educator, counsellor and author and his work focuses on ensuring schools practice best support for young people in their educational and life pursuits.
Whitehorse Public Library	Enjoy good stories, music and a craft at the Whitehorse Public Library's Storytime Thursdays at 10:30 a.m. This fun, educational program is designed for 3-6 year olds who are accompanied by an adult. For more information call the library at 667-5239. In Yukon communities, please call your local library to find out about Storytime.

FRIDAY, APRIL 20

Yukon Legislative Assembly	Today and tomorrow 18 young Yukoners will learn first-hand about parliamentary democracy in Yukon. They will meet the Speaker, party leaders, other MLAs, table officers and reporters to learn about their roles in the political system. Their parliamentary experience will culminate with two debates in the Legislative Assembly Chamber. For more information contact Floyd McCormick at 667-5499.
Girl Guides of Canada	Drop by the Girl Guides of Canada office at 302 Steele Street from 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. today for information on Girl Guide programs in the Yukon. Call 667-2455 for more information.
Skookum Jim Friendship Centre	Join Skookum Jim Friendship Centre staff for the after school youth sports program

	at Jack Hulland Elementary. Call 633-7691 for more information.
F.H. Collins Secondary	F.H. Collins Secondary and the Vuntut Gwitchin First Nation, in partnership with the Council for Yukon First Nations, will be hosting an Education Fair at F.H. Collins. Call Kim at 667-8665 for more information.
Yukon Conservation Society (YCS)	YCS is hosting an Open House. See what they are doing; meet YCS staff and board members, visit the YCS library, and chat with them about your environmental and conservation concerns. YCS has also developed a K-12 school curriculum on Climate Change now online: www.climatechangenorth.ca
Department of Environment	Join Tagish First Nation elder Ida Calmegane as she tells traditional stories of the spring around the campfire. Bring your mug for tea and enjoy some traditional bannock. Meet at the Tagish River Bridge Day Use Area at 7:30 p.m.
Yukon Women in Trades and Technology (YWITT)	YWITT will have a booth at the F.H. Collins Education Fair. Call 667-4441 for information.
Teslin School	Teslin School will be hosting a special event today called Readers as Leaders. The focus of the day will be the importance of literacy in the day-to-day working lives of community and territorial leaders. Several guests, including Justice Minister Marian Horne, will bring a sample book or document they use in their daily work to share with students. Guests in the Readers as Leaders program will also read stories to the students.
Association of Yukon School Councils, Boards and Committees (AYSCBC)	The Association of Yukon School Councils, Boards and Committees AGM and election takes place today. For more information about AYSCBC, call Carol at 633-2692.
Nelna Bessie John School and RCMP	The RCMP will host a soccer game and community BBQ at Nelna Bessie John School today. Call 862-7904 for more info.

Watch for the following events throughout Education Week:

- Golden Horn Elementary School – Will hold a special Education Week assembly with a guest speaker as well as a student versus staff gym challenge.

- Takhini Elementary School – The Takhini Drummers and Dancers will present two shows at Chief Zzeh Gittlit School and enjoy a feast with the community of Old Crow April 16-17.
- RCMP – The DARE Program will be running in Elijah Smith Elementary, Robert Service School, Teslin School and Chief Zzeh Gittlit School. The Top Cop Literacy Program will be running in Ghùch Tlà Community School and Teslin School.
- Vanier Catholic Secondary School – Join students and staff for a Youth Mass and Catholic Education Open House on April 22 at 11:15 a.m. at Sacred Heart Cathedral (4th and Steele).
- École Émilie-Tremblay – École Émilie-Tremblay staff will host a special a Breakfast for Parents from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. on April 15. This is a great opportunity to discuss your child's education with school staff.
- Beginning April 2007, the Yukon Wildlife Preserve will offer an education program for grade 8 to 11 students. The program aims to educate students about environmental issues and inspire them to take an interest in sciences. Call Leanne at 456-7400 for more information.