LEGISLATIVE RETURN

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SUBMITTED BY: Hon. Jeanie McLean, Minister of Education

- 1. **On** [date], [MLA]
 - □ asked the following question during the Oral Question Period at page(s) [page numbers] of *Hansard*
 - □ submitted the following written question WQ No. #
 - \Box gave notice of the following motion for the production of papers MPP No. #

RE: [subject]

OR

2. This legislative return relates to a matter outstanding from discussion with Kate White, Member for Takhini-Kopper King on March 16, 23 related to:

Bill No. #207	Second Reading Third Reading
	Committee of the Whole: Vote 03 Education
Motion No. #	RE: How a private school is accredited
at page(s) [page numbers] of Hansard. 3160	

The response is as follows:

Private schools may operate in Yukon if they meet the requirements of s. 29 of the *Education Act* ('the Act') and the *Private Schools Regulations* (O.I.C. 1991/072).

Under the Act a private school is defined as 'a school, other than a school operated by the Minister or a School Board, that offers educational programs during school days to school-age children'.

The Act provides that a person can operate a private school only if the private school is registered <u>or</u> accredited in accordance with the requirements of ss. 29 (2) of the Act and s. 2 of the regulations.

This means that a private school does not need to be both registered with and accredited by the Minister in order to operate in Yukon, either will suffice. For clarity, a private school cannot grant credit for any senior high school courses offered at the school unless it is accredited and employs qualified teachers.

A private school must initially apply to and satisfy the Minister that it:

- a) provides courses of study that meet the goals and objectives established by guidelines approved by the Minister;
- b) agrees to regular evaluation and monitoring as determined by the Minister;
- c) meets all local and territorial health, safety, and building standards; and
- d) meets standards of student achievement, as measured by achievement testing, comparable to those of schools operated by the Minister or a School Board.

If the private school is applying to register, it must also provide the following information:

- a) the names of the owners or operators of the school;
- b) the name and location of the school;
- c) proof of compliance with all municipal and zoning bylaws and all municipal and territorial health, safety, and building standards requirements;
- d) procedures for achievement testing of students (see above);
- e) written consent of the owner or operator to such evaluations of the school that may be required by the Minister; and
- f) such further information as may be required by the Minister under the Act.

If the private school is applying to be accredited, in addition to all of the above information it must provide a list of the proposed instructional staff for the school, and proof that each instructor meets the certification requirements outlined in the *Teacher*

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Qualification Regulations. The Minister must then issue a letter of registration for the schools.

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