

Yukon Legislative Assembly

Box 2703, Whitehorse, Yukon Y1A 2C6



November 6, 2023

Hon. Jeanie McLean Minister of Education P.O. Box 2703 Whitehorse, Yukon Y1A 2C6

Dear Minister McLean,

As you know, Holocaust Education Week is currently underway in Canada. There has been a recent spike in anti-Semitism across the country given the recent events in Israel and the Gaza Strip. Over the weekend, a swastika was observed on a protestor's sign on Parliament Hill in Ottawa.

Last week the governments of British Columbia and Ontario made announcements regarding holocaust education in their provinces. In a media article Premier Eby said many B.C. teachers make a point of teaching their students about the murders of six million Jews and others by the Nazis during the Second World War as their classes discuss social justice, equality and the horrors of history, but it hasn't been required curriculum. This has led to plans to make Holocaust education mandatory for high school students with additions to Grade 10 curriculum coming in 2025.

Since the Yukon largely follows the BC curriculum, will this also be the case here in the territory? If not, will you commit to following the lead of these jurisdictions and making it a requirement?

Thank you for your attention to this very important matter. I look forward to your response.

Sincerely,

Scott Kent

MLA Copperbelt South