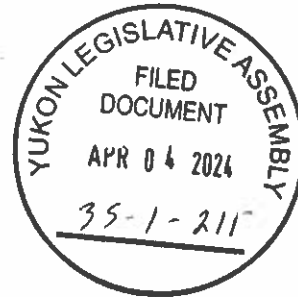




Minister's office (CM-2)
PO Box 2703, Whitehorse, Yukon Y1A 2C6

April 3, 2024

Chief Sean Smith
Kwanlin Dün First Nation
35 McIntyre Drive
Whitehorse, YT Y1A 5A5



Sent via email

Dear Chief Sean Smith:

Re: Private Member's Bill – Locally Developed Courses of Study

As a key stakeholder in supporting and advising on Yukon's educational priorities, I wanted to notify you that on March 28, 2024, the Yukon NDP tabled Private Member's Bill No.#307 Act to Amend the Education Act. This amendment would see Subsection 43 (2) of the Education Act amended to remove the limit on locally developed courses. I have attached Bill No.#307 for your reference.

As the Minister of Education, I have a responsibility to ensure Education partners are aware of these proposed changes being brought forward by the Yukon NDP to the Education Act. I would like to assure you that our government recognizes the unique needs of Yukon communities and First Nations, and we are pleased, to offer educational courses that are responsive and relevant to local contexts across the three school authorities.

Students have access to a variety of courses that meet their interests and the requirements of their graduation program. To date, there have been no documented cases of students being unable to take locally developed courses under the current legislation.

Our curriculum framework, heavily influenced by British Columbia's policies, supports the creation of Yukon-specific courses that count towards graduation, emphasizing the value of local and Indigenous content. However, we welcome the conversation about increasing the availability of locally developed courses. Should you have additional questions about Yukon's locally developed courses or the graduation requirements, please contact our Director of Curriculum and Assessment, Tanya Lewis by email at (Tany.Lewis@yukon.ca).

I would like to acknowledge this process is evolving quickly and as such this is a timely letter. The Yukon NDP have called Bill No.#307 for second reading debate this afternoon, April 3, 2024, of which I will speak to. As part of the Confidence and Supply agreement between the Yukon Liberals and the Yukon NDP, the Yukon NDP can table a Private Member's Bill that the Yukon Liberals will support in second reading to allow the Bill to receive a final vote at third reading. At third reading, the parties may choose to support the Bill or vote against it.

Sincerely,



Jeanie McLean
Minister of Education

Attachment – Bill No. 307