



April 22, 2024

Mayor and Council  
City of Whitehorse  
2121 Second Avenue  
Whitehorse, Yukon Y1A 1C2

Dear Mayor and Council,

**RE: Motion regarding a school in downtown Whitehorse.**

I look forward to this evening's discussion on the Motion "on ensuring that there continues to be an elementary school in downtown Whitehorse."

École Whitehorse Elementary School, originally built in the 1950s, is the top priority for replacement among Whitehorse schools. The school facility is not able to meet current and future programming and community needs, including access to spaces for innovative, inclusive, and experiential learning.

School facilities are important spaces that host valuable community activities and support vibrant communities. Our government is committed to ongoing consultation and long-term planning to ensure the educational needs of Yukoner's are met. As several Cabinet ministers have said, with prospective development and densification in the downtown core, the future of downtown Whitehorse may indeed include an elementary school.

To successfully plan for this potential future need and address the current challenges and limitations of École Whitehorse Elementary School's current location, **we are requesting the City of Whitehorse work with the Government of Yukon to identify land within the downtown core, larger than École Whitehorse Elementary School's current location, for an educational reserve and that the City of Whitehorse make the appropriate changes to the Official Community Plan.** This will allow our government to work with residents, stakeholders, and the municipality so that future planning for a downtown school can occur.

Kindly,

Richard Mostyn  
Minister of Community Services

Cc The Honourable Nils Clarke, Minister of Highways and Public Works  
The Honourable Jeanie McLean, Minister of Education

