



February 7, 2020

By email: Tracy.McPhee@gov.yk.ca

Hon. Tracy-Anne McPhee
Minister of Education
Yukon Legislative Assembly
Box 2703, Whitehorse, Yukon
Y1A 2C6

Dear Ms. McPhee,

The 2019 Independent Report of the Auditor General of Canada to the Yukon Legislative Assembly found that Yukon Government (YG):

- did not know whether its approach to inclusive education is working;
- had not identified supports needed to implement inclusive education;
- had no review and evaluation on the overall approach to inclusive education;
- had poor oversight of services and supports for student who had special needs;
- had no process to prioritize students who need specialized assessments; and,
- made little effort to understand the root cause of gaps in student outcome and has no strategy to close the gaps.

The Auditor General of Canada recommended Yukon Education conduct a full review of its services and supports for inclusive education and examine how best to, inter alia:

- evaluate whether its approach to inclusive education is working;
- determine whether services and supports are having the desired effect; and,
- determine whether enough resources are in place to support inclusive education.

In response, YG agreed to implement the recommendations of the Auditor General of Canada and committed to a full review of the inclusive education environment with specific regard to perspectives from "*Yukon First Nations [...] Yukon Educators, parents, school councils, the Yukon Francophone School Board, and the Yukon Teachers' Association [YTA]*". YG's commencement of an internal review, fails to honor this commitment.

Speaking as a Teacher, Specialist Educator, and President of the YTA, Yukon Education ignoring their commitments shows a complete disregard for the contributions of everyone involved in making education inclusive and accessible in the Yukon. It brings into question any commitments YG makes to address the gaps found by the Auditor General.

YG also committed it would start a review in the fall of 2019, provide recommendations by Spring 2020 and implement appropriate strategies starting the 2020-2021 school year.

It is now Spring 2020 and YTA has no information that demonstrates YG has or intends to follow through with its stated commitments to Yukoners, Yukon educators and the Auditor General of Canada. YTA is requesting YG to detail what it has done to achieve its stated commitments and when YG plans to include all stakeholders in a full review as per the Auditor General of Canada's recommendation.

I look forward to your timely response.

Regards,



Sue Ross
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Yukon Teachers' Association
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I respectfully acknowledge that I work within the traditional territory of the people of Kwanlin Dün First Nation and the Ta'an Kwäch'än Council.

C'est avec reconnaissance et respect que nous tenons à souligner que nous vivons et travaillons sur le territoire traditionnel de la Première nation des Kwanlin Dün et du Conseil des Ta'an Kwäch'än.

cc Kate White
cc Stacey Hassard