Minister's office (CM-3)
PO Box 2703, Whitehorse, Yukon Y1A 2C6

February 19, 2020

Sue Ross, President
Yukon Teachers Association
2064 2nd Avenue
Whitehorse, YT Y1A 2C6

Dear President Ross:

Re: Auditor General Report

Thank you for your letter from February 7, 2020, about the review of inclusive and special education in Yukon. I appreciate the opportunity to clarify the planning for this review.

The Government of Yukon has previously committed to an independent review of inclusive and special education and the review aligns with our response to the recommendations from the Auditor General of Canada in its 2019 audit report. Part of this commitment includes hearing the perspectives of students and families, educators, Yukon First Nations, school councils and other partners, including the Yukon Teachers' Association.

As you may be aware, we have arranged for Nikki Yee of the University of British Columbia to lead this review. Ms. Yee is a doctoral candidate in Special Education at the University of British Columbia, with a focus on Indigenous and inclusive education. She has 12 years of diverse teaching experience from pre-Kindergarten to university and has provided special education supports for schools.

Ms. Yee is beginning this review with an internal phase, focused on reviewing the Department of Education's current practices, procedures and legislated responsibilities, and speaking with central administration and school staff. It also includes conducting research and looking at best and emerging practices for delivering inclusive and special education in other parts of Canada and internationally.

The next phase of this review will focus on gathering perspectives from students, families, Yukon First Nations, school communities and partners in education, including the Yukon Teachers' Association, who all have roles in the success of Yukon students.
We are still planning this next phase for this spring, and will share more details as plans are finalized. If you have any further questions about this review, please contact Nicole Morgan, Deputy Minister of Education.

Thank you for raising this matter with me, and we look forward to hearing more about the Yukon Teachers’ Association’s perspectives on inclusive and special education programming during the external phase of this review this spring.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Tracy-Anne McPhee
Minister of Education