



**YELLOWKNIFE EDUCATION
DISTRICT NO. 1**

P.O. Box 788, Yellowknife, NT X1A 2N6
Tel: (867) 766-5050 • Fax: (867) 873-5051

**ADMINISTRATION SCOLAIRE DE
DISTRICT N° 1 DE YELLOWKNIFE**

C.P. 788, Yellowknife NT X1A 2N6
Tél. : (867) 766-5050 • Téléc. : (867) 873-5051

www.yk1.nt.ca

May 14, 2021

To all N.J. Macpherson School families:

RE: N.J. Macpherson School Reopening

On May 12, 2021, the Office of the Chief Public Health Officer (OCPHO) rescinded the order to close schools based on encouraging vaccination figures and adherence to public health measures in Yellowknife over the past two weeks.

This is encouraging news for Yellowknife Education District No. 1 (YK1) because we want students and staff to be able to return to our schools as quickly and safely as possible. Due to the unique situation at N.J. Macpherson School, however, we understand that it will take longer to return to in-person learning as many staff and families await the results of their COVID-19 tests.

Operationally, we recognize the delay in test results may have an impact on staff availability and their ability to be prepared for in-person learning. As such, the decision to reopen N.J. Macpherson School will look different. After consultation with YK1's Board of Trustees, the GNWT's Department of Education, Culture and Employment (ECE), and school staff, the decision has been made to delay the reopening of N.J. Macpherson School to in-person learning to Wednesday, May 19, 2021. For students who are required to self-isolate beyond this date, teachers will continue to offer support to ensure continuity of learning. We strongly encourage our students to return to in-person learning.

As always, the safety of our students and staff is paramount. Please read the following [letter](#), which details additional safety requirements that must be met at all schools effective immediately. We want to reassure families that N.J. Macpherson School will be ready to safely welcome students back, in adherence to all approved school reopening plans and additional recommendations from the OCPHO.

We understand that this has been a very difficult time for the N.J. community. We want to express our sincere gratitude for the patience you have all displayed over the past two weeks. We recognize you may still have questions at this time. Please direct any school-specific questions to teachers and administration at the school, and any questions related to test results, isolation or symptoms to Public Health.

We will continue to support N.J. Macpherson School staff in all their efforts to open the school safely. We will also provide an updated screening tool from the GNWT once it becomes available to us.

The most up-to-date information regarding after-school care can be found on the Yellowknife YWCA's website [here](#), the latest busing information from First Transit can be found [here](#), and the latest FAQ sheet related to school reopenings can be found [here](#).

Thank you for your continued cooperation and understanding as we all work towards keeping our school community safe.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Ed Lippert". The signature is stylized and cursive.

Ed Lippert
Superintendent/ CEO
Yellowknife Education District No. 1