



## **Media Release – August 29, 2025**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – Interim Support Assistants Initiative

YELLOWKNIFE, NT – Yellowknife Education District No. 1 Superintendent Shirley Zouboules attended Minister Cleveland’s announcement earlier today regarding the Interim Support Assistants Initiative. YK1 appreciates the efforts of the Minister and the Department of Education, Culture, and Employment in advocating for the students of the Northwest Territories and offering this interim solution.

The School District will collaborate closely with ECE during the implementation of the Interim Support Assistants Initiative to address the needs of our students. Further information will be provided to parents, the community, and the media once the full impact of this announcement is assessed in the context of the services to our students.

Recently elected Chairperson, Barbara Bell stated:

“On behalf of the Board of Trustees, we acknowledge the Government of the Northwest Territories and the Department of Education, Culture and Employment for introducing the Support Assistants Initiative for the 2025–26 school year. This measure provides some immediate relief to help ensure students continue to receive in-class support despite recent changes to federal funding under Jordan’s Principle. Working alongside our district office, we remain committed to advocating for lasting solutions that will bring long-term stability for students, families, and schools.”

All media inquiries should be directed to [info@yk1.nt.ca](mailto:info@yk1.nt.ca).