



Yellowknife Education District No. 1
Commission scolaire publique n°1 de Yellowknife

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September 12, 2025

Dear William McDonald Staff and Families

As you are aware, École William McDonald Middle School has been under a Public Health Order (PHO) from the Office of the Chief Public Health Officer (OCPHO) since May 27, 2025. This order was issued in response to elevated lead levels in the school's drinking water and requires specific mitigation measures to ensure the safety of our students and staff.

The school continues to follow all measures outlined in the PHO. Regular testing and ongoing investigations are being carried out in partnership with the Department of Education, Culture and Employment, the Department of Infrastructure, and YK1 Maintenance and Operations. As the work to make the water safe continues, we are monitoring conditions closely and continue to follow safe practices.

Please note that École William McDonald Middle School is not the only school affected. Several YK1 schools were placed under similar Public Health Orders. With the implementation of new measures and protocols, Range Lake North School has recently had its PHO lifted. *At this time, the PHO for École William McDonald Middle School remains in place.* The work to make sure our water meets all safety requirements continues in collaboration with ECE and the Department of Infrastructure

We will provide further updates as soon as new information becomes available. Thank you for your understanding and support as we work together to ensure the health and safety of our school community.

Sincerely,

Shirley Zouboules
Superintendent/CEO, YK1