

Ridgely, Stacy

I've been a resident of Yellowknife for 24 years and have developed a strong understanding of our community and public education system during this time. My involvement with local schools, extensive volunteer experience on local boards, professional expertise, and lived experience position me well to serve as a trustee for YK1.

During my time in Yellowknife, my three children were students in YK1 schools, providing me with firsthand experience of the public education system. I also had the opportunity to work as a substitute and participate in the Parent Advisory Council, deepening my understanding of the needs and priorities of students, families, and educators. I've been active on a number of boards in Yellowknife, including six years on the Yellowknife Playschool Association Board, several years on the Aroua Minor Soccer League Board, ten years on the Yellowknife Choral Society Board and most recently, six years on the Ragged Riders Snowsport Society Board. These experiences strengthened my governance, strategic planning, and collaborative decision-making skills while reinforcing my commitment to supporting opportunities for children and youth.

I'm passionate about the public education system and its critical role in building future contributing members of our society. Ensuring limited financial resources are appropriately directed to the areas that will result in the greatest impacts that position children to learn and grow is essential. Research has shown that making investments in the early years pays dividends that will follow a child through life resulting in higher graduation rates, improved health outcomes and higher rates in employment attachment.

My personal philosophy has been shaped by my lived experience interacting with children and youth and through my 28 years of work in the area of health promotion, health policy development and delivery of health and social services programs and services. These experiences have given me a strong appreciation of the factors that influence children's development and educational success, as well as the importance of sound governance and evidence-informed decision making.

As a trustee, I would be committed to supporting students, families, and educators to ensure children and youth have access to opportunities that will allow them to achieve their full potential.