# Draft Terms of Reference

Steering committee for the new vision process

1. Purpose
* To guide the process of building a new vision with our partners and to direct action to support the success of all of our students
* To make decisions and recommendations based on evidence and student performance
* To work with partners through this process in a way that recognizes and respects unique relationships, including government-to-government relations with Yukon First Nations
* To address the needs of students from pre-Kindergarten to post-secondary, with particular attention to support for transitions to Kindergarten, grade 4, grade 8 and grade 12, as well as for rural students’ transition to Whitehorse secondary schools.
* To engage with rural and Whitehorse groups and communities, as well as other government departments and their services, to support our students
* To assess our strengths, issues and challenges together in order to build an education system that is flexible and responsive to the context and culture of Yukon and the individual needs of our learners such that they have the skills needed to be successful in any life path they choose.
1. Members/Composition

Members include representation from:

* + Yukon Teachers’ Association (YTA)
	+ Association of Yukon School Administrators (AYSA)
	+ School councils and the Association of Yukon School Councils, Boards & Committees (AYSCBC)
	+ Commission scolaire francophone du Yukon – Yukon Francophone School Board (CSFY)
	+ Council of Yukon First Nations (CYFN)
	+ First Nations Education Commission (FNEC)
	+ Yukon College
	+ Catholic Education Association of Yukon (CEAY)
	+ Department of Education: Deputy Minister, Assistant Deputy Minister of Public Schools and Assistant Deputy Minister of Advanced Education

The Deputy Minister serves as the Chair of the Committee and may designate a substitute Chair if she is unable to attend a meeting. Similarly, members who cannot attend a meeting may send a substitute in their place.

The Committee recognizes students as partners in education and their voices need to be heard at this table. The Committee will discuss with students how they would like to be engaged and involved in this process in a way that is meaningful to them.

From time to time, the Committee may establish working groups as needed to determine directions and develop recommendations to address specific issues.

From time to time, the Committee may seek advice or input from individuals, working groups, focus groups, surveys or other means with the approval of the Committee.

1. Guiding principles
* Learners, from early learning to post-secondary students, and their success are central to all discussions and recommendations
* Action-oriented and supportive of innovation to support successful learning and increased student engagement
* Support for teachers in their key role in classrooms is essential
* Our First Nations, Yukon, national and international culture and context is foundational
* A collaborative approach that includes all partners in education: students and their parents; teachers, principals, the Association of Yukon School Administrators and Yukon Teachers’ Association; school councils and Association of Yukon School Councils, Boards and Committees; Yukon First Nations, Council of Yukon First Nations and the First Nations Education Commission; the Commission scolaire francophone du Yukon; the Catholic Education Association of Yukon and Yukon College.
* The Committee will aim for consensus as its agreed-upon method of decision making - it is acknowledged that the perspectives on some of the issues will be diverse and the Committee agrees that all perspectives will be explored without prejudice and the diversity of opinions will be respected before decisions or recommendations are made
1. Budget

The Yukon Department of Education will cover the costs and resources associated with the work of the Committee.

1. Records of meetings and communications

**Any confidential information concerning a student, staff or school that is shared during these meetings is expected to remain confidential.**

Minutes from each meeting will be produced that summarize discussions, actions and decisions by the Committee. These minutes will be made available to the public.

At the conclusion of each meeting, the Committee will prepare an agreed-upon formal statement describing the progress of the meeting that is suitable for discussion with the media and general public.

1. Term of the committee

The Committee will serve a three year term.

1. Termination of the committee

The Committee will evaluate its progress at the end of the third year of its term.