



yfned

ANNUAL REPORT

YUKON FIRST NATION EDUCATION DIRECTORATE

our children. our education. our way.

2022-2023



YUKON FIRST NATION EDUCATION DIRECTORATE



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our children. our education. our way.

YFNED MISSION

PURPOSE

Steered by the Chiefs Committee on Education (CCOE), the Yukon First Nation Education Directorate (YFNED) was launched in the summer of 2020 in response to the long overdue need for unified control over First Nations education in the territory. YFNED is dedicated to building capacity, developing systems and resources, and enhancing second-level educational programs, services and learner supports. YFNED advances First Nations decision-making authority and aspirations for control over education by providing technical support, research and advice on Framework Agreement processes and advocating for First Nations student success across the education system.

MISSION STATEMENT

Unified control over First Nations education so we can empower our people in our ways of knowing and prepare our children to be active participants in the current world.



MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR, CHIEFS COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION (CCOE)

I'm very proud and honoured to be a part of a long legacy of people working tirelessly to provide a path for an education system inclusive to our way of life and to our communities. We're living at a time and place where real, significant and lasting change is taking root.

I would like to acknowledge our previous Chair, Dana Tizya-Tramm and all the hard work he accomplished during his time on the CCOE. He now brings that passion as Chair of the First Nations School Board (FNSB).

The Yukon First Nation Education Directorate (YFNED) and the FNSB have been working tirelessly for Yukon First Nation students and families to advance an Indigenous education system in Yukon. We have seen great progress over the last couple of years and it is inspiring to have 11 Yukon Schools join the FNSB.

So much has happened over the past year, and I am excited to see what is next for YFNED, FNSB and CCOE. To see how our schools will continue to evolve and develop, and to witness all the collaborative efforts teachers, families, and First Nations Educators will make to finally create the schools where our children can flourish.

Although so much has been accomplished in one year, it is over the coming years and decades we will truly see the results. YFNED and CCOE still have much work to do, but the path is laid out before us, and we will continue to blaze forward. Together, we are creating a new Yukon. Changing our society from the ground up – with education. Our children and our families will no longer get lost in a system but will have a voice. We are all here because we have a vested interest in our children, and we want real change and improvement in the education system. I look forward to continuing to pave a path forward together.

Chief Amanda Leas,
Chair, CCOE
Ta'an Kwäch'än Council



MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Each year we have the opportunity to reflect on the work we've done and what still lies ahead. That work of which we are so proud is the foundation for all that we will still do. Because no matter how much we have accomplished, and you bet we have, there will always be more to do.

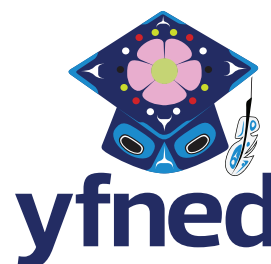
Our wrap-around services are providing more supports than ever before – from meals to cultural programming, and from health services to post-secondary guidance. At first it was hard to get our staff into schools, but now many schools can't imagine life without us there.

Much credit to the vision of the CCOE who continue to guide our organization, and can see that for all we do, there is still so much more potential for growth in the Yukon. Credit to the Government of Yukon who are now at the table as we both support the growing number of schools in the First Nation School Board. Credit to the Government of Canada with whom our relationship grows and Framework Agreement processes continually advance. And kudos to our youth, our Elders, and those ancestors who came before us, with whom we all step forward together.

We knew change was coming and it's happening now. Join us as we drive this school bus forward, or risk being left behind.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Melanie Bennett".

Melanie Bennett,
Executive Director, YFNED



In 2018, the Chiefs Committee on Education (CCOE) was re-established to negotiate a framework agreement for First Nations education. The ten First Nations signed on to the Framework Agreement are:

Carcross/Tagish First Nation, Champagne and Aishihik First Nations, Liard First Nation, First Nation of Nacho Nyak Dun, Ross River Dena Council, Selkirk First Nation, Ta'an Kwäch'än Council, Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in, Vuntut Gwitchin First Nation and White River First Nation

CHIEFS COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

The CCOE have been working hard with the Government of Canada and Government of Yukon to advance the Framework Agreement (FA) processes. Phase one of the FA saw the newly established First Nation School Board (FNSB) become a reality. The FNSB formally took responsibility of 8 Yukon schools in August of 2022 and will assume 3 more schools in August of 2023. The CCOE directed YFNED to support the establishment of the FNSB in all matters.

The CCOE met monthly with Government of Yukon Education Minister Jeanie McLean to ensure the establishment of the FNSB was successful. The CCOE worked with Government of Yukon on a First Nation Education Action Plan that identified short term actions:

1. To support the establishment of the FNSB with regular monthly meetings
2. Review/re-assess the ADM of First Nations Initiatives position and department
3. A deeper dive into the "How Are We Doing" report to utilize data and provide informed decisions in regards to our First Nation students
4. To obtain adequate core funding support for YNLC & YFNED.

Action item number one is moving forward successful and continues to be a priority for the CCOE. Actions 2-4 are still in the "working on it" status.

The CCOE work with the Government of Canada is advancing phase two of the FA whereby a Yukon Regional Education Agreement (REA) will be negotiated. Government of Canada representatives are working with the CCOE and CCOE technicians to identify all the necessary partners for the REA and the work ahead. YFNED continues to maintain an administrative role for the CCOE.

The Chiefs currently on the CCOE are Chief Amanda Leas (Chair), Chief Dylan Loblaw, Chief Stephen Charlie, Chief Bessie Chasse, Chief Barb Joe.

The CCOE want to acknowledge all the work of former Chiefs Dana Tizya-Tramm, Simon Mervyn, Jack Caesar, Darrin Isaac and Roberta Joseph.



CHAIR

Chief Amanda Leas
Ta'an Kwäch'än Council



DIRECTOR

Chief Dylan Loblaw
Ross River Dena Council



DIRECTOR

Chief Stephen Charlie
Liard First Nation



DIRECTOR

Chief Bessie Chasse
White River First Nation



DIRECTOR

Chief Barb Joe
Champagne and Aishihik First Nations

FIRST NATION EDUCATION COMMISSION (FNEC)

Another successful year of FNEC with the Commissioners collaborating and engaging on the Joint Education Action Plan (JEAP) 2014-2024. FNEC has representation of educational experts from all fourteen Yukon First Nations and YFNED continues to serve in the administrator role for FNEC.

FNEC participated in their quarterly meetings that occurred on:

February 16-17, 2022

June 23-24, 2022

September 21-23, 2022

November 23-24, 2022

The Commissioners have provided advice and recommendations to Yukon Education on the implementation of the JEAP 2014-2024. Projects the Commissioners have directed YFNED to engage and develop are the K-12 Language Framework & Action Plan, further development of the Graduation Tool to make it a youth user friendly App, continued implementation of the Indigenous Academy at FH Collins high school and the continued work of the Early Learning Assessment Tool.

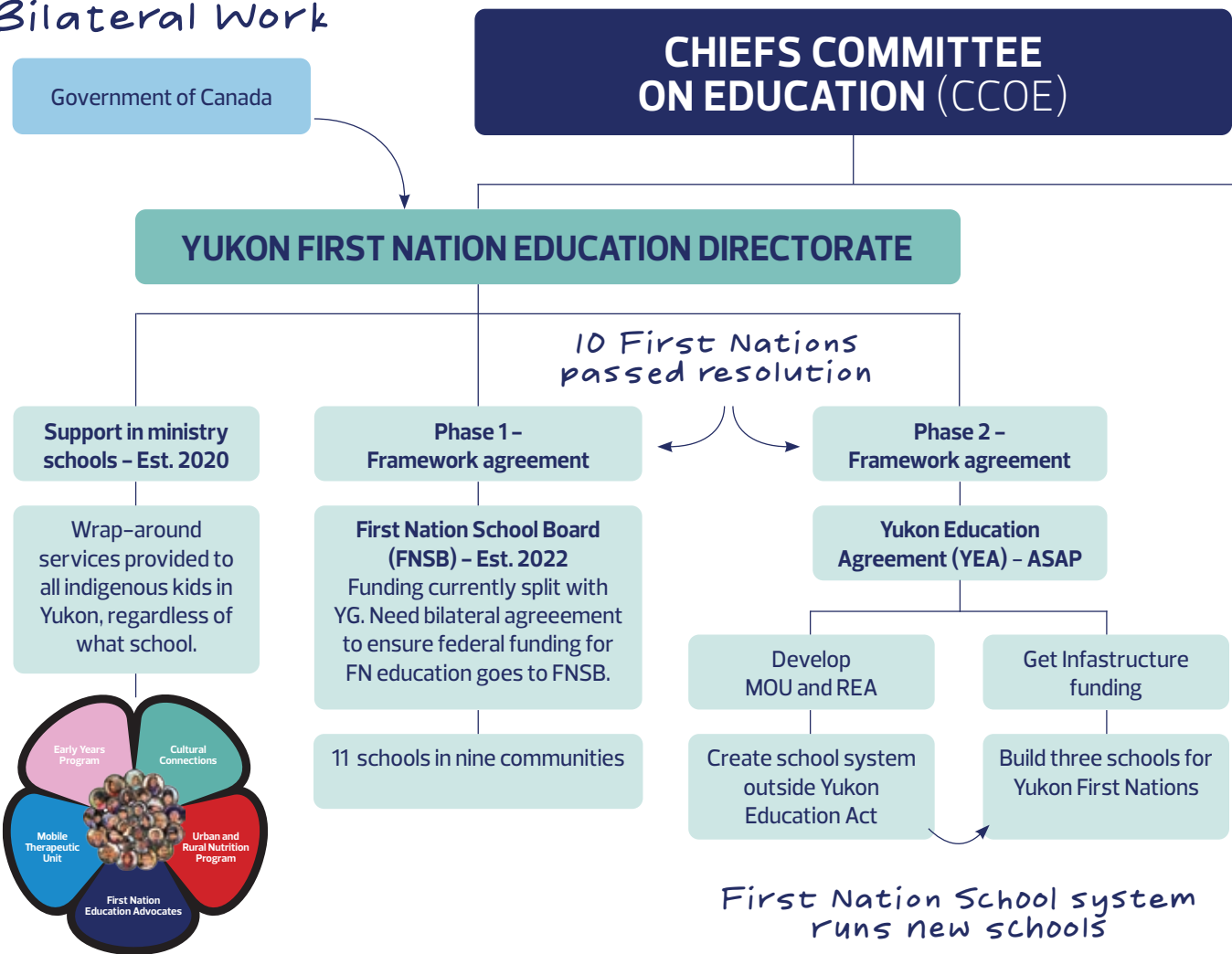


FNEC

"Holding up our dreams"

WORKING WITH THE GOVERNMENTS OF

Bilateral Work



THREE PATHS

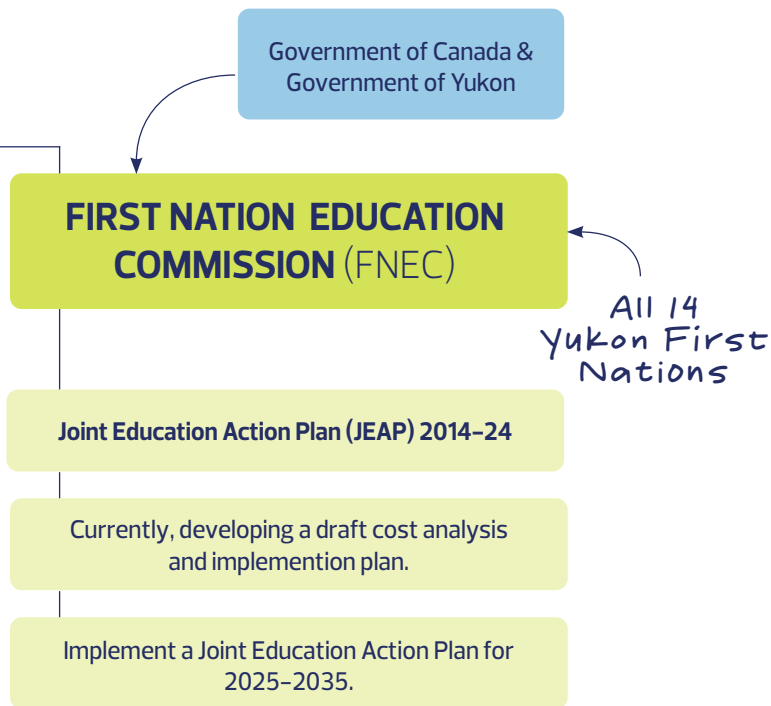
There are three possible paths we can take to regain First Nations control of education in the Yukon. They are not exclusive of one another.

1. Status Quo
 Maintain the current relationship with Yukon government with only elected school councils, guaranteeing Yukon First Nations reps and no real decision-making power. Joint Education Action Plan (JEAP) and FNEC.

2. First Nation School Board Authority
 Would allow full control of school programming, collaborative control of budgeting, increased control of school staffing and specific adaptations for each Yukon First Nation. As part of the Framework Agreement negotiations process, the FNSB could be an interim step or not.

CANADA AND YUKON

Trilateral work



TASKS AND ACTIONS

YFNED is tasked with the responsibility to carry out the daily work of the CCOE in five key areas.

This report is structured around these cornerstones, illuminating in detail how the dedicated YFNED team has risen to our responsibilities.

No matter where we are in regard to the three paths, YFNED will always work to meet these five key tasks.

They are:

- A: Accountability**
- B: Support & Capacity**
- C: Assessment & Research**
- D: Programs & Initiatives**
- E: Framework Negotiations Support**

In this section of the report, we expand in detail on how YFNED has met these key tasks, each broken down into predetermined deliverables as established by the CCOE. These supporting strategies cover the first five years of the organization, from 2021 to 2026.

3. Regional Education Agreement

Full control where all decisions are made by Yukon First Nations, including staffing and budget. This is the final stage in the Framework Agreement process, meaning it could be a trilateral or bilateral agreement.



TASK A: Accountability

Accountability is about YFNED holding all parties involved in the education of Yukon First Nations students accountable.

- A1.** Reporting on the work of YFNED.
- A2.** Holding the Government of Yukon accountable to the 2019 Auditor General's Report and to their responsibility to First Nations students.
- A3.** Working with federal and territorial governments to secure ongoing, sustained funding.
- A4.** Establishing protocols for ongoing engagement/work and communications in a nation-to-nation relationship with territorial and federal governments.
- A5.** Participating in the revision of any department, school or staff planning document, and any school reviews undertaken in response to legislated requirements.
- A6.** Working with the Government of Yukon to:
 - A6.1.** Complete and implement a data sharing agreement for territory-wide data sets and data sets for each First Nation;
 - A6.2.** Assess the extent to which the cultural inclusion standards are in place at each school and their effectiveness in changing attitudes of paternalism, prejudice and addressing racism;
 - A6.3.** Address issues of racism, paternalism and colonialism;
 - A6.4.** Amend policies related to teacher hiring and evaluation;
 - A6.5.** Work on potential policies related to any aspect of First Nations education; and
 - A6.6.** Enhance First Nations languages and/or cultural programs.
- A7.** Supporting the First Nations Education Commission and reviewing, assessing, and determining the viability and effectiveness of the work of the Joint Education Action Plan (JEAP).

ACTIONS IN 2022-23

Holding governments to task is one of the most important roles of YFNED. We have worked hard as an organization to build true partnerships across governments and those we work with. As we develop the next JEAP (2025-2035), meet for FNEC and actively work in schools, we trust the relationships and products developed will lead governments to take responsibility for the work they need to contribute for the future success of First Nations students.





TASK B: Support & Capacity

Support & Capacity is about YFNED providing a strong, foundational omnipresence to unify and strengthen First Nations families, students, educators, governments and education departments.

- B1.** Supporting the attainment of the goals and aspirations of each First Nation and conducting an annual two-day summit/conference.
- B2.** Identifying common priorities and supporting the attainment of the goals and aspirations that are shared across all First Nations.
- B3.** Supporting First Nations parents and communities to advocate for their children with the school and the Department of Education (DOE) to improve student outcomes.
- B4.** Providing advocacy and support for the delivery of programs and provisions of services that meet individual and community needs.
- B5.** Supporting the work of and training needs for Elders in the school, language teachers, administration and teachers.
- B6.** Building understanding at all levels about the education system, including assessment results; appropriate interventions and supports for the various ages and stages in the system; legislative requirements for Individualized Education Plans (IEPs), including setting goals, planning, measuring progress and annual reporting to parents; consequences of course selections and grades at secondary school; and post-secondary options.
- B7.** Supporting JEAP processes and implementation.
- B8.** Supporting the First Nation School Board.
- B9.** Meaningfully engaging youth in education decisions to bring about necessary changes and support.

ACTIONS IN 2022-23

We had another successful conference in March 2023. The impact of that event includes building understanding about the work that is happening and needs to happen, but also to build relationships with our partners.

Work on the next JEAP (2025-2035) has already begun with a focus on not just goals, but measurable outcomes.

We are bringing in the next cohort of Moccasin Trailblazers as the first cohort have moved on trailblazing their own paths in their communities.





TASK C: Assessment & Research

Assessment & Research ensures YFNED positions itself as an authority on reliable and rigorous sources of information, guiding its development of Indigenous educational research and development.

- C1.** Conducting annual surveys orally and in writing with First Nations parents and students, and report findings. This could include circle discussions and begin with attendance.
- C2.** Researching best practices nationally and internationally to support First Nations learning in the early years, for primary, intermediate and secondary students, and share results with government.
- C3.** Researching and developing resources for the First Nation School Board and possible future independent First Nations schools – structurally, financially and legislatively.
- C4.** Providing advocacy and support for the delivery of programs and provisions of services that meet individual and community needs.
- C5.** Working with government and independently to:
 - C5.1.** Research factors in gaps in performance as identified by Auditor General;
 - C5.2.** Evaluate the cultural relevance of assessments currently in place, especially for kindergarten students;
 - C5.3.** Explore the reasons why there continues to be a gap in the education of First Nations students compared to non-First Nations students, including attendance;
 - C5.4.** Work with other agencies, including Government of Yukon's Health and Social Services and First Nation governments' Health & Social Departments, to support students; and
 - C5.5.** Explore the best options to improve outcomes for First Nations students, ways to assess/measure progress and the effectiveness of interventions.

ACTIONS IN 2022-23

As we now establish our programming in schools and the Yukon education system, we are able to better evaluate the effectiveness of our interventions. We also knowledge share with other similar organizations in other areas of Canada to pursue best practices.

This year we implemented the IMPACT data management system for our organization. This allows us to better track the work that we are doing and begin developing our own data reports for our wrap-around services.





TASK D: Programs & Initiatives

Programs & Initiatives is about the on-the-ground work that forms the public face of YFNED in rural and urban Yukon, providing wrap-around services.

- D1.** Developing unique programs and structures to support rural students whether they go to Whitehorse or remain in home communities.
- D2.** Developing and enhancing wrap-around services.

First Nation Education Advocates: after-school, summer, and on-the-land campus programming; tutoring and return-to-school or at-home strategies; Elders, Knowledge Keepers and advocates are recognized in academia; team growth supported by a variety of “team leads”; introduce PD day advocacy in the classroom.

Nutrition: food is widely available to First Nations families and is recognized widely for its role in reconciliation, healing, learning, celebration, security, control of outcomes and cultural reclamation; greater promotion of traditional foods (harvesting and preparation methods); develop more Nutrition programming for kids aged 0-5.

Mobile Therapeutic Unit: Enhance allied health team to provide sufficient staffing to serve all Yukon First Nations; ensure language and culture is incorporated into all initiatives; community capacity is enhanced; Wellness Program reaches more youth with more positive impact.

Early Years: Early Years programs running in most Yukon Communities; Early Years program in Whitehorse expands staff and activities, and incorporates Elders/Knowledge Keepers, language and culture into all initiatives.

- D3.** Working with the Government of Yukon on Yukon-wide education initiatives in the Joint Education Action Plan (JEAP):
 - D.3.1.** Enhance First Nations language;
 - D.3.2.** Enhance literacy and numeracy;
 - D.3.3.** Develop and implement accredited First Nations curricula or Indigenize current curricula;
 - D.3.4.** Ensure culturally-relevant, on-the-land experiential education is available to all students at each grade;
 - D.3.5.** Ensure students who require an assessment receive one, and students in special education are well served; and
 - D.3.6.** Initiate programs and interventions to support early learning, primary, intermediate and secondary students.

ACTIONS IN 2022-23

Our wrap-around services have become even more comprehensive this year as we visited more communities, added more health professionals, served more meals, helped more young families and provide more supports all the way to pursuing post-secondary options.

TASK E: Framework Negotiations Support

Framework Negotiations Support lays out the process, timelines and milestones leading to the negotiation of a Framework Agreement whereby Yukon First Nations assume control over the administration of First Nations school(s).

E1. Phase 1: Yukon First Nations (YFNs) & Yukon government share management, administration and implementation of the FNSB. Actions include:

- E.1.1.** Negotiating school agreement(s) to share management and administration.
- E.1.2.** Establishing the First Nation School Board for specific school(s).
- E.1.3.** Amending the Education Act, if required.
- E.1.4.** Developing timeline/process for the implementation of part 2.
- E.1.5.** Capacity development plan and implementation.
- E.1.6.** Topics for negotiation.

E2. Phase 2: YFNs who wish to assume independent authority of management and administration. Actions include:

- E.2.1.** YFNs enact a law under S.13.2.8 of their Self Government Agreements.
- E.2.2.** YFN law made under S.13.2.8 would displace the Education Act.
- E.2.3.** Negotiate initial funding arrangements. Secure sustainable funding.
- E.2.4.** Negotiate arrangements for YFNs to assume full control and authority of management and administration of school(s).
- E.2.5.** Complete multi-year funding component.

ACTIONS IN 2022-23

YFNED has continued to support FNSB and expanding it to 11 Yukon schools.

We support wherever necessary, the negotiations with Federal government for long-term funding of the organization and the potential to pursue a First Nations school.

OUR WORK

YFNED provides a variety of wrap-around services, funded by Jordan's Principle.

YFNED believes families and communities are the true experts on the well-being of our children, and work to ensure every child's emotional, physical, spiritual and cultural needs are met in a safe and cultural way.

EARLY YEARS PROGRAM

Facilitating early childhood education and maternal-child health programs through a First Nations cultural lens in Whitehorse and several communities.

CULTURAL CONNECTIONS

Supporting cultural programming for all Indigenous youth across the territory.

MOBILE THERAPEUTIC UNIT

Providing Indigenous-led allied health services for all Yukon communities, including cultural mental wellness services, speech language pathology, occupational therapy, education psychology, vision and hearing screening.

URBAN AND RURAL NUTRITION PROGRAM

Providing equitable and healthy food to all Indigenous children aged 0 to 18 through in-school meal services, food hampers, family feasts, and the promotion of traditional practices like seasonal harvesting, preservation and meal preparation.

FIRST NATION EDUCATION ADVOCATES

Building strong, resilient, successful, life-long learners by offering academic and wellness supports, First Nations cultural connections and programming, and land-based learning opportunities.





BY THE NUMBERS:

- 1 DIRECTOR OF INDIGENOUS EDUCATION AND ADVOCACY
- 1 MANAGER
- 15 ADVOCATES
- 14 JUNIOR ADVOCATES
- 8 KNOWLEDGE KEEPERS
- 34 PART-TIME KNOWLEDGE-KEEPERS
- 10 JUNIOR ADVOCATES (AOC)
- 22 MINI-JUNIOR ADVOCATES (AOC)
- 4 TUTORS (MATH/ENGLISH)

EDUCATION ADVOCATES

Our team is made up of First Nation Education Advocates, Elders, Knowledge Keepers, Junior Advocates and specialists. We support individual students and their families. The team works with staff and community to promote an Indigenous, wrap-around, holistic approach to education.

WHAT WE DO:

- Work to increase a sense of belonging, self-respect and pride in heritage for Indigenous students.
- Provide support, guidance, advocacy, and support the delivery of authentic, culturally-inclusive programming in schools and on the land.
- Assist and mentor school staff to fully develop and deliver their own education programs that reflect Yukon First Nation culture and language.
- Promote positive working relationships between students, families and school staff to improve the academic achievement of Indigenous students.
- Connect Indigenous students to the necessary services, supports and specialists, and ensure they receive help, including referrals to the YFNED Mobile Therapeutic Unit.



Year three of the First Nation Education Advocate Program saw us continuing to be guided by our team of dedicated Elders, and using their wisdom to respond to the ever-changing needs of Youth in their schools. Since our inception, we have had two years of learning, two years of Covid restrictions, two years of figuring out how best to serve our Indigenous students in this brand-new role of advocacy. We are finding that cultural programming is a hot commodity, and that teachers are excited to witness the increased engagement and attendance of Indigenous students as they start to see Indigenous staff playing roles that are unconventional in our school system to date. Students are seeing Elders, Junior Advocates, and Senior Education Advocates on a regular basis in their schools.

Students in the schools are regularly accessing our team for supports in tutoring, counselling, sports, career pathways, post-secondary applications, and general advice. The Education Advocate Team has been teaching them cultural activities such as how to play hand-games, how to process fish, bison, and moose, how to plant wild raspberries, and how to use the land to heal and connect with one another. Students are learning how to build community, how strong we are when we work together, and the power of unity over division. Most of all, students are seeing that they have a voice in this big system called formal education, and that they have power and control over their educational pathways.

This year the team staffed a dedicated presence and culture room in FH, PC, and now St. Francis, the three main Whitehorse high schools. As we continue to grow we will be building the same dynamic presence in our elementary schools. We supported 1132 individual students, supported whole schools with 96 cultural programs, and with guidance from the Elders, finished up our new campus, Āmà Kú (Our Mother's Place). This Elder-designed campus is 30 minutes from Whitehorse and will act as a multi-season outdoor learning space for K-12 students, with hunting, fishing, and traditional plant harvest opportunities. The campus has a classroom for formal language instruction, a traditional smoke-house, and wall tents for over-night stays. During our annual education conference, Āmà Kú was the muster point for a successful Indigenous student-exchange, a 4-day bison harvest and language course with participants from Manitoba, BC, and Yukon.



HIGHLIGHTS INCLUDE;

- 37 Youth-led Firewood Deliveries and snow removal to Elders and Indigenous families in need during our winter cold-snap.
- 21 small home repairs for Elders and Indigenous students in need.
- 4 student-supported summer programs:
 - Support at the ILC
 - STEM programs with Yukon University,
 - Indigenous Leadership Outdoor Pursuits Program (hunting, fishing, berry picking, plant harvest, sports, lacrosse, golf, biking, hiking, trail-building, paddling)
 - Carpentry, land-scaping, gardening on land-based campuses

Just some of the programming that Education Advocates have supported or facilitated:

- | | |
|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| • Animal husbandry | • Food Safe |
| • Arctic Inspiration application | • HEED certification |
| • Bear awareness | • Horse packing |
| • Bison harvest | • Mental health workshops |
| • Building bike trails | • Muskrat camp |
| • Celebrations | • Painting and art |
| • Community service | • Physical activity and sports |
| • Cooking and meat preservation | • Trapping, skinning and tanning |
| • Deliveries | • University preparedness |
| • Driving courses | • Wilderness First Aid |
| • Food gathering | |



LAND-BASED CAMPS

Ämà Kú

- Delivering firewood to community members and Elders
- Offered multiple culture camps to school groups for the 2022/2023 school year

Horse Camp – Small day camps with four Advocates and five students total (1 – 2 days per week during school hours). Horse Camp takes place at Heart Bar Ranch with owner/operator Gail Reiderer. Our small camp is designed for our students that have social anxieties and struggle being in a large, busy group. We keep the group small with their advocates joining for support. Our goal is to let the students lead within their comfort level and provide opportunities for them in a holistic way with their horses and horse helpers. Often, their favorite activity is working with the chickens!

Mount Sima Ski School – every Friday

Kelowna Trip (November 20–25) – 2 Elders, Director of Indigenous Education/Advocacy, Manager, 7 Advocates, 4 Junior Advocates

Spring Culture Camp (March 1–20) – 4 YFNED staff, 10 guests, 2 Guides with 3 Juniors to support, 5 Junior Advocates

PROGRAMMING IN SCHOOLS

- FH Collins SEAS Room
- Porter Creek Kenji Room
- Whitehorse Elementary Schools

Advocates, Juniors and Knowledge Keepers supported youth/schools with tutoring, meat cutting/dry meat making, fish filleting/smoking, hide camps, bison hunts, sewing, beading, drum making, hand-games, pom-pom making, story-telling, school feasts and cultural days, trapping workshops, berry picking, medicine workshops/walks, arctic sports, etc.



BY THE NUMBERS:

- 1 TEAM LEAD
- 2.5 OCCUPATIONAL THERAPISTS
- 3 SPEECH AND LANGUAGE PATHOLOGISTS
- 2 COUNSELLORS
- 4 WELLNESS WORKERS
- 2 CONTRACT WORKERS (EDUCATIONAL PSYCHOLOGIST, VISION SCREENING SPECIALIST)
- 1 BEHAVIOURAL CONSULTANT
- 1 PSYCHOMOTOR THERAPIST

MOBILE THERAPEUTIC UNIT

The Mobile Therapeutic Unit (MTU) is a holistic allied health service for Indigenous youth aged 0 to 18 in both rural and urban areas. The MTU is committed to working with families and communities to ensure Indigenous children receive culturally appropriate care that reflects the values and knowledge of Yukon First Nations.

- A Wellness & Engagement Team
- Occupational Therapy
- Speech Language Pathology
- Counselling
- Education Psychology
- Hearing & Vision Screening
- Behavioural Consulting (new in 2022-23)
- Psychomotor Therapy (new in 2022-23)

HIGHLIGHTS:

- Amount of direct services to support the clients in communities
- Amount of community programming that occurred across the Mobile Therapeutic Unit
- Diversity in programming to meet the needs of the community
- The collaboration of the Allied Health and Wellness Team to resource types of programming



WHERE WE WENT

Community	Trips by Wellness Team	Trips by Allied Health (total days in community)	Additional supports
Beaver Creek	4	7 (50 days)	
Carcross	6	13 (14 days)	
Carmacks	2	3 (4 days)	
Dawson City	2	5 (21 days)	43 zoom sessions
Faro	0	6 (14 days)	15 zoom sessions and psychologist referrals
Haines Junction	5	8 (12 days)	
Mayo	5	2 (13 days)	
Old Crow	5	14 (86 days)	
Pelly Crossing	2	8 (9 days)	And psychologist referrals
Ross River	3	20 (168 days)	And psychologist referrals
Teslin	4	14 (18 days)	
Watson Lake	3	12 (101 days)	
Whitehorse	-	83 days	25 behavioral specialist clients and psychologist referrals

Additional supports may be provided when families are in Whitehorse.



hockey mixer SNOWBOARDING VIDEO
MUSIC beading gatherings
CULTURE CAMP making
MURALS THERAPY skidoo maintenance
strengthening ACADEMIC *support*
school WELLNESS resources
vision THEATRE speech-language
connection
LAND BASED cooking MATH
CAMP tutoring
numeracy relationships MOBILE
craft THERAPEUTIC
SKIING UNIT
literacy ENGLISH SUPPORT
bike repair
community *health* ART *drum making*
FILM family GLASS BLOWING
language song writing
SKIMMER BUILDING



NUTRITION

The Urban and Rural Nutrition Program provides equitable and healthy food to all Indigenous children aged 0 to 18 in Yukon.

Urban – All Indigenous students in Whitehorse can access in-school meals. We also coordinate other nutritional supports including family feasts and food hampers.

Rural – All 12 rural First Nation communities run their own nutrition program including breakfast and hot lunch at schools and daycares, as well as opportunities for youth to participate in traditional harvesting practices. YFNED supports the administration and funding proposal process for each of the Yukon First Nations.

URBAN NUTRITION

School Meal Program

YFNED employs a team of 24 cooks and cook helpers that work in eight Whitehorse-based schools. Our Nutrition team provides daily breakfasts, hot lunches and snacks to Indigenous students. The team has integrated into each school community and has developed strong relationships with the Indigenous students we serve. Currently our team is in the following schools:

- Elijah Smith Elementary School
- F.H. Collins Secondary School
- Golden Horn Elementary School
- Hidden Valley Elementary School
- Individual Learning Centre
- Jack Hulland Elementary School
- Porter Creek Secondary School
- Selkirk Elementary School
- St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Secondary School
- Teen Parent Centre

And using our commercial kitchen, "*the Cache*", YFNED provides meals for Indigenous students at the following schools:

- Christ the King Elementary School
- Grey Mountain Primary School
- Takhini Elementary School
- Whitehorse Elementary School
- Youth Achievement Centre



School Snack Service

As of February 2021, classroom teachers in Whitehorse can order a range of healthy snack options for their Indigenous students on a weekly basis at no cost. Funded through Jordan's Principle, the School Snack Service ensures nutritious food is available to Indigenous learners – which is an essential component of YFNED's wrap-around service model.

Snack orders are delivered on a weekly basis by YFNED's expediter.

Family Feasts

YFNED was pleased to host eight family feasts during the 2022–2023 fiscal year. Family feasts offer a chance for families with Indigenous children under the age of 19 to gather together and enjoy a special meal. Some of our favourite meals included bison burgers, roast elk, salmon and rice pilaf, BBQ pork ribs and a full turkey dinner. The feasts were provided by the YFNED Nutrition team as well as local caterers including The Gravy Train, Shadhala Food Services, Backwoods Catering and Kit's Kitchen. In total over 600 Indigenous kids came and joined our feasts.

Grocery Bag Program

YFNED coordinated a small-scale grocery bag program that offered evening meal support to Indigenous families working with our First Nation Education Advocates and Early Years Visitor teams. A bi-weekly grocery bag was delivered to the family's home and included groceries for one to two meals, as well as a recipe that the family can follow along and cook together. Over 1940 grocery hampers were delivered throughout the year, providing service to 253 Indigenous children. This program was discontinued for the 2023–2024 year.



NORTHERN FOOD INNOVATION CHALLENGE

YFNED was a proud recipient, along with eight other projects for Phase 1 of CanNor's Northern Food Innovation Challenge for our Centralized Traditional and Local Processing Kitchen. YFNED worked with First Nations Engineering Services Ltd, Northern Front Studio and Smart Design Group to complete a feasibility study and conceptual design for a centralized facility in Whitehorse. The facility would have the ability to produce over 2000 meals a day for Indigenous students. It would have dry storage, cold storage, community freezers and dedicated spaces for processing wild game in an urban setting.

SPECIAL EVENTS

Annual Inter-School Arctic Sport Competition, April 2022

- YFNED Nutrition team supported daily meals for the 80 Indigenous students who participated in the Yukon Aboriginal Sports Circle's 10th Annual Inter-School Arctic Sports Competition from April 6 to 8, 2022.

Teddy Bear Picnic in partnership with CYFN, May 2022

- On May 10, YFNED and CYFN hosted a Teddy Bear Picnic at the Kwanlin Dun Cultural Centre. Over 120 people joined us to "Bear Witness" to Jordan's Principle and to honour the legacy of Jordan River Anderson.

Yukon First Nation Graduation, June 2022

- YFNED Nutrition team provided the feast for the 2022 First Nations Graduation ceremony of Indigenous graduates in June 2022

CYFN Centre Ice Hockey Camp, July 2022

- YFNED Nutrition team supported daily meals for over 100 Indigenous youth enrolled in the CYFN Centre Ice Hockey Camp from July 26 to 29, 2022



RURAL NUTRITION

The Rural Nutrition Program is funded by Jordan's Principle and provides equitable and healthy food to all Indigenous children aged 0–18 in 12 rural First Nations communities. Jordan's Principle funding for the Rural Nutrition Program flows directly to each rural Yukon First Nation government. YFNED supports the administration and funding proposal process for each Nation. All 12 rural First Nation communities now provide daily breakfasts and lunches at all schools and daycares, regular food hampers as well as opportunities for youth to participate in traditional harvesting practices.

Community Travel

YFNED's Rural Nutrition Coordinators have been busy travelling throughout the Yukon, visiting many communities and rural nutrition programs. In 2022–2023, the Rural Nutrition team visited:

- Beaver Creek
- Carcross
- Dawson City
- Haines Junction
- Mayo
- Old Crow
- Ross River
- Teslin
- Watson Lake

Bi-Annual Rural Nutrition Roundtables

In addition to community travel, YFNED's Rural Nutrition Coordinators have hosted two rural nutrition roundtables. Hosted in October 2022 and May 2023, the rural nutrition roundtables welcomed our community partners to Whitehorse for a day of discussion and reflection on the rural nutrition programs.

Outcomes of the rural nutrition roundtables included:

- Supporting networking, collaboration and interaction between Yukon First Nation governments and YFNED
- Identifying successes, struggles and best practices associated with Rural Nutrition Programs
- Identifying relevant actions, projects and events to further support Rural Nutrition Programs



BY THE NUMBERS:

1597

MEALS PER DAY

- 15** SCHOOLS SERVED (INCLUDING TEEN PARENT CENTRE & YOUTH ACHIEVEMENT CENTRE)
- 711** RURAL WINTER BREAK HAMPERS
- 939** URBAN WINTER BREAK HAMPERS
- 34** DAYS OF TRAINING PROVIDED TO RURAL AND URBAN COOKS
- 8** FAMILY FEASTS

JOINT INITIATIVES

Training and professional development

In August 2022, YFNED hosted three days of professional development for urban and rural cooks. This three-day session provided hands-on cooking instruction, land-based activities and discussions on cooking for children. For the first time, cooks from the various rural nutrition programs and the urban nutrition program had the opportunity to gather and learn together.

Sessions included:

- **Fusion Cooking:** Chef Cat from Well Bread Culinary Centre hosted a fun cooking class that focused on using Indigenous ingredients in internationally inspired dishes.
- **Cultural Wellness & Self Care:** Knowledge Keeper, Viola Papequash, led the cooks through a self-care workshop with the intention of teaching positivity in the workplace. Viola taught about the four aspects of wellness and self-care, which revolve around the spiritual, emotional, mental and physical realms.
- **Working in a School Environment:** Working in a school environment can be different and brings its own number of opportunities and challenges. This workshop block featured a number of smaller sessions that focused on nutrition for children, program planning and adapting to working in a school setting.
- **Foraging with Blake and Casidy:** YFNED team members, Blake Lepine and Casidy Lawrence, led the group on a walk on the Wolf Creek Trail through the traditional territories of the Kwanlin Dun First Nation and the Ta'an Kwäch'än Council. They shared their knowledge of edible plants, including how to recognize them and their traditional uses.



YFNED provided a number of training opportunities to both urban and rural cooks throughout the 2022–2023 year. Trainings included:

- First Aid
- Food Safe Level 1 and 2
- Knife Skills with Well Bread Culinary Centre
- Sauce Making with Well Bread Culinary Centre
- Building Better Teams
- Communication Strategies
- Lateral Kindness

Winter break hampers

For the third year in a row, YFNED organized Winter Break Hampers for families with Indigenous children between the ages of 0–18 years of age.

The food hampers included ingredients for a turkey dinner, pancake breakfast, spaghetti, gingerbread houses and some holiday staples. This year, YFNED was happy to create a mini cookbook to go alongside the hampers. The cookbook included some tips and tricks using the hamper ingredients as well as opportunities for children to colour and contribute their own recipes.

Funded by Jordan's Principle, YFNED gifted food hampers to Whitehorse-based families and Yukon First Nation governments gifted hampers to rural families through their rural nutrition programs.

In total 1650 hampers were distributed across the territory during the month of December, with over 900 hampers being distributed in Whitehorse.



In 2023–24, Early Years is moving from its downtown Whitehorse location to the Takhini neighbourhood. The location on Range Road is still central, but now has more parking, a bigger and brighter space, and is on the ground floor level. The space has been outfitted specifically for the needs of Early Years staff and family.

EARLY YEARS

YFNED has partnered with the Martin Family Initiative (MFI) to provide an Early Years program. A team of Early Years Visitors provide weekly home visits to support and honour new parents, recognizing them as their children's first teachers.

They also organize group activities such as drop-ins, sewing circles, and workshops. Early Years Visitors walk alongside new parents from pregnancy until their child enters school.

The program has Visitors in multiple Yukon communities.

In 2022–23, we started our "Get Ready for Preschool" program. We have had two cohorts in Whitehorse and one in Old Crow. The Toddler Program supports children and their parents/caregivers in the transition from in-home learning to group-based or center-based learning.





BY THE NUMBERS:

WE SUPPORT:

- 113** FAMILIES
- 98** CHILDREN + **24** PRENATAL
- 70** FAMILIES IN WHITEHORSE
- 23** IN OLD CROW
- 10** IN PELLY CROSSING
- 8** IN ROSS RIVER
- 2** IN MAYO
- 4** FAMILIES HAVE COMPLETED THE PROGRAM.

WE AVERAGE APPROXIMATELY:

- 26** FAMILY VISITS PER MONTH AND
- 118** CONNECTIONS WITH FAMILIES, (PHONE CALLS, RIDES, ETC).

ACTIVITIES WE SUPPORT:

- GROUP GATHERINGS
 - SEWING CIRCLES
 - TRAINING
 - VEST-MAKING
 - DRUM-MAKING
 - DROP-IN PROGRAMMING
- IN WHITEHORSE, OLD CROW, PELLY CROSSING, MAYO, ROSS RIVER AND TESLIN.



EDUCATION ANALYSTS

The YFNED Education Analyst team provides a breadth of research-driven advice on education related issues, with a dynamic, creative focus on best practices in Indigenous teaching and learning. They engage across various ages, groups, communities, First Nations and other organizations to evaluate and formulate recommendations based on a deep understanding of Yukon First Nation history, culture, language, community and family.

HIGHLIGHTS OF 2022-23

Establishing and leading a new network to enhance pathways into Trades

- In response to evidence showing a shortage of qualified trades people across the Yukon, hand-in-hand with trades being invisible as a viable career path to many Indigenous youth, and a lack of opportunities within the K-12 school system for Indigenous students to experience trades, YFNED hosted a 'Journey into Trades - Launch Luncheon', and a follow-up workshop to establish a trades network. The network will establish structured connections between industry, schools and students to introduce students to career opportunities they may not have considered, and to support them through their journeys as they explore the world of trades.

Expanding the Numeracy project to address deficits and develop new skills in Indigenous students' math skills

- The Numeracy project, which was set up by the Analyst team to address math skills deficits experienced by many Yukon First Nation students, expanded its support team by bringing three Math Strategists on board which allowed them to connect with more Yukon students and staff than the year before. The team were able to provide coaching for teachers wanting to use math practices that are beneficial to Indigenous students, and produced First Nation-focused teaching resources. They also led multiple academic and hands-on Math Camps throughout the year, and even found time to connect directly with students with some tutoring and assessment.



Enhancing the Graduation Planner tool

- A second edition of the YFN Graduation Planner was published for the start of the 2022–23 school year, and work began to produce a digital app that will be released in Fall 2023.

Supporting long-awaited Indigenous-focused learning models in the school system

- Throughout 2022–23, YFNED amped up its support for the Dashāw K'e (Elders' Way) program, formerly the Indigenous Academy, at F.H. Collins Secondary School. The Analyst and Advocate teams worked closely with school administration to ensure the program grew successfully into its second successive school year, continuing as a Grade Ten program but built on an all-day one semester structure, as opposed to the half-day all-year approach of its first iteration. The new approach was guided by a well-planned and articulated mapping of integrated curricular goals and activities, and fully supported by YFNED Advocates who organized and led many culturally-focussed learning activities.

Renewing the Joint Education Action Plan (JEAP)

- In 2014, a significant ten-year agreement was reached between the 14 Yukon First Nations, the Yukon and Federal governments on a plan to address the key priorities for improving the learning outcomes of YFN students in K–12 schools. Unfortunately, few of the plan's stated goals were reached due to multiple factors that could have been avoided. The Analyst team began the task of renewing the JEAP, placing a heavy emphasis on defining structures and resources to be in place for the next ten years that ensure the 2024–2035 version of the plan is a true success, and that Indigenous students will no longer be disadvantaged within the territorial education system. The renewed JEAP will be finalized in 2023–24.

Other types of programming provided

- Creating and leading conferences and workshops for education stakeholders
- Exploring new approaches to assessment for early years children
- Building a K–12 Yukon First Nations Language framework and Action Plan
- Developing post-secondary navigation supports
- Representing YFNED on multi-agency committees
- Supporting the data analysis of the How Are We Doing reports and data working group meetings
- Providing nutrition programming, tutoring and support for cultural activities for students throughout the summer
- Supporting the Kenji Gathering Space
- Developing new curriculum for K–12 schools to implement that aligns with YFN priorities
- Supporting students in transition to Post-Secondary Education
- Providing consultative support for the First Nation School Board
- Researching and evaluating new resources that are culturally relevant and modern, to enhance student learning outcomes in literacy, numeracy and applied skills



HUMAN RESOURCES

HIGHLIGHTS

- Negotiated an increase to paramedical coverage for employee benefits program.
- Facilitated the delivery of a number of RRSP and financial advisement workshops for all staff.
- Supported two First Nation governments and two other Indigenous organizations with input to recruitment initiatives.
- Provided support to the First Nation School Board Interim Governance Committee and the First Nation School Board Interim Executive Director with policy input and development, recruitment support for positions to the board and other human resources, benefit and RRSP share program and implementation.
- Participated in the Warriors program speed interviews, resulting in four job offers being extended to youth, and two youth successfully being hired in Mayo for AOC summer employment.
- Continued work on an outdoor risk management system and safe work standards.
- Continued work on the development of a formal classification and job evaluation system that is culturally relevant and reflective of traditional knowledge.
- In partnership with the Finance Department, secured a new finance & HR database that will go live in the fall of 2023; working with contractors to develop the system to meet YFNED recruitment, payroll and other internal needs related to employee recruitment, retention and engagement.
- Updated the Employee Manual as required due to legislative changes.



NEW EMPLOYEES

Hiring and onboarding of 37 permanent/term employees between April 1, 2022 and March 31, 2023:

- Hiring of an educational psychologist, behavior consultants, psychomotor therapist and speech language pathologists to MTU
- Cooks and cook helpers for both urban and rural nutrition programs
- Recruitment initiatives for early year program expansion in urban and rural Yukon
- Recruitment of additional First Nation education advocates
- Additional human resources support
- Two senior leadership positions; a co-director of communications and director, Indigenous education & advocacy

COMPETITIONS

Total # of competitions: 30

Successful: 22

Cancelled: 2

Resulting in # people hired: 24
(15 self-identified or 62.5%)

STAFF

% Indigenous

60% of our staff self-identify as Indigenous

88% of our AOC youth self-identify as Indigenous

Education level

- 7 Other education (life and other experience – did not complete high school)
- 13 High school graduates
- 16 Have completed high school and have industry and/or accredited post-secondary coursework
- 5 Have foreign credentials which may be equivalent to Post Secondary Diplomas/Degrees
- 8 Earned Trades Certificates, Diplomas or Journey Person/Red Seal Certification status
- 19 Earned Post-Secondary Certificates/Diplomas
- 2 Have Bachelor's Degree in progress
- 16 Earned Bachelor's Degrees, or Dual Degrees (two Bachelors)
- 1 Bachelor + Red Seal
- 3 Have Masters Degrees in Progress
- 18 Earned Master's Degrees

NOTE - Education level above does not include our youth staff



PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT PROVIDED

- History of Education in Yukon for Yukon First Nations – IRP Consulting
- Contemporary Education in Yukon – Yukon First Nation – IRP Consulting
- 21 Things You May Not Know about the Indian Act – Indigenous Corporate Training Inc.
- Loss and Grief in the Workplace – Hospice Yukon & Yukon University
- Presenting with Confidence – Yukon University
- Fearless Feedback – Yukon University
- Writing for the Professional – Yukon University
- Coaching Inside your Organization – Yukon University
- Recruitment & Retention – Indigenous Corporate Training Inc.
- Food Safe Level 1
- Food Safe Level 2
- Lateral Kindness Level 1 – Social Innovation Consulting (SIC)
- Wilderness First Aid Responder
- Standard First Aid & CPR
- Presenting with Confidence
- Naloxone Training
- Parent-Child Mother Goose
- Swift and/or flat water paddling
- Bear Awareness
- Fire Arms Certification
- Yukon First Nations 101
- WHMIS
- Transportation of Dangerous Goods certifications
- MS Excel – Yukon University & self guided study
- Financial Planning/retirement workshops
- Creating personal wealth workshops
- Learning without tears
- Innovation for First Nations Education Reconciliation – First Nation Education Administrators Association
- Knife Skills – Well Bread Culinary
- Sauce Making – Well Bread Culinary
- Creating and Maintaining Group Guidelines for Productive Meetings – SIC
- Trauma-informed practices and vicarious trauma



JORDAN'S PRINCIPLE SERVICE COORDINATION

In addition to receiving support from Jordan's Principle for our wrap-around services, YFNED is a Jordan's Principle service coordinator. The Project Manager of First Nation Initiatives coordinates Jordan's Principle requests, verifies the achievement of various project objectives, contributes to reporting, ensures that funding requirements are met and makes recommendations for the development of future projects. To date, YFNED has facilitated more than 75 individual requests for First Nations children in Yukon. In addition to individual requests, the Project Manager of First Nation Initiatives is responsible for requesting, monitoring and reporting on YFNED's universal programs and wrap-around services. This position is critical to the success of these programs and the delivery of these services.

INDIVIDUAL REQUESTS: **45**

EQUIPMENT: **19**

SERVICES: **26**

Equipment requests include laptops, sensory supports, reading resources and educational tools.

Services requests include counselling, occupational therapy, direct literacy intervention and psychoeducational assessments.

INCREASE IN FOLLOWERS FROM 2021-22 (CURRENT NUMBER)



TIKTOK

@yfned

+2342 FOLLOWERS (2567)

OVER A MILLION VIEWS = YFN GRAD



FACEBOOK

@YukonFirstNationEducationDirectorate

+520 FOLLOWERS (2015)

TOP FOLLOWER CITIES ON FACEBOOK:

WHITEHORSE 61%

DAWSON 2.6%

HAINES JUNCTION 2.3%

WATSON LAKE 2.1%

CARCROSS 1%

INUVIK, NWT 1%

PELLY CROSSING 1%

ROSS RIVER 1%

TESLIN 1%



INSTAGRAM

@yfned_media

+370 FOLLOWERS (825)

POSTS IN 2022-23: 156

(INCREASE 975% YEAR OVER YEAR)

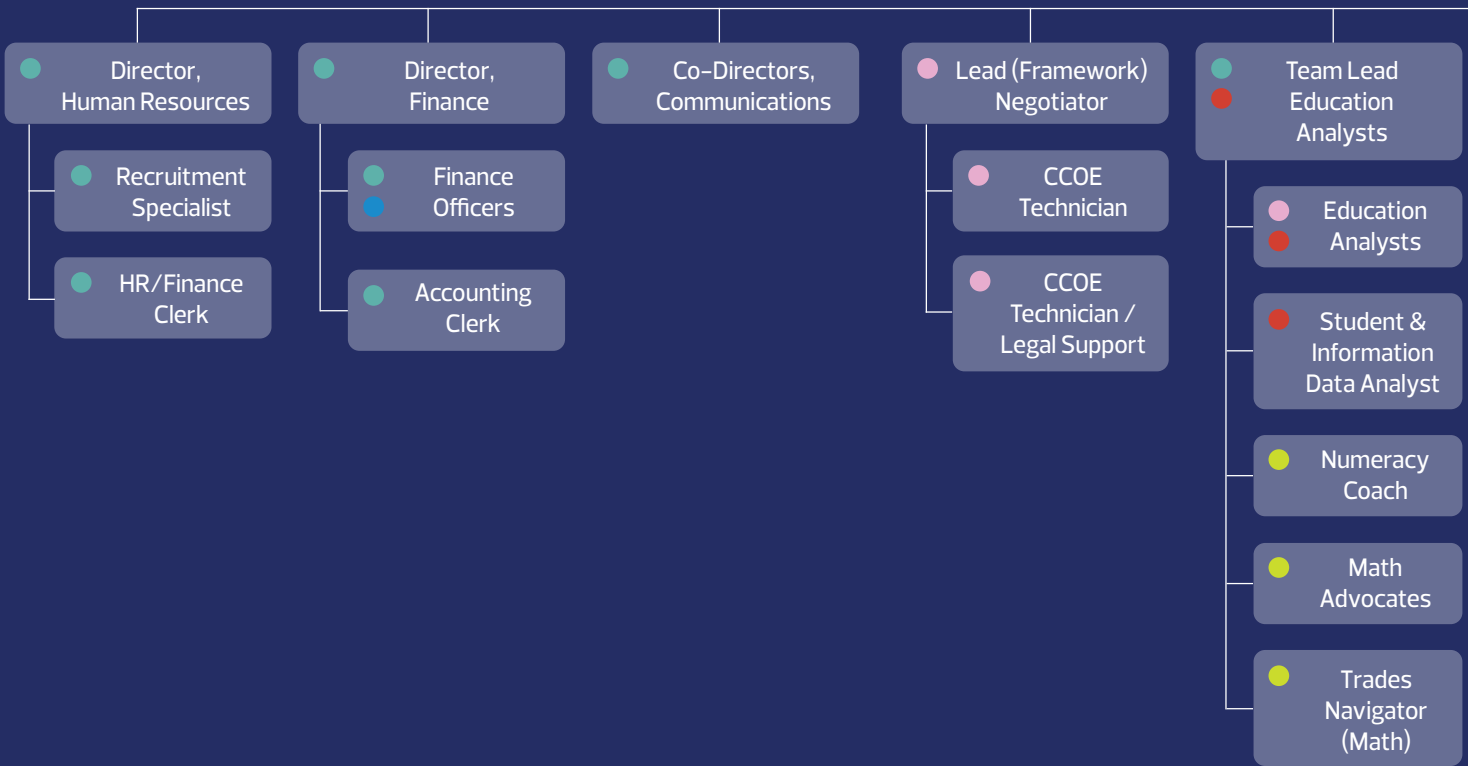


TWITTER

@yfned

+86 FOLLOWERS (NEW)

YUKON FIRST NATION EDUCATION DIRECTORATE ORGANIZATIONAL CHART



POSITION FUNDING SOURCE:

- EPP – Partnerships & Structural Readiness (ISC)
- EPP – Regional Education Agreement (ISC)
- Research & Innovation (ISC)
- Post-Secondary Program
- Jordan's Principle (ISC)
- Education Initiatives (GY)
- FNIYES (ISC)

EPP = Education Partnerships Program

ISC = Indigenous Services Canada

GY = Government of Yukon

CCOE / Board of Directors

Executive Director

Executive Assistant

Administrative Assistant / Receptionist

YFNED is comprised of seven distinct yet interconnecting departments.

- Human Resources
- Finance
- Communications
- Research and Analysis
- First Nations Education
- First Nation Education Advocates
- Framework Agreement Negotiation

Manager, Nutrition & First Nation Initiatives

Administrative Assistant

Expediter

Rural Nutrition Coordinators

Urban Nutrition Coordinator

Urban Cooks & Cooks Helpers

Program Manager, Early Years Initiative

Administrative Assistant

Program Assistant

Intake Coordinator / Early Years Visitor

Cultural Coordinator / Early Years Visitor

Rural Coordinator Early Years

Early Years Visitor Trainers

Urban Early Years Visitors

Rural Early Years Visitors

Program Assistant

Director, Indigenous Education & Advocacy

Manager, First Nation Education Advocates

Administrative Assistant

First Nation Education Advocates

Junior Advocates

Knowledge Keepers

Manager, Mobile Therapeutic & Allied Health Unit

Administrative Assistant

Engagement & Connections Worker

Clinical Counsellor

Behaviour Consultants

Educational Psychologist

Speech & Language Pathologists

Occupational Therapists

Psychomotor Therapist

Vision Specialist

Community Therapy Assistants

Team Lead, Wellness

First Nation Wellness Engagement Workers

Junior Wellness Support Workers



SUPPORT FOR THE FIRST NATION SCHOOL BOARD

When the First Nation School Board was established in February 2022, the Chiefs Committee on Education tasked YFNED with establishing the First Nation School Board and fully supporting the growth of the organization towards independence. In spring 2022, YFNED worked with Government of Yukon to establish interim funding to hire an Interim Executive Director, Melissa Flynn. With the limited funding, many YFNED senior management personnel were required to fulfill key HR, Finance and Communications duties and responsibilities for the school board. FNSB offices were housed within YFNED's headquarters. They also appointed an Interim Governance Committee to assume the work and responsibility of establishing the school board in preparation of the new school year and to operate for the eight months until the trustee election in November 2022.

YFNED also supported the First Nation School Board by ensuring that many YFNED initiatives and programs support FNSB schools. For example, the Math Advocates primarily conducted their work at FNSB schools due to the level of support these schools offered. Similarly, the Education Analysts piloted many of their initiatives within FNSB schools.

In Spring 2023, the FNSB negotiated a full funding agreement with the Government of Yukon and is actively hiring a full team – and moving into their own office space. YFNED looks forward to FNSB's complete independence from YFNED and a future of strong partnership and mutual support between organizations.



Alistair Maitland



Alistair Maitland

Eight school communities voted “yes” in a territory wide referendum to have their community’s public school to join the new First Nation School Board for the 2022–23 school year.

- Chief Zzeh Gittlit School, Old Crow, Vuntut Gwitchin First Nation
- Johnson Elementary School & Watson Lake Secondary School, Watson Lake, Liard First Nation
- Ross River School, Ross River, Ross River Dena Council
- St. Elias Community School, Haines Junction, Champagne and Aishihik First Nations
- Nelna Bessie John School, Beaver Creek, White River First Nation
- Grey Mountain Primary School, Whitehorse, Ta'an Kwäch'än Council and Kwanlin Dün First Nation
- Takhini Elementary School, Whitehorse, Ta'an Kwäch'än Council and Kwanlin Dün First Nation

A second referendum in March 2023 resulted in 3 new schools joining the FNSB for the 2023–24 school year:

- Eliza Van Bibber School, Pelly Crossing, Selkirk First Nation (starting Aug 2023/24)
- Ghùch Tlà Community School, Carcross, Carcross/Tagish First Nation (starting Aug 2023/24)
- Kluane Lake School, Destruction Bay, Burwash Landing, Kluane First Nation (starting Aug 2023/24)



Brooke Amy Creative

2023 FIRST NATION EDUCATION CONFERENCE

Our fourth annual First Nation Education Conference focused on language and culture and the intersection of both within education. We welcomed guests and speakers from across the country, selling out tickets well in advance – but with many people also attending virtually as well.

The two-day event had an Evening Gala on Wednesday, which included a First Nations Grad fashion show for those who missed out on it due to Covid. Elders and youth participated in walking the stage. In addition to a delicious meal, we were entertained by Conway Kootenay and Notorious Cree.

FEATURED GUESTS

Dr. Alex Wilson – An acclaimed educator, scholar, and researcher whose commitment to building and sharing knowledge about land-based learning and two spirit identity, history and teachings has influenced educational policy at regional, national, and international levels. Wilson is from and lives in the Opaskwayak Cree Nation. The first Canadian First Nations woman to receive a doctorate from Harvard, her experience as a teaching fellow in Harvard's first interdisciplinary course on First Peoples and governance led to the formation of two courses that now serve as a foundation for training curriculum in communities throughout Canada and the United States.

Notorious Cree (James Jones) – Nehiyaw from Tall Cree First Nation. Known as Notorious Cree across Instagram and TikTok, has an engaging community of over 5M+ people globally. Using his voice to educate and spread awareness on the issues impacting Indigenous communities across the globe. As a traditional hoop and powwow dancer, performance artist, youth workshop facilitator and public speaker James advocates to inspire future generations by reclaiming his culture and encouraging others to do the same.

Conway Kootenay – Comedian, MC, Actor, Stunt Man and Champion Chicken Dancer. AKA Smudge Pan, Conway has garnered National Attention through his online sketch comedy series. With millions of views and thousands of followers Conway is quickly becoming one of the Nations most talked about Native Comedians, some might say he is "real DEADLY".

REPORT FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE

The purpose of the financial note within the annual report is to provide data and analysis regarding YFNED's operations financial performance. This financial note is dedicated to indigenous students of the Yukon.

On behalf of the Finance department within YFNED, I would like to thank our Elders, Knowledge Keepers, Chief Committee on Education, First Nation School Board, YFNED staff and our Funders – without each of you, we would not be experiencing the successes in unifying education in Yukon for the benefit of all students.

2022/23 was an exciting year with the formation of the First Nation School Board. YFNED finance department played a critical role in securing funding for the development of FNSB Governance documents and

the development of a per student funding formula. The finance department continued to offer support to our 12 Wrap Around Service programs funded by Jordan's Principal, Education programs funded by Indigenous Service Canada, GY Education Initiatives work. We thank our partners: CYFN, FNEC and YLNC, for their continued support and contribution towards EPP Partnership program, Education Initiatives (JEAP) and Research & Innovation projects. We added one additional accounts payable staff to the finance team. I am very proud of the work we have accomplished within our finance department. The finance team continues to engage with staff, local vendors and funders on a daily basis. I have seen growth and development in each finance team member! Thank you for your hard work which supports the efforts made by our organization to ensure the prosperity of Indigenous youth in Yukon.

2020/21 PROGRAMS

Jordan's Principal Universal Programs
 Early Years Program
 Education Advocates
 Mobile Therapeutic Unit
 Nutrition Programs (Urban and Rural)

Education Partnership Program
 Structural Readiness
 Partnership Program (PP)

Regional Education Agreement

Research and Innovation Funding

Yukon Government (GY) – Education Initiatives

2021/22 PROGRAMS

Jordan's Principal Universal Programs
 Early Years Program
 Education Advocates
 Mobile Therapeutic Unit
 Nutrition Programs (Urban and Rural)
NEW * Numeracy Camps
NEW * Cultural Wellness/Activities

Education Partnership Program
 Structural Readiness
 Partnership Program (PP)
NEW * PP: Language Initiative

Regional Education Agreement

Research and Innovation Funding

Yukon Government (GY) – Education Initiatives
NEW * Skills Link – Student Funding
NEW * CanNor – Phase II, Feasibility Study
NEW * P&ID Funding: Risk Mgmt System (Professional & Institution Dev. Program)
NEW * PP: P&ID Funding: FN School Board Governance Docs

2022/23 was year three of operations for YFNED. In year one, YFNED administered 6 Jordan's Principal Universal programs and 6 Education programs. In our second year (2021/22) we administered 7 Jordan's Principal Universal programs, 7 Education programs, 1 feasibility study for an infrastructure project and 2 governance/ planning projects. The summary of our programs we ran in 2022/23 can be found below. The finance department works closely with the departments within YFNED to ensure the spending within each program is in line with the obligations and the spirit of the funding agreements.

We are in talks with our partners to secure multi-year core funding for YFNED. We witness the positive impacts of the work YFNED is doing everyday. Many of the students we have had the privilege to work with, show gratitude and enthusiasm towards their futures. Again,

as I stated last fiscal year, It is critical we have zero interruption to the essential work we are doing for indigenous students in Yukon. Continuity in our efforts will have a direct effect on the time it takes to narrow the achievement gap and to increase graduation and personal success rates for our students.

YFNED funds are accounted for using the accrual basis of accounting. For fiscal year ending March 2023, funding and other revenues total: \$17,982,639.46 and expenditures were \$17,276,308.38. YFNED has completed an audit of its 2022/23 financials. We continue to meet our responsibilities for sound financial management.

2022/23 PROGRAMS

Jordan's Principal Universal Programs
Offering 12 Wrap Around Service programs

Education Partnership Program
 Structural Readiness
 Partnership Program (PP) – 2 ongoing projects:
 1. JEAP 2025–2035 implementation planning & cost analysis work
 2. Language Initiative – with CYFN and YNLC

Regional Education Agreement

Research and Innovation Funding (R&I)
Expenditures for the R&I program are approved by FNEC

CanNor – Phase 2 funding secured

GY – Education Initiatives Funding (735K)
 (300k for Meetings/Travel for commission members plus 435k: expenditures are directed by FNEC = \$735k)

Successfully completed:
 Skill Link student funding
 P&ID – 2 projects
 CanNor – Phase 1 Feasibility Study

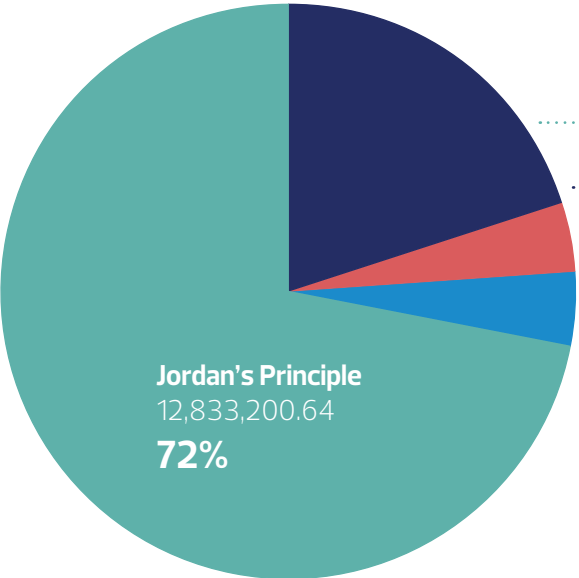
Revenue	Amount	Percentage of Total	Increase (Decrease) from 2022	Percent Increase (Decrease)
Jordan's Principal (ISC)	\$12,833,200.64	71.38%	\$2,594,770.64	25.34%
Education Programs (ISC)	\$3,632,211.68	20.23%	\$1,047,961.68	40.6%
Post-Secondary Engagement	\$0.00	0%	0	0%
Education Initiatives (GY)	\$735,000.00	4.02%	0	0%
Other Contributions/Income	\$782,227.14	4.37%	\$525,426.14	304%
Totals	\$17,982,639.46	100%		

The following schedule presents a summary of expenditures for the fiscal year ended March 31, 2023.

Expenditures	Amount	Percentage of Total	Increase (Decrease) from 2022	Percent Increase (Decrease)
Program Expenses	\$14,862,892.68	86.03%	\$3,818,970.18	0.34%
Administration/Management	\$1,429,129.96	8.27%	\$108,777.96	0.08%
Operations Costs	\$984,285.74	5.70%	\$243,301.24	32.8%
Totals	\$17,276,308.38	100%		

Excess of revenue over expenses: \$706,331.08

SOURCE OF INCOME

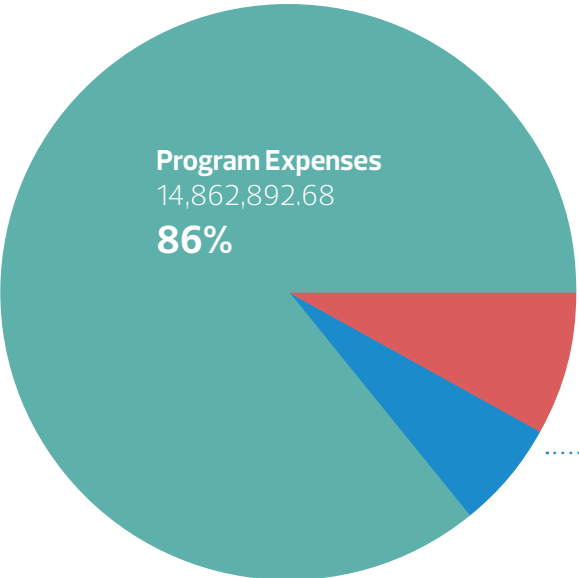


Revenue

- Jordan's Principle · 12,833,200.64 · 72%
- Education Programs (ISC) · 3,632,211.68 · 20%
- Education Initiatives (GY) · 735,000.00 · 4%
- Other Income · 782,227.14 · 4%

TOTAL: **17,982,639.46**

HOW MONEY WAS SPENT



Spending Allocation

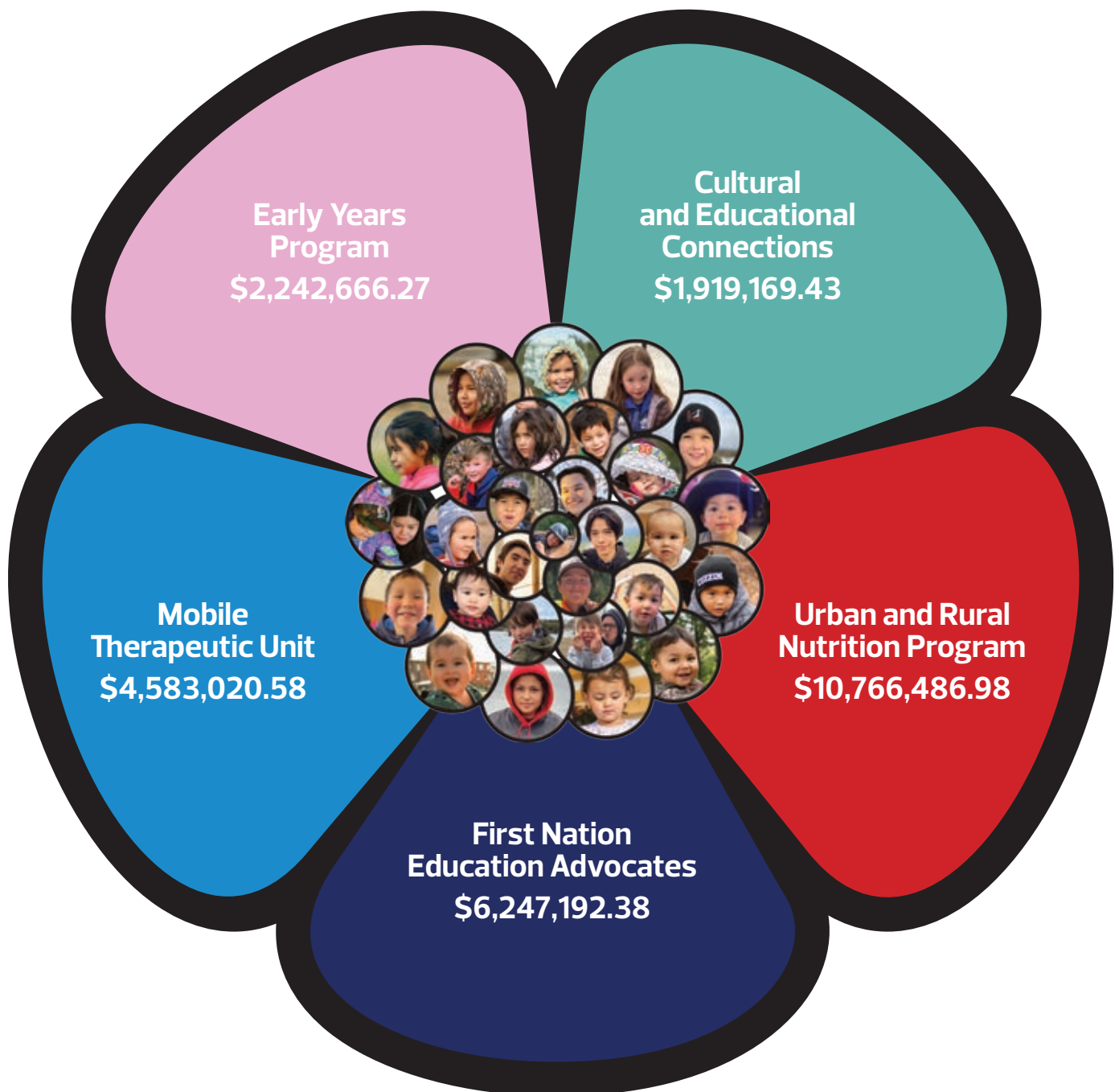
- Program Expenses · 14,862,892.68 · 86%
- Administration/Management · 1,429,129.96 · 8%
- Operations Costs · 984,285.74 · 6%

TOTAL: **17,276,308.38**

JORDAN'S PRINCIPLE: A SACRED RESPONSIBILITY

YFNED Wrap-Around Prevention Services

TOTAL DIRECT PROGRAM SPENDING OVER THREE FISCAL YEARS







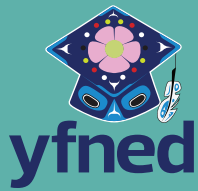


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