

Inspiring dreams. Revealing passion. Changing lives.



STRATEGIC PLAN 2016-2021



Carcross | Carmacks | Dawson City | Faro | Haines Junction | Mayo | Old Crow
Pelly Crossing | Ross River | Teslin | Watson Lake | Whitehorse

MISSION

Yukon College is a leader in education, rooted in our diverse cultures and northern environment, where everyone is inspired to dream, learn and achieve.

VISION

Grounded in northern expertise and strong partnerships, we will build a healthy and prosperous north through unique, relevant and inclusive education and research.



YUKON COLLEGE INSTITUTIONAL VALUES

At Yukon College, we are shaped by our shared values and northern identity. We commit to being a welcoming, collegial and innovative learning community that is dedicated to promoting lifelong learning. We benefit Yukon, the North, Canada, and the world by creating, preserving and communicating knowledge through our teaching, research and scholarship.

NORTHERN IDENTITY

Our programming and research are rooted in our northern identity. We are responsive to the needs of the North, and we equip students with the skills necessary to sustain a prosperous north. We are stronger when we partner with Yukon First Nations, Yukon communities, industry and governments, and when we work together to develop programming and conduct research. We value our northern environment, cultures, society and economies.

INCLUSIVENESS AND DIVERSITY

Yukon College is a place of learning that is accessible and open to all. We respect all cultures, and the expression of all ideas and opinions, because diversity enriches our learning environment. We honour the cultures and heritage of Yukon First Nations, and we value the contributions of traditional knowledge and Indigenous world views.

INTEGRITY AND ACADEMIC FREEDOM

Integrity, fairness and ethical behaviour guide all that we do. We provide honest and balanced assessments of the issues related to our institution. We believe in and promote academic freedom, research integrity and scholarly responsibility.

ACHIEVEMENT AND EXCELLENCE

Our commitment to excellence in teaching, research and scholarship includes the learning and support systems that help students succeed. We are dedicated to providing students with diverse, flexible pathways and learning experiences. We foster a supportive, creative and collaborative learning environment that is learner-centered. We empower students, staff and faculty to achieve personal, professional and academic excellence.

INNOVATION AND DISCOVERY

We lead through exploration and innovation. We do not shy away from asking difficult questions in our commitment to the search for knowledge. Through innovative uses of technologies, integration across disciplines, and exploration of creative ideas, we empower students, staff and faculty to break new ground in learning, scholarship and research. Through a culture of informed risk-taking, we embrace change, opportunity and discovery, and view all our endeavours as opportunities to learn and grow.

LEADERSHIP AND ACCOUNTABILITY

We value and promote leadership and accountability at all levels of the organization, including students, staff and faculty. We encourage every employee and student to demonstrate vision and courage when engaged in decision-making. We hold ourselves accountable for the fulfilment of all professional duties and obligations associated with our positions, in an open and transparent manner.

HEALTH AND WELLNESS

The individual and collective contributions of our students, faculty and staff are integral to the health and success of our institution. We commit to respectful and honest communication, active listening and transparency. We support a healthy, positive and engaging environment, and celebrate the achievements of our students, staff, faculty and alumni. We strive to build sustainability into our daily operations and institutional culture.



OVERVIEW

After a year-long consultation for the 2013-2016 Strategic Plan, Yukon College conducted an email survey in 2016 (173 responses), querying possible revisions and updates to the previous plan. From this survey, we affirmed that the previous plan required only minor revisions, taking us through to 2021. It's expected that the current plan will see us through the transition to university.

Much has happened in the past few years, with getting Yukon College on track towards its university transition. For current information on the university transition, see yukoncollege.yk.ca/universityplanning.

We've also made great headway in the area of collaborating with First Nations, attracting and retaining students, expanding research across the institution, and engaging Yukon communities. Take a look at the Progress and Milestones in this booklet (page 10) for details.

2016-21

STRATEGIC DIRECTION AND GOALS



Offer exceptional student experiences

Yukon College will promote a welcoming and culturally inclusive environment.

Yukon College will provide exceptional student experiences through innovation in programs, instruction, research and support.

Yukon College will inspire and support student potential through experiential learning.

Yukon College will work with public schools to provide professional development opportunities that support the new vision for education.

2016-21 STRATEGIC DIRECTION AND GOALS



Collaborate with First Nations

Yukon College will collaborate with First Nations to identify and respond to their educational needs and priorities.

Yukon College will collaborate with First Nations on the development of college programs.

Yukon College will partner with First Nations to develop and establish an institute of Indigenous self-determination.

2016-21

STRATEGIC DIRECTION AND GOALS



Engage with Yukon rural communities

Yukon College will identify and respond to rural community needs by offering relevant programs.

Yukon College will identify, provide and support innovative delivery models for education in rural communities.

Yukon College campuses will enrich educational opportunities and services by connecting and engaging with each other.



Expand research and innovation

Yukon College will conduct, implement and share research on northern topics.

Yukon College will partner with First Nations in identifying, coordinating and implementing research priorities.

Yukon College will increase student and faculty capacity to conduct research throughout the institution, its campuses and the North.

Yukon College will be Yukon's hub for creative and balanced dialogue, innovation and entrepreneurship.

2016-21

STRATEGIC DIRECTION AND GOALS



Become a northern-focused university

The Yukon University Act will be enacted.

Yukon College will become a hybrid university that offers a full range of programming, including trades, academic readiness, certificates, diplomas and degrees.

Yukon College will offer future-focused, diverse and integrated programming.

Yukon College will develop and implement a plan to retain, support and attract faculty and staff in order to enrich the institution.

PROGRESS AND MILESTONES FROM THE 2013-2016 STRATEGIC PLAN

DESIGN A UNIQUE POST-SECONDARY MODEL

- » 97h land reserve confirmed by Yukon Government (YG)
- » Yukon University (YukonU) name announced
- » Land use plan completed
- » Yukon College economic impact study completed
- » Additional funding for university transition received (\$1.5M over 3 years)
- » External quality assurance plan with YG confirmed and initiated
- » Foundation Board established and donations increased
- » New bachelor's degree (BA in Indigenous Governance) approved through academic council and faculty hired

COLLABORATE WITH FIRST NATIONS TO STRENGTHEN RELATIONSHIPS AND ENHANCE CAPACITY

- » Majority of staff completed Yukon First Nations 101 competency requirement
- » Student Yukon First Nations competency requirement implemented
- » 34 Northern Adult Basic Education programs implemented in the communities with strong support from First Nations
- » Centre for Northern Innovation in Mining (CNIM) Heavy Equipment Operator program delivered in partnership with Selkirk First Nation
- » Signed national Indigenous Education Protocol through Colleges and Institutes Canada (CICan)
- » New liaison position created between First Nations Initiatives and Yukon Research Centre
- » Tr'ondek Hwech'in First Nation farm had a successful first harvest; funding for curriculum received through Training Policy Committee
- » Environmental monitoring program plan underway with First Nations through CNIM

ENSURE QUALITY TO ATTRACT AND RETAIN STUDENTS

- » New Information Technology and Learning Commons model created and new Director hired
- » New Adult basic education model created and prepared for implementation in 2016-2017
- » Implemented new Learning Management System
- » Classroom technology upgrades completed at Ayamdigut campus
- » Leadership institute concept created through Applied Science and Management Division
- » Sustainable funding model implemented in School of Continuing Education
- » CNIM building preparing to open summer 2016
- » Renovation completed of Student Services/Admissions area

EXPAND NORTHERN RESEARCH AND INNOVATION OPPORTUNITIES

- » Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC) grant to work with First Nations to make climate change science more relevant for northern-based decision making
- » Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada (NSERC) funding for new Industrial Research Chair
- » Old Crow hazard mapping project complete
- » Five year funding for Yukon Research Centre (YRC) secured
- » Office expansion renovation completed for YRC
- » Global North Innovation symposium in November 2015

ENGAGE YUKON COMMUNITIES TO ENHANCE THEIR EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

- » Program and service review completed in communities with CC staff
- » Budget assessment done and new funding identified to support new initiatives in communities in 2016-2017 budget
- » Started Farm Greenhouse project with Tr'ondek Hwech'in First Nation
- » 57 community Northern Adult Basic Education projects completed over three years
- » New NABE funding received for one year beginning April 1, 2016
- » Solar tech project established in Carmacks with support from Cold Climate Innovation





Members of the 2016 Yukon College Board of Governors

Paul Flaherty - Member at Large, Board Chair & Chair Finance, Audit & Risk Committee

Patti Balsillie - Member at Large, Vice-Chair & Chair Governance Committee

Mike Burke - Member at Large, Chair External Relations Committee

Shawn Allen - Community Representative

Julia Salo - Community Representative

Vera Holmes - Community Representative

Mary Samolczyk - Staff Representative

Matthew Landry - Student Representative

Carol Geddes - First Nations Representative

Alyce Johnson - First Nations Representative

Kluane Adamek - First Nations Representative

Karen Barnes - President (non-voting member)

Missing: Shawn Allen

yukoncollege.yk.ca/stratplan