



3502 RACCINE RD. ■ YELLOWKNIFE, NT ■ X1A 3J2 ■ 867 920-2728 ■ EMAIL: TAG@TAGYK.COM ■ WWW.TAGYK.COM

To: YK1 Project: J.H. Sissons Accommodation
Coordination
Attn.: Metro Huculak Location: Yellowknife, NT
Cc: Ed Lippert Project no: 15-013-041
From: Simon Taylor Date: April 18th, 2019

Re: YK1 School Site Reviews

On behalf of the Government of the NWT, department of Education, Culture and Employment (ECE) as well as the Yellowknife Education District No. 1 (YK1), Taylor Architecture Group has reviewed the Four schools potentially impacted by the new construction of the J. H. Sissons School project and the required relocation of students.

- William MacDonald School
- Sir John Franklin High School
- N.J. Macpherson School
- Range Lake North School

As per the YK1 accommodation proposed plan, the intent would be to accommodate students from J. H. Sissons School as follows:

Junior Kindergarten Students:	Will be accepted into N. J. McPherson School.
Grades, Kindergarten – grade Five:	Will be moved to William Mac Donald School
Grade 8 students from WMS:	Will go either to Sir John Franklin High School or to Range Lake North School. It should be noted that if the students go to the High School, it will only be the students from William MacDonald School going to the High School while then grade 8 students from Range Lake North will continue to attend Range Lake School.

It is expected that the construction of the new J. H. Sisson School will require two years – starting in 2020 however, contingency should be made for three years of construction in case significant over-runs occur (though this is not expected).

Taylor Architecture Group has undertaken reviews of William MacDonald school, Range Lake North School, N. J. MacPherson School, and Sir John Franklin High School for the purpose of assessing the capacity of each school to accommodate the relocated students and determine if any construction modifications are required to accommodate the students.



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TAG will be making recommendations about potential construction modifications required at each of the schools for each of the schools in order to accommodate the J. H. Sissons students. Recommendations will be made to ECE and to YK1 following our review with Parents during the week of April .

Approximate Student Numbers involved are anticipated as follows:

J. H. Sissons:	370 students
JK	60 students
K	68 students
Grade 1	46 students
Grade 2	63 students
Grade 3	46 students
Grade 4	49 students
Grade 5	38 students

William Mac Donald School:	248 students
Grade 6 (English)	30 students
Grade 7 (English)	20 students
Grade 8 (English)	28 students
Grade 6 (French Immersion)	38 students
Grade 7 (French Immersion)	27 students
Grade 8 (French Immersion)	36 students
Grade 6 (IF)	19 students
Grade 7 (PIF)	43 students
Grade 8 (PIF)	19 students
Total Grade 8 students	83 students

Total students in WMS after grade 8's move	165 students
<u>Number of students from JHS to WMS</u>	<u>310 students</u>
Total number of students that will be in WMS	475 students

William MacDonald School

William MacDonald School is intended to receive the majority of the students from J. H. Sissons School. The existing school was built in the early 1980's and has not received any significant construction upgrades/modifications since. Currently the school has an occupancy of approximately 250 students. The building however is designed to accommodate more than twice that number. Some internal construction



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work will be required to modify two spaces to create three additional classrooms within the school and it is proposed to add four portables to the school site.

At final move-in, William MacDonald School will be home to approximately 475 students. With the portables, this will result in an average class size of approximately 18 students per classroom.

Grade Eight (8) accommodation (approximately 83 students)

In order to make room in William MacDonald School (WMS) for the J. H. Sissons students, YK1 is looking to move the WMS grade eights out, either to the High School or to Range Lake North School. Grade Eights from Mildred Hall School will remain in their school and, if the WMS grade 8 students are to move to the High School, then the Range Lake grade 8 students will remain with Range Lake School.

N.J. Macpherson School

N.J. Macpherson School is being considered to accommodate Junior Kindergarten students from J.H. Sissons. N.J. Macpherson currently has three (3) junior kindergarten classrooms outfitted with child sized toilets. The new JK classrooms would be located in the classrooms currently operating Montessori classrooms. New student washrooms maybe required to be built in these classrooms.

In addition to the washroom upgrades, some minor exterior fence modifications will be required at the school perimeter fence.

Conclusion,

The proposed approach to relocating the students from J. H. Sissons School has some options and is, in the opinion of Taylor Architecture Group, workable with minimal academic intrusion on the lives of the J.H. Sissons' Students.

TAG looks forward to the input of parents from Range Lake, N. J. McPherson and William MacDonald Schools so that concrete recommendations can be submitted to YK1 and the Department of ECE.