



Report on the History of NWT Educational Facilities

Department of Education, Culture and Employment
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Rapport sur l'histoire des établissements d'enseignement aux TNO

Éducation, Culture et Formation
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Preface

The Report on the History of NWT Educational Facilities is the first attempt to create a fully annotated and referenced chronology of schools, residences and other western educational institutions in the NWT. This historical review encompasses over 159 years from the beginnings of western education in 1862 to current day 2021. This first version details educational facilities in communities in present-day NWT.

The Report was created in part as a response to the summer of 2021 revelation of unmarked graves of residential school children in southern Canadian institutions, as well as to support the Department of Education, Culture and Employment (ECE) in regards to the Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC)'s Call to Action 63 i) "Developing and implementing Kindergarten to Grade Twelve curriculum and learning resources on Aboriginal peoples in Canadian history, and the history and legacy of residential schools." This work is also a first step to support communities who wish to undertake research to uncover unmarked graves associated with former educational sites, as covered in Call to Action 76.

It is crucial to note that some of the information here differs from the list validated by the federal Indian Residential Schools Compensation programs. The federal compensation programs had a narrower focus than this more inclusive review.

The NWT Archives led this research through available authoritative historical resources, such as archival records, government records, historical literature and news sources, historical accounts from various churches, academic theses, and monographs on community and education history. By meticulously documenting details such as dates of establishment and closing, facilities, patterns of pupil enrolment and movement when noted, this work will support those looking to learn more about the history of education in the north, including the history of residential schools.

This Report is by no means exhaustive. The archives of the Roman Catholic Church, the Oblates of Mary Immaculate, the Anglican Church and the Government of Canada are not housed at the NWT Archives and are not available, although historical accounts from the churches were reviewed. As well, this *Historical Inventory* in its current form draws primarily from the resources available at the NWT Archives, the library of which was only active up to 1994. Available NWT Archives Federal Government records (in accessions G-1979-003 and N-1994-009) are incomplete although they have proven invaluable for learning details regarding the administration of federally funded schools and residences as well as partial attendance records. Records are lost, misfiled or destroyed. Gaps and errors will persist, and updates are expected.

Lastly, and importantly, this report does not reference first-hand student accounts. Rather, it draws primarily on sources and records from those who administered these institutions, from the churches, the Federal Government, and the Territorial Government, and those contemporary or near-contemporary researchers and writers who analysed them.

Introduction

The history of education in the Northwest Territories reaches back to time immemorial with traditional learning and the transmission of knowledge between generations within families and communities. The provision of western education for the people of the north starts much more recently, first recorded in the 1860s. Broadly speaking, western education moved through four major phases of responsibility: the Churches (primarily Roman Catholic or Anglican), the Federal Government, the Territorial Government, and most recently regional or local authorities. These responsibilities regarding education changed through time as religious, political, and economic factors shifted, were reformulated or changed in importance.

Some regions, communities and families bore the impacts of educational policies and practices more than others. The lack of school in a community can signal that children were sent away to live in residence in communities far from home. In attempting to create a chronology of all educational facilities in the Northwest Territories it is hoped that a more complete version of the history of education is available for learning.

Préface

L’Rapport sur l’histoire des établissements d’enseignement aux TNO est la première tentative de créer une chronologie entièrement annotée et référencée des écoles, pensionnats et autres établissements d’enseignement occidentaux aux TNO. Cet examen historique couvre plus de 159 ans, depuis les débuts de l’éducation occidentale en 1862 jusqu’à aujourd’hui (2021). Cette première version décrit les établissements d’enseignement dans les collectivités des TNO d’aujourd’hui.

L’Rapport sur l’histoire des établissements d’enseignement aux TNO a été créé en partie en réponse à la révélation, au cours de l’été 2021, de sépultures non marquées d’enfants des pensionnats dans des établissements du sud du Canada, ainsi que pour soutenir le ministère de l’Éducation, de la Culture et de la Formation (MÉCF) en ce qui concerne l’appel à l’action 63 i) de la Commission de vérité et réconciliation (CVR) : « l’élaboration et la mise en œuvre, de la maternelle à la douzième année, de programmes d’études et de ressources d’apprentissage sur les peuples autochtones dans l’histoire du Canada, et sur l’histoire et les séquelles des pensionnats ». Ce travail est également une première étape pour soutenir les collectivités qui souhaitent entreprendre des recherches pour découvrir des sépultures non marquées associées à d’anciens sites éducatifs, comme le prévoit l’appel à l’action 76.

Il est essentiel de noter que certaines des informations présentées ici diffèrent de la liste validée par les programmes fédéraux de compensation pour les pensionnats autochtones. Les programmes fédéraux de compensation avaient un cadre plus étroit que cette étude plus inclusive.

Archives TNO a dirigé cette recherche à partir des ressources historiques faisant autorité disponibles, comme les documents d’archives, les documents gouvernementaux, la documentation et les sources de nouvelles historiques, les récits historiques de diverses églises, les thèses universitaires et les monographies sur l’histoire des collectivités et de l’éducation. En documentant méticuleusement des détails tels que les dates de création et de fermeture, les installations, les modèles d’inscription des élèves et les déplacements lorsqu’ils sont notés, ce travail aidera ceux qui cherchent à en savoir plus sur l’histoire de l’éducation dans le Nord, y compris l’histoire des pensionnats.

Cet *Rapport sur l’histoire des établissements d’enseignement aux TNO* n’est en aucun cas exhaustif. Les archives de l’Église catholique romaine, des Oblats de Marie-Immaculée, de l’Église anglicane et du gouvernement du Canada ne sont pas conservées chez Archives TNO et ne sont pas disponibles, bien que des comptes rendus historiques de ces églises aient été examinés. De même, cet *Inventaire historique* dans sa forme actuelle s’appuie principalement sur les ressources disponibles chez Archives TNO, dont la bibliothèque n’a été active que jusqu’en 1994. Les documents du gouvernement fédéral disponibles chez Archives TNO (dans les dépôts G-1979-003 et N-1994-009) sont incomplets, mais ils se sont avérés inestimables pour obtenir des détails sur l’administration des écoles et des pensionnats financés par le gouvernement fédéral, ainsi que des registres de fréquentation partiels. Des documents sont perdus ou ont été mal classés ou détruits. Les lacunes et les erreurs persistent, et des mises à jour sont attendues.

Introduction

L'histoire de l'éducation aux Territoires du Nord-Ouest remonte à des temps immémoriaux, avec l'apprentissage traditionnel et la transmission des connaissances entre les générations au sein des familles et des collectivités. La mise en place d'une éducation occidentale pour les populations du Nord est beaucoup plus récente, puisqu'elle est mentionnée pour la première fois dans les années 1860. De manière générale, l'éducation occidentale est passée par quatre grandes phases de responsabilité : les Églises (principalement catholique romaine ou anglicane), le gouvernement fédéral, le gouvernement territorial et, plus récemment, les autorités régionales ou locales. Ces responsabilités concernant l'éducation ont évolué au fil du temps, selon la variation, la reformulation ou le changement de l'importance des facteurs religieux, politiques et économiques.

Certaines régions, collectivités et familles subissent plus que d'autres les effets des politiques et pratiques éducatives. L'absence d'écoles dans une collectivité donnée peut indiquer que les enfants ont été envoyés au loin pour vivre en pensionnat dans des collectivités éloignées de chez eux. En tentant de créer une chronologie de tous les établissements d'enseignement aux Territoires du Nord-Ouest, on espère obtenir une version plus complète de l'histoire de l'éducation.

Aklavik

Brief summary of education facilities in the community, from church era, federal era and territorial era.

The provision of western education in Aklavik began with the Anglican All Saints Mission in 1919. This facility included both a school and a residence for boarding children. This was the most northern location for an educational facility in the Northwest Territories at the time, and had a large regional catchment, catering especially to the Inuvialuit people. In the 1920s the Roman Catholics responded by building their Immaculate Conception mission complex in Aklavik in 1925 opening in 1926 to cater to the needs of regional Roman Catholic families. In the 1930s the Anglican authorities decided to consolidate their northern school and residence populations in Aklavik, and thus the struggling Shingle Point mission (1936) and the older St. Peter's mission in Hay River (1937) were closed and residential students sent to Aklavik. The All Saints Residential School building, capacity 100 students, was completed June 1936, only a couple of months after the All Saints Hospital burned (which reopened June 1937).

Children admitted to either the Immaculate Conception or All Saints mission hospitals also attended school, where a teacher instructed both children and adult learners, most of whom are assumed to have been TB patients. While hospital school was confirmed to have occurred at Immaculate Conception Hospital from 1926-1961, the Anglican hospital school is of less certain duration, only confirmed for 1955-1961, but likely starting much earlier. The attendance at both hospital schools decreased radically in 1959, but it is unclear whether patients were transferred to East 3 (Inuvik) or south.

In 1952 the Federal Government opened the first non-denominational day school, and it is assumed that all school aged children went to school there, and that non-local students boarded at the residence according to their religion. In 1953 it was a one room school, divided in half with two teachers.

In the late 1950s the Federal Government sought to establish a new regional community in a less flood-prone area. A large proportion of Aklavik residents refused to move to East 3 (Inuvik) in the late 1950s. When the new regional high school and residences were opened in Inuvik in 1959 both residences in Aklavik closed; the resident students and older students were sent to board in Inuvik, while notably a cohort of Gwich'in girls from the Fort McPherson area went back to Fort McPherson to board at the new Fleming Hall. Primary grades continued to be offered in Aklavik, with additions and expansions to facilities in the 1960s. However, in May 1966 the Aklavik Community Association decided to immediately close the school building due to an unsafe foundation. Classes were held temporarily in other buildings such as the fire hall, a heated warehouse, the curling ring, Anglican parish hall and an administration building. In 1967 building commenced on a new school, in 1968 the new school was named Moose Kerr school, and it was officially opened on February 5, 1969.

In 1969 the responsibility for education was transferred from the Federal Government to the Government of the Northwest Territories (GNWT).

The Beaufort-Delta Divisional Education Council was established in 1989 to administer regional schools.

The Moose Kerr School had a library and classroom wing addition completed on the original structure in 1998. As of 2021 it instructs grades JK to 12 and is administered by the Beaufort Delta Educational Council.

Notes

As of December 11, 2023, the National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation Memorial Register lists that during the schools' operation, 16 resident students at All Saints died, and 20 resident students at Immaculate Conception died.

School facilities

Listing of mission schools, day schools, schools chronologically.

Name of school	Dates	Notes
Anglican mission school / All Saints school	1919 - 1952 or 1959	<p>The Anglican mission complex burnt down in 1936 but a new residential school was spared and completed in June 1936 (the hospital took until 1937 to be rebuilt). Resident children were temporarily housed at the All Saints residence. Students were largely Inuvialuit from coastal communities and camps, but also Gwich'in and other Protestant children from other communities. When Shingle Point closed in 1936 and Hay River's St. Peters closed in 1937 children were sent and consolidated at All Saints.</p> <p>A non-denominational Federal Day school opened in 1952 but it's unclear precisely when the Anglican school closed.</p>
Roman Catholic mission school / Immaculate Conception school	1926 – 1952 or 1959	<p>Resident children were housed at the Immaculate Conception residence. An extension to the school was built in 1941. A non-denominational Federal Day school opened in 1952 but it's unclear precisely when the RC school closed.</p>
Aklavik Federal Day School	1952 – 1966 [?]	<p>Funded by Federal government (DNANR) the FDS was integrated. By 1955 the school population numbered 150 students and 6 staff. Starting in 1956-1960 space was rented from the Native Hall, Legion and DPW bunkhouses. At the same time, in 1956-1960 Aklavik families were being encouraged to move to East 3 (Inuvik) but many</p>

Name of school	Dates	Notes
		<p>locals refused. Starting in 1959 high school students and non-local boarders were sent to Inuvik, but some students (girls from Fort McPherson area) went to Fleming Hall.</p> <p>In 1965 the FDS had 6 classrooms. In May 1966 the school was closed due to an unsafe foundation, and students were temporarily taught in a number of locations.</p>
Moose Kerr school	1966/1969 - 2021	<p>In 1966 Aklavik had a 10-classroom school with a gym, home ec and industrial arts facilities. It is unclear if this was a new build on the 1952 school or a new addition. The new school opened officially by A.V. "Moose" Kerr in February 1969 with new name.</p> <p>High school students were still being sent to Inuvik to board and finish school at that time.</p> <p>Facility transferred to GNWT in 1969.</p> <p>In 1998 a new addition with a library and classroom was completed. By 2021, the school provides JK-12 instruction.</p>

Residential facilities

Listing of residences, hostels, halls chronologically, with denomination.

Name of residence (den.)	Dates	Notes
All Saints residence (Ang.)	1919-1959	<p>Resident children went to the All Saints mission school.</p> <p>The Anglican mission complex burnt down in 1936 but the residential school under construction was spared, and was soon finished in June 1936, reported capacity varying between 100 and 150 students. Students were largely Protestant Inuvialuit from coastal communities and camps, but also Gwich'in and other Protestant children from other communities. When Shingle Point closed in 1936 and Hay River's St. Peters closed in 1937 children were sent and boarded at All Saints residence. The residence closed in 1959 when the Inuvik residences opened and resident children were sent there, but a cohort of Gwich'in girls from the Ft. McPherson area went to Fleming Hall in Fort McPherson when it opened.</p>
Immaculate Conception residence (RC)	1926 – 1959	<p>Resident children went to school at the Immaculate Conception school. Students in the 1920s-1940s came from a variety of communities including Inuit camps on the coast and delta, Gwich'in bands close to Tsiigehtchic, Fort Good Hope, Tulita and Tuktoyaktuk. When the residences in Inuvik opened many resident children or those of high school age were sent to Grollier Hall.</p>
All Saints Hospital School (Ang.)	[likely earlier?] 1955 - 1961	<p>Between 1955-1958 average child cohort was 14-20 students, plus up to 20 adult learners. As of 1958, most students in hospital were adults. Handcrafts were also taught by a part-time teacher.</p>
Immaculate Conception Hospital school (RC)	1926-1961	<p>Student population rapidly decreased as of 1959. Unclear where students may have been transferred (Inuvik, or south?)</p>

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Behchokò

Brief summary of education facilities in the community, from church era, federal era and territorial era.

The provision of western education in Behchokò began with the Fort Rae Anglican Mission Boarding School in 1876 which was established under Bishop Reeve or the Reverend W.D. Reece and his wife and comprised of a log shack 14 feet square. The couple moved to Fort Simpson the following year, and the school seems to have operated intermittently until 1887. Another early teacher was Mr. Garton and there was a supervisor each for the girls and boys. It is unclear how many children may have boarded or been schooled there, and whether they were local or students from non-Tlicho communities. In 1887 the school was named the Fort Rae Diocesan Indian School established by William Spendlove under Bishop Bompas. It is assumed that these efforts were abandoned in the late 1880s due to flagging interest in Anglican missionary work in the Tlicho region.

The Faraud Hospital opened in Fort Rae in 1936 and operated until 1974. Children admitted to hospital (who were possibly TB patients?) were taught there in the late 1950s to the early 1960s, but also likely for a longer extent than currently noted. In 1955 the school operations at the hospital were turned over to the Federal Government.

In 1938 Federal Government Engineer Perry noted that Roman Catholic missionaries provided intermittent catechism instruction at Fort Rae.

The Federal Rae Indian Day School was established in 1946, funded by the Indian Affairs Branch. In 1956 the school and teacher's house burnt down. School was taught in old, converted building until a new school was built in 1957, and it was likely two rooms. In 1960, the Rayrock school building was moved to Behchokò for school use. In 1968 the 6 rooms were reported to all be in poor condition. On its final year operating year [1970?] the school had an enrolment of 250 students, so clearly additions and school expansions occurred between 1957-1970. In 1969 the facility transferred to the GNWT when it assumed responsibility for education.

In the 1950s and 1960s many families lived in the bush for a portion of the year, and many students attended the day school irregularly. A proportion of Tlicho students went to residential school in Fort Smith. Summer school was held in 1953; it was noted by the teacher that a third to a half of the summer students were students who went to residential school during the school year.

In 1969 and 1970 the Rae Band Council formed an elected Rae-Edzo School Society with the aim to construct and administer a new Chief Jimmy Bruneau School, capacity over 400, completed in 1971. It also included a 100-bed residence run by the School Society for non-local Tlicho students. A new agreement in 1982 with the Rae-Edzo School Society gave the society increased control over the operations of the community's school. The Dogrib Divisional Education Council was established in 1989 to administer regional schools; since 2005 it is now administered through the Tłı̨chų Community Services Agency.

In 1991 a new elementary school Elizabeth Mackenzie School opened in Rae. As of 2021 it provides JK-6 instruction. The Chief Jimmy Bruneau School completed renovations in 1993, when the adjacent residence units were incorporated into the whole. In 2021 it provides K-12 instruction, as well as an early childhood centre.

School facilities

Listing of mission schools, day schools, schools chronologically.

Name of school	Dates	Notes
Fort Rae Anglican Mission Boarding School	1876 or 1877 -?	Established under Bishop Reeve, first taught by Reverend W.D. Reece and his wife in a 14'x14' log building.
Fort Rae Diocesan Indian School	1887-?	Established by William Spendlove under Bishop Bompas.
Roman Catholic missionary school	1930s	Intermittent catechism instruction provided by RC missionaries.
Fort Rae Indian Day School	1946 / 1949 – 1956	Building and teacher house destroyed by fire in 1956.
Fort Rae Summer School	1953 - ?	Summer school noted in 1953, a third to a half of students attend residential school in other communities.
Fort Rae Federal School / Rae School	1956 / 1957? – 1970?	Temporary school in 1956 in converted old building. New school completed in 1957, may have been 2 or 4 rooms. By 1968 all 6 rooms were in poor condition. Facility taken over by GNWT in 1969. Enrolment in final year [1970?] was 250 students.
Chief Jimmy Bruneau School	1971 - 2021	Capacity 400 students in Edzo. Non-resident students board at CJB residence, also locally administered. Renovation in 1993. K-12 offered.
Elizabeth Mackenzie Elementary School	1991- 2021	JK-6 school in Rae. As of 2021 offers JK-6.

Residential facilities

Listing of residences, hostels, halls chronologically, with denomination.

Name of residence (den.)	Dates	Notes
Fort Rae Anglican Mission Boarding School	1877-?	Unclear whether students or boarders were taken in.
Faraud hospital school	1936 (?) - 1974	Hospital in operation 1936-1974. Hospital patients taught in late 1950s but also likely earlier. Hospital school turned over to Federal Gov't in 1955.
Chief Jimmy Bruneau school residence	1971 - ?	Original capacity 100 boarders, mostly high school students from smaller Tlicho communities.

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Colville Lake

Brief summary of education facilities in the community, from church era, federal era and territorial era.

Colville Lake was established as a permanent community in the early 1960s. At that time, if children from the area were to go to school, they usually attended school in Fort Good Hope, staying at the 12-bed small hostel, established there in 1970.

In 1988, school first started being held for the first time in the community in the new community hall. In 1989, the Sahtu Divisional Education Council was established in 1989 to administer Sahtu regional schools. The first Colville Lake School was constructed primarily by community members and was completed and opened in 1991. In 2021, grades JK-12 are taught. Portables are anticipated to be added 2021-2023 and a school replacement planned for 2022-2025.

School facilities

Listing of mission schools, day schools, schools chronologically.

Name of school	Dates	Notes
Colville Lake School (community hall)	1988-1991	School held temporarily in the new community hall while the new school building is constructed.
Colville Lake School	1991 - 2021	Completed and opened in 1991. Portables are anticipated to be added 2021-2023 and a school replacement planned for 2022-2025.

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Déłnę

Brief summary of education facilities in the community, from church era, federal era and territorial era.

The provision of western education in Déłnę began with the establishment of the Federal Day School in 1949 – 1950. In 1955 it was a two-room school. Around 1961 a summer school session was attempted, so that families could go ratting in the springtime, but children would not lose school days. By 1965 there were four classrooms at the school. This school was transferred to the GNWT when it assumed responsibility for education in 1969. In 1970 two classrooms and an activity room were added to the school. In 1984 the new ʔehtseo Ayha School was completed. The Sahtu Divisional Education Council was established in 1989 to administer regional schools. In 1996 a new addition to the school was completed. By 2021 all grades JK-12 are offered.

Between 1967 and 1971 a small 8 bed hostel was established to board students whose parents went harvesting, or who lived outside the community. Prior to that time, children in need were housed in private homes. The Fort Franklin small hostel seems to have functioned only intermittently and closed in 1972.

School facilities

Listing of mission schools, day schools, schools chronologically.

Name of school	Dates	Notes
Fort Franklin Indian Day School / Fort Franklin Federal Day School / Fort Franklin School	1949 / 1950 - 1969	In 1965 there were four classrooms. Facility taken over by GNWT in 1969.
Fort Franklin Territorial School	1970 - 1984	In 1970 an additional two classrooms and an activity room were added to the school.
ʔehtseo Ayha School	1984 - 2021	School built in 1984. Administration of school assumed by the Sahtu Divisional Education Council in 1988. New addition added in 1996. In 2021 JK-12 is offered.

Residential facilities

Listing of residences, hostels, halls chronologically, with denomination.

Name of residence (den.)	Dates	Notes
Fort Franklin small hostel	1967 - 1972	8 bed hostel appears to have functioned only intermittently. Responsibility transferred to GNWT in 1969.

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Dettah

Brief summary of education facilities in the community, from church era, federal era and territorial era.

The provision of western education in Dettah began in September 1969 with the opening of the two room Yellowknife Indian Village Territorial School. Prior to this time, students could be sent to Fort Smith for schooling, or go to Yellowknife for school.

Kaw Tay Whee School was completed in October 1988. In 1991 it was reported to offer grades K-9. In 2017 there was a major renovation. In 2021 Kaw Tay Whee School provides instruction for grades JK-7. The Dettah District Education Authority administers the school.

School facilities

Listing of mission schools, day schools, schools chronologically.

Name of school	Dates	Notes
Yellowknife Indian Village Territorial School	1969 – 1988?	
Kaw Tay Whee School	1988 - 2021	Constructed 1988, renovated 2017. As of 2021 offers JK-7.

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Discovery

Brief summary of education facilities in the community, from church era, federal era and territorial era.

Discovery Mine was established in 1946 but a school was not established until 1959. At that point, the company built the facilities, and the Federal government supplied the teacher. The number of pupils would fluctuate depending on itinerant families coming to work on the site. Teachers rarely stayed longer than one year due to the isolation, challenges with teaching a 1 room classroom and the potential interference of the mine manager. In 1968 it was reported to be still open. While the school was listed in the 1968 Transfer Plan for transferring to territorial responsibility, a transfer seems to not have happened. The school was closed when mining operations ceased in 1969.

School facilities

Listing of mission schools, day schools, schools chronologically.

Name of school	Dates	Notes
Discovery Mine School	1959 - 1969	Facilities built by company; teacher supplied by Federal Gov't. Closed when mine shut down.

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Fort Good Hope

Brief summary of education facilities in the community, from church era, federal era and territorial era.

The provision of western education in Fort Good Hope started with a Roman Catholic Day school, which received a federal grant in 1930. This school may have operated outside that date or intermittently without government support. A Federal Day School was built and opened in 1949. Prior to this, children receiving education often went to the mission school in Aklavik. Later, when students had parents who lived traditionally on the land, they would be sent to residence in Inuvik. By 1965 two classrooms were operating in Fort Good Hope. This school was transferred to the GNWT when it assumed responsibility for education in 1969.

In 1970 three small hostels were established for students whose families went harvesting, or whose families lived outside the community. These hostels also supported students from Colville Lake who had no community school, who used these hostels (later called cottage hostels) until 1988. The hostels were closed in 1988.

In 1971 a new five room territorial school was completed and named Chief T'Selehye School, replacing the old Federal School. By 1983 kindergarten to grade 9 was being offered. The Sahtu Divisional Education Council assumed administration in 1989.

In 2011 a new school was built, with the same name. In 2021 Chief T'Selehye School offers JK-12.

School facilities

Listing of mission schools, day schools, schools chronologically.

Name of school	Dates	Notes
Fort Good Hope Mission Day school (RC)	1930?	Received federal Department of Interior grant in 1930, but may have operated earlier without grant?
Fort Good Hope Indian Day school / Fort Good Hope Federal Day School / Fort Good Hope school	1949 – 1970	Prior to 1949 many children were schooled in Aklavik. By 1965 two classrooms were operating. Facility taken over by the GNWT in 1969.
Chief T'Selehye School	1971 - 2011	New five room territorial school opened. By 1983, K-9 was being offered.
Chief T'Selehye School	2011 - 2021	New school built in 2011, offering JK-12.

Residential facilities

Listing of residences, hostels, halls chronologically, with denomination.

Name of residence (den.)	Dates	Notes
Fort Good Hope small hostel / Fort Good Hope cottage hostel	1970 – 1988	Hostels used intermittently, and later most often by students coming from Colville Lake, which had no school. Cottage hostel closed in 1988 with the start of schooling in Colville Lake.

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Fort Liard

Brief summary of education facilities in the community, from church era, federal era and territorial era.

The provision of western education in Fort Liard started with the establishment of a Federal Day School in 1955. Around 1957 a summer school was held in the community. In the 1960s the school continued to be a one room classroom school in the community, and in 1966 it was noted that grades 1-7 were taught. Older children went to board in Fort Simpson or sometimes Yellowknife to finish higher grades.

This school was transferred to the GNWT when it assumed responsibility for education in 1969. In 1970 a territorial 12 bed small hostel opened, to be used for children whose families went out harvesting, or whose family may have lived outside the community. It is unclear when it ceased operation.

In 1988 a new 9 classroom Echo Dene School was opened. The Dehcho Divisional Education Council was established in 1990 to administer regional schools. Additions to Echo Dene School were completed in 1996 and 2000. In 2021 grades JK-12 are offered.

School facilities

Listing of mission schools, day schools, schools chronologically.

Name of school	Dates	Notes
Fort Liard Indian Federal Day School / Fort Liard school	1955 – 1988?	Facility taken over by GNWT in 1969.
Echo Dene School	1988 - 2021	Completed in 1988. Classroom additions were completed in 1996 and 2000.

Residential facilities

Listing of residences, hostels, halls chronologically, with denomination.

Name of residence (den.)	Dates	Notes
Fort Liard small hostel	1970 – [197?]	Use of hostel seems to have been intermittent and of short duration.

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Fort McPherson

Brief summary of education facilities in the community, from church era, federal era and territorial era.

The provision of western education in Fort McPherson began in 1862 at the Peel's River Station Anglican Mission School. In 1899 it was noted that the Federal Government provided a small stipend to a principal and teacher in Fort McPherson (it is unclear whether this was at the same Peel's River Station Mission school), and that orphans and non-Indigenous children were sent to Hay River for education. It is unclear whether the provision of education between 1862 and 1899 was regular. In 1914 a stipend for teaching services to Rev. Merritt was provided by the Federal Government, and this was increased in 1922. It is noted that Chief Julius Salu and councillors advocated for a school (likely in the 1920s). In 1922 a survey found that the Anglican Mission day school was "well-filled" and between 1923-1934 an Anglican Mission Day School received federal grants for operation. Despite this it is noted that children from the Fort McPherson area were often sent to the Anglican residential school in Hay River, and later to the one in Aklavik.

In 1946 a new Anglican Day School was opened, but this was immediately purchased and taken over by the Federal Government as a Federal Day School. In 1951 a temporary 16 or 20 bed hostel named St. Matthew's Mission opened in a remodelled Mission house, run by the Anglican church and funded by the Federal Government; this housed boys who needed to board while girls were sent to board at All Saints School in Aklavik (presumably due to space considerations?). A new 2 story school with teacher's apartment was opened in 1952. The temporary hostel was closed in 1958 when the new Federal Fleming Hall was opened in Fort McPherson, which had a capacity for 100 students and was also run by the Anglican church. The opening of a larger hostel also allowed the girls who had to board in Aklavik to return to Fort McPherson (however, another factor was the closure of residences in Aklavik). It is noted that students continued to go to Yellowknife and Inuvik for schooling (likely for higher grades?).

In March 1961 the Federal Day School was renamed the Peter Warren Dease school. By 1965 the school had eight classrooms. The Peter Warren Dease school was transferred to the GNWT when it assumed responsibility for education in 1969. A new school was under construction in 1966 and seems to have been completed in 1970.

In 1969 Fleming Hall was transferred to the GNWT when it assumed responsibility for education in 1969, although management of some matters stayed with the Anglican Church. In 1974 the Settlement Council gained local control of Fleming Hall, which closed in May 1976 and was demolished in 1980. In 1976 the new Chief Julius Elementary School opened after several years of construction and was officially named in 1978.

In 1989 Beaufort Delta Educational Council assumed administration of regional schools. In 1998 a new Chief Julius School was completed. As of 2021 it offers all grades JK- 12.

School facilities

Listing of mission schools, day schools, schools chronologically.

Name of school	Dates	Notes
Peel's River Station Anglican Mission School	1862 - ?	1897 and 1899 Federal Government provided a small stipend to a principal and teacher, orphans and non-Indigenous children were sent to Hay River for education.
Anglican Mission Day School	1914-1934	First federal stipend for teacher provided in 1914 and increased in 1922. "Well-filled" in 1922. Received federal grants 1923-1934 but may have operated outside those dates without grants.
Anglican Day School	1946	Purchased and taken over by Federal Government.
Federal Day School	1946 / 1947 – early 1950s	Federal Government took over school built by Anglicans.
Federal Day School / Peter Warren Dease School	1952 – late 1960s?	New 2 story school and teacher's apartment opened in 1952. A new addition built in 1957. Girls returned to Fort McPherson from Aklavik when new Fleming Hall opened in 1958. School renamed Peter Warren Dease School in 1961. 8 classrooms in 1965. Facility taken over by GNWT in 1969.
Peter Warren Dease School	1970? -	New school of same name started construction late 1960s and completed in 1970, changed for higher grades.
Chief Julius School	1976-1998	New elementary school finished ca 1976, for grades K-4, and renamed Chief Julius School in 1978.
Chief Julius School	1998-2021	New school completed in 1998. In 2021 the school offers all grades JK-12.

Residential facilities

Listing of residences, hostels, halls chronologically, with denomination.

Name of residence (den.)	Dates	Notes
St. Matthew's Mission temporary hostel (Ang.)	1951 - 1958	16 or 20 bed hostel for boys in converted Mission house. Girls who needed to board were sent to All Saints in Aklavik.
Fleming Hall (Ang.)	1958 – 1976	100 bed Federal hostel opened in 1958, managed by Anglican Church. At opening it allowed girls who previously needed to board in Aklavik to return. Transferred to Territorial Government (Anglican run) in 1969. Local Settlement Council control in 1974. Closed in May 1976, demolished in 1980.

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Fort Providence

Brief summary of education facilities in the community, from church era, federal era and territorial era.

The provision of western education in Fort Providence began at the Providence Mission School in 1867, sometimes known as “Our Lady of Fort Providence Residential School” but more consistently known as the “Sacred Heart Mission School” or “Sacred Heart Residential School”. This was operated by the Grey Nuns and initially was meant to provide a boarding and day school for Hudson Bay Company employees’ children. It soon focussed on orphaned and needy children and is known as the first residential school in Canada’s north, although other sites of shorter duration possibly predate Sacred Heart.

Sacred Heart Residential School took in both day pupils and residential boarders. It was chronically under supported, and the Grey Nuns prepared to close in 1881/82 and reopened with Federal Government funding later in the 1880s. It was noted that in early years conditions were poor for both staff and students, and food privation was common, often due to mission crop failure. An epidemic in 1903 affected all 54 children and 10 died. The original log structure was expanded in 1912, and a new three storey school was built in 1930. An extension was added to this in 1948.

It is noted that Roman Catholic students came from communities throughout the north, as far north as Aklavik and as far south as Fort McMurray and Fond-du-Lac. In later years children came from primarily the Deh Cho region, and included the communities of Fort Providence, Fort Simpson, Fort Liard, Wrigley, Kakisa, Norman Wells, Tulita, Ptarmigan Point, Yellowknife, Fort Smith, Trout Rock and Hay River, the camps along the Nitla and Liard, and others. Given closing dates are mixed and range from 1953 to 1960, but the Federal Elizabeth Ward Elementary School opened in 1958 and Sacred Heart Residence likely closed in 1959 but had 80 pupils boarding there in its final year. At closing it was reported that younger boarders were sent to Lapointe Hall in Fort Simpson, while older boarders were sent to Breynat Hall in Fort Smith. The Mission Building closed in 1974 after being used in part as a location to sell local handicrafts. The Mission was torn down in 1976 by the local Band, with lumber salvaged to build a new Band Office, and firewood provided to local elderly people.

It was reported in 1964 that many children from Fort Providence had to be sent to hostels in Fort Simpson and Fort Smith due to a lack of classroom space locally. In 1965 the Federal Day School had four classrooms. A kindergarten class was added in 1968/69. This school was transferred to the GNWT when it assumed responsibility for education in 1969.

In 1972 a six-classroom addition, resource centre and gym was added. In 1984 new classrooms units were added. The Dehcho Divisional Education Council was established in 1990 to administer regional schools. In 1992 the name of the school was changed to Deh Gáh School. In 1992 high school aged children were being sent to either Fort Simpson or Yellowknife for high school. From 1995 to 1998 the school was renovated in stages, adding more classrooms, a science lab, computer lab and library as well as office spaces and space for Aurora College programming. As of 2021, Deh Gáh Elementary and Secondary School provides grades JK-12.

Notes

As of December 11, 2023, the National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation's Death Register and Memorial website lists 40 residential school children who died while at Sacred Heart Residential School.

School facilities

Listing of mission schools, day schools, schools chronologically.

Name of school	Dates	Notes
Providence Mission School / Our Lady of Fort Providence Residential School / Sacred Heart Mission School / Sacred Heart Residential School (RC)	1867 – 1958	Possibly shut down and reopened in 1880s. Original log structure expanded in 1912. New three-story school built 1930, with an extension in 1948. Took in local day school children as well as boarders. Mission buildings demolished and salvaged in 1976 by the Band, lumber used to build new Band office and provide firewood to elderly in community.
Fort Providence Federal Day School/ Fort Providence School	1958 - 1972	In 1965 the Federal Day School had 4 classrooms; a Kindergarten class added in 1968/69. Facility taken over by GNWT in 1969.
Elizabeth Ward Elementary School / Deh Gáh School	1972 - 2021	In 1972 a major renovation including 6 classrooms, resource centre and gym added to the FDS site. New classroom units added in 1984. In 1992 name changed to Deh Gáh School. Renovations between 1995-1998. In 2021 JK-12 offered.

Residential facilities

Listing of residences, hostels, halls chronologically, with denomination.

Name of residence (den.)	Dates	Notes
Providence Mission School / Sacred Heart Mission School / Sacred Heart Residential School (RC)	1867 – 1959	Possibly shut down and reopened in 1880s. Original log structure expanded in 1912. New three-story school built 1930, with an extension in 1948. When shut in 1959, younger boarders were sent to Lapointe Hall in Fort Simpson, and older students sent to Breynat Hall in Fort Smith. Mission buildings demolished and salvaged in 1976 by the Band, lumber used to build new

Name of residence (den.)	Dates	Notes
		Band office and provide firewood to elderly in community.

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Fort Resolution

Brief summary of education facilities in the community, from church era, federal era and territorial era.

The provision of western education in Fort Resolution began with the establishment of the St. James Mission School, an Anglican mission school established by catechist William Norn in 1880. At the end of its time in 1895, Protestant students were sent to Hay River for school. In 1903 the St. Joseph's Mission School was built by the Roman Catholic church. The main building was not constructed until 1910, and prior to that conditions were poor. Students came from a wide catchment area, including regionally Łutselk'e (Snowdrift), Yellowknife, Rocher River, Behchokǫ̀, Rayrock, Hay River and Fort Resolution, as well as from more far away such as Whati (Lac la Martre) Fort Wrigley, Fort Simpson, Fort Providence, Fort Norman and Cambridge Bay, and as far south as Fort McMurray and Fond-du-Lac. When St. Joseph's residence and day school were closed in 1957, resident students and staff mostly transferred to Breynat Hall in Fort Smith.

A hospital school associated with the mission also operated near the residential school, in what may have been a couple of locations (pre-1938 and post-1939). The hospital school closed in 1959 when the Mission site closed.

A building for a school was noted to have been acquired from the Army in 1947. However, it's unclear whether a Federal Day School operated until 1950. This school operated in parallel with the Roman Catholic St. Joseph's Residence and Day School until St. Joseph's closed in 1957. Afterwards the Federal Day School was the only school operating in Fort Resolution. It was noted in 1960 that some Rocher River and Fort Smith students with family in Fort Resolution were fostered in Fort Resolution. By 1965 the day school had 6 classrooms. In 1967 it was renamed Peter Pond School. This school was transferred to the GNWT when it assumed responsibility for education in 1969, and an additional classroom opened in September 1969. In 1971 or 1972 a new Territorial elementary school named Deninu School opened. It is understood that older children went to high school in Fort Smith.

By 1991, the South Slave Divisional Education Council assumed administration of the school. An addition and interior renovations happened around 2000. In 2021 the school provides instruction for grades JK-12.

Notes

As of December 11, 2023, the National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation Memorial Register website lists that 75 residential school students died while attending St. Joseph's Residential School.

School facilities

Listing of mission schools, day schools, schools chronologically.

Name of school	Dates	Notes
St. James Mission School (Ang)	1880- 1895	Unclear if operated continually. Unknown if a residential school. When closed in 1895 students were sent to Hay River.
St. Joseph's Mission School / St. Joseph's Residential School (RC)	1903- 1957	Main building not opened until 1910. Mission complex closed in 1969.
Fort Resolution Indian Day School / Federal Day School / Peter Pond School	1947? / 1950-1972	Unknown opening date. In 1965 had 6 classrooms. 1 room addition in 1969. Facility taken over by GNWT in 1969.
Deninu School	1971 / 1972-2021	Opened in 1971 or 1972. An addition and interior renovations happened around 2000. In 2021 provides JK-12.

Residential facilities

Listing of residences, hostels, halls chronologically, with denomination.

Name of residence (den.)	Dates	Notes
St. James Mission School (Ang)	1880 – 1895	Unclear if operated continually. Unknown if a residential school. When closed in 1895, students were sent to Hay River.
St. Joseph's Mission School / St. Joseph's Residential School (RC)	1903 – 1957	Main building not opened until 1910. Mission complex closed in 1969.
St. Joseph's Hospital School (RC)	? – 1938, 1939-1959	Operated close to the residential school, with unknown dates ('until 1939' is offered as a closing date, but 1938 is also given as the opening date of the hospital). School was being taught 1955-1959, but also likely earlier. In 1959 patient students were being discharged to other hospitals. Mission complex closed in 1969.

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Fort Simpson

Brief summary of education facilities in the community, from church era, federal era and territorial era.

The provision of western education in Fort Simpson began with the Anglican mission in either 1861 or 1868, initially taught by Reverend (later Bishop) Bompas. Anglican instruction continued, sometimes intermittently (for example, it was noted to be in operation in 1922), and eventually was located in the rectory of the Anglican Church in the 1930s and 1940s.

The Roman Catholic school of St. Marguerite/St. Margaret started was constructed in 1917 and opened in 1918. It was noted to be one of two day schools in 1922. St. Marguerite School was moved to a new location in 1931 and continued to operate until a one room addition, a Catholic section of the new Federal Day School opened in January 1955. It is noted that many Catholic children were sent to Fort Providence Sacred Heart residential school during the operation of St. Marguerite's school.

The Fort Simpson Federal School opened in 1949 in a converted general store on Lot 11, but burned to the ground early 1950, and was rebuilt a year later, with students temporarily taking classes at the Fort Simpson Hotel meeting hall. A one-room addition to the school for Catholic student instruction was constructed during the summer and fall of 1954, and opened in January 1955, the result of many years of debate around supports for religious and secular education in the community.

It is likely that children admitted long term to St. Margaret's Hospital (RC) (1916-1972) may have received schooling, but current research only finds reference to this in the late 1950s. In 1955 the teacher there was transferred to the employ of the Federal Government, and students are listed for 1958 and 1959.

The new Federal Day school which opened in 1960 had 11 classrooms, an auditorium/gym, library, workshop and domestic science room. It was officially named Thomas Simpson School in March 1961. It transferred to the GNWT when it assumed responsibility for education in 1969.

Two Federal hostels, Bompas Hall (Anglican, capacity 50 students) and Lapointe Hall (Roman Catholic, capacity 150 students) were opened in 1959, and resident students attended the Federal Day School. These also transferred to the GNWT when it assumed responsibility for education in 1969. Bompas Hall was chronically under registered and closed in 1972. In 1972/73 all residential students were boarded at Lapointe Hall and it became a non-denominational operation. In 1973/74 Bompas Hall was reactivated as Koe Go Cho Hall, under operation of the local Koe Go Cho Society, a local society led by parents. In 1975 the residence was moved into Lapointe Hall so that the Bompas facilities could be used for a school expansion. The Koe Go Cho building also housed a library, friendship centre and adult education facilities. In 1985 the GNWT made an agreement with the Deh Cho Regional Council to operate the residence facility (this may have been when the name changed to Deh Cho Hall) and it was closed in 1988.

By the mid 1970s Thomas Simpson School used the Federal Day School building for grades 3-9, and the younger grades were housed in the old Bompas building, which was renamed Bompas Elementary School. This school received a major renovation which was completed in 1994, was renamed Líídljį Kúę Elementary School in 2019. In 2021 the school provides grades JK-6.

The Dehcho Divisional Education Council was established in 1990 to administer regional schools. In 1986, grade 10 was added, and in 1991 grade 11 was added to the Fort Simpson high school. In 1995 there was a major renovation to the school. In 2011 other renovations to the doors, siding and windows were completed. The high school was renamed Líídljį Kúę Regional High School in 2019. In 2021 it provides grades 7-12, including older students from surrounding small communities without higher grades, including Saamba K'e, who are home boarded.

Notes

As of December 11, 2023, the National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation Memorial Register website lists that 4 residential school students died while attending Bompas Hall and one student listed for Lapointe Hall.

School facilities

Listing of mission schools, day schools, schools chronologically.

Name of school	Dates	Notes
Anglican Mission School	1861/1868-1874?	
Anglican Mission School / St. David's Mission School	1874- 1920s?	New building provided by Chief Factor Hardisty. Conducted classes in the Indian Rectory of the Anglican Church. Operating in 1922.
St. David's Mission School (Ang.)	1931 – 1943?	School reopened in the new (1925) rectory. Successive teachers from 1931-1943.
St. Marguerite/St Margaret Day School (RC)	1918-1954	Operated between 1918-1954 (sometimes intermittently) until a new Catholic one-room addition to the Federal Day School opened in January 1955.
Fort Simpson Federal Day School	1949-1959	Original FDS was in a converted general store on Lot 11 which burned down in 1950 and was rebuilt next year. Students took classes at Hotel during construction. In 1954 a one room addition was built for the Catholic students, opening in January 1955.

Name of school	Dates	Notes
Thomas Simpson School / Líídljį Kúę Regional High School	1959 – 2021	Facility transferred from Federal to territorial government in 1969. Residential students would have boarded at Bompas Hall or Lapointe Hall depending on affiliation. In 1970s offered grades 3-9. In 1986, grade 10 was added, and in 1991 grade 11 was added to the Fort Simpson high school. In 1995 there was a major renovation to the school. In 2011 other renovations to the doors, siding and windows were completed. The high school was renamed Líídljį Kúę Regional High School in 2019. In 2021 it provides grades 7-12.
Bompas Elementary School / Líídljį Kúę Elementary School	1975? - 2021	Major renovation in 1994, renamed Líídljį Kúę Elementary School in 2019. In 2021 the school provides grades JK-6.

Residential facilities

Listing of residences, hostels, halls chronologically, with denomination.

Name of residence (den.)	Dates	Notes
Bompas Hall (Ang.)	1959-1972	50 student capacity. Students attended Thomas Simpson FDS. Facility transferred to GNWT in 1969. Bompas Hall was closed in 1972.
Lapointe Hall (RC)	1959-1973	150 student capacity. Students attended Thomas Simpson FDS. Facility transferred to GNWT in 1969. In 1972 all residents were consolidated at Lapointe Hall, which became non-denominational.
St. Margaret's Hospital school? (RC)	1950s?	Unknown extent of dates, there is evidence of teaching in 1950s but the hospital operated from 1916-1972.
Koe Go Cho (Bompas) (non- den)	1973-1975	Koe Go Cho opened in 1973 in the old Bompas Hall. In 1975 the operation was transferred to the old Lapointe Hall building so that the Bompas Hall building could be converted to school facilities.

Name of residence (den.)	Dates	Notes
Koe Go Cho (Lapointe) (non-den)	1975-1985	In 1975 the Koe Go Cho residence was transferred to the old Lapointe Hall. Transferred to the Deh Cho Regional Council in 1985.
[Deh Cho Hall?] (non-den)	1985-1988	Closed in 1988, students coming from smaller communities are home boarded.

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Fort Smith

Brief summary of education facilities in the community, from church era, federal era and territorial era.

The provision of western education in Fort Smith began in 1911 with Protestant children being taught in local homes. This happened sporadically until the Anglican Mission was established in 1934 where Protestant children were taught in the Anglican minister's home, then in the new Anglican Church in 1936. This continued until the "public" school was opened; this was either in 1939 or 1941. While this public school was non-denominational, Catholic students continued to go to Catholic-run schools until the new Federal school in 1958 opened. The first non-denominational school consisted of 8 classrooms and was supported by federal grants as well as local funds; one source reports that the teacher's salary was partially supported by bi-monthly bingo games. This school closed in 1949 when the new Federal Day School opened, funded by DNANR, which ran until the new Federal school opened in 1958.

Roman Catholic based instruction began in 1915 with the establishment of the St. Therese/Theresa School, operated by the Roman Catholic church, which also notably accepted non-Catholic students. A new St. Therese School was built and opened in 1948 and was used until the Federal Day school was opened in 1958. This building was later sold to become a residence. In 1955, a section of the old 1914 St. Ann's Hospital was used for classrooms, possibly for St. Therese School. As well, school was taught to children admitted to St. Ann's Hospital at least in the late 1950s (but possibly earlier), but it was noted this was no longer required after the end of the 1960/61 school year.

In 1940 a Fort Smith High School opened, which may have been run by the Roman Catholic church, as it was run by Sr. M.O. Sarrasin. It was noted to be the first high school with credit programs. It is unclear precisely when and where this operated.

In January 1959 the new Federal Day School opened (officially named Joseph Burr Tyrrell School in March 1961) and it offered grades 1-12 until the 1970s. Notably at its start, all of the staff and students from St. Joseph's in Fort Resolution transferred to Fort Smith. Other non-local students also included children from Fort Fitzgerald, who bussed in daily. There was a fire at the Federal Day School on March 18, 1964. In 1965 Joseph Burr Tyrrell School was reported to have 30 classrooms. In 1969 all schools transferred to the GNWT when it assumed responsibility for education. In 1971 a major shift occurred, with the conversion of the Grandin College building to become the high school (later renamed P.W. Kaeser High School), and the younger grades eventually consolidated in the J.B. Tyrrell Elementary School. The South Slave Divisional Education Council was established in 1991 to administer regional schools.

Major renovations at the Joseph Burr Tyrrell School happened in 1974 and 1998. In 2021 it offers grades JK-6. The P.W. Kaeser High School remains in the original 1956 Grandin building. In 2021 it offers grades 7-12.

Paired with the new Federal Day school, in 1958/59 the Breynat Hall residence was established, operated by the Roman Catholic church. In early years many residential students came from north of

Great Slave Lake, including Behchokò (Ft. Rae), Yellowknife, Łutselk'e (Snowdrift), and Fort Resolution. This catchment continued into at least the mid 1960s. In 1971 the GNWT took over operation of the residence from the Roman Catholic church. In 1974 there was a major fire at Breynat Hall, which discontinued its use as a student hostel. The building was converted to a senior hostel for Aurora Vocational Training Centre and an instructional space for the Teacher Education program. The building suffered another fire on October 10, 1980 and was restored 2-3 years later.

Alongside Breynat Hall was the Grandin Residence (RC) established in 1959 as a seminary preparation, but which later in 1962 became a co-ed Grandin College, to train future leaders. In 1962 the old Grandin Residence (or Grandin Home) was used to house the girls at Grandin College, and the new building would eventually house a library, Roman Catholic Church archives and a museum. Another building was constructed in 1966. In 1971 the GNWT bought the Grandin College property and buildings in Fort Smith, and the large Grandin College building was converted to become the local high school, later renamed P.W. Kaeser High School, the other building becoming a teacher training centre. The male Grandin students then reoccupied the old Grandin Home and the Grandin girls were accommodated in a newly purchased private home. Grandin College was closed in 1985. Continuing in a similar vein of fostering leadership, the Western Arctic Leadership Program was a residential program which was established in 1991 and ran through to at least the mid 2000s. Students were housed in a building leased from the Oblates named the Madonna House and took classes at P.W. Kaeser.

Notes

As of December 11, 2023, the National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation Memorial Register website lists that 1 residential school student died while attending Breynat Hall.

School facilities

Listing of mission schools, day schools, schools chronologically.

Name of school	Dates	Notes
Intermittent Protestant classes	1911 – 1934	Held in local homes intermittently until Anglican Mission established.
Fort Smith Anglican Mission school	1934 – 1939 / 1941	Taught by Anglican minister at his home, then at Anglican Church (1936). Continued until public school opened.
St. Therese School (RC)	1915 – 1948	Also taught non-Roman Catholic students.
St. Therese School (RC)	1948 – 1958	Closed when Joseph Burr Tyrrell opened.
St Ann's Hospital School (RC)	? – 1960/61	Records available for late 1950s but discontinued after 1960/61 school year.

Name of school	Dates	Notes
Fort Smith Public School	1939 / 1941 – 1949	Funded in part by taxpayers/local fundraising. Closed when Federal Day School opened in 1949.
Fort Smith High School (RC?)	1940 - ?	First credited high school, taught by Sr. Sarrasin.
Fort Smith Federal Day School	1949-1959	Funded by Federal DNANR, closed when Joseph Burr Tyrrell opened
Joseph Burr Tyrrell School / Joseph Burr Tyrrell High School [?]/ Joseph Burr Tyrrell Elementary School	1959 – current	Opening meant for fall 1958 but delayed until Jan 1959. Originally grades 1-12. Transferred to GNWT in 1969. In 1971 the Grandin College building was converted to high school and older students shifted there. The high school was later called P.W. Kaesar, but Joseph Burr Tyrrell seems to have been a shared name for several years. In 1974 a high school [?].
P.W. Kaeser High School	[1971?] – current	Building originally housed Grandin College, was purchased and converted in 1971 to high school.

Residential facilities

Listing of residences, hostels, halls chronologically, with denomination.

Name of residence (den.)	Dates	Notes
Breynat Hall (RC)	1958 – 1974 / 1975	While open in 1958, school was delayed until 1959. A contingent of students came from Fort Resolution in 1959. Transferred to GNWT in 1969. Badly damaged by fire in 1974, and converted to Aurora Vocational Training Centre use. Closed then.
Grandin Home / Grandin Residence (RC)	1959 - 1985	Originally scoped as seminary prep, and was boys only. When new College building completed in 1962 girls occupied the old Grandin Home. When the College buildings sold in 1971, the boys took over the Grandin Home again, and girls were sent to a newly purchased local home.

Name of residence (den.)	Dates	Notes
Grandin College (RC)	1962-1971	New building in 1962 housed boys' residence, library, museum and rec room. Third building completed in 1966. In 1971 buildings sold to GNWT and converted to high school (P.W. Kaeser).
Grandin College Girls Residence	1971 – 1985?	Girls accommodated in purchased local home.
Western Arctic Leadership Program	1991-2000s?	Society founded in 1991 and ran to at least 2005.

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Gamètì

Brief summary of education facilities in the community, from church era, federal era and territorial era.

The provision of western education in Gamètì began with classes being taught at the community hall from 1971-1976, with older students going to Rae to the new Chief Jimmy Bruneau School. A new one classroom school was built in 1976, with an addition completed in 1979 which provided a second classroom, kitchen, office, storage rooms and a shower facility that could be used by students or community members. Renovations also occurred in 1988. The Dogrib Divisional Education Council was established in 1989 to administer regional schools; since 2005 it is now administered through the Tłıchǫ Community Services Agency.

The Jean Wetrade Gamètì School was constructed in 1992 and offered grades K-9. The high school program first started October 1, 2009 after a major school retrofit at was added in 2008. The first Gamètì high school graduates were celebrated in June 2013. In 2021 all grades JK-12 are offered.

School facilities

Listing of mission schools, day schools, schools chronologically.

Name of school	Dates	Notes
Rae Lakes School	1971 – 1976	School was held in community hall, with older students going to the new Chief Jimmy Bruneau school in Rae.
Rae Lakes School	1976 - 1992	New 1 classroom school built 1976, 1 classroom log addition completed in fall 1979. Renovations 1988.
Jean Wetrade Gamètì School	1992 - 2021	New school opened 1992, offering grades K-9. Major retrofit completed in 2008 and launch of high school programming in 2009. First grade 12 graduates in June 2013. In 2021 JK-12 offered.

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Hay River

Brief summary of education in the community, from church facilities, federal facilities, territorial facilities.

The provision of western education in Hay River began with Anglican catechists who attempted teaching on a temporary basis in the area between 1874-1893. In 1893/1894 Reverend Marsh began teaching on a formal basis, and by 1895 had a school building built on the Mission grounds, and this became known as St. Peter's Mission School, receiving funding from their London England-based Anglican sponsor the Church Missionary Society (CMS) as well as federal grants. By 1895 a dormitory was in place and students from the closed St. James Mission in Fort Resolution were accommodated. The residence closed later in the 1890s due to lack of funds from the CMS. In 1898 a new roof was raised on a new dormitory by Klondike Gold Rush prospectors who were in the area. In 1907 Canon Vale was assigned the Principal of the school and Missionary to the area, and described the mission classroom as a lean-to addition to a log cabin. In 1917 a new three-story Mission building was built under Canon Vale; this was also funded by CMS as well as the Federal Government. Vale noted that in 1916-17 skilled carpenters were assisted by male students, and that two of those boys later helped to build the Cathedral at Aklavik. Anglican children were sent from all over the Northwest Territories to stay in residence at Hay River if they were unable to access Anglican instruction locally. In the mid 1930s the Church sought to consolidate its residences for logistical and financial reasons, and as they opened the new All Saints Residence in Aklavik in 1936 they decided to close down the Hay River Mission operations, which had fallen into disrepair. Younger St. Peter's boarders left for Aklavik in 1936, and older students and most staff left in 1937. The school and residence closed officially on August 31, 1937.

It is noted that in the early 1900s children of Roman Catholic faith from the Hay River area were sent to residential school either at Fort Providence or possibly Fort Resolution. In 1938 Federal Government Engineer Perry noted that Roman Catholic missionaries provided intermittent catechism instruction at Hay River.

At the closing of the St. Peter's Mission and Residential School in 1937, a day school was established in the old isolation (Tuberculosis?) hospital (possibly on the mission grounds?). Teacher Richards taught from 1937-1943. Nurse Neville taught school occasionally in the community during the war years between 1943-1946, due to labour shortages during the war. Mrs. Kraus also taught up to 15 children, likely Protestant, from her home in the late 1940s. By 1949 or 1950 a Federal Day School was established due primarily to a large influx of families from northern Alberta and other places to participate in the commercial fishery. In December 1956 a lease contract was struck with the Legion Hall to be used as a school (likely temporarily?). By 1965 the Federal Day School had 14 classrooms. In 1966 both the elementary and high school students were in the same building on lot 661 with their own principals, prior to the new elementary school opening the following year. From at least the 1960s, children from the community of Enterprise were being bussed in daily to Hay River for school, as were children from the Hay River K'at'l'odeeche First Nation Reserve.

In the summer of 1967, a new Princess Alexandra Elementary School was opened by Princess Alexandra; it had 12 classrooms and underwent a major renovation in 2002. The responsibility for education transferred to the GNWT in 1969. The high school continued in the old Federal Day School building until 1972 when the new 16 classroom Diamond Jenness High School was completed. Diamond Jenness High School underwent a major renovation in 2013.

On March 30, 1961 the Separate School district was officially formed. Oblate fathers built the new 7 room St. Paul's Separate School which opened September 1962. This building was sold to the Government of the NWT in 1969 but continued to be managed by the Separate School district. The school continued operation, with 6 additional portables provided in 1977. The school was lost to fire in 1978.

In the 1980s the Camsell/St. Paul's school provided middle school grades 4-7. A fire in 1988 damaged the school which precipitated the construction of the Harry Camsell Elementary school.

The South Slave Divisional Education Council was established in 1991 to administer regional schools.

The Harry Camsell Elementary school was built in 1990. An addition was built in 2000. In 2021 it provides grades JK-3.

On, Hay River K'at'odeeche First Nation Reserve the Chief Sunrise Education Centre was built in 1984. It was renovated in 2006 and in 2021 provides classes JK-12. Prior to this, students were bussed over to Hay River for school.

The French school École Boréale was established in 2005 and is administered by the Commission Scolaire Francophone TNO. In 2021 it provides classes JK-12.

Notes

As of December 11, 2023, the National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation's National Student Memorial website lists 50 students who died while attending St. Peter's Residential School [although it is incorrectly named All Saints on the website].

School facilities

Listing of mission schools, day schools, schools chronologically.

Name of school	Dates	Notes
Hay River Mission school (Ang.)	1874- 1893	Temporary catechists.
St. Peter's Mission school / St. Peter's Residential School (Ang.)	1895-1917	New school built 1895. The Mission classroom in 1907 was described by Vale as a lean-to addition to a log house.

Name of school	Dates	Notes
St. Peter's Mission School / St. Peter's Residential School	1917- 1937	New 3 story Mission built under Vale. At close, younger boarders left in 1936, and older students and most staff left in 1937. The school and residence closed officially on August 31, 1937.
St. Peter's Day School / Hay River Day School	1937-1943	In old isolation hospital [possibly on the mission grounds?], teacher Richards.
Roman Catholic missionary school	Late 1930s	Roman Catholic missionaries provide intermittent catechism instruction.
Nurse Neville school	1943- ca 1945	Nurse Neville taught school occasionally in war years, no teachers available due to war labour shortages.
Mrs. Kraus' school	Late 1940s	Mrs. Kraus taught around 15 Protestant children in her home in the late 1940s.
Hay River Federal Day School / possibly Hay River Indian Day School? / Hay River school ?	1949 or 1950 - 1972	New Federal School built, funded by Indian Affairs branch, due in great part to a large influx of people from northern Alberta to the fishery. By 1965 14 classrooms. In 1967 became the high school until Diamond Jenness school was opened in 1972. Facility transferred to GNWT in 1969.
St. Paul's Separate School	1962- 1978	Separate School district established on March 30, 1961. 7 classroom school built by Oblate fathers opened in Sept 1962. Facility transferred to GNWT in 1969 [?]. 6 portables added in 1977 but school lost to fire in 1978.
Camsell/St. Paul's	? – 1988?	Unknown when established. In 1985 provided grades 4-7. Suffered fire in 1988? Replacement school became Harry Camsell Elementary?
Princess Alexandra Elementary School	1967-2021	Opened in 1967. Facility transferred to GNWT in 1969. In 1980s provided K-3. Complete renovation in 2002. In 2021 provides grades 4-7.
Diamond Jenness High School	1972-2021	Opened in 1972, major renovation in 2013. In 2021 provides grades 8-12.

Name of school	Dates	Notes
Hay River Reserve School / Chief Sunrise Education Centre	1985-2021	Opened 1985, initially provided elementary grades only. Renovated in 2006. 2021 provides JK-12.
Harry Camsell elementary school	1990-2021	Addition in 2000. In 2021 provides grades JK-3.
École Boréale	2005-2021	In 2021 provides JK-12

Residential facilities

Listing of residences, hostels, halls chronologically, with denomination.

Name of residence (den.)	Dates	Notes
St. Peter's Residential School	1895 – 189-?	First boarders came from Fort Resolution (from St. James Mission that had closed). Closed 1890s due to lack of funds.
St. Peter's Residential School	1898 - 1917	New dormitory built with assistance of Klondike prospectors.
St. Peter's Residential School	1917 – 1937	New 3 story Mission building built in 1917. Young boarders sent to Aklavik in 1936, older boarders and staff sent in 1937. Officially closed.

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Inuvik

Brief summary of education facilities in the community, from church era, federal era and territorial era.

The provision of western education in Inuvik began immediately during the community's construction (provisionally known as East 3), with a temporary Federal school in 1956. Several of the attending children came from Aklavik, from where community government officials were strongly encouraging families to relocate. In 1959 a large new regional school opened, officially named Sir Alexander Mackenzie School (SAMS) in 1961. This school housed all grades until the high school was built. By 1965 SAMS had 38 classrooms and capacity for 890 students from grades 1 to 12. At its inception, the school was joined by two major Federal hostels: Grollier Hall (originally provisionally known as Notre Dame hostel) run on contract by the Roman Catholic Church, and Stringer Hall, run by the Anglicans. Each of these residences had capacity for 250 resident students and drew from a large catchment throughout the Beaufort Delta region and Arctic communities. Other facilities were included with the residences, including an arena, which was later converted to a community greenhouse which opened in 2000.

A new high school, Samuel Hearne Secondary School (SHSS), opened in 1966 and had two science rooms, a library, industrial arts and home economics facilities and a gym. In 1969 all educational facilities in Inuvik were transferred to the Government of the Northwest Territories, who assumed responsibilities for education from the federal government.

A 10-classroom addition to SHSS was completed in 1972. A number of expansions of trades shops occurred between 1982-1984 in order to meet the needs of a vocational certificate program. In 1982 an auto shop, in 1983 a carpentry shop, and in 1984 a general mechanics shop were added. The Beaufort-Delta Divisional Education Council was established in 1989 to administer regional schools.

As more community schools continued to be built by federal and later territorial authorities, the need for large regional residences declined. The Anglican hostel Stringer Hall was closed in 1975, and it was demolished in the summer of 1989. Grollier continued operation. In 1986 it underwent a major renovation. In 1987 the Department of Education privatized its operation, and it was then managed by Tryaction Management. Grollier Hall closed on June 30, 1996, the last of the Federally operated hostels in the NWT to close. On February 25, 1999 there was a ceremony for former students to come smash the abandoned Grollier Hall site prior to demolition. By July 1999 the site was demolished.

In 2012 two new schools within a superschool were opened, East Three Elementary School (grades K-6) and the East Three Secondary School (grades 7-12). The Samuel Hearne Secondary School closed in 2012 and was demolished in June 2013. Sir Alexander Mackenzie school closed in 2012 and was demolished in May 2014.

Notes

As of December 11, 2023, the National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation's National Student Memorial website lists 6 students who died while attending Grollier Hall, and 5 students died while attending Stringer Hall.

School facilities

Listing of mission schools, day schools, schools chronologically.

Name of school	Dates	Notes
East 3 temporary Federal Day School / Inuvik temporary Federal Day school	1956 - 1959	Closed when Sir Alexander Mackenzie School opened in 1959.
Sir Alexander Mackenzie School	1959 – 2012	Grades 1-12 until 1966. Facility taken over by GNWT in 1969.
Samuel Hearne Secondary School	1966 – 2012	Officially opened 2 years later by Minister Jean Chretien. Facility taken over by GNWT in 1969. 10 classroom addition in 1972.
East Three Elementary School	2012 – 2021	Opened in 2012 offering K-6. In 2021 offering JK-6.
East Three Secondary School	2012 – 2021	Opened in 2012 offering grades 7-12.

Residential facilities

Listing of residences, hostels, halls chronologically, with denomination.

Name of residence (den.)	Dates	Notes
Stringer Hall (Ang.)	1959 – 1975	Transferred to GNWT in 1969. Closed in 1975. Demolished 1989.
Grollier Hall (RC) / Notre Dame residence	1959 – 1996	Briefly originally called Notre-Dame residence, officially named Grollier Hall in 1961. Transferred to GNWT in 1969. Privatized 1987. Closed in 1996. Demolished in 1999.

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Jean Marie River

Brief summary of education facilities in the community, from church era, federal era and territorial era.

The provision of western education in Jean Marie River began with classes being taught as a summer school by volunteer university graduate students June Helm and Teresa Carterette in the summers of 1951 and 1952, with Carterette also teaching through the 1951/52 year. Prior to this, children were sent to Fort Providence to the Sacred Heart Residential School. In 1955 a Federal Day school opened in Jean Marie River but had initial issues with staffing. A two-bedroom apartment teacherage was built and attached to the original school in 1959. In 1965 the school was still a one-room school, with K-6 taught. This school was transferred to the GNWT when it assumed responsibility for education in 1969.

In 1982 the school was renamed Louis Norwegian Territorial School. At that time K-6 was still being taught, with older students going to Fort Simpson to stay in hostel for higher grades, and later to Akaitcho Hall for high school. In 1988 it was still a one room school. The Dehcho Divisional Education Council was established in 1990 to administer regional schools.

In 1994 the new Louie Norwegian School was built. As of 2021, the school offers grades JK-9, and older students go to Fort Simpson for high school.

School facilities

Listing of mission schools, day schools, schools chronologically.

Name of school	Dates	Notes
Jean Marie River summer school / Jean Marie community school	1951-1952	Summer school in '51 and '52 taught by volunteer teachers June Helm and Teresa Carterette in building constructed by community members. Carterette also taught through 1951/52 and was supported by community members.
Jean Marie River Federal Day School / Jean Marie River School ? / Louie Norwegian Territorial School	1955 - 1994	Opened Sept 1955. Facility taken over by GNWT in 1969. Renamed Louie Norwegian school in 1982.
Louie Norwegian School	1994 - 2021	Opened 1994. In 2021 offers JK-9. Older students go to Fort Simpson for high school.

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Kakisa

Brief summary of education facilities in the community, from church era, federal era and territorial era.

The provision of western education in Kakisa began in January 1989 in a trailer unit. The teacher also provided adult education for those who were interested in upgrading. Prior to this, students went to Fort Smith, Fort Simpson, Fort Providence or Hay River for schooling. The Dehcho Divisional Education Council was established in 1990 to administer regional schools.

In 1998 the Kakisa Lake School opened as a new purpose-built one room school. In 2021 it provides grades JK to 10. High school students go to Fort Simpson for higher grades.

School facilities

Listing of mission schools, day schools, schools chronologically.

Name of school	Dates	Notes
Kakisa School	1989 – 1998	Housed in trailer.
Kakisa Lake School	1998 – 2021	New school opened in 1998. In 2021 JK-10, older students go to Fort Simpson.

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Łutselk'e

Brief summary of education facilities in the community, from church era, federal era and territorial era.

The provision of western education in Łutselk'e began with of summer tent school in 1957, 1958 and 1959 before construction of a Federal Day School in 1960. Prior to having a school in town, children were sent to Fort Smith, Fort Providence or Yellowknife, and needed to continue to do so for higher grades. The new Snowdrift Federal School also drew in children from outside communities such as Rocher River and families in the surrounding area. In 1961 the school was reported to be a one-room school with no plumbing. In 1965 the school accommodated 40 students in two rooms. In 1969 the school transferred to the territorial government when it assumed responsibility for education. In 1977 extra portables were provided.

In 1984 the new Lutsel K'e Dene School was built. The South Slave Divisional Education Council was established in 1991 to administer regional schools. In 2011 the grades offered expanded to grade 12. In 2017 it was fully renovated. In 2021 it offers all grades JK to 12.

School facilities

Listing of mission schools, day schools, schools chronologically.

Name of school	Dates	Notes
Snowdrift Summer Tent School	1957-1959	
Snowdrift Federal School / Snowdrift School	1960 – 1984?	Initially 1 room, was 2 rooms by 1965. Facility taken over by GNWT in 1969. In 1977 extra portables provided.
Lutsel K'e Dene School	1984 – 2021	Built 1984, fully renovated 2017. In 2021 offers JK-12.

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Nahanni Butte

Brief summary of education facilities in the community, from church era, federal era and territorial era.

The provision of western education in Nahanni Butte began when evangelist missionaries Mr. and Mrs. Philip Howard began instructing children in early 1957, without the approval of the Federal government. Summer (tent) school was provided in 1957 and 1958. The provision of school was delayed despite the log cabin building being completed around 1959. For several years staffing and housing issues delayed year-round school in the community, but full-time school began in 1961.

In 1965 the school was noted to be a one-room classroom. This school was transferred to the GNWT when it assumed responsibility for education in 1969. In 1977 a log school was being constructed by the people of Nahanni Butte, to be completed in 1978.

In 1985 the two-room Nahanni Butte school was constructed by community members, and the official opening was in 1986. The Dehcho Divisional Education Council was established in 1990 to administer regional schools. Washroom and kitchen renovations to Charles Yohin School occurred in 2021, and the school offers grades JK-12.

School facilities

Listing of mission schools, day schools, schools chronologically.

Name of school	Dates	Notes
Evangelist missionary teachers	May 1957	Local missionaries began instructing local children without government permission.
Nahanni Butte Summer School	Summer 1957, 1958	1957 one teacher, 1958 two teachers.
Nahanni Butte Federal Day School / Nahanni Butte School	1961 – 1978?	Facility taken over by GNWT in 1969.
Nahanni Butte Territorial School / Charles Yohin School	1978? - 1986	New log cabin school built by community members.
Charles Yohin School	1986 - 2021	New two-room school built by community members, opened 1986. Washroom and kitchen renos 2021, major renovation planned for 2022-2027. In 2021 offers JK-12.

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Ndilq

Brief summary of education facilities in the community, from church era, federal era and territorial era.

The provision of western education in Ndilq began with kindergarten classes in the 1970s in an unknown location. By January 1976 a new parent-child development centre was built in the community and kindergarten classes were held here.

Upgrading programs were noted to be offered in partnership with Aurora College in 1991. A HeadStart facility for early education was established in 1997.

In 2009 K'alemi Dene School was completed after years of community advocacy, accommodating grades K-12 in the community. It is administered through Yellowknife Educational District No. 1. Prior to K'alemi Dene School, children were bussed into Yellowknife and usually attended Roman Catholic Separate Schools. In 2021 grades JK-12 are offered at K'alemi Dene School.

School facilities

Listing of mission schools, day schools, schools chronologically.

Name of school	Dates	Notes
Kindergarten classes	Mid 1970s	Classes may have been held in temporary places until a new Parent-child development centre opened in January 1976.
Upgrading programs	1991	Upgrading programs held in unknown location.
HeadStart program	1997- 2021	New facility opened 1997 for early child education.
K'alemi Dene School	2009- 2021	In 2021 provides grades JK-12.

References

Canada. Northern Administration Branch fonds. G-1979-003, file 231-2. NWT Archives, Yellowknife NWT Canada.

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Norman Wells

Brief summary of education facilities in the community, from church era, federal era and territorial era.

The provision of western education in Norman Wells began with classes being held in the back room of the Imperial Oil store in the early 1950s, taught by Mrs. Harris; it is unclear who funded the school or teacher. In 1956, Mrs. Wood, wife of the Department of Transport manager, ran a classroom in her house for three Grade 1 students, one of which was her child. Temporary classrooms (possibly funded by Imperial Oil, with teachers supplied by the Federal Government) provided instruction to students in the late 1950s, but registration was low and some students were sent to Fort Providence for school.

A Federal Day School was completed around November 1960 and was located on the river bank. By 1965 it was noted that the school was still a one room school, and the school was relocated in the late 1960s to buildings later occupied by Wildlife Services. The school was transferred to the territorial government when it assumed responsibility for education in 1969. In 1971 the Territorial government provided portables for the school, and it was set up close to where the water tank was located in the 1980s. In 1975 the portables were moved and set up across from the NTCL yard. On March 27, 1983 a new school opened, offering grades K-9, and a community library ran out of the resource centre. The Sahtu Divisional Education Council was established in 1989 to administer regional schools. An addition to the school was completed in 1995. In 2021 the school offers all grades JK-12.

School facilities

Listing of mission schools, day schools, schools chronologically.

Name of school	Dates	Notes
Norman Wells school – classes in Imperial Oil store	Early 1950s	Unclear who funded classes or teacher, perhaps Imperial Oil?
Mrs. Wood's school	Ca. 1956	Mrs. Wood held classes for three Grade 1 students, one of which was her child.
Norman Wells Mine School?	Late 1950s	Temporary classrooms used in late 1950s, teachers supplied by Federal Government.
Norman Wells Federal Day School / Norman Wells school	November 1960 - 1971	Located on river bank, 1 room school, later relocated to Wildlife Services buildings. Facility taken over by GNWT in 1969.
Norman Wells Territorial School (portables)	1971 - 1983	Portable classrooms at water tank location, then across from NTCL yard.

Name of school	Dates	Notes
Norman Wells Territorial School / Mackenzie Mountain School	1983 - 2021	New school opened March 27, 1983. K-9 classes. An addition was completed in 1995. In 2021 the school offers all grades JK-12.

References

Canada. Northern Administration Branch fonds. G-1979-003, file 210-9, 211-1, 237-5, 252-1, 259-13. NWT Archives, Yellowknife NWT Canada.

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"Transfer Plan for Education Program Phase I" from Transfer Plans phase I & phase II / Transfer of Departmental programs to the territorial government [1968]. NWT Archives/ Northwest Territories. Department of the Executive fonds/G-1999-019: 2-30.

Paulatuk

Brief summary of education facilities in the community, from church era, federal era and territorial era.

The provision of western education in Paulatuk began in the late 1960s when Nora Ruben held informal classes in her own home, helped by Bertha Ruben, using books sent to her from Inuvik to teach interested children. In 1974 formal school began when Sister Manning started teaching K-3 in 1974 in a small trailer. The following year another trailer and teacher were added, and the grades expanded to K-6. In 1983 a third classroom was added, and grades K-9 were taught. The Beaufort-Delta Divisional Education Council was established in 1989 to administer regional schools.

In 1991 the Angik Territorial school opened; however high school students continued to be sent to Inuvik. Renovations occurred in 1997. In 2001 Angik School graduated its first high school student, but high school grade classes were reduced, then reintroduced for 2005-2007. As of 2021 Angik School provides all grades JK-12.

School facilities

Listing of mission schools, day schools, schools chronologically.

Name of school	Dates	Notes
Nora Ruben's classes	Late 1960s	
Paulatuk Territorial School	1974 - 1991	Classes held in portables. 1974: K-3, 1975: K-6, 1983: K-9.
Angik School	1991 - 2021	1991 completion, 1997 renovations. First high school graduate in 2001. As of 2021 all grades JK-12 are offered.

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Beaufort Delta Educational Council. "Paulatuk - Angik." September 28, 2021.

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Government of Northwest Territories, Department of Infrastructure, "VFA Asset Detail Internal Report-Paulatuk 000905", (July 2021), GNWT Infrastructure Database,

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Pine Point

Brief summary of education in the community, from church facilities, federal facilities, territorial facilities.

The provision of western education in Pine Point began in a temporary Federal Day School in 1964, while the new townsite was being constructed. In 1965 the new four room Pine Point Federal Day School opened. In 1968 a four-classroom addition with gym, home economics and industrial education rooms was completed. In 1969 the school was transferred to the territorial government when it assumed responsibility over education. The school at some point was renamed Matonabbee School, and it housed all children from K-9, with the senior high school students bussing daily to Hay River.

In 1977 a new Galena Heights School opened which housed the youngest pupils K-2. It is unclear when the full grades in the community expanded from K to 12, but it's likely to have happened after the younger students moved to Galena Heights. In February 1980 Matonabbee School burned down. By September 1980 additions were made to Galena Elementary to expand grades to K-5. A new Matonabbee School was officially opened May 21, 1981 and provided senior grades.

Both Galena Heights Elementary School and Matonabbee School closed in June 1988 with the closure of the mine and community of Pine Point.

School facilities

Listing of mission schools, day schools, schools chronologically.

Name of school	Dates	Notes
Temporary Federal Day School	1964-1965	
Pine Point Federal Day School / Pine Point School? / Matonabbee School	1965-1980	All students attended Matonabbee (K-9). Senior high students bussed to Hay River every day until some point in late 1970s (likely post Galena construction).. Facility transferred to GNWT in 1969. In 1977 Matonabbee became grade 3-9 and then expanded to high school some time in later 1970s. Fire destroyed the school in February 1980.
Matonabbee School	1981 - 1988	Rebuilt after 1980 fire. Official opening May 21, 1981. Closed in 1988 with closure of community.
Galena Heights Elementary School	1977 - 1988	When opened, housed K-2. After Matonabbee fire, expansion made to Galena and from Sept

		1980 it housed K-5. Closed in June 1988 with closure of community.
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Port Radium

Brief summary of education facilities in the community, from church era, federal era and territorial era.

The provision of western education in Port Radium began with the construction of a school by Eldorado Mine for the children of company staff in 1947. By 1951 the teacher was provided by the Federal Government. In 1959 a summer school with two Federally employed teachers was provided for Indigenous children in the area. The mine and school closed in 1960 but reopened again in 1968. It was noted that the school building from Reindeer Station was moved for use in Port Radium in 1968. This school was transferred to the GNWT when it assumed responsibility for education in 1969.

The school was open until at least 1980. It is unclear when school was discontinued at the Port Radium site.

School facilities

Listing of mission schools, day schools, schools chronologically.

Name of school	Dates	Notes
Eldorado Mine school / Port Radium school /	1947 - 1960	Built by Eldorado Mine, school continuous from 1947-1960.
Summer School	1959	Summer school with two Federal teachers for Indigenous children in area.
Port Radium school/ Echo Bay Mine school	1968 – 1980s	Reopened 1968, but unclear when closed.

References

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Rayrock Mine

Brief summary of education facilities in the community, from church era, federal era and territorial era.

The provision of western education in Rayrock Mine was of brief duration, as the mine was also only briefly active. Initially provided by the mine company for primarily white mine employees' children in 1957, it may have been considered a Federal Day School in 1958. In 1958 and 1959 a summer tent school was provided for Indigenous children in the area. By 1959 the mine began shutting down and was closed in July 1959.

School facilities

Listing of mission schools, day schools, schools chronologically.

Name of school	Dates	Notes
Rayrock Mine School / Rayrock Federal School	1957-1959	Built by mine for primarily white children of mine employees.
Rayrock Summer (Tent) School	1958, 1959	Held for Indigenous children living in Rayrock area.

References

Canada. Northern Administration Branch fonds. G-1979-003, file 218-8, 226-2, 229-6, 260-1, NWT Archives, Yellowknife NWT Canada.

"Rayrock." The operational history of mines in the Northwest Territories, Canada / by Ryan Silke, self published, 2009. Pages 417-419.

Reindeer Station

Brief summary of education facilities in the community, from church era, federal era and territorial era.

The provision of western education at Reindeer Station began with the opening of a Federal Day School in 1956. The school was a one-room school during its operation. As of October 1968, only one family was left at Reindeer Station and their child was sent to Inuvik for school, boarding with a family there. In 1968 it was noted that the school was closed, and the building moved to Port Radium for use as a school there.

School facilities

Listing of mission schools, day schools, schools chronologically.

Name of school	Dates	Notes
Reindeer Station School	1956 - 1968	

References

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Rocher River

Brief summary of education in the community, from church facilities, federal facilities, territorial facilities.

The provision of western education at Rocher River began with the construction of the Rocher River Indian Day School in 1948, and a teacher starting at the school in the fall of 1949. In the mid 1950s the teacher noted the school was in disrepair, and attendance also began to decline. A fire in 1959 destroyed the classroom building, and the Federal Government did not believe the enrolment numbers were high enough to warrant a rebuild. At a Fort Resolution Band Council meeting in 1961 families expressed discontent over the lack of a school at Rocher River, and the likely need to move to Fort Resolution so their children could go to school without going into residence. While authorities continued to examine whether a school was viable in the community for several years, one was not built. By 1968 the Taltson River Nonacho Dam project went ahead, and by 1970 the last store closed in the community and most people moved to other locations.

School facilities

Listing of mission schools, day schools, schools chronologically.

Name of school	Dates	Notes
Rocher River Federal Day School	1949-1959	Fire destroyed the school in 1959, and it was not rebuilt.

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"History of Education in the Northwest Territories" in Education North of 60: A report prepared by members of the Canadian Association of School Superintendents and Inspectors in the Department of Northern Affairs and National Resources, Ryerson Press, 1965. P 63.

Sachs Harbour

Brief summary of education facilities in the community, from church era, federal era and territorial era.

The provision of western education in Sachs Harbour began with some instruction from an RCMP officer, but this seems to have been of short duration. A school was first constructed in the summer of 1968, first opening in fall 1968 to students in grades 1-6. Prior to the school being built, children were sent to Shingle Point, Aklavik, then Inuvik for schooling. Still, after being built, older students continue to go to Inuvik for later grades. This school was transferred to the GNWT when it assumed responsibility for education in 1969.

A new school, Inualthuyak School was completed in 1973. The Beaufort-Delta Divisional Education Council was established in 1989 to administer regional schools. The Inualthuyak School was remodeled in 1993. As of 2021, grades JK-9 are offered. Students continuing to grades 10-12 board in homes in Inuvik while going to East Three Secondary School.

School facilities

Listing of mission schools, day schools, schools chronologically.

Name of school	Dates	Notes
Instruction from RCMP officer	1958	
Banksland School / Sachs Harbour School	1968 -1973	Initially opened for grades 1-6. Transferred to the GNWT in 1969.
Inualthuyak School	1973 - 2021	Opened 1973, remodelled 1993. In 2021 grades JK-9 are offered.

References

Annual report of the Government of the Northwest Territories / Office of the Commissioner, Northwest Territories. Department of Information. 1960-1991. 1969 p 54.

"Banksland Story, School Yearbook 1968-1969." Sachs Harbour School Yearbook, self-published [1969].

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Sambaa K'e

Brief summary of education facilities in the community, from church era, federal era and territorial era.

The provision of western education in Sambaa K'e began in the summer of 1959 when Father May conducted Basic English classes during part of the summer of 1959. Starting in September of 1959 children were airlifted to go to school in Fort Smith, Providence and Inuvik. In 1960 students were airlifted to Fort Simpson, which continued for over a decade.

The first school was built in the community in 1972. A new school, Charles Tetcho School, was built by community members starting in 1977, and it opened in 1978. The Dehcho Divisional Education Council was established in 1990 to administer regional schools. A major renovation on the school was completed in 1994.

In 2019 a new Charles Tetcho School was built offering grades JK-9, and this continues to 2021. Older students continue to go to Fort Simpson for high school.

School facilities

Listing of mission schools, day schools, schools chronologically.

Name of school	Dates	Notes
Trout Lake seasonal mission	Summer 1959	Father May conducted Basic English classes during part of the summer of 1959.
Trout Lake School	1972-1978	First school built by community members.
Charles Tetcho School	1978 – 2019	Originally offered grades K-6, gradually expanded to K-9. Major renovation in 1994.
Charles Tetcho School	2019 - 2021	New school built in 2019, offering JK-9. High school students continue to go to Fort Simpson.

References

Annual report of the Government of the Northwest Territories / Office of the Commissioner, Northwest Territories. Department of Information. 1960-1991. 1977 p 50, 1978 p 39.

Canada. Northern Administration Branch fonds. G-1979-003, file 251-9. NWT Archives, Yellowknife NWT Canada.

Dehcho Divisional Education Council website. "Charles Tetcho School: Our School." Viewed December 2, 2021. <https://www.ddec.ca/schools/charles-tetcho-school/>

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Government of Northwest Territories, Department of Infrastructure, "VFA Asset Detail Internal Report-Sambaa K'e 000886", (July 2021), GNWT Infrastructure Database, <https://facility.vfafacility.com/facility/login.jsp?>

Sambaa K'e: then and now. Community Book Project, Sambaa K'e Dene Band. 1998.

Trout Rock / Ptarmigan Point

Brief summary of education facilities in the community, from church era, federal era and territorial era.

The brief history of the provision of western education in Trout Rock began in the summer of 1958, with the goal of providing early education for children whose families lived on the land in that area. Partway through the summer school it was moved to Ptarmigan Point as most families had moved there for commercial fishing. In 1959 the school is described as a tent. Correspondence in February 1960 noted that the school would no longer be held.

School facilities

Listing of mission schools, day schools, schools chronologically.

Name of school	Dates	Notes
Trout Rock Seasonal School	Summer 1958, Summer 1959	Notes that in August 1958 moved the school to Ptarmigan Point as families had moved for commercial fishing.

References

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Tsiigehtchic

Brief summary of education facilities in the community, from church era, federal era and territorial era.

While plans were in discussion as early as 1949, the provision of a school in Arctic Red River was delayed until 1954. The Arctic Red River Federal Day School seems to have run intermittently through the 1950s and 1960s due to low enrolment and attendance, primarily offering grades 1-5. In 1962 the school accommodated 11 students grades 1-5, and in 1970 14 students grades 1-5. When the school was closed, or if older children required school, they were usually sent to Inuvik. This school was transferred to the GNWT when it assumed responsibility for education in 1969.

In 1984 new classroom additions were completed.

The new Chief Paul Niditchie School opened in 1989. That year the Beaufort-Delta Divisional Education Council was established to administer regional schools. A newer Chief Paul Niditchie School was completed in 2000. By 2021 grades JK-9 are offered.

School facilities

Listing of mission schools, day schools, schools chronologically.

Name of school	Dates	Notes
Arctic Red River Federal Day School / Arctic Red River School	1954? – 1989?	School was intermittent in 1950s and 1960s. Facility taken over by GNWT in 1969. New additions completed in 1984.
Chief Paul Niditchie School	1989 - 2000	
Chief Paul Niditchie School	2000 - 2021	In 2021 the school offers classes JK-9.

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Tuktoyaktuk

Brief summary of education facilities in the community, from church era, federal era and territorial era.

The provision of western education in Tuktoyaktuk began with the Anglican Tuktoyaktuk Day School in 1947, which was soon taken over by the Federal government in 1948. Prior to 1947 students went to residential school in Aklavik. In 1948 the Tuktoyaktuk Federal Day School was noted to be the first Federally funded school provided to Inuit children. The school grew steadily, with one teacher in 1948, two in 1956, three in 1957, and four in 1959. A new five-room school was built in 1963/64 to replace the four-room school. In 1965 a new seven-room school was built which accommodated 120 students in grades 1-8, and school lunches were provided every day.

In 1969 this school was transferred to the GNWT when it assumed responsibility for education. In 1989 the new Mangilaluk School was opened, which supported grades K-8. The Beaufort-Delta Divisional Education Council was established in 1989 to administer regional schools. There were major renovations to Mangilaluk School in 2007. In 2021 it is under renovation and offers grades JK-12.

School facilities

Listing of mission schools, day schools, schools chronologically.

Name of school	Dates	Notes
Tuktoyaktuk Anglican School	1947-1948	
Tuktoyaktuk Federal Day School	1948-1965	Anglican school taken over by Federal government (DNANR).
Tuktoyaktuk Federal Day School / Tuktoyaktuk School	1965 – 1990?	New 7 room school built, accommodated 120 students in grades 1-8. Facility taken over by GNWT in 1969.
Mangilaluk School	1989 - 2021	New school opened in 1989. In 1990 supported K-8. Major renovation in 2007. In 2021 under renovation. Offers JK-12.

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Tulita

Brief summary of education facilities in the community, from church era, federal era and territorial era.

The provision of western education in Tulita began in 1866 with the Fort Norman Anglican Mission, which was funded in part initially by the Hudson's Bay Company and the Anglican Church, with some of these funds coming from fundraising in England. This mission included a boarding school established by Bishop Bompas which housed children who had been orphaned in the 1865 scarlet fever epidemic in the region. The school/residence operated for three years until 1869. In 1873 school was taught by catechist William Norn, and in 1881 by Bishop Bompas. Federal grants were provided to the school in 1897. It is noted that the townsite changed several times between 1810-1872, settling at the most northerly (old) site in 1872.

The Anglican Mission school received federal grants in 1925, 1926 and 1928, but may have operated in other years as well without receiving a grant. As well, Roman Catholic missionaries were noted to have provided catechism instruction on an intermittent basis in at least the late 1930s.

A new Federal Day School was built in 1949 or 1950 and appears to have been a two-room school. In 1968/69 a one-classroom addition was provided. In 1969 the facility was taken over by the territorial government. In 1971 a small hostel was in operation briefly to accommodate children whose parents were not in the community. In 1979 a new school was under construction and the Chief Albert Wright School opened for the 1980/81 year. The Sahtu Divisional Education Council was established in 1989 to administer regional schools.

There was a school fire on October 9, 2007. A new school was under construction at the time, and school was held in temporary facilities such as church halls and hotel rooms while the construction was completed. The new school was opened on May 1, 2008. In 2021 it offers grades JK-12.

School facilities

Listing of mission schools, day schools, schools chronologically.

Name of school	Dates	Notes
Fort Norman Anglican Mission	1866 - 1869	Funded by HBC and Anglican Church, ran for 3 years, Mr. Murdo McLeod teacher.
Fort Norman Anglican Mission	1873 – late 1890s?	1873 taught by Norn, 1881 taught by Bompas, 1897 received Federal grants.
Fort Norman Anglican Mission	1920s?	Federal grants in 1925, 1926, 1928.

Name of school	Dates	Notes
Roman Catholic missionary school	1930s?	1938 intermittent catechism instruction from missionaries.
Fort Norman Federal Day School / Fort Norman School	1949 or 1950 – 1980?	New Federal Day School built in 1949 or 1950, addition in 1968/69. Facility taken over by GNWT in 1969.
Fort Norman Territorial School / Chief Albert Wright School	1980 - 2007	New Fort Norman School in 1980. Fire on October 9 2007. Demolished in 2010/11
Temporary school facilities	2007-2008	While new school was being completed, class was held in church halls and hotel rooms.
Chief Albert Wright School	2008- 2021	New school opened Monday May 1, 2008. In 2021 offers grades JK-2021.

Residential facilities

Listing of residences, hostels, halls chronologically, with denomination.

Name of residence (den.)	Dates	Notes
Fort Norman Anglican Mission boarding school	1866- 1869	Housed children orphaned in the 1865 scarlet fever epidemic.
Fort Norman small hostel	1971?	

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Tungsten

Brief summary of education facilities in the community, from church era, federal era and territorial era.

The provision of education in Tungsten began in 1962, when the Canada Tungsten Mining Corporation constructed a two-room school for the children of company staff. While it was closed when the mine shut temporarily in 1963, it reopened in September 1964. As early as the 1960s, older children were sent to Yellowknife to stay in residence at Akaitcho Hall for high school. The school was transferred to the GNWT when it assumed responsibility for education in 1969. In 1983/84 it provided grades K-9. The school closed in 1986 when the mine shut down, but it was optimistically noted that, "the school has been left fully stocked and furnished should the mine reopen in the near future."

School facilities

Listing of mission schools, day schools, schools chronologically.

Name of school	Dates	Notes
Tungsten Mine School	1962 - 1986	Offered grades K-9. Facility taken over by GNWT in 1969.

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Ulukhaktok

Brief summary of education facilities in the community, from church era, federal era and territorial era.

The provision of western education in Ulukhaktok began in 1965 when a new two-room school was built. Grades 1-6 were taught until 1968/69 when it expanded to grades 1-8. Facility taken over by the territorial government in 1969. A third portable classroom was added in 1971/72.

In 1974 a new school was completed and grades 1-9 were offered. In 1986 another new school was opened. The Beaufort-Delta Divisional Education Council was established in 1989 to administer regional schools. In 2002 a major addition was completed which added a gymnasium, an industrial education shop, and a secondary school classroom wing. In 2018, repairs to the foundation and some renovations were completed. As of 2021 the school offers grades JK-12.

School facilities

Listing of mission schools, day schools, schools chronologically.

Name of school	Dates	Notes
Holman Island Federal Day School / Holman Island School	1965 – 1974	Facility taken over by GNWT in 1969.
Holman Island School	1974 - 1986	New school completed 1974, grades 1-9.
Helen Kalvak Elihakvik School	1986 - 2021	Opened in 1986. Major addition in 2002. Renovations in 2018. In 2021 the school offers grades JK-2021.

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Wekweètì

Brief summary of education in the community, from church facilities, federal facilities, territorial facilities.

The community of Wekweètì began when Chief Alexis Arrowmaker brought several families to live there in the 1960s to preserve traditional lifestyles and values. The provision of western education in Wekweètì began in 1977 in a canvas wall tent. Teachers from Chief Jimmy Bruneau School came to the community on a four-week rotational basis. In the summer of 1978 construction of a community hall and school started, and in March 1979 school began in the new building. As of 1983 grades K-5 were offered in the one room school.

In 1986 a new 2 classroom log school was built by community members. The Dogrib Divisional Education Council was established in 1989 to administer regional schools, since 2005 it is now administered through the Tłı̨chǫ Community Services Agency. In 1994 the school was replaced by a new school Chief Alexis Arrowmaker School. In 2021 this school offers JK-9 and older students go to Chief Jimmy Bruneau School in Behchokǭ for high school.

School facilities

Listing of mission schools, day schools, schools chronologically.

Name of school	Dates	Notes
Snare Lake School	1977-1978	Originally held in 8x10 foot canvas wall tent, teachers on 4 week rotation from Chief Jimmy Bruneau in Edzo.
Snare Lake School	1979 - 1986	School in the new community hall/school building began March 1979.
Snare Lake School	1986 – 1994	Log construction of school with two classrooms.
Chief Alexis Arrowmaker School	1994 – 2021	New school completed 1994. In 2021 provides grades JK-9.

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Whatì

Brief summary of education facilities in the community, from church era, federal era and territorial era.

The provision of western education in Whatì started in 1953 or 1954 as a summer school held in a tent frame or old army hut. Seasonal school continued in 1955 and 1956. This was replaced by a log cabin school and teacherage built sometime in the mid-1950s which was only seasonally used.

The year-round Federal Day School was opened in Lac La Martre (Whatì) in 1958 but it was noted that the buildings in 1958 required better winterizing and heating. The school was expanded by a portable classroom in 1969. The school transferred to the territorial government in 1969 with the transfer of education. In 1979 the community hall was renovated to include classrooms (although it is unclear whether these were an addition or a replacement for the school.)

In 1982 or 1983 a new school, Mezi Community School, was completed. The Dogrib Divisional Education Council was established in 1989 to administer regional schools; since 2005 it is now administered through the Tłıchq Community Services Agency. A classroom addition to the school was completed in 1998. By 2021 all grades from JK-12 are offered.

School facilities

Listing of mission schools, day schools, schools chronologically.

Name of school	Dates	Notes
Lac La Martre tent or summer school	1953 or 1954- 1958	Summer school operation initially in tent, later in log cabin.
Lac La Martre Federal Day School / Lac La Martre School	1958-1979	A year-round Federal Day School opened in 1958. Portable classroom added in 1969. Facility taken over by GNWT in 1969.
Lac La Martre Territorial School	1979- 1982 or 1983	School held in renovated classrooms in community hall (additional classrooms?)
Mezi Community School	1982 / 1982 - 2021	New school opened in 1982 or 1983. Classroom addition completed in 1998. In 2021 offers grades JK-12.

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Wrigley

Brief summary of education facilities in the community, from church era, federal era and territorial era.

The provision of western education in Wrigley began in 1930 with a summer school being offered by the Roman Catholic Church. It may be that religious instruction happened prior to this date, but no Federal grants were provided for it.

Later, summer tent schools were offered in 1956 and 1957 and possibly 1958. For two years the summer schools were staffed by Pentecostal missionary volunteers.

In 1958 a full time Federal Day School opened in the old town and offered primary grades. The school was closed for 1963/64 as no teacher could be hired. Children were sent to Fort Simpson that year for school. It opened again in 1964 and was noted in 1965 to be a one-room school. In 1968, two buildings were used: one was the original school building moved from the old site, the second was a new construction. Grades 1-3 were in the new school, Grades 4-6 were held in the old building. These transferred to the GNWT when it assumed responsibility for education in 1969.

The Dehcho Divisional Education Council was established in 1990 to administer regional schools. A new school was under construction in 1991 and opened in 1992, named the Chief Julian Yendo School.

In 2016 a renovation of the exterior of the school was completed. In 2021 grades JK-9 are offered.

School facilities

Listing of mission schools, day schools, schools chronologically.

Name of school	Dates	Notes
Wrigley summer school	1956-1958?	Staffed for two years by Pentecostal missionary volunteers.
Wrigley Federal Day School / Wrigley School / Wrigley Territorial School	1958- 1992	Opened full time school in 1958. In 1968 two buildings used. Taken over by GNWT in 1969.
Chief Julian Yendo School	1992- 2021	Opened in 1992, renovation in 2016. In 2021 grades JK-9 offered.

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Yellowknife

Brief summary of education facilities in the community, from church era, federal era and territorial era.

The Yellowknife region is unique in having established early school boards, school districts and mill rates to manage and fund education responsibilities, with supplements initially coming from the federal government. In 1969, the responsibility for education was assumed by the new territorial government, which resulted in some changes in functioning of the schools and local boards.

Yellowknife Public Schools (YK1 School Board)

The provision of western education in Yellowknife began in a rented log cabin in 1939, funded by a new local school district. On November 18, 1940 a new School Draw school opened with 41 students, including children from the Con mine site as well as Yellowknife. An addition was made to the School Draw school in 1942. This school closed when the nine room Yellowknife Public School opened in new town, Yellowknife in 1948. It accommodated 148 students at the time. This was renovated in March 1952 to include a gym and auditorium, and later 20 classrooms in total. As of 1958 the school accommodated grades 1-9. In 1964 it accommodated middle school students (with the creation of the new elementary school) and in 1974 was renamed William Macdonald School. It was demolished in the summer of 1982.

In 1958 the Sir John Franklin Vocational High School opened, a Federally funded and administered high school. Major additions and renovations occurred in 1965, 1967, 1975, 1984 and 2000. In 1969 the responsibility for education was transferred to the territorial government. When its associated Akaitcho Hall residence closed in 1994, Sir John Franklin was transferred to the control of the YK1 School Board. In 2021 it provides grades 9-12.

In 1964 a new elementary school was built (later to be called Mildred Hall Elementary School in 1974) on a site adjacent to the original Yellowknife Public School. In 1971 or 1972 a gym, library, music, art room, teepee, kindergarten and 5 classrooms were completed. Middle school children continue to go to the original Yellowknife Public School (named William MacDonald School in 1974). An addition was made in 2004, and a major renovation was completed in 2008. In 2021 Mildred Hall Elementary School provides grades JK-8.

In 1975 the J.H. Sissons School was opened. It provided French Immersion schooling, eventually becoming a 100% French Immersion school. In its final year it provided grades JK-5. It was demolished in 2020/21 with a new build being completed on the same site, anticipated opening 2022/23.

In 1982 or 1983 the William MacDonald Junior High School opened on Taylor Road. In 2021 it provides middle school grade instruction for grades 6-9.

In 1985-1988 classes were held in portables on the site for a new school, completed in 1988. N.J. Macpherson School was opened in the Frame Lake subdivision for elementary school grades. Portables were added and an addition was built in 1989 and opened 1990. In 2021 it provides grades JK-5.

In 1993 the Range Lake North School was opened in the Range Lake subdivision. In 2021 it provides grades JK-8.

Residences

Sir John Franklin Vocational High School was accompanied in 1958 by Akaitcho Hall, a Federal hostel to house students from other communities, including Arctic communities, which did not have senior high school grades. Akaitcho Hall had its first addition in the 1960s, expanding the dorms. Responsibility for education transferred to the GNWT in 1969. Akaitcho Hall operated continuously until 1994. In 1998 the building was renovated to accommodate temporary classrooms spaces during a Sir John Franklin school renovation. The Akaitcho Hall building was demolished in 2006/07.

Roman Catholic Schools (Yellowknife Catholic Schools)

The provision of Catholic faith-based education began with the creation of the St. Patrick's school which opened in 1953. Originally it had 4 classrooms and offered grades 1-9, near the site of the Bishop's residence. In 1955 and 1958 additions were completed. By 1960 it was a ten-classroom school.

The St. Patrick's High School opened in 1961 and burned to the ground April 4, 1964. A new high school was constructed on the same site and opened in 80 days on November 1 1964. By 1965 the two St. Patrick's Schools had a combined total of 15 classrooms.

The first stage of new elementary school opened in 1967 (6 classrooms and library). Second stage was completed 1968, joining the two schools. The original school building was turned over to the Territorial Government in July 1968 (and likely demolished). In 1974 two classrooms and a gym were added to the St. Patrick's school. In 1980 a major renovation was completed at the High School.

In 1995 a new St. Patrick's High School was completed on a portion of the original separate school lot. As of 2021 it provides grades 8-12.

In 2000 a new Catholic elementary school, Weledah Catholic School was completed, joining the St. Patrick's High school on the original separate school lot. In 2021 it provides grades JK-7.

An additional school for the Catholic School board, St. Joseph's School, was opened in August 1978 in the new Frame Lake subdivision, named for the long serving Sisters of St. Joseph congregation of nuns serving the community of Yellowknife. Additions were completed in 1984, 1986, and 1993. It suffered from a fire in 2008. A major renovation was completed in 2009. In 2021 it provides grades JK-7.

Special Needs School

Education for children with developmental delays was provided at the Yellowknife School for Retarded Children starting in 1962. The school was later named the Abe Miller Memorial School. This was operated by an association and was held in a number of locations prior to the first building being constructed sometime after 1982 on the former site of the Yellowknife Public School.

French Schooling (Commission scolaire francophone TNO)

The École Allain St-Cyr operated initially out of a room in Sissons school, then out of a series of trailers from 1989 to 1999. In 1999 / 2000 a new school was completed, with major renovations completed in 2008 and 2018. It currently provides grades JK-12.

Notes

As of December 11, 2023, the National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation Memorial Register lists 4 resident students who died while attending Akaitcho Hall.

School facilities

Listing of mission schools, day schools, schools chronologically.

Name of school	Dates	Notes
Yellowknife temporary instruction at Daws house	1938/39	Volunteer teacher D.A. Davies provides winter instruction.
Yellowknife temporary school	1939	Rented log cabin taught by Mildred Hall at the beginning of 1939.
Yellowknife School (School Draw)	1940-1948	Two room school partway between both mines on School Draw.
Yellowknife Public School / William Macdonald School	1947-1982	Opened December 1947, provided grades 1-12. Expansion in 1952. Renamed William Macdonald Middle School in 1974. Demolished summer of 1982.
Yellowknife Elementary School / Mildred Hall School	1964- 2021	Opened in 1964, renovated in 1971 or 1972, addition in 2004, major renovation in 2008.
William Macdonald School	1982-2021	
N.J. Macpherson School	1985-1988 1988-2021	School held in 4 portable trailers prior to the completion of school in 1988. Addition opened 1990.

Name of school	Dates	Notes
Range Lake School	1993-2021	
Sir John Franklin Vocational High School / Sir John Franklin High School	1958-present	Opened as federal school. Education responsibilities transferred to GNWT in 1969. Upon closure of Akaitcho Hall in 1994, responsibility transferred to YK Education District No. 1.
J.H. Sissons School	1975-2020/21 2022/23?	Opened in 1975, demolished in 2020/21. New construction to be completed on same site in 2022/23.
St. Patrick's School	1953-1968	Originally 4 classrooms and offered grades 1-9, near the site of the Bishop's residence. In 1955 added two rooms, 1958 added two more rooms. Abandoned as a school in July 1968, sold to Territorial Government.
St. Patrick's Secondary School	1961-1964 1964-1995?	School opened in 1961. Burned to the ground in 1964. New construction same site opened in 80 days in 1964. A number of renovations, including in 1990.
St. Patrick's High School	1995-2021	New school completed in 1995. In 2021 provides grades 8-12.
St. Patrick's Elementary School	1967-2000?	First stage of new elementary school opened in 1967 (6 classrooms and library). Second stage completed 1968.
Weledah School	2000-2021	New school completed in 2000, joins with St. Patrick's High School. As of 2021 provides grades JK-7.
St. Joseph's School	1978-2021	Opened in 1978, renovations in 1984, 1986, 1993. Fire in 2008. Renovations in 2009. In 2021 offers JK-7.
École Allain St-Cyr	1989-1999	Series of trailers prior to school construction.
École Allain St-Cyr	1999-2021	New school opened 1999, major renovations 2008 and completed 2018. As of 2021 provides grades JK-12.

Residential facilities

Listing of residences, hostels, halls chronologically, with denomination.

Name of residence (den.)	Dates	Notes
Akaitcho Hall	1958-1994	Transferred to GNWT in 1969. In 1998 post closure it was renovated for temporary classroom use during an SJF reno. Demolished in the 2006/07 fiscal year.

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Document version history

Version	Date	Author	Change status
1	Oct 2022	NWT Archives	First issued version.
2	Nov 2022	NWT Archives	<p>Added clarification regarding 1969 federal to territorial transfer of education (23), plus reference.</p> <p>Added note regarding Camsell/St Paul's School Hay River in 1980s, plus reference.</p> <p>Added note regarding early NJ McPherson school Yellowknife earlier portables, plus reference.</p> <p>Added notes regarding the move of the Reindeer Station school building to Port Radium in 1968, plus reference.</p> <p>Added note regarding early Yellowknife boards of education, Yellowknife.</p>
3	March 2023	NWT Archives	<p>Additional date, catchment and reference details for Immaculate Conception residence in Aklavik.</p> <p>Additional details and references regarding Sacred Heart catchment, poor conditions and student deaths, and mission buildings demolition in Fort Providence.</p> <p>Additional reference and location for Kakisa students schooling prior to local school building.</p> <p>Additional reference regarding PW Kaeser school creation in Fort Smith.</p> <p>Additional reference for first Tulita school in 1800s.</p> <p>Additional details and reference regarding St. Joseph's catchment in Fort Resolution, poor conditions in early years.</p>

			<p>Additional operating dates and references for St. Margaret's School in Simpson.</p> <p>Additional reference regarding Faraud Hospital dates in Behchoko.</p> <p>Additional precise dates and reference for St. Patrick's High School fire in Yellowknife.</p>
4	February 2024	NWT Archives	<p>Additional information regarding St. Peter's Anglican Mission in Hay River in 1907-1927 under Canon Vale, new reference. Reviewed all NCTR Memorial pages for NWT facilities and updated date accessed. Added missing NCTR reference for Hay River St. Peter's Residential school, noted naming error on NCTR website. NCTR memorial register website showed in a change in distribution of Fort Simpson death information (from 5 at Bompas and 0 at Lapointe to 4 at Bompas and 1 at Lapointe). Addition of Fort Resolution on table of contents.</p>