

## 3.11 Yukon (YT)

*Population: 36,700*

*Number of K-12 Schools: 28*

*Number of K-12 Students: 5,122*

*Number of K-12 Distance Education Programs: 1*

*Number of K-12 Distance Education Students: ~421*



### K-12 Distance Programs

While continuing to sign MOU's with the existing partner school districts in British Columbia, Yukon Education is increasing the scope of distance and online program delivery. The aim is to increase programming within the Territory to eliminate the need for reliance on outside agencies providing educational opportunities to its student population. At present, this development includes the Aurora Virtual School (AVS), as well as students scheduled for independent 'study blocks' in their school that are taking one or more online courses delivered by teachers in their own school. In 2014-15 AVS managed courses for 58 grade 8-12 students taking at least one online course. There were an additional 48 grade 8-12 students, as well as 65 K-7 students, enrolled with distributed learning schools in British Columbia. Further, there were another ~250 students enrolled in online courses offered by their own schools.

Yukon Education also supports and tracks blended learning programs. Many Yukon students now access a learning management system (LMS) where teacher and students working together in group and individual modes, mostly in the same place and time with elements of student control over path and pace, with a blend of best face-to-face teaching practices and digitally managed learning. In other instances, student learning is individual, managed within an LMS, taking place in school, often alongside other students working on same or different LMS-based courses, with direct teacher support. During the 2014-15 school year, there were 379 students enrolled in one of these two blended learning options. However, many Yukon teachers use informal blended learning approaches for which Yukon Education does not keep data.

### Governance and Regulation

There have been no recent changes to the governance and regulation of K-12 distance education in the Yukon. The *Education Act, 2002* still allows the Minister of Education to provide distance education courses and charge fees for students to access those courses. However, the 2003 decision to provide these distributed learning courses at no cost to students up to the age of 21 continues to be followed.

The Department of Education also continues to govern the operation of individual distance education programs in the Yukon through individual Memorandums of Understanding (MOUs) that it signs with each individual program.