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For Immediate Release

YK1's Metro Huculak recognized for exemplary leadership

Yellowknife, NWT- Metro Huculak from Yellowknife Education District No.1 (YK1) was awarded the provincial/territorial EXL Award for Excellence in School Administration in Winnipeg at the Annual Canadian Association of School Administrators (CASA) Conference on October 13, 2006.

The Canadian Association of School Administrators (CASA) presents this annual award to members who have displayed exemplary leadership ability, enhanced school administration, made important contributions to education, brought honor to their profession, and have served as a member of CASA for five years. Administrators from Ontario, Quebec Alberta, Manitoba and NWT were nominated for this provincial award.

"I am not at all surprised that Mr. Huculak was given this award," said Ed Whittchen, Professional Development Director of CASA, "his energy, enthusiasm, interpersonal skills, and strong leadership abilities have allowed him to bring a lot of positive changes to YK1 in a short period of time. He also surrounds himself with a good team"

Mr. Huculak has made significant changes since joining YK1 in August 2005 as Superintendent. He places a strong emphasis in implementing professional development programs for YK1 administration staff to expand their leadership capacity. Over the past few years he has worked at creating and applying the "Classroom Walk Through" program in Alberta which is still in progress and used in training NWT administration staff. Mr. Huculak was also involved in the "Healthy Interaction" and "Safe and Caring Communities and Schools" (SACCS) programs in Alberta. Mr. Huculak is currently working with the North West Territories Teachers Association (NWTTA) and Education Culture and Employment (ECE) to implement similar programs in the NWT.

Building partnerships with other regional Educational Boards, as well as schools and local businesses, parents and teachers, Mr. Huculak has facilitated relationships that are important in making YK1 serve students, parents and the community effectively.

CASA is a federation of the professional associations on behalf of senior administrators in Canadian provinces and territories and is the national voice for Canadian senior educational leaders.

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