

Fall 2020 International Student Handbook

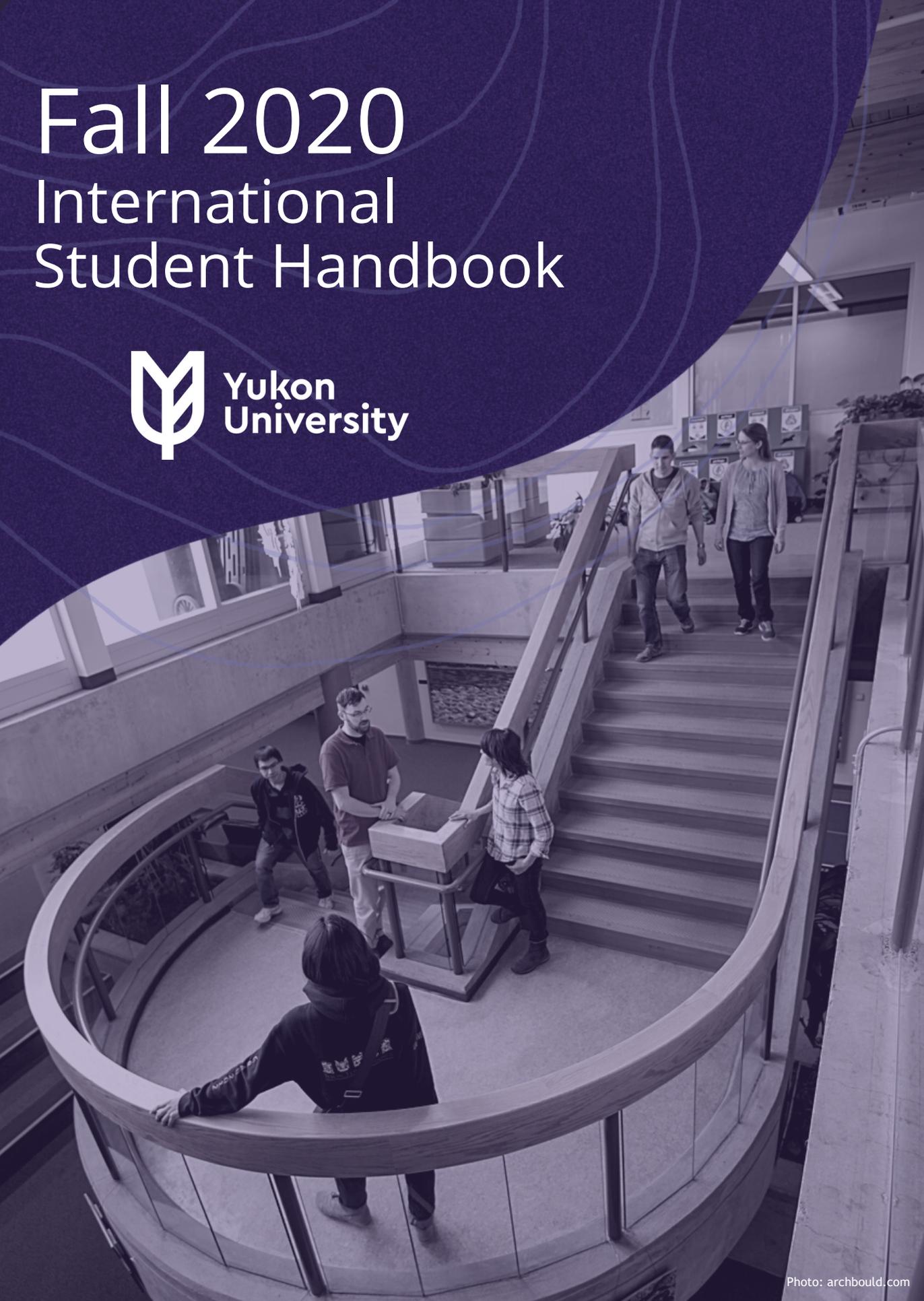


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Message from the President and Vice Chancellor



Welcome to Yukon University. As president, I would like to extend a big Yukon welcome to each of you. We are so pleased to have you here with us, experiencing Canada's north. It's a magical opportunity. Yukon University has been welcoming international students since the early 2000s: we now host students from nearly 20 countries - India, Japan, Philippines, Columbia, Germany, Korea and many others. Thank you for the diversity and enthusiasm you bring to our campuses. We hope you feel at home.

Mike DeGangé
President and Vice Chancellor



Message from the Registrar and Dean of Enrolment Services

Welcome to Yukon University! We are delighted that you have chosen to come to the Yukon. The Office of the Registrar team offers a wide-range of services, including registration, learning assistance, First Nations and International support, student engagement, as well as academic, career, and personal counseling. If you require any of our services, don't be shy to "[Connect2YukonU](#)" or permitting, stop by our Student Service Centre (second office to the right when you use the doors by the roundabout).

We look forward to supporting you in your educational journey! Have a great year!

Wally Rude
Registrar and Dean of Enrolment Services

International Education staff



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Connect with us!
@YukonUInternational

Introduction

We are very pleased that you have chosen Yukon University for your studies! Yukon College became Yukon University (also known as YukonU) in May 2020 – making it Canada’s first University north of 60th parallel. We pride ourselves on being grounded in northern expertise, and having strong partnerships with the 14 Yukon First Nations.

YukonU is a hybrid institution offering a pathway for every learner including undergraduate degrees, diplomas, certificates, university prep, and skills training programs relevant for life and work in the North.

We prioritize the uniqueness of the North as a driving factor in all that we do, to preserve, thrive and grow the Yukon together. With tailored learning opportunities and programs, our thirteen campuses play a critical role in delivering education throughout the Yukon. We invite students from across Canada and the world to come study with us and learn more about Canada’s north.

Over the past 57 years this publicly funded institution has earned a reputation for quality instruction and small class sizes. We are a warm, welcoming, collegial and innovative learning community dedicated, to lifelong learning and delivering an outstanding educational experience to our students.

For the 2018-19 academic year there were 1,252 credit students enrolled in classes including 130 International Students from 15 different countries. We value all that international students bring to Yukon University, including the engagement between Canadian and international students.

Thank you for joining YukonU!



Student Services

From personal counselling to academic skills and safety and security, Yukon University offers a variety of student support services to ensure your success throughout your educational journey. Even in these challenging COVID-19 times, we are working hard to provide virtual support where we can't in person. For a great one-stop shop you can visit our [Current Students](#) page, or look through a list of some of our services below:

Get connected

You will receive a personal YukonU.ca email address, connected to an Office 365 account, that will support many of your learning needs. Through Office 365 you will gain access to Moodle, YukonU's online course site. Do get used to checking your YukonU.ca email account regularly, as most school communications will be directed there.

You will also be provided with a Banner Self-Serve account. You can view your course registration and account details, request transcripts, view your grades etc. on this account.

Instructions on signing into these accounts will be provided by email or instructions can also be found on our [IT Support](#) page.

Connect2YukonU

From admissions to academic supports to student services and everything in between, our dedicated Connect2YukonU team is ready to provide the one-on-one support and information you need for the year(s) ahead! You can [Connect](#) virtually through Zoom, email or phone. You can also speak to us in person at our Student Services desk. Staff can advise or connect you to information on how to register for classes, using Moodle, access to technology and internet, services available to students, financial aid, student life, etc.

Selecting and registering for classes

Hopefully you have all registered for classes already, but you can change, drop, add classes through our [Registration](#) page. Speak to a Program Advisor or the International Student Advisor if you need help making class choices.

International Student Advisor

Our International Student Advisor can help you with obtaining insurance, study permit guidance and immigration support, and other support in navigating University services and departments.

Student Services cont.

Health, wellness and counselling services

Visit our [Health & Wellness Page](#), and our [Get Involved/Student Life Page](#) for great tips for making the best of your time at YukonU. Should you need some extra support you can also look at our [Personal Counselling Services Page](#).

Academic support centre (ASC)

ASC offers a supportive and welcoming space to study and receive help with writing, math, computers, and other academic skills for all students. This includes weekly one-on-one tutoring, homework support, and various study workshops.

Innovation Commons

This multi-use student gathering space includes study spaces, IT Services, and Library Services. Whether you need assistance accessing Moodle, printing assignments, or navigating databases, the Innovation Commons staff are here to help! This is also where you get access to your YukonU IT account.

Safety & Security Services (SSC)

24/7 contact for security incidents and non-emergency issues such as First Aid, Lost and Found, and charging your dead car battery on cold days. SSC is located beside the Welcome Centre desk at the main entrance to the college. Need assistance? Call 867 334 6042.

Bookstore

Come to the bookstore for coffee, snacks, textbooks, and stationery. This is also where you get your student ID card, which functions as your bus pass.

Kinnikinnick Kaff & Hilltop Bistro - Closed for fall 2020

In future semesters we'll have various eating options on campus, including our [Kinnikinnick Kaff](#) (cafeteria), that provides exceptional, healthy eat-in and take-out food, as well as the [Hilltop Bistro](#). At the Hilltop Bistro you can taste what the talented Yukon University Culinary Arts students are creating!

YukonU in times of COVID-19

We at YukonU are adapting to support students in three main categories for their Fall studies. Please find the scenario that best describes your situation below, and make sure to follow all instructions/guidelines.

Students studying from home in other parts of Canada or overseas

If you are currently outside of Canada, the Government does NOT allow you travel to Canada unless it is for an ESSENTIAL purpose (studying online is not an essential purpose). Do check this website for updates, as restrictions could change at any time: [Government of Canada Coronavirus and Travel](#)

While we can't meet in person, many departments like Personal Counselling, Academic Support Services, International Student Advisor, etc. are still able to meet over video, or by phone or email to support you. Do make sure to look through our Student Services pages (p. 5-6) on how to still stay connected!

Students arriving in Yukon from other parts of Canada

You should expect to self-isolate. We will provide you with instructions on how to do this, with an introduction on the next page.

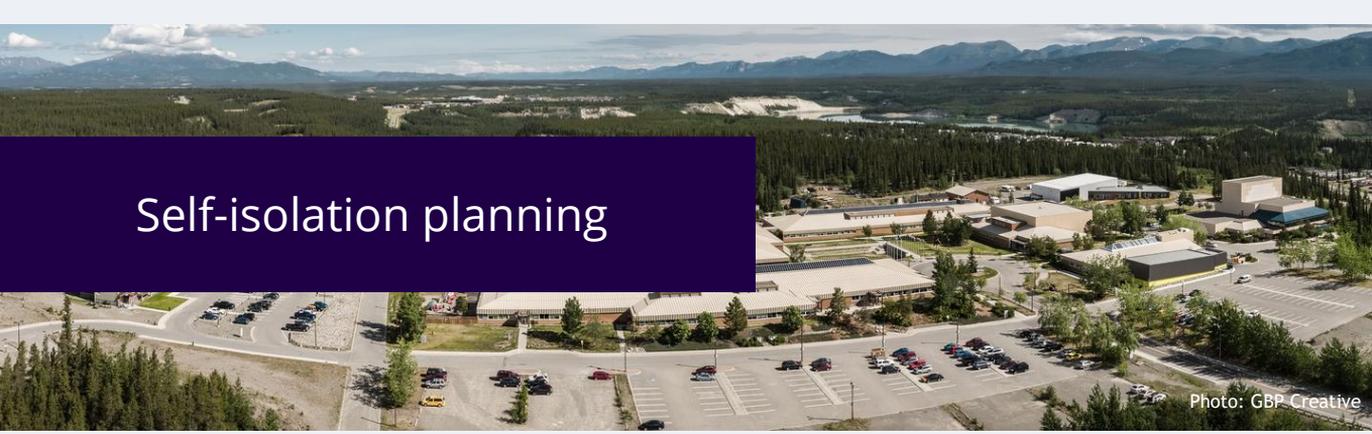
Note: As of July 31 certain residents of BC, NWT and Nunavut arriving in Yukon Territory do not need to self-isolate. If you are not a resident of one of these Provinces/Territories then you are required to self-isolate.

For the most up-to-date information we suggest you check the [Government of Yukon Border Restrictions during COVID](#) page.

You can also email covid19info@gov.yk.ca for any specific questions about your unique scenario.

Students already in Yukon

If you are already in Yukon Territory you do not need to self-isolate prior to moving in to Campus Housing or starting classes.



Self-isolation planning

Photo: GBP Creative

For students arriving in Yukon from other parts of Canada

YukonU requires arriving international students that need to self-isolate, to do so in a Government approved facility. You will be responsible for all costs associated with self-isolation. Please inform us of your plans to move to Whitehorse, Yukon so that we can make arrangements at an isolation facility, and provide you with the required documents to get through Border controls.

Things you must do ahead of time:

- Send us your travel plans at least two weeks before you travel - means of travel (ie. by air, by car, etc.), your estimated date of arrival, how many people in your family you are travelling with, etc.
- Send us a copy of your valid study permit or expired Permit/Visa AND proof that you have submitted an application to renew or obtain a study permit.
- We will make your hotel booking, and provide you with a "Self-isolation plan" and "Confirmation of enrolment" letter. You must present both of these documents at the border when you enter Yukon.
 - Instructions will be provided on what you can and cannot do during the mandatory 14-day isolation period. You can look through our [Yukon Government website](#) and/or [brochure](#) ahead of time to get a better idea of what to expect.

Upon your arrival in Whitehorse, Yukon:

If arriving by air

You MUST use one of two taxi companies for transport to Coast High Country Inn (4051 4th Ave). You can get a voucher from the hotel to cover the cost of your taxi fair only if you used one of these two companies:

- Yellow Cab: 867 668 4811
- Whitehorse Taxi: 867 393 2227

If arriving by land (vehicle)

Go straight to Coast High Country Inn. You are NOT allowed to make any stops until you are finished your 14-day isolation.

- Coast High Country Inn, 4051 4th Avenue, t. 867 667 4471

Registration & orientation

Registration

Hopefully you have all already self-registered for classes online! If not, you should visit our [Online Registration](#) page for instructions and links to do so. If you are unsure what classes to register for contact your Program Advisor, or email international@yukonu.ca. Other support links are on the website above. Classes will begin on September 1 so you will miss classes if you wait too long to register.

Connect with the International Education department

- Don't forget to submit a copy of your Study Permit to international@yukonu.ca if you haven't done so already.
- Contact the International Education department to register for medical insurance as well, if you haven't already done so.

International student orientation

International orientation sessions will take place in August and throughout the semester. We expect these to be online so that all can join, though we may also offer in-person options for those in Whitehorse. These orientation sessions will include topics that are essential for international students at YukonU, including:

- weather
- health insurance
- part-time and full-time work
- student services
- academic support
- campus housing
- counselling services
- on-campus jobs
- Post-Graduate Work Permits (PGWP)
- maintaining student status
- avoiding academic probation/dismissal
- First Nations culture
- life in the Yukon
- staying healthy

Dates to be determined.

Watch our [YukonU current international students](#) website for updates on when orientation sessions will happen.

What to expect: Weather



Photo: Erik Pinkerton

The weather in Whitehorse ranges from sunny, warm summers to cold, snowy winters. In this land of the 'midnight sun', daylight hours in summer can be as much as 20 hours of sunlight per day, in winter it can be as short as 6.5 hours per day. Whitehorse has a relatively dry climate; annual precipitation over the past 30 years has averaged 267 millimeters, including 163 mm of rain and 145 centimeters of snow. The average temperature in the Summer is 25°C and the average temperature in the Winter is -22°C. Please be prepared for our cold winters by arriving in Canada with some winter clothing. Please expect to purchase more warm clothing in Whitehorse after your arrival.

Suggested summer clothing

- shorts
- long & short sleeve t-shirts
- jeans
- long pants
- warm sweaters
- rain jackets and pants
- warm coat (fleece or wool)
- active wear
- hiking boots
- comfortable shoes or sandals
- hat
- swimwear for pools, lakes, or hot springs.

Suggested winter clothing

- good quality winter coat (nylon, gortex, or insulated, goose down)
- nylon or insulated pants
- warm sweaters
- fleece jacket
- warm, thick socks
- loose fitting long pants
- long underwear
- winter boots, gloves, and mitts
- shoes to wear in school (separate from Winter boots)

Accommodations

Students studying at Yukon University have three choices for accommodation while in Whitehorse: Campus Housing, homestay or personal rental. Note that you should plan your accommodations prior to your arrival as it is the students' responsibility to arrange their housing.



Campus Housing

Yukon University offers secure and attractive non-smoking accommodations for students. Fully furnished dorm rooms and family or multi-person apartments are available. The dorm residence is connected to the main University building, allowing easy access to classrooms, cafeteria, library, computer labs, gymnasium and Bookstore. Apartments are also located close to the main University building. All dorm rooms and apartments are furnished with a bed, wardrobe or dresser, desk, desk chair, bookshelf and refrigerator. Shared washroom facilities are located on each floor, designated for male and female use. Lounges are equipped with TVs and DVDs plus other recreational equipment. Communal kitchens are available for residents to cook their own meals. All kitchen supplies - pots and dishes - as well as towels and bedding are provided. A telephone is located in each residence. For more information visit our [Campus Housing](#) page.

Homestay

This includes a private bedroom and meals. It does not include any personal expenses such as personal items, extra-curricular activities or meals out. An International Student Advisor visits each family in their home and each adult in the house must have a police background check done before being approved as a host family.





Accommodation cont.

Personal rentals (apartments/suites)

Options for students who prefer to find their own living arrangements include: rooms or suites in private homes, an independent apartment or a house. Most rentals include a kitchen and bathroom. Rent is paid on the first of every month and utilities (heat, lights, etc.) may be extra. The average cost of monthly rental ranges from \$650 - \$1200 for rooms or suites and \$1,200 - \$2,000 for apartments and homes. Rentals are usually found in the classified advertisement section of the local newspapers (Whitehorse Star or Yukon News), Kijiji or Whitehorse Rentals page on Facebook.

Helpful links related to housing in the Yukon:

- [Whitehorse Rentals Page \(Facebook Buy and Sell groups, etc.\)](#)
- [Kijiji Rentals Page](#)
- [Facebook Marketplace](#)

Getting around town - public transit



Photo: Alistair Maitland

Whitehorse Transit provides bus service to outlying Whitehorse residential areas and most routes operate Monday-Saturday with the exception of some statutory holidays. If you are enrolled in full-time courses at Yukon University, your student ID card will also work as your transit pass from September through to April.

To view current transit schedules online visit the [Whitehorse Transit website](#)

Transit schedules, tickets, and passes can be obtained at the following locations:

- Yukon University Campus Store
- Tag's Food and Gas
- Jackpot Lotto & Smoke
- Super A Porter Creek
- City Hall
- Canada Games Centre
- Copper Ridge Bigway
- Integra Tire

Banking/finances

In Yukon there are various financial institutions that offer banking options for International Students, including:

- Royal Bank of Canada (RBC)
- Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce (CIBC)
- Bank of Montreal (BMO)
- Scotiabank
- TD Canada Trust (TD)
- First Nations Bank of Canada
- Business Development Bank of Canada

In order to set-up an account with any of the above noted institutions you must provide the following:

- proof of enrolment (Student ID card, course schedule, and confirmation of enrolment letter from Yukon University)
- passport
- study permit
- proof of address

Please note that there are no international banks in Whitehorse so if you have opened an account or GIC with a bank from another country, you will have to go through more steps to access your money. This includes confirming your identity at the local post office and waiting for your bank card to arrive in the mail from another city. It is strongly recommended that your bank account and/or GIC is with a Canadian banking institution.

If you need to pay school fees instructions can be found on our [Money Matters](#) page.





Phones & SIM cards

Photo: Fritz Mueller

Cellphone service can be found in across Yukon in 17 communities, including Whitehorse. Although every major community in Yukon now has cell phone service (either HSPA+ or CDMA protocol, depending upon the community), many kilometers in between have no cell service. If you are on the highway and run into trouble, you're best to stop a passing motorist and ask for help! Each cellphone provider offers different options at different price points, be sure to explore your best options before committing!

In order to set-up a cellphone plan (not prepaid), you will need to provide the following:

- Photo identification (i.e. Drivers License, Passport, General Identification Card)
- Canadian credit card or Social Insurance Number

Below are contact details for cellphone service providers in Yukon:

- [Ice Wireless](#)
- [Bell Mobility](#)
- [Telus](#) -
- [Virgin Mobile](#)-
- [Koodo](#)



Medical insurance

Hospital & clinics

Photo: archbould.com

Yukon University offers mandatory group medical insurance for all international students studying in Canada. Students must register for insurance and pay fees at the time of registration. This will cost \$565 for one year of coverage, or \$205 per semester if you are taking just two or fewer semesters. Prices may change in future semesters.

Note: this insurance covers you only from Aug. 31st onward. You are responsible for any insurance needed prior to Aug. 31st.

You should always carry a card with your insurance company's emergency phone line in your wallet. You can call this number 24 hours a day/7 days a week. You should also have access to money or a credit card as you will have to pay in advance at most clinics and later be reimbursed by the insurance company.

To learn more please read our [GuardMe Brochure](#).

Hospitals and clinics

River Valley Medical Clinic

106 Lambert Street

Whitehorse, Yukon

Monday - Friday 8:45 am - 5pm, Sat 9am - 5pm, Sun 10am - pm

Telephone: +1 867 667 6491

*This is the only walk-in clinic in Whitehorse if you don't have a family doctor

Whitehorse General Hospital

#5 Hospital Road

Whitehorse, Yukon

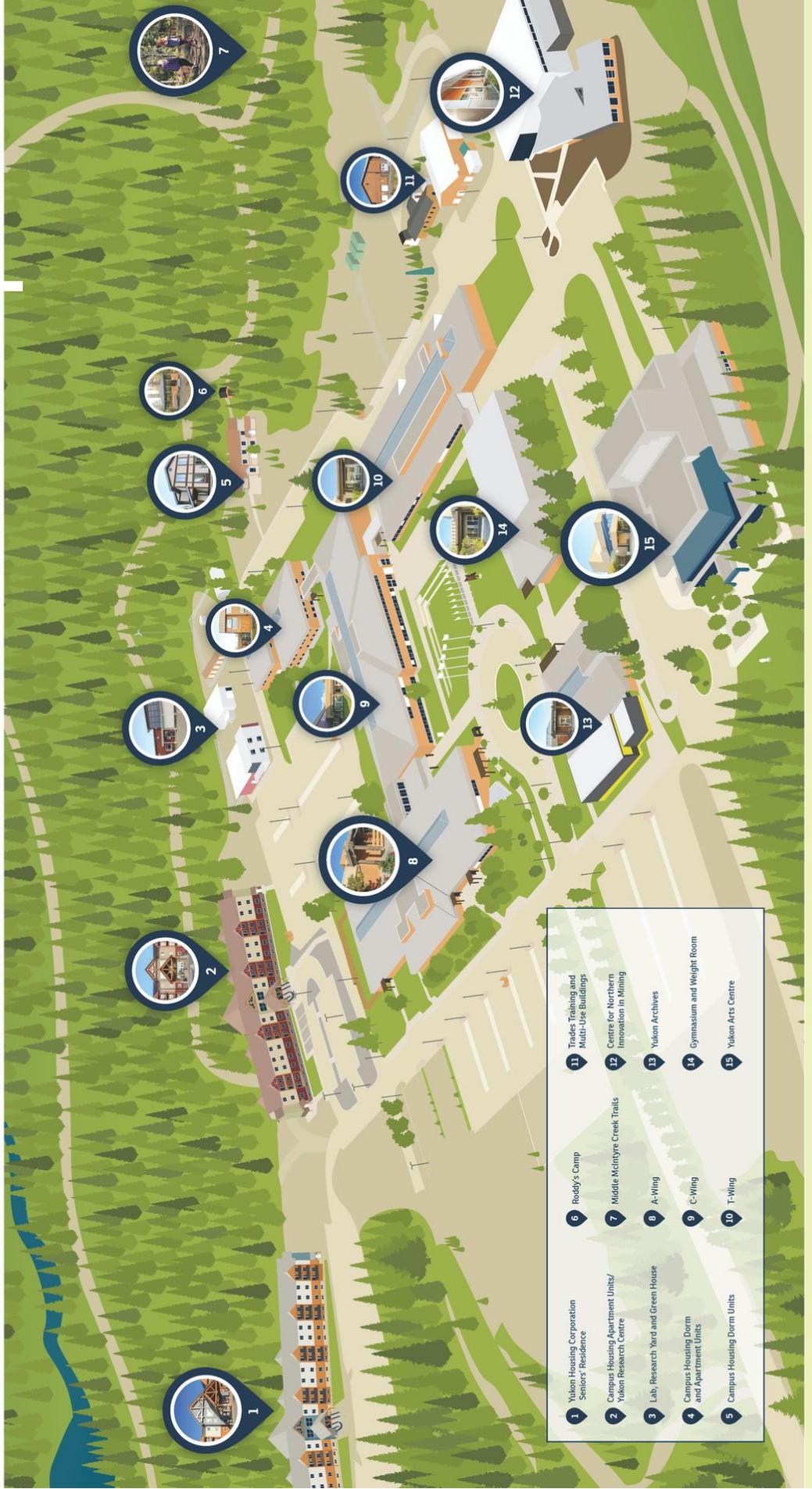
Telephone: +1 867 393 8700

Information: www.whitehorsehospital.ca

Dental Care - to view a list of Dental Clinics search through [Google](#), or visit [Yelp](#).

AYAMDIGUT CAMPUS

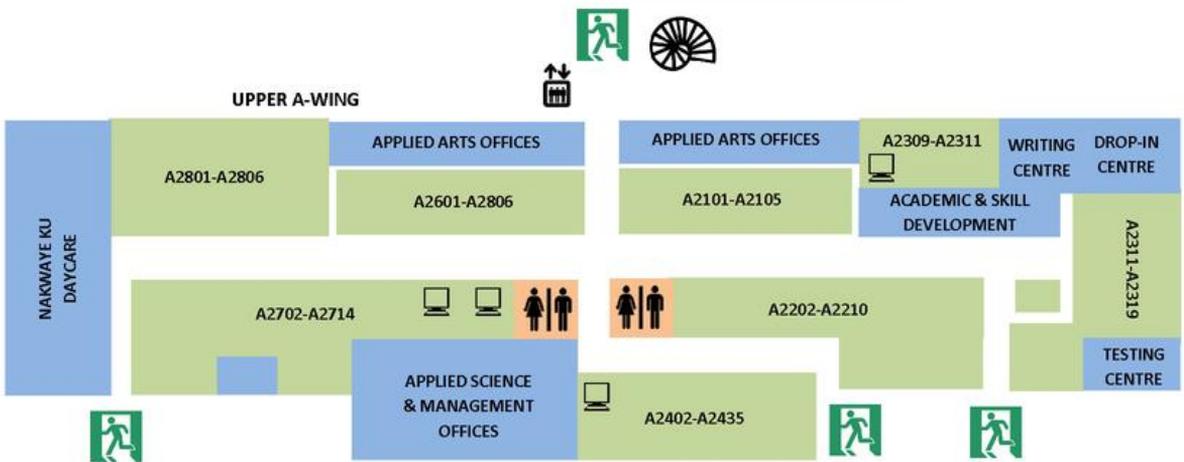
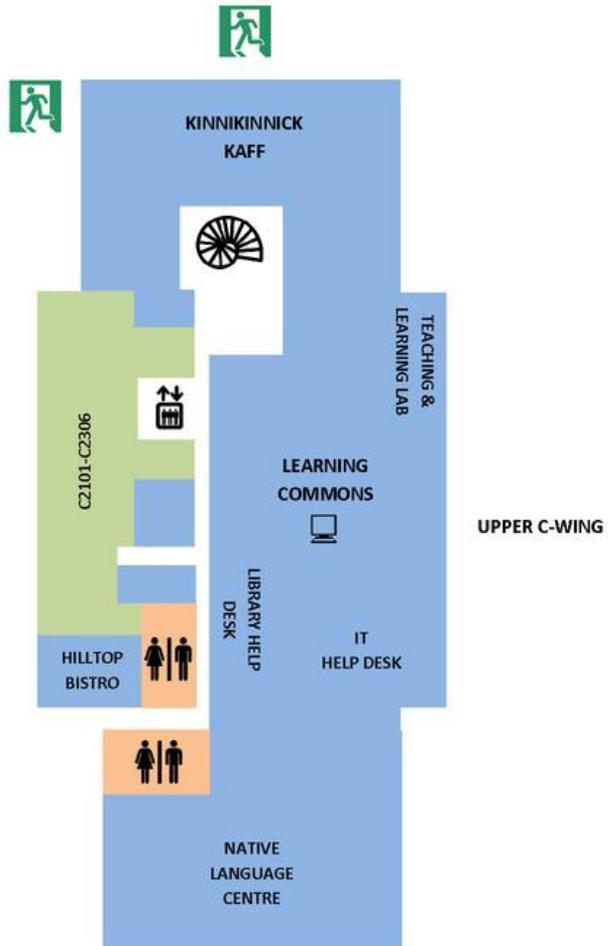
Visit yukoncollege.yk.ca/community-education for information on Yukon College's 13 community campuses.

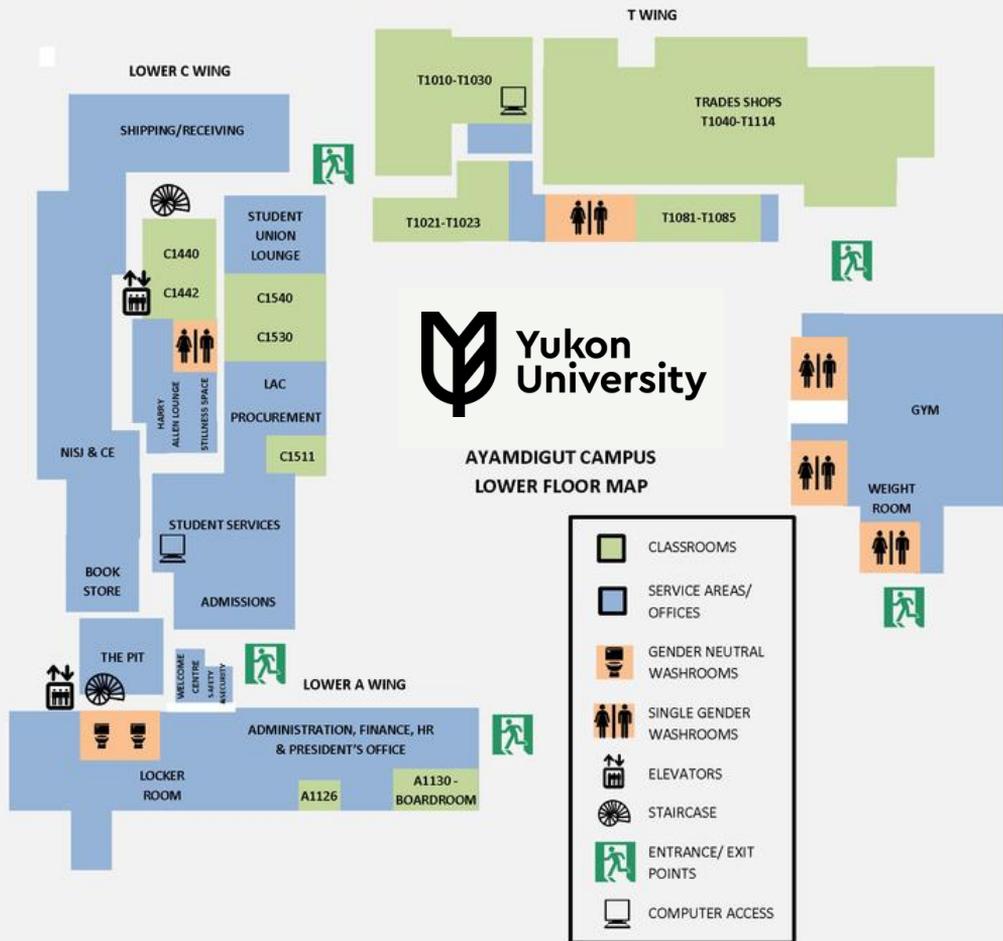


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|---|--------------------------------|---|
| 1 Yukon Housing Corporation Seniors' Residence | 6 Roddy's Camp | 11 Trades Training and Multi-Use Buildings |
| 2 Campus Housing Apartment Units/ Yukon Research Centre | 7 Middle McIntyre Creek Trails | 12 Centre for Northern Innovation in Mining |
| 3 Lab, Research Yard and Green House | 8 A-Wing | 13 Yukon Archives |
| 4 Campus Housing Dorm and Apartment Units | 9 C-Wing | 14 Gymnasium and Weight Room |
| 5 Campus Housing Dorm Units | 10 T-Wing | 15 Yukon Arts Centre |

**AYAMDIGUT CAMPUS
UPPER FLOOR MAP**

	CLASSROOMS
	SERVICE AREAS/OFFICES
	SINGLE GENDER WASHROOMS
	ELEVATORS
	STAIRCASE
	ENTRANCE/EXIT POINT
	COMPUTER ACCESS





Emergency contacts

24/7 Campus Safety and Security
Dial 867 334 6042 or speed dial 222 from any office/classroom phone

For Emergencies that require Police, Fire Services or an Ambulance,
please call 911, and then contact Campus Security

- You are locked out of a building
- You lost or found something
- You witness an incident
- You need to boost your car
- You see something unsafe
- You feel unsafe

YukonU App:

- Quickly connect to University safety and security officers.
- Report suspicious behaviour or wildlife activity.
- Use your device as a flashlight or panic alarm.
- Access emergency response plans.
- Book a counselling appointment.
- Access the University's online learning management system.

The YukonU app can be found on app stores for Apple and Android mobile devices by searching for "Yukon University". Please be sure to enable notifications in order to allow emergency notifications to reach you.

Visit: Our [Campus Safety](#) page for more details!

