

## MEMBER STATEMENT—KEVIN O'REILLY MLA FRAME LAKE

### ÉCOLE ALLAIN ST-CYR EXPANSION

March 13, 2018

**MR. O'REILLY:** Merci, Monsieur le Président. Today, my Member's statement is going to be about expansion of Ecole Allain St-Cyr, and I'm going to attempt it in French.

#### (English Translation)

I attended a public meeting on the Giant Mine remediation project last week. This will be the largest-ever project for Yellowknife, at over \$1 billion, with up to 250 to 300 jobs for at least 10 years, then jobs in perpetual care. The federal government awarded the main construction management contract to US-based Parsons Corporation, a US company. The \$600 million contract will begin as early as 2020 and may run as long as 22 years.

Merci, Monsiuer le Président, today it's good news in my Member's Statement. For anyone driving or walking along Taylor Road here in Yellowknife, something new is happening. The long awaited expansion of École Allain St-Cyr is underway and the work space has now been closed in. When completed, this work will finally give francophone students in Yellowknife access to the same facilities enjoyed by other children in our community. This was a very long process that included court challenges, negotiations, a lot of planning, and many funding applications. I congratulate the Commission scolaire francophone Territoires du Nord-Ouest, Association, Association des parents ayants droit de Yellowknife, all the parents and students who have patiently waited, the Departements of Education, Culture and Employment and Infrastructure, and the contractors working on the project.

The expansion will include a gymnasium with a wooden floor that is up the standards required, a stage, an industrial kitchen and another specialized classroom. These new facilities will be made available to the community as a whole when they are completed, just as the school itself is now available and has been used for public events such as the Aurora Fiddle Society weekend workshops. The expansion should also assist in student retention that allows École Allain St-Cyr to compete with other Yellowknife High Schools.

Everything is on track for an opening in the late fall of 2018. To ensure that the new space is fully useable by students and the community, the Commission scolaire francophone Territoires du Nord-Ouest, Association has launched a fundraising campaign for \$150,000. This will help with a scoreboard for the gym, lights and a sound syste for the stage, and kitchen equipment and utensils.

I've made a personal donation to the campaign called "For You, for the Community" and I challenge other Yellowkife MLAs to do the same.

Mahsi, Mr. Speaker.

