

September 3, 2026

Community Notice:

John N.A Janvier School Building Reopening Update

We would like to provide an important update regarding John N.A. Janvier School and the temporary learning plan that will be in place while the remaining work on the school building is completed.

We are pleased to inform community members that the asbestos remediation work at John NA Janvier School is nearing completion and the facility is being prepared for reopening. The health and safety of your students, staff and community remains our highest priority. We appreciate that this has been stressful for many staff, students and families and we thank you for your patience throughout this process.

Following the identification of asbestos contamination, the building was closed to protect the health and safety of all occupants. Since that time, qualified environmental and remediation professionals have undertaken comprehensive asbestos abatement activities. This, included: ceiling tile and pipe insulation replacement, removal of asbestos-containing dust, and cleaning of affected surfaces.

Remediation activities, environmental testing, and consultation with qualified professionals, were conducted over and beyond applicable requirements and industry standards. The building will be reopened once this work is completed and final testing confirmed the building is safe for normal occupancy and use. The building is considered suitable for normal occupancy and use. After opening, follow-up monitoring will continue to support the long-term management of asbestos-containing materials within the facility.

Final work is being completed on the heating and ventilation (HVAC) upgrades and on the fire alarm system. HVAC upgrades are needed to ensure proper heat regulation, airflow and reduction of mechanical noise throughout the building.

The HVAC upgrades and work on the fire alarm system have resulted in a delay to the opening of the school building for full- time study. During this period, portable classrooms and alternate learning locations will be used until this upgrade is completed. We understand that temporary locations are not ideal. To minimize impact on students, school leadership is ensuring that as many regular activities continue as possible, including cultural and Dene language teachings.

We appreciate your patience throughout this process and are working to prepare the school for opening. While that is being completed:

- ✓ August 31–September 4, 2026: School staff will prepare instructional materials, organize resources, and make the necessary preparations for student learning. School registration will also continue during this time online.
- ✓ September 8–11, 2026: School staff will participate in professional learning focused on Dene culture and land-based education. Administration staff will be at the youth center with field trip forms, registration and home learning packages.
- ✓ On September 14, 2026, students in Grades 7, 8, and 9 will begin in-person instruction at the Youth Center. Our goal is for all students, Kindergarten through Grade 9, to begin in-person instruction on September 14. If the portables are ready for occupancy, students in Kindergarten through Grade 6 will begin classes there. If the portables are not ready by September 14, K–6 students will continue learning from home using their home learning packages until the portables are ready for occupancy.
- ✓ September 17–18, 2026: All Grades land-based learning camp at Berry Point.

Families will be notified before students transition into the portable classrooms. School staff will support students and families through this transition and provide clear information regarding classroom locations, schedules, transportation, and any other arrangements that may be required.

Work on the main school building will continue while students are temporarily supported through the Youth Centre, home-based learning, land-based programming, and portable classrooms. A date for the full reopening of John N.A. Janvier School will be communicated once the remaining work is complete and the building has received the necessary clearances for regular occupancy.

We understand that families have questions about the remediation work, building safety, HVAC system, and other infrastructure matters. Questions regarding these areas should be directed to Indigenous Services Canada Infrastructure Officer Gavin Cheng and/or the Nation's designated infrastructure representative, Carole St. Onge. Families requiring their contact information may call the school cell phone at 587-334-3169, and staff will assist in connecting them with the appropriate representative.

Further updates will be provided as information becomes available. Families are encouraged to monitor the John N.A. Janvier School website and the school's John N.A. Janvier Facebook page for current information.

Our goal throughout this transition is to keep students connected to their teachers, learning, and school community as the remaining work is completed. We appreciate the flexibility and cooperation of our families, students, staff, and community as we work toward returning everyone to regular in-person learning.

Thank you for your continued patience, understanding, and support.

Sincerely,

Amelia Ferozdin

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Indigenous Services

Canada