

Education and Early Childhood Development

Annual Report

2017-18





MESSAGE FROM THE MINISTER

The following report covers the department's annual objectives for April 1, 2017 to March 31, 2018.

In the past fiscal year, the mandate for the Minister of Education and Early Childhood Development covered early childhood development, regulated child care, the K-12 education system and public libraries.

Departmental staff worked towards achieving success on all objectives. The Department enacted the **Child Care Act**; increased eligibility levels and revised the Child Care Subsidy Program; commenced revisions to the Operating Grant Program; and supported family resource centres to implement early literacy programming.

The Department also commenced development of an Education Action Plan to address the recommendations of the Premier's Task Force on Improving Educational Outcomes, which is a key commitment in **The Way Forward**.

My signature below is indicative of my accountability for the results reported.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Al Hawkins'. The signature is fluid and cursive, written over a light grey rectangular background.

Hon. Al Hawkins
Minister of Education and Early Childhood Development

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Departmental Overview

The Department of Education and Early Childhood Development was established under the **Executive Council Act**. It is a category one Provincial Government entity under the **Transparency and Accountability Act** and is responsible for achieving outcomes with respect to provincial early childhood development and the K-12 education system.

Organizational Structure

During 2017-18, the Department's programs and services were provided through its two branches:

Kindergarten to Grade 12 Education and Early Childhood Development

This branch included the divisions of: Early Learning and Child Development; Evaluation and Research; and Programs and Services.

Corporate Services

This branch included the divisions of: Financial Services, which also manages student transportation and teachers' payroll; and Policy and Information Management.

Additional information on the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development can be found at www.gov.nl.ca/edu.

Staff and Budget

Branch	# of Employees	Budget
Executive Services ¹	10	\$1,056,000
Corporate Services	33	\$4,853,300
K-12 Education and Early Childhood Development	126	\$794,700,200
Total	169	\$800,609,500

¹ This number includes communications and executive support staff

Highlights and Partnerships

In addition to working towards the outcomes associated with the issues for the fiscal year 2017-18, outlined in the “Report on Performance” section of this report, the Department contributed to significant accomplishments in a number of other areas. A number of initiatives involve partnership arrangements with key groups, including: school boards, school councils, the Provincial Information and Library Resources Board, regulated child care providers, the Association of Early Childhood Educators of Newfoundland and Labrador, and Family and Child Care Connections.

Highlights

Public Examinations: Public examinations are based on the provincial curriculum and provide a common standard to assess proficiency in Level III academic language, mathematics, science and social studies courses. They are administered yearly in June, August and November and are scored by an independent scoring panel made up of practicing teachers. Successful completion of at least four public examination courses is required to graduate with academic or honours status.

The Department of Education and Early Childhood Development is responsible for exam development, exam administration (in conjunction with school officials) and reporting summary results to all stakeholders. During the fiscal year there were 18,650 public exams written by 7580 high school students.

Compared to previous years there was an improvement in most subject areas. It is significant to note that 96.7 per cent of those students eligible to graduate actually graduated and 72 per cent of graduating students achieved honours or academic diplomas. Honours or academic status enables our young people to pursue a wide range of post-secondary opportunities.

Provincial Scholarships: In 2017-18, provincial scholarships were awarded to 201 high school graduates across Newfoundland and Labrador¹. The scholarships ranged in value from \$1,000 to \$2,500 and are intended to help students pursue post-secondary education. Eligibility for scholarships is based on public examination results. The scholarships awarded include:

- The Junior Jubilee Scholarship, valued at \$2,500, was awarded to the student who attained the highest overall marks in the province.
- The Constable W.C. Moss Scholarship, valued at \$1,000, was awarded to the son or daughter of the member of the Royal Newfoundland Constabulary or the Royal Canadian Mounted Police (active, retired or deceased) who, other than the Junior Jubilee winner, achieved the highest marks.
- The Electoral District Scholarships, valued at \$1,000 each, were awarded to the three high school graduates with the highest marks in each electoral district.
- The Centenary of Responsible Government Scholarships, valued at \$1,000 each, were awarded to 55 high school graduates with the highest marks who did not qualify for the Junior Jubilee, Constable W.C. Moss, or the Electoral District Scholarships.

Outstanding Principals: Two exemplary school principals in Newfoundland and Labrador were named among The Learning Partnership's Canada's Outstanding Principals for 2018. The Learning Partnership is a national organization devoted to strong public education systems.

Principals are nominated for Canada's Outstanding Principals by their peers, school staff and community members in each province and territory. Nominations are reviewed and final winners selected on a representation-by-population basis by a national

¹ A complete list of the Provincial Government Scholarship winners can be found at <http://www.releases.gov.nl.ca/releases/2017/edu/1116n03.aspx>.

selection committee made up of a group of education, community and private sector leaders.

The 2018 recipients of the honour from Newfoundland and Labrador were John Antle of Exploits Valley Intermediate in Grand Falls-Windsor and Michael Tobin of Paradise Elementary in Paradise. They received their award at a ceremony in Toronto on February 27, 2018.

Improvements in Child Care Services: During the fiscal year, a number of organizations noted improvements in the province’s system of regulated child care:

- **Canadian Child Care Fees -** The Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives published “Time Out - Child Care Fees in Canada 2017.” It provides a detailed analysis of child care fees for infants, toddlers and preschoolers in the country’s 28 largest cities. In 2017, St. John’s reported the highest reduction in median fees for preschoolers from the previous year (down 2.4 per cent). Only two other Canadian cities showed a reduction (Burnaby, BC and Calgary, AB). St. John’s is also ranked the second lowest among centres that reported a waiting list. In 2017, since the release of the initial report by the Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives in 2014, St. John’s improved its ranking. At the time of the first report, St. John’s was ranked second highest in infant fees in the country, but in 2017 ranked in the middle of all cities surveyed for all age categories.
- **Ranking in Early Childhood Education -** The Atkinson Centre at the Ontario Institute for Studies in Education released its “Early Childhood Education Report 2017,” providing a detailed assessment of provincial and territorial frameworks for early childhood education in Canada. In 2017, Newfoundland and Labrador saw an improvement in the province’s overall score, receiving 8.5 out of 15. The report is based on 19 benchmarks in five categories: governance structures, funding, access, quality in learning environments, and accountability. Newfoundland and Labrador has consistently shown improvement over the last three reports and is the province/territory most improved overall – moving from a

score of 1.5 out of 15 in 2011, to 6 out of 15 in 2014, and to the current 8.5 out of 15 in 2017. The highest ranking province in the country in 2017 received a score of 11 out of 15.

Safe and Caring School Awards: Every year, the Department sponsors the Safe and Caring School Awards. This award aims to promote awareness of the Safe and Caring Schools Policy and support districts and schools with policy implementation.

Specifically, the goal is to:

- Support the implementation of safe and caring school action(s) identified in school development plans; and
- Support the implementation of key components of the Safe and Caring Schools Policy such as school-wide positive behaviour supports, code of conduct, violence/bullying prevention, social/emotional learning, inclusive education and/or digital citizenship, and help sustain partnerships and effective actions that support a positive school climate.
- For the fiscal year 2017-18, 32 schools received a Safe and Caring School Award and shared \$13,000 in award funding².

School Openings: In 2017-18, the Department opened seven new schools throughout the province:

- Brookside Intermediate, a grade 5-9 school located in Portugal Cove-St. Philip's with an enrolment capacity of approximately 700 students;
- Admiral's Academy, a K-7 school located in Conception Bay South with an enrolment capacity of approximately 600 students;
- Eastside Elementary, a K-6 school located in Corner Brook with an enrolment capacity of approximately 600 students;

² A complete list of recipients can be found at

http://www.ed.gov.nl.ca/edu/k12/safeandcaring/2017_Safe_Caring_Schools_Special_Project_Award_Recipients.pdf

- Juniper Ridge Intermediate, a grade 5-7 school located in Torbay with an enrolment capacity of approximately 700 students;
- East Point Elementary, a K-6 school located in the east end of St. John's, with an enrolment capacity of approximately 340 students;
- Gander Elementary, a grade 4-6 school located in Gander with an enrolment capacity of approximately 450 students; and
- École Rocher-du-Nord, a grade 7-12 school, located in St. John's with an enrolment capacity of approximately 150 students.

Increase in Annual Early Learning and Child Care Supplement Program: The Early Learning and Child Care (ELCC) Supplement Program provides funding directly to eligible early childhood educators at child care centres or with family child care locations, administrators at child care centres, and monitors at family child care agencies on a quarterly basis. The intent of the initiative is to attract a greater number of qualified individuals to work in regulated child care settings by supplementing their income from working in regulated child care services. Wages continue to be the responsibility of the employer.

Budget 2017 included a \$1.3 million increase to the annual ELCC Supplement budget to reflect an increase for early childhood educators in 2017-18. The Provincial Government increased the supplement for:

- Early childhood educators at child care centres or with family child care locations: Eligible full-time early childhood educators with levels one to four certification saw supplement increases (based on their level of certification) between \$2,840 and \$5,340 annually;
- Child care centre operators: Eligible full-time early childhood educators with levels two to four certification saw a supplement increase (based on their level of certification) between \$2,500 and \$3,500 annually; and
- Family child care agency home visitors: Eligible full-time early childhood educators with levels two to four certification are now eligible to receive the ELCC Supplement (effective April 1, 2017).

New Early Childhood Learning Programming: The Department implemented a new standardized KinderStart/Bon départ program across all schools offering Kindergarten in the Province. The standard program consists of four sessions for children and four concurrent sessions for parents/caregivers offered during the school year before school entry. Each child receives a bag of resources to encourage learning through play and to support the transition to the K-12 school system.

Partnerships

Canada-Newfoundland and Labrador Early Learning and Child Care Agreement: On December 18, 2017, the Province and the Federal Government signed a bilateral agreement that allocates approximately \$22 million, over three years, to Newfoundland and Labrador for early learning and child care investments.

The funding will support the remaining five years of the 10-year child care strategy and will assist the Department in further developing and implementing innovative approaches to address early learning and child care challenges through subsidies, grants, bursaries and professional learning opportunities. The bilateral agreement, in addition to provincial budget allocations, helps to ensure that Newfoundland and Labrador children have access to programs and services to support their best start in life. It is supported by long-term Government of Canada investments in early learning and child care announced in Budgets 2016 and 2017, totalling \$7.5 billion over 11 years. These initiatives will assist the Department in achieving **The Way Forward** commitment to improve child care quality and access.

The agreement includes a multi-year action plan that is built on two main priority areas:

- Improving accessibility and affordability of child care for low and middle income families by:
 - Enhancing the Operating Grant Program;
 - Implementing changes to the Child Care Services Subsidy program; and
 - Enhancing the Child Care Capacity Initiative.

- Enhancing the quality of early learning and child care across Newfoundland and Labrador by:
 - Enhancing grants, bursaries and professional learning opportunities for early childhood educators;
 - Introducing a Capital Renovation Grant Program for licensed child care centres; and
 - Developing a Quality Improvement Program.

The agreement follows the conclusion of a Multilateral Early Learning and Child Care Framework on June 12, 2017, by Federal, Provincial and Territorial Ministers Responsible for Early Learning and Child Care. The framework sets the foundation for governments to work towards a shared long-term vision where all children across Canada can experience the enriching environment of quality early learning and child care.

The framework principles include increasing the quality, accessibility, affordability, flexibility and inclusivity of early learning and child care, with consideration for families that need child care the most.

Regional Mental Health Approach in Public and Post-Secondary Education: On January 18, 2018, Atlantic Ministers of Education and Early Childhood Development, and Ministers of Post-secondary Education and Training, agreed to further solidify regional collaboration to guide provincial and regional mental health initiatives by agreeing to develop an Atlantic Mental Health Framework.

The proposed framework will contain specific goals and objectives that ministers would like to pursue both regionally and provincially. The framework is meant to be an overarching direction for mental health in Atlantic Canada and will contain key mental health themes and priorities that provinces would like to address to support the delivery of provincial services. The framework will also include key goals, objectives, and themes that are within the responsibilities of Ministers of Education and Early Childhood

Development and Post-secondary Education and Training. The implementation of specific regional and provincial initiatives will continue to be the responsibility of each province.

The Department will partner with regional counterparts to prepare a draft Atlantic Mental Health Framework for review by ministers in 2018. The framework will reflect a comprehensive approach focused on equity, and be sensitive to diverse students and communities, including the establishment of strong relationships and partnerships among school systems, post-secondary education institutions, other government departments, non-government agencies, and community stakeholders.

Report on Performance

March 31, 2018, concluded the period covering the first year of the Department's Strategic Plan for 2017-20. In consideration of the mandate and financial resources of the Department, two issues were identified as the Department's key priorities in its Strategic Plan: Early Learning and Child Care; and K-12 Education. This section reports on the 2017-18 objective for each issue.

Issue One: Early Learning and Child Care

The Department of Education and Early Childhood Development is committed to enhancing early learning and child care throughout the province of Newfoundland and Labrador. The Department strives to enhance children's early learning and development, support parental/caregiver involvement, and offer a smooth transition into the K-12 education system. In 2017-18, this was accomplished through the proclamation of new legislation and regulations; revisions to the Child Care Subsidy and Operating Grant programs; and the introduction of an Early Childhood Learning Framework.

Goal:

By March 31, 2020, the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development will have enhanced provincial early learning and child care programs and services.

2017-18 Objective:

By March 31, 2018, the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development will have implemented initiatives in support of provincial early learning and child care programs and services.

Discussion of Results

Enacted new Child Care Act

The new **Child Care Act** received Royal Assent on December 16, 2014, and was proclaimed on July 31, 2017. The passage of new regulations under the Act coincided with the proclamation of the Act. The new Act and associated Regulations:

- Replaces the former **Child Care Services Act** and Regulations (effective July 31, 2017);
- Improves safety and security standards for the well-being of our children at their most vulnerable stages;
- Clarifies and strengthens licensing exemptions;
- Removes the cap on the number of spaces per child care centre;
- Enhances qualification expectations by changing entry-level certification to become trainee certification, requiring early childhood educators to upgrade to a post-secondary one-year Early Childhood Education Certificate within a five-year period;
- Enhances qualifications for administrators of infant-only family homes to include the requirement of a Level I certification with an infant classification;
- Ensures child care providers have a secure building policy and enhanced physical space requirements to increase quality of care; and
- Commits to a mandatory five-year legislative review with public consultation to allow the opportunity for feedback.

To prepare for the Act coming into force, external stakeholder information sessions took place during June and July 2017. Regional child care staff held public information sessions and worked with child care services staff individually, when required.

Increased eligibility levels and revised Subsidy Program

The Child Care Services Subsidy Program helps eligible parents or guardians pay for child care in a licensed child care centre or a regulated family child care home. Some or all of the cost may be covered depending on family income. Families select the child care service they wish to access and the subsidy is paid directly to the licensee or provider on behalf of the family.

Budget 2017 committed an additional \$2 million annually to support the Child Care Services Subsidy Program.

As of June 1, 2017, families throughout Newfoundland and Labrador benefited from an increased income threshold under the provincial Child Care Services Subsidy Program. The threshold was adjusted for the first time since 2007, increasing from \$27,500 to \$32,000. This means that a greater number of families are eligible for a full Child Care Subsidy, other families benefit from a reduction in their parental contribution and some families that were previously ineligible now receive a partial subsidy.

As a result, more families with low to middle incomes have access to supports for reducing child care costs when they choose a licensed child care centre or family child care home.

Commenced revisions to Operating Grant Program

The Operating Grant Program is a voluntary program which provides operational funding to both non-profit and commercial child care centres. Participating centres are required to set their child care fees at provincial daily child care subsidy rates, and not surcharge for any services, thereby making child care more affordable for all families using those services. In particular, families eligible for full subsidy receive free child care when enrolled in centres participating in this program.

One of the eight recommendations specific to Chapter 7 - Early Years of the Premier's Task Force on Improving Educational Outcomes recommended expanding the Operating Grant Program to increase access to affordable, high quality early

learning and child care programs (Recommendation 66). The subsequent Canada-Newfoundland and Labrador Early Learning and Child Care Agreement made revisions to the Operating Grant Program a priority and committed \$4.15 million in funding for each of 2018-19 and 2019-20 to expand and enhance the program.

Supported family resource centres to implement early literacy programming

During the fiscal year, the Department contracted with the Parent-Child Mother Goose Program® to provide program-related training and mentoring to Family Resource Centre staff.

The program is a group experience for parents and their babies and young children. It introduces adults and children to the pleasure and power of using rhymes, songs, and stories together.

Parents gain skills and confidence which can enable them to create positive family patterns during their children’s crucial early years. Children benefit from enjoyable, healthy early experiences with language and communication.

In 2017-18, Family Resource Centre staff trained as part of this initiative offered the program in their communities and received mentoring as part of their training.

Commenced mid-point review of Caring for our Future, the 10-year child care strategy

In fiscal year 2012-13, the province launched “Caring for our Future: Provincial Strategy for Quality, Sufficient and Affordable Child Care in Newfoundland and Labrador.” The 10-year strategy covered 2012-13 to 2022-23. The strategy presented a vision for a planned, systematic approach for the growth and enhancement of regulated child care services throughout the province for 10 years.

This strategy built on existing programs and services and introduced new initiatives to address child care needs based on positive practice, cross-jurisdictional research and an extensive consultation process. The strategy aimed to ensure all partners were

working together to achieve a common vision for child care in Newfoundland and Labrador.

The strategy was built on three key pillars: quality, sufficiency and affordability. Each of these pillars contributes to a strong child care system, which helps to ensure that parents who choose regulated child care in Newfoundland and Labrador have access to high quality, affordable services.

In 2017-18, the Department commenced a mid-term review of the strategy through public engagement on the Operating Grant Program and the ELCC Supplement and through key informant and sector organization engagement on the bilateral Canada-Newfoundland and Labrador Early Learning and Child Care Agreement. These engagements included key informant interviews, meetings with sector organizations, and open public engagement sessions (face-to-face in every region and virtual). These processes resulted in revisions to the Operating Grant Program, increases to the ELCC Supplement, and to the negotiation and signing of the Canada - Newfoundland and Labrador Early Learning and Child Care Agreement. Targets and action items for the remaining five years of the strategy (and beyond) will be set under federal-provincial discussions pursuant to this Agreement and its renewal every three years.

Introduced an Early Childhood Learning Framework

An Early Childhood Learning Framework was developed and piloted that outlines an approach to early childhood learning with emphasis on play-based learning, the important role of adults in supporting children's early learning, a holistic approach to children's development and learning, and inclusion of children with exceptionalities.

The framework includes a priority focus on parent and child interaction in relation to emergent literacy skills and child development targeting children from birth to age eight. It provides the overarching and guiding principles for the early learning of children across all learning environments which include home, child care settings, community

and school, and outlines four goals for early childhood learning: Well-Being and Belonging, Communication, Play and Exploration, and Social Contribution.

The framework was piloted as an interim document in phases within various early learning settings. The pilot informed the development of other supporting documents as well as confirming the orientation required for its phase-in.

In March 2018, the Department signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Association of Early Childhood Educators of Newfoundland and Labrador to develop a professional learning and mentoring program for early childhood educators to offer the framework. The Early Childhood Learning Framework will launch when the professional learning and mentoring program is developed.

Issue Summary

During 2017-18, the Department was successful in implementing initiatives in support of provincial early learning and child care programs and services. A new **Child Care Act**, along with associated regulations and policies, came into force. The Department also improved the quality of child care programming through: increasing eligibility levels for the Child Care Subsidy Program; implementing revisions and increased funding to the Operating Grant Program; supporting family resource centres to implement early literacy programming; using a mid-point review of “Caring for our Future: Provincial Strategy for Quality, Sufficient and Affordable Child Care in Newfoundland and Labrador” to inform negotiation of a bilateral agreement with the Government of Canada; and finalizing an Early Childhood Learning Framework including an orientation process to be launched in 2018-19.

Strategic Plan Objective for 2018-19

By March 31, 2019, the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development will have continued to implement initiatives in support of provincial early learning and child care programs and services.

Indicators:

- Developed a Quality Enhancement Program for regulated child care services
- Developed a Family Child Care component in the Operating Grant Program
- Developed a Family Child Care component for rural and remote communities under the Child Care Capacity Program
- Increased eligibility thresholds under the Child Care Subsidy Program
- Implemented a second increase in the Early Learning and Child Care Supplement

Issue Two: K-12 Education

The Department of Education and Early Childhood Development is committed to ensuring that all children in Newfoundland and Labrador have access to safe, caring and inclusive learning environments and an education system that is responsive to students' strengths and needs. Improvements in the programs and services offered in the provincial K-12 system support the learning needs of students, help prepare them for future educational and career opportunities, and to participate in their communities and society.

The Premier's Task Force on Improving Educational Outcomes was announced on November 8, 2016. Its purpose was to examine the Kindergarten to Grade 12 education system and make recommendations to improve student outcomes including measurable goals and milestones. The task force was required to make recommendations based on: its examination of current student outcomes and educational practice; consideration of academic research and best practices; public engagement; and a review of current provincial initiatives, legislation, regulations and policy frameworks.

After extensive consultation, research and analysis, the task force completed and released its final report, "Now is the Time: The Next Chapter in Education in Newfoundland and Labrador," on July 25, 2017. The report contains 82 recommendations which informed the development of a comprehensive Education Action Plan to better engage students in learning and improve educational outcomes.

Goal:

By March 31, 2020, the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development will have enhanced the provincial K-12 education system.

2017-18 Objective:

By March 31, 2018, the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development will have reviewed the recommendations of the Premier's Task Force on Improving Educational Outcomes and commenced development of an Education Action Plan.

Discussion of Results

Commenced development of an Education Action Plan

In 2017-18, the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development commenced development of an Education Action Plan based on the 82 recommendations contained within the Premier's Task Force on Improving Educational Outcomes report.

The Department completed initial work toward development of an Education Action Plan through:

- The appointment of an Associate Deputy Minister to lead the implementation of the recommendations of the task force.
- Extensive follow-up consultation with key stakeholders, including:
 - Association of Early Childhood Educators;
 - Association for New Canadians;
 - Autism Society of Newfoundland and Labrador;
 - Canadian Hard of Hearing Association, NL;
 - Canadian Mental Health Association;
 - Choices for Youth;
 - Coalition of Persons with Disabilities – Newfoundland and Labrador;
 - Council of Higher Education;
 - Dietitians of Canada;

- Disability Policy Office;
- Early Childhood Educators Human Resource Council;
- Family and Child Care Connections;
- Kids Help Phone;
- Learning Disabilities Association of Newfoundland and Labrador;
- Newfoundland and Labrador Association of Social Workers;
- Newfoundland and Labrador Association of Occupational Therapists;
- Newfoundland and Labrador Teachers' Association;
- Office of the Child and Youth Advocate;
- Provincial Advisory Council for the Inclusion of Persons with Disabilities;
- Provincial Advisory Council on the Status of Women;
- Special Interest Councils of the Newfoundland and Labrador Teachers' Association (Speech Language Pathologists; Health Education; Teacher Librarians; Counsellors and Psychologists; Music; School Administrators; Physical Education; Mathematics and Science; Technology Education; Small Schools); and
- Thrive-Community Youth Network.

As a result of consultations and a comprehensive analysis of each of the 82 recommendations, 16 recommendations have been implemented. Work to implement the remaining recommendations will be outlined in the Education Action Plan. As of March 31, 2018, additional key steps toward completing the Education Action Plan included:

- Establishment of a steering committee to oversee implementation. The eight-member committee is comprised of Deputy Ministers from four Provincial Government departments (Education and Early Childhood Development; Health and Community Services; Children, Seniors and Social Development; and Advanced Education, Skills and Labour); CEOs/Directors of Education of the Newfoundland and Labrador English School District and the Conseil scolaire francophone provincial de Terre-Neuve-et-Labrador; the Dean of Memorial

University's Faculty of Education; and the Executive Director of the Newfoundland and Labrador Teachers' Association;

- Establishment of a committee to develop a new Student Support Services Policy and work on a seamless model of supports for students with exceptionalities;
- Establishment of a reading committee to develop roles and responsibilities for school-based and district-based reading specialists, as well as guidelines and resources for reading interventions;
- Establishment of a committee to develop a new provincial assessment framework;
- Establishment of a committee to ensure accurate recording of school attendance and develop a dropout prevention program; and
- Establishment of a secretariat to oversee the implementation of recommendations that involve more than one government department and to ensure a health in all policies approach to a new Education Action Plan.

Issue Summary

During 2017-18, the Department made significant progress toward improving K-12 education in the province by accepting the recommendations of the Premier's Task Force on Improving Educational Outcomes and beginning the work on the Education Action Plan. The implementation of the Education Action Plan will be used to set direction for future education-related initiatives and to inform future budgetary decisions.

Strategic Plan Objective for 2018-19

By March 31, 2019, the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development will have commenced implementation of select initiatives in the Education Action Plan.

Indicators:

Released the Education Action Plan

Commenced implementation of Phase 1 initiatives from the Education Action Plan

Financial Statements

STATEMENT OF EXPENDITURE AND RELATED REVENUE (UNAUDITED)
SUMMARY FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2018^{1, 2}

Area	Estimates		
	Actual (\$)	Amended (\$)	Original (\$)
Executive Services (13.1.1.01 & 13.1.2.01)			
Executive Services (13.1.1.01 & 13.1.2.01)	2,088,332	2,089,200	1,056,000
Total	2,088,332	2,089,200	1,056,000
Corporate Services (13.2.1.01 - 13.2.2.01)			
General Administration (13.2.1.01 - 13.2.1.03)	3,205,697	3,790,000	4,282,200
Information Management and Special Projects (13.2.2.01)	550,303	571,100	571,100
Total	3,756,000	4,361,100	4,853,300
Kindergarten to Grade 12 Education and Early Childhood Development (13.3.1.01 – 13.3.6.01)			
Financial Assistance (13.3.1.01 - 13.3.1.05)	718,704,142	725,372,700	724,986,800
Program Development (13.3.2.01 & 13.3.2.02)	2,176,669	2,678,400	2,634,900
Student Support Services (13.3.3.01 - 13.3.3.02)	2,149,373	2,158,500	2,158,200
Educational Programs (13.3.4.01)	2,618,385	2,636,000	2,565,900
Child and Family Development (13.3.5.01 – 13.3.5.04)	32,859,181	51,012,600	50,961,900
Provincial Information and Library Resources Board (13.3.6.01)	11,372,600	11,610,700	11,392,500
Total	769,880,350	795,468,900	794,700,200
Total Department	775,724,682	801,919,200	800,609,500

1. Expenditure and revenue figures included in this document are based on public information provided in the Report on the Program Expenditures and Revenues of the Consolidated Revenue Fund for the Year Ended 31 March 2018.

2. Audited financial statements are a requirement at the government level and are made public through the Public Accounts process. The Department of Education and Early Childhood Development is not required to provide an audited financial statement.

