

TEACHERS' CERTIFICATION COMMITTEE

**ANNUAL ACTIVITY REPORT
2020 - 21**

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Chairperson's Message

Honourable Tom Osborne
Minister of Education
West Block, Confederation Building
P.O. Box 8700
St. John's, NL A1B 4J6

Dear Minister:

I am pleased to submit the 2020-21 Annual Activity Report of the Teachers' Certification Committee. This report was prepared in accordance with the requirements of a category three entity under the **Transparency and Accountability Act** and covers the period of April 1, 2020 to March 31, 2021.

My signature below is on behalf of the committee and is indicative of the committee's accountability for the actual results reported herein.

Respectfully submitted,



JOANNE HOGAN
Chairperson

Overview

Section 8 of the **Teacher Training Act** provides for the membership of the Teachers' Certification Committee, and as of March 31, 2021 the membership was:

- the Registrar of Teachers, Mr. Sheldon Antle;
- an officer of the Department of Education, who shall be Chairperson, Ms. Joanne Hogan;
- two representatives of the Faculty of Education of Memorial University of Newfoundland, Dr. Edith Furey and Dr. Karen Goodnough;
- two representatives of the Newfoundland and Labrador Teachers' Association, Ms. Deana Hatcher and Mr. Gabriel Ryan; and,
- two representatives of the Newfoundland and Labrador School Boards Association, Mr. Goronwy Price and Mr. Stephen Tessier.

Members of the committee are located in St. John's with the exception of Mr. Gabriel Ryan, who is located in Holyrood, and Mr. Goronwy Price, who is located in Labrador. The committee meets in St. John's.

Members of the committee are appointed by virtue of their organizational affiliations and no remuneration is provided. The Newfoundland and Labrador School Boards Association and the Newfoundland and Labrador Teachers' Association cover the cost of travel and incidental expenses for their members.

This committee operates at no cost to Government and is not required to prepare financial statements.

Mandate

The Teachers' Certification Committee is mandated to advise the Registrar of Teachers on the granting and issuing of teachers' certificates and licences in accordance with section 12 of the **Teacher Training Act**.

The Teachers' Certification Committee may make regulations, subject to the approval of the Lieutenant-Governor in Council, as per section 11 of the **Teacher Training Act** in the following areas:

- prescribing the number and names of grades of teachers' certificates and licences, and the conditions under which the certificates and licences may be granted;
- prescribing the conditions under and the period during which the certificates and licences shall be valid;
- providing for the granting of interim, as well as permanent, teachers' certificates;
- providing for academic and professional standards in the training, examining, grading, certification and licensing of teachers, including training, examining, grading,

certification and licensing in relation to the divisions in which they shall be qualified to teach;

- providing for the training and examining of administrators and supervisory and specialist personnel; and
- generally respecting the academic and professional standards in training and classification of teachers.

Objectives

The mandate of the Teachers' Certification Committee as a category three government entity is very specific. The function the committee performs is advisory in nature and complements the ongoing work of the Registrar of Teachers. As such, the committee identified two issues in its 2020-23 activity plan:

ISSUE ONE: ADVISORY SERVICES

Advisory services, as required, are provided to the Registrar of Teachers on matters pertaining to approval of teacher training programs for both initial certification, and for programs requested by teachers for the purpose of attaining higher levels of teacher certification.

Objective:

By March 31, 2021, the Teachers' Certification Committee will have provided advisory services as required.

The following details the committee's successful achievement of the indicator as presented in the activity plan for 2020-23.

Indicator: Provided advice, as required, with respect to teacher training programs

The Teachers' Certification Committee met twice during the reporting period to provide advisory services to the Office of Teacher Certification. The committee provided advice to the Registrar with respect to certification and program approvals.

ISSUE TWO: REVIEW OF REGULATIONS

The Teachers' Certification Committee reviews teacher certification regulations on an ongoing basis to ensure they are effective and efficient. No new regulations were brought forward.

Objective:

By March 31, 2021, the Teachers' Certification Committee will have reviewed teacher certification regulations when issues have been identified.

The following details the committee's work towards the achievement of the indicator as presented in the activity plan for 2020-23.

Indicator: Reviewed regulations when issues have been identified

As no regulatory issues were identified in 2020-21, the Teachers' Certification Committee was not required to review regulations in this fiscal year.

Indicator: Provided recommendations to the Minister, as required

As no regulations were reviewed, the Teachers' Certification Committee did not provide recommendations to the Minister in 2020-21. The committee was advised of the potential review of the **Teacher Training Act** and has indicated that the committee should be identified as a stakeholder on any regulatory change as a result of legislative review.

OBJECTIVES FOR 2021-22

The Teachers' Certification Committee will report on the same objectives and indicators for all three years covered by its 2020-23 Activity Plan.

Conclusion

The Teachers' Certification Committee is committed to supporting the mandate of the Department of Education and will continue to ensure that high standards are set to which teachers in the province are held. The committee ensures that only the most highly qualified individuals are entrusted with our children's education in classrooms throughout the province by setting standards for training, qualifying and certifying teachers.