TEACHERS' CERTIFICATION COMMITTEE

ANNUAL ACTIVITY REPORT
2024-2025

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Chairperson's Message

Honourable Paul Dinn
Minister of Education and Early Childhood Development
West Block, Confederation Building
P.O. Box 8700
St. John's, NL A1B 4J6

Dear Minister:

I am pleased to submit the 2024-25 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, 2024 to March 31, 2025.

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,

Doug Pippy
Chairperson

Overview

Section 8 of the **Teacher Training Act** provides for the membership of the Teachers' Certification Committee, and as of March 31, 2025 the membership was:

- the Registrar of Teachers, Ms. Karen Mulrooney;
- an officer of the Department of Education, who shall be Chairperson, Mr. Doug Pippy;
- two representatives of the Faculty of Education of Memorial University of Newfoundland, Dr. David Gill and Dr. Pamela Osmond-Johnson;
- two representatives of the Newfoundland and Labrador Teachers' Association, Ms. Deanna Hatcher and Mr. Darryl George; and,
- two representatives of the Newfoundland and Labrador School Boards Association, Mr. Goronwy Price and Mr. Steve Tessier (up to June 2022). Representatives were not applicable from April 2024 to March 2025*.

Mr. Doug Pippy was appointed to the Teachers' Certification Committee as the new Chairperson on November 8, 2024 after Ms. Joanne Hogan retired from the department. In addition, Dr. Pamela Osmond-Johnson and Dr. David Gill were appointed to replace Dr. Leslie Redmond and Dr. Gerald Galway as representatives of the Faculty of Education of Memorial University in April 2024.

The members of the committee meet in St. John's, as required.

Members of the committee are appointed by virtue of their professional positions and no remuneration is provided to the members. The travel expenses incurred by members of the committee are provided for by the agencies represented. This committee is not required to prepare financial statements.

* As of January 1, 2024, the former English School District has been integrated into the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador. As a result of these governance changes, representatives of the Federation of School Boards of Newfoundland are not applicable to the Teachers' Certification Committee in the 2024-25 reporting period. The **Teacher Training Act** is currently under review and it is anticipated amendments will reflect changes for the committee's structure and functioning.

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**.

Furthermore, the 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 2023-26 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.

With respect to the provision of advisory services, the following objective is the focus for each of the fiscal years ending March 31, 2024, 2025, and 2026. This objective will be reported upon in each of the respective annual reports.

Objective:
By March 31, 2025, the Teachers' Certification Committee will have provided advisory services as required.

Indicator: Provided advice, as required, with respect to teacher training programs
In 2024-25, the Teachers' Certification Committee met in St. John's on December 9, 2024 to review various degree and certificate programs, brought forward by the Registrar, for both initial certification and upgrading purposes.

Issue Two: Review of Regulations
The Teachers' Certification Committee reviews teacher certification regulations on an ongoing basis to ensure they are effective and efficient.

With respect to the review of regulations, the following objective is the focus for each of the fiscal years ending March 31, 2024, 2025, and 2026. This objective will be reported in each of the respective annual reports.

Objective:
By March 31, 2025, the Teachers' Certification Committee will have reviewed teacher certification regulations when issues have been identified.

Indicator: Reviewed regulations when issues have been identified
In 2024-25, the Teachers' Certification Committee met on a regular basis to discuss proposed changes to modernize the Teacher Certifcation Regulations.

Indicator: Provided recommendations to the Minister, as required
In 2024-25, the Teachers' Certification Committee collaborated with Department of Education staff to advance the review and modernization of the Teacher Certification Regulatons and provided regular progress updates to the Minister.

Conclusion

The Teachers' Certification Committee remains dedicated to upholding the mandate of the Department of Education and maintaining rigorous standards set for teachers in the province. The primary objective of the committee is to guarantee that only exceptionally qualified individuals are entrusted with the education of our children in classrooms across the region. The committee accomplishes this by establishing standards for teacher training, qualifications, and certifications, thereby ensuring that high standards are consistently met.