

TEACHER CERTIFICATION REVIEW PANEL

Activity Plan 2026-2029

Message to the Minister

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 a three-year Activity Plan for the Teacher Certification Review Panel. This plan covers the period of April 1, 2026 to March 31, 2029 and is prepared in accordance with the responsibilities for a category three entity under the **Transparency and Accountability Act** and in consideration of the strategic directions of government. The review panel is committed to its supporting role in the education system, ensuring the teachers of the province are held to high standards.

My signature below is on behalf of the Teacher Certification Review Panel and indicative of the panel's accountability for the preparation of this plan and the achievement of the objective contained in this plan.

Sincerely,



Sarah Pinsent
Chairperson

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Overview

Section 3 of the **Teacher Training Act** (Act) sets out the membership of Teachers Certification Review Panel as follows :

- a member of the Newfoundland and Labrador Teachers' Association;
- a member of the Newfoundland and Labrador School Boards' Association;*
- and
- a representative of the general public.

As per the Act, the review panel is appointed by the Minister of Education and Early Childhood Development. Two members of the review panel are nominated by their organizations for appointment. The representative of the general public is chosen through a merit-based process and appointed as the Chairperson.

Members of the review panel receive remuneration in accordance with Level III of the Treasury Board Guidelines for Rates of Remuneration for Agencies, Boards and Commissions. The remuneration is covered in its entirety by the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development. The review panel is not required to prepare financial statements.

The Registrar of Teachers acts in the capacity of executive secretary to the review panel, which meets, as required, in St. John's.

* On January 1, 2024, the former English School District was integrated into the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador. As a result of this governance change, the Federation of School Boards of Newfoundland is no longer applicable to the Teacher Certification Review Panel; the Act is currently under review.

Mandate

Under sections 5, 10 and 13 of the **Teacher Training Act**, the Teacher Certification Review Panel is mandated to:

- suspend or cancel the certificate or licence of a teacher (including a director, an associate director or an assistant director as defined in the **Schools Act, 1997**) guilty of gross misconduct, incompetence or for other just cause;
- suspend for up to one year the certificate or licence of a teacher who,
 - while required by contract to teach with one school board, accepts a position with a second school board without obtaining a written release from the first school board;
 - having contracted to teach with a school board, terminates that contract before beginning service as a teacher with the school board unless, where special circumstances arise which the school board and the teacher agree make it inappropriate for the teacher to fulfil his or her contract, the school board has given the teacher a written release; or
 - having contracted to teach with a school board terminates that contract without giving to the board the notice required by the collective agreement; and
- at the request of a teacher or the committee, review the cancellation or suspension of, or a refusal to cancel or suspend, a teaching certificate or licence made by the review panel, and make its decision in accordance with the Act and regulations.

Vision

The Teacher Certification Review Panel is committed to ensuring due process with respect to the cancellation or suspension of teaching certificates.

Primary Clients

The Teacher Certification Review Panel works with the Registrar of Teachers within the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development and teacher employers to review teacher conduct.

Objective

Issue One: Review Certification Decisions

The Teacher Certification Review Panel was established to ensure due process with respect to the cancellation or suspension of teaching certificates. The panel only meets when required and is committed to providing timely decisions effectively and efficiently.

With respect to the review panel, the objective is the focus for each of the fiscal years ending March 31, 2027, 2028, and 2029. This objective will be reported upon in each of the respective fiscal years.

Objective:

By March 31 of 2027, 2028 and 2029, the Teacher Certification Review Panel will, where a decision is rendered regarding teacher certification issues, make it in a timely manner.

Indicators: Number of issues reviewed
Number of decisions rendered

Conclusion

The Teacher Certification Review Panel is committed to supporting the mandate of the Minister of Education and Early Childhood Development and will continue to do its part to further the vision and mission of the department by ensuring that teachers in the province are held to a high standard.