

TEACHERS' CERTIFICATION COMMITTEE

Activity Plan 2026-29

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 Teachers' Certification Committee. This plan covers the period April 1, 2026 to March 31, 2029 and is prepared in accordance with the responsibilities of a category three entity under the **Transparency and Accountability Act** and in consideration of the strategic directions of government. The committee is committed to its supporting role in the education system, providing advice to the Registrar of Teachers and Government.

My signature below is on behalf of the Teachers' Certification Committee and indicative of our accountability for the development of this plan and achievement of the contained objectives.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Doug Pippy', with a stylized, flowing script.

Doug Pippy

Chairperson

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Overview

Section 8 of the **Teacher Training Act** (The Act) sets out the membership of the Teachers' Certification Committee:

- the Registrar of Teachers;
- an Officer of the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development, who shall be chairperson;
- two representatives of the Newfoundland and Labrador Teachers' Association; and
- two representatives of the Newfoundland and Labrador School Boards Association.*

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.

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

* 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.

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 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, interim provisional, 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.

Vision

The Teachers Certification Committee is committed to ensuring quality advice to compliment the ongoing work of the Registrar of Teachers. The committee will perform its function effectively and efficiently on matters pertaining to the approval of teacher training programs for both initial certifications, and higher levels of teacher certification. The committee looks to ensure that all teachers are properly qualified before beginning work within the province.

Primary Clients

The Teachers Certification Committee works with and provides advice to the Registrar of Teachers, with the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development to ensure certification and licensure standards are maintained.

Objectives

The Teachers' Certification Committee provides advisory services and ongoing support to the Registrar of Teachers. Over the course of the next three years, the committee will perform its function effectively and efficiently. Considering the above, the committee has set the following objectives:

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, 2027, 2028 and 2029. This objective will be reported upon in each of the respective annual reports.

Objective:

By March 31 of 2027, 2028 and 2029, the Teachers' Certification Committee will have provided advisory services as requested.

Indicators:

- Provided advice, as required with respect to teacher training programs

Issue Two: Review of Regulations

The Teachers' Certification Committee reviews teacher certification regulations on an ongoing basis to ensure that 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, 2027, 2028 and 2029. This objective will be reported in each of the respective annual reports.

Objective:

By March 31 of 2027, 2028, and 2029, the Teachers' Certification Committee will have reviewed Teacher Certification Regulations when issues have been identified.

Indicators:

- Reviewed regulations when issues have been identified
- Provided recommendations to the Minister, as required

Conclusion

The Teachers' Certification Committee 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 of the department by ensuring 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 the education of children and youth in the K-12 education system throughout the province by setting standards for training, qualifying and certifying teachers.