

# Department of Education Annual Report 2009-10





2010

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September 30, 2010

Honourable Roger Fitzgerald, M.H.A.  
Speaker of the House of Assembly

Dear Mr. Speaker:

I am pleased to submit the 2009-10 Annual Report for the Department of Education in accordance with its requirements as a category one government entity under the *Transparency and Accountability Act*.

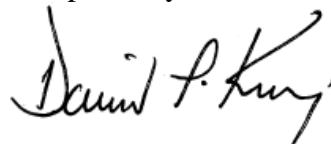


My mandate, as Minister of Education, includes all matters relating to education in the K-12 system; literacy development; school construction and maintenance; monitoring and ensuring progress of post-secondary education; training, certifying and setting qualifications for apprentices and journeypersons; and providing financial assistance to qualified students pursuing post-secondary education.

The department's staff and entities worked in collaboration throughout the fiscal year to address the initiatives for 2009-10 contained in the Strategic Plan 2008-11. The major themes were increased access to education resources, an enhanced K-12 school system, and enhanced opportunities.

The following report covers the period April 1, 2009 to March 31, 2010. The outcomes reported reflect government's strategic directions for education and my signature below is indicative of my accountability for the reported results.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Darin T. King".

**DARIN T. KING, PhD**  
MHA, District of Grand Bank  
Minister





The Department of Education was established under the *Executive Council Act*. It is a category one government entity under the *Transparency and Accountability Act* and is responsible for achieving outcomes with respect to the education of all citizens from pre-school to post-secondary and beyond. The programs and services offered are provided through three branches:

### **Primary, Elementary, & Secondary Branch**

This branch includes responsibility for K-12 education including the divisions of school services; program development; student support services; evaluation and research; distance learning and innovation; and early childhood learning.

### **Advanced Studies Branch**

This branch includes responsibility for post-secondary education, including the divisions of institutional and industrial education; student financial services; skills development; and adult learning and literacy.

### **Corporate Services Branch**

This branch includes responsibility for the divisions of design and construction; financial services which also manages student transportation and teachers' payroll; international education; policy, planning and accountability; and information management and special projects.

The Department of Education web site is [www.gov.nl.ca/edu](http://www.gov.nl.ca/edu).

## **VISION**

The vision of the Department of Education is citizens with the values, knowledge and skills necessary to be productive and contributing members of society.

## **MISSION**

By 2011, the Department of Education will have maintained an education system for the people of Newfoundland and Labrador which is of high quality, safe and affordable.

(The full mission statement with measures and indicators can be found in the Department of Education Strategic Plan 2008-11.)

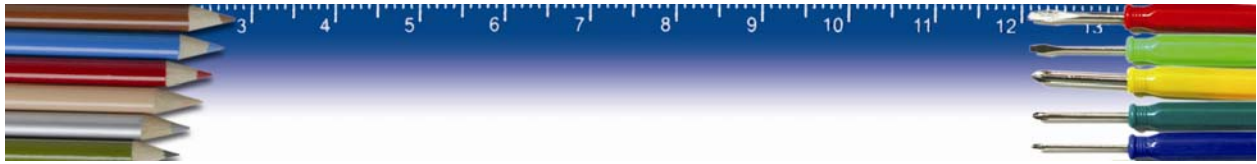
## **LINES OF BUSINESS**

The Department of Education has eight main program and service areas:

### **1. Curriculum and Programs**

In the K-12 system, responsibilities include developing and monitoring the curriculum, creating or selecting learning resources, developing and implementing distance learning





activities, developing programs for improved teaching and learning, developing and supporting school development, developing programs and resources for Aboriginal students, and providing teacher professional development. In addition, support services to children with special needs are provided by administering student support programs and the allocation of a full range of personnel to school districts. The department also fosters improved pre-school learning opportunities through cooperation with other departments.

In the public post-secondary system, responsibilities include developing and monitoring curriculum for entry-level and advanced-level apprenticeship training, Adult Basic Education Levels I, II and III, and supporting Memorial University of Newfoundland and College of the North Atlantic. The department monitors the operations and approves the curriculum of private training institutions.

**2. Educational Policy and Direction**

In the K-12 and the public post-secondary systems, the department sets the strategy and vision. Decision-making is informed through the development of briefing and other support materials, and the provision of statistical indicators and background information.

**3. Student Assessment and Certification**

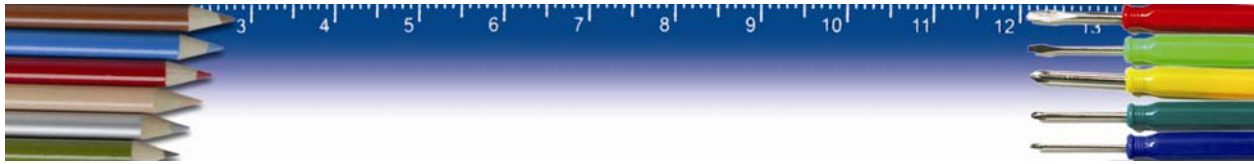
Responsibilities include the evaluation, monitoring, test development and certification processes for the K-12 system and the administration of journeyman certification examinations for designated trades, including the Interprovincial Standards Examinations for Red Seal trades.

**4. Research, Records, Reporting and Accountability**

Responsibilities include all major functions related to education system performance such as education statistics, planning, evaluation, accountability, policy development, and research. The department collects data and manages databases for core areas such as enrolment and graduate outcomes.







**5. Support to Federal, Provincial and Territorial Agreements and Initiatives**

The department coordinates the activities of a number of federal-provincial agreements for which it is a key stakeholder such as Official Languages in Education, the Community Access Program, Skills Development under the Labour Market Development Agreement including the Contribution Agreement, and agreements pertaining to Aboriginal schools. The department's broader roles and interests are advanced by collaboration at a regional and pan-Canadian level through organizations such as the Council of Ministers of Education, Canada; the Forum of Labour Market Ministers; the Council of Atlantic Ministers of Education and Training; the Atlantic Provinces Special Education Authority; and their sub-committees and working groups.

**6. Finance, Administration, and Corporate Services**

Responsibilities include preparation and monitoring of the annual budget, financial management, legislation and regulations, school construction, public libraries, teacher certification, teacher payroll, international education, and financing the K-12 and public post-secondary systems.

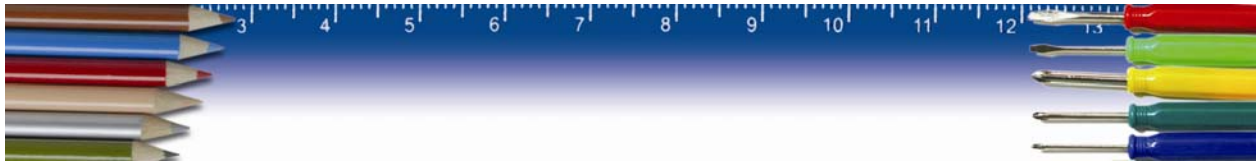
**7. Student Financial Assistance**

The department is responsible for major functions related to student aid for post-secondary education, including counseling, client services, and the assessment of eligibility for student loans and grants.

**8. Horizontal Commitments**

The department is responsible for contributing to a number of government-wide initiatives such as the Innovation Strategy, the Poverty Reduction Strategy, the Violence Prevention Initiative, the Infrastructure Strategy, the Regulatory Reform Initiative, the Youth Retention and Attraction Strategy, the Healthy Aging Framework and the Northern Strategic Plan.





## NUMBER OF EMPLOYEES

On March 31, 2010, the Department of Education employed 250 individuals in its three branches.

Branch	Female	Male	Total
Primary, Elementary & Secondary <sup>1</sup>	53	25	78
Advanced Studies	83	41	124
Corporate Services <sup>2</sup>	32	16	48
<b>Total</b>	<b>168</b>	<b>82</b>	<b>250</b>

<sup>1</sup> The Centre for Distance Learning and Innovation also had 12 female and 23 male teachers who, as instructors, are excluded from the total.

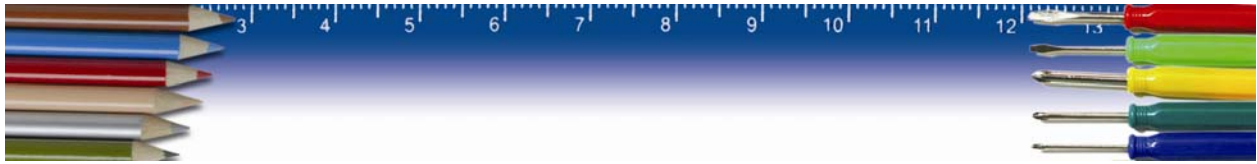
<sup>2</sup> These numbers include communications and ministerial staff.

- The department had 47 management positions (25 female and 22 male) which include members of the executive, directors and managers.
- The department had 228 employees working in urban areas and 22 employees working in rural areas. The definition of an urban area is based on the Statistics Canada definition of a Census Metropolitan Area. For the purpose of this report, urban is defined as the St. John's Census Metropolitan Area.

## PHYSICAL LOCATION

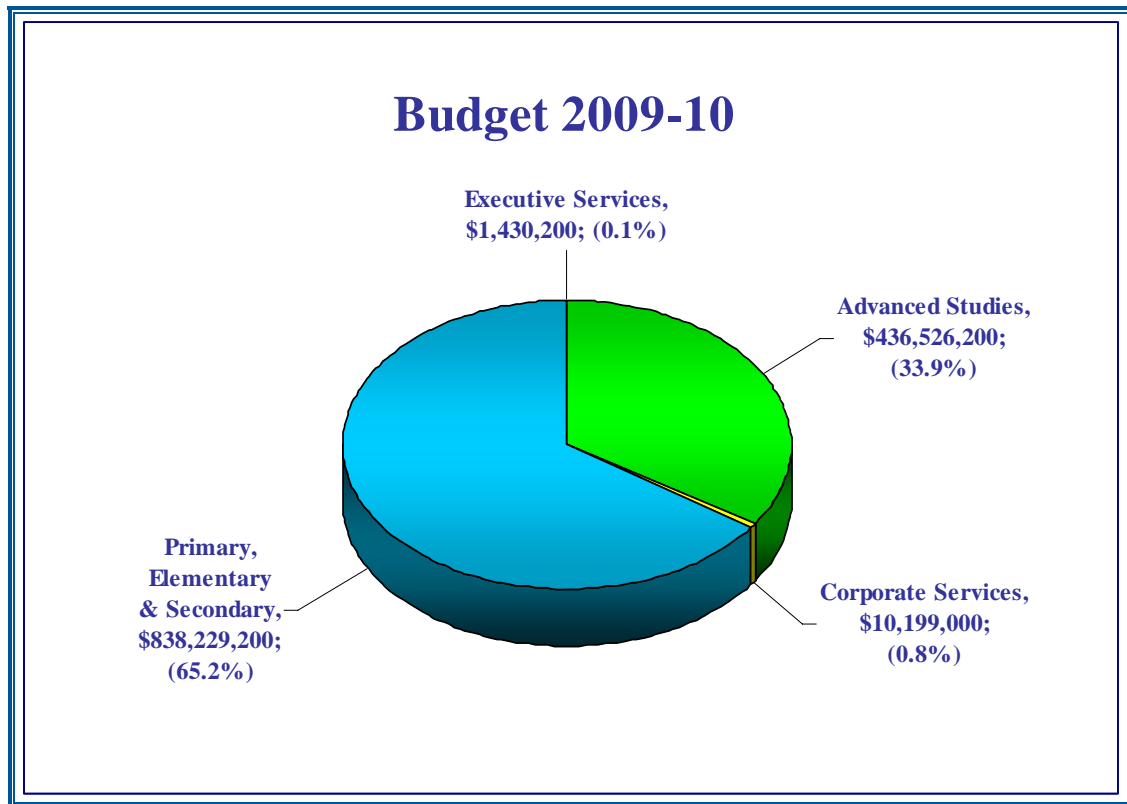
The main offices of the Department of Education are located in the West Block of the Confederation Building in St. John's with additional services being provided from Coughlan College at Memorial University's campus and in Pleasantville. Regional offices, delivering provincial apprenticeship services, are located in Clarenville, Corner Brook, Grand Falls-Windsor and Happy Valley-Goose Bay. The Centre for Distance Learning and Innovation has offices on Memorial University's St. John's campus, as well as other locations throughout the province.





## BUDGET

The department's budget for fiscal year 2009-10, as published in *Estimates 2009* from the Department of Finance, was \$1,286,384,600.



## MANDATE

The Minister of Education is responsible for all aspects of K-12 and post-secondary education in Newfoundland and Labrador. The mandate for the Minister of Education is primarily established under:

- The Department of Education Notice under the *Executive Council Act*;
- The *Schools Act, 1997*;
- Sections 6 and 7 of the *Teacher Training Act*;
- Section 15. (2) of the *College Act, 1996*;
- Section 11 of the *Apprenticeship and Certification Act*; and,
- Sections 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 11, 14, 15 and 19 of the *Student Financial Assistance Act*.

For a complete listing of these sections, please refer to appendix C of the Department of Education Strategic Plan 2008-11.



To ensure that the delivery of education in Newfoundland and Labrador is efficient, effective and of high quality, the Department of Education works in partnership with numerous organizations to ensure the strategic directions of government are implemented. The strategic directions were communicated by the Minister of Education on March 19, 2008 to all entities with the exception of Memorial University. These directions do not apply to the university as their strategic directions are set by the Board of Regents. However, all education entities partner with the department in the achievement of the goals set in accordance with the minister's mandate.

## SCHOOL BOARDS

The five school boards (Eastern, Nova Central, Western, Labrador and Conseil scolaire francophone provincial) are directly responsible for the administration and operation of the province's schools and school districts including:

- staffing;
- distributing resources, including human resources;
- evaluating, acquiring, distributing and maintaining technology resources;
- acquiring, maintaining and repairing buildings;
- transporting students; and,
- developing instructional policies and practices.

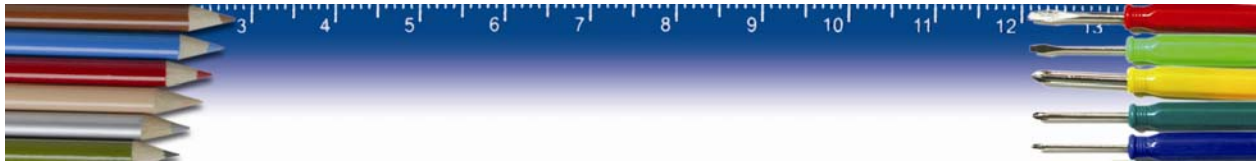
<b>K-12 Statistics for 2009-10</b>			
<b>Five School Boards – Public Schools</b>			
	<b>Female</b>	<b>Male</b>	<b>Total</b>
<b>Students</b>	33,989	35,676	69,665
<b>Teachers</b>	3,924	1,645	5,569

## SCHOOL COUNCILS

The *Schools Act, 1997* requires each school principal to establish a school council that will represent the school's educational interests; advise on the quality of teaching and learning in the school; facilitate parent and community involvement; and advise the school board on matters of concern. The councils also recommend, and then support and promote a plan for improving teaching and learning as approved by the school board; approve and monitor fund-raising activities; consider and monitor performance standards; and make recommendations to school principals on various issues.

## POST-SECONDARY EDUCATION INSTITUTIONS

Public post-secondary education is delivered in the province through two main institutions. Memorial University operates four campuses (St. John's, Corner Brook, Marine Institute in St. John's, and Harlow, England) while College of the North Atlantic operates 17 campuses in the province and one campus in the State of Qatar in the Middle East.



In addition to the public post-secondary system, the department regulates private training institutions. The department also works with apprentices, employers, and the federal government to help apprentices receive the work experience and technical training required to become certified journeypersons.

The following table presents post-secondary enrolment as of fall 2009<sup>1</sup>:

Post-Secondary Students	
Institution	fall 2009
Memorial University	17,321
Marine Institute	900
College of the North Atlantic	6,745
Private training institutions	3,124
<b>Total</b>	<b>28,090</b>

<sup>1</sup> Full-time students plus part-time students

## LABOUR MARKET DEVELOPMENT

The department partners with other provincial and federal government departments regarding the development of labour market policies and programs, particularly on training programs related to skills development. Partnering provincial departments include Human Resources, Labour and Employment, and Innovation, Trade and Rural Development. Partnering federal departments include Human Resources and Skills Development Canada, Industry Canada, and the Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency. The department also participates on a number of provincial and regional councils and agencies.

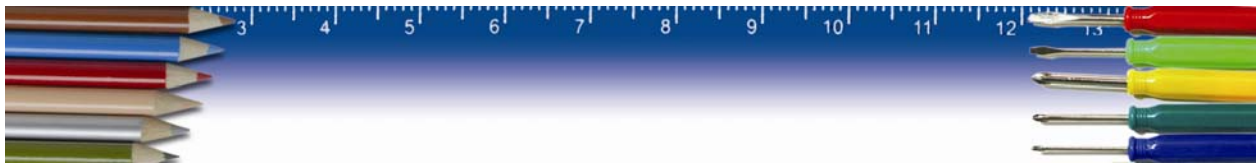
## POVERTY REDUCTION STRATEGY

Reducing poverty is essential to ensuring a healthy and prosperous future for our province. In June 2006, the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador released the Poverty Reduction Strategy, *Reducing Poverty: An Action Plan for Newfoundland and Labrador*. Developed through an extensive research and consultation process, the strategy outlines a plan for a long-term integrated approach based on the principles of social inclusion and collaboration.

Twelve provincial government departments and agencies work together to identify and develop policies and programs designed to help those groups most vulnerable to long-term poverty. These include families led by single mothers, single people in general, older adults in particular, persons with disabilities, and Aboriginal people.

Government's strategic plan for reducing poverty in Newfoundland and Labrador incorporates initiatives to reduce the depth and level of poverty, alleviate its negative effects, and help break the cycle of inter-generational dependency. Under the current strategy, through the Department of Education, students have been provided with free textbooks, updated school food guidelines





were distributed, and the high school *Futures in Skilled Trades and Technology* program has been implemented in 85 schools.

In addition, Budget 2009 allocated \$10.9 million dollars to make post-secondary education more affordable. This included \$5 million to eliminate the interest on the provincial portion of student loans, to increase up-front, non-repayable grants, and to decrease the amount of required spousal contributions. Approximately 49,000 people currently repaying student loans are expected to benefit from the interest elimination initiative. Furthermore, \$5.9 million was allocated in 2009-10 to continue the tuition freeze at Memorial University and College of the North Atlantic.

## OTHER ORGANIZATIONS

The department funds and works with the Provincial Information and Library Resources Board, the Student Loan Corporation of Newfoundland and Labrador, the Private Training Corporation, and the Provincial Apprenticeship and Certification Board. In addition, the department works with the federal Department of Canadian Heritage, Infrastructure Canada, Statistics Canada, and the Red Seal Secretariat. Funding is also provided to community-based centres that deliver Adult Basic Education Level I or coordinate one-to-one adult literacy tutoring programs.

The department regularly consults with associations such as the Newfoundland and Labrador Teachers' Association, the Newfoundland and Labrador Association of Public and Private Employees, the Canadian Union of Public Employees, the Newfoundland and Labrador School Boards Association, Literacy Newfoundland and Labrador, the Newfoundland and Labrador Federation of School Councils, the Canadian Federation of Students, provincial student organizations, and other stakeholders. With respect to apprenticeship, the department consults with industry associations, advisory committees, and national groups such as the Canadian Council of Directors of Apprenticeship, the Canadian Apprenticeship Forum, and the Atlantic Apprenticeship Council. During these consultations, valuable information is shared by the department and its stakeholders. Furthermore, they help shape the department's policy development and decision-making processes, and assist stakeholders to meet their respective mandates.







The Department of Education identified three strategic issues that would guide its work for the three-year period April 1, 2008 to March 31, 2011. These areas are: increased access to education resources; an enhanced K-12 school system; and enhanced opportunities.

### *Increased Access to Education Resources*

Providing all of our students with access to a safe, high quality, and affordable education system represents a fundamental investment in the future economic and social success of our province. In 2009-10, the Department of Education enhanced the affordability of post-secondary education by maintaining the tuition freeze at Memorial University and College of the North Atlantic, and eliminating interest payments on the provincial portion of student loans. The department improved access to opportunities on the province's west coast through increased autonomy for Sir Wilfred Grenfell College and provided funding for graduate school fellowships to increase access to graduate degrees and research opportunities. This is in line with government's strategic directions of improved post-secondary programs and public post-secondary institutions to benefit students and the province.

#### **Goal**

By March 31, 2011, the Department of Education will have improved access to the provincial education system.

- Measure:** Improved access  
**Indicator:** Increased resources  
Increased supports

#### **Strategic Plan Objective for 2009-10**

By March 31, 2010, the Department of Education will have further increased the resources and support throughout the education system to improve access.

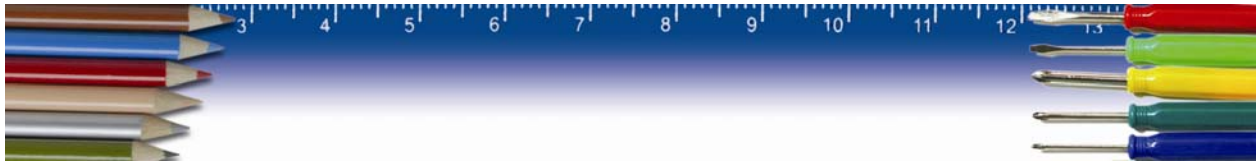
- Measure:** Increased resources and supports

The following details the department's achievement of each of the initiatives for 2009-10.

#### **Indicators:**

##### **Maintained the tuition freeze for Memorial University and College of the North Atlantic to enhance the affordability of a post-secondary education**

Budget 2009 allocated \$5.9 million to maintain the tuition freeze at public post-secondary institutions in the province, of which Memorial University received \$4.9 million and College of the North Atlantic received \$1 million. This initiative embodies government's commitment to ensure tuition in Newfoundland and Labrador is affordable for post-secondary students, and in 2009-10 tuition fees were among the lowest in the country. Canadian students attending Memorial University and College of the North Atlantic paid average tuition fees of \$2,619 and \$1,452 respectively, amounts that are 47 percent and 44 percent lower than the 2009 national average tuition of \$4,917 for university and \$2,600 for college tuition.



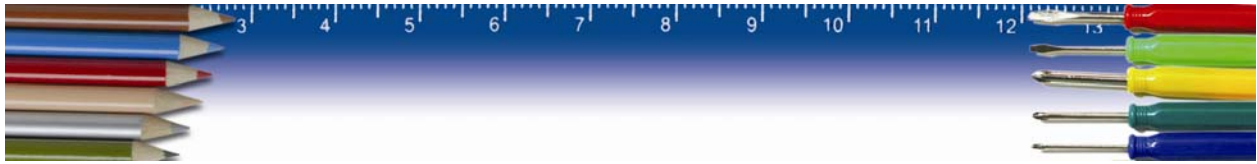
### **Improved opportunities for students on the province's west coast by taking additional steps toward the granting of increased autonomy for Sir Wilfred Grenfell College**

Opportunities for students on the province's west coast improved in 2009-10 with additional administrative and financial initiatives to increase autonomy for Sir Wilfred Grenfell College. Government increased the operating grant for Grenfell by 38 percent, \$6.5 million to be phased in over three years: \$4 million was allocated for 2009-10; \$2 million for 2010-11; and \$500,000 for 2011-12. This funding will also support additional positions in research, student support services and general operations. Furthermore, government will provide an annual investment of \$1.6 million to eliminate Grenfell's current operating deficit, and allocated \$500,000 to establish a Sir Wilfred Grenfell Secretariat to be located in Corner Brook. The Board of Regents was requested to consider an appropriate new name for the Corner Brook campus, submit a separate budget for Grenfell beginning in 2011-12, and make the Grenfell principal a vice-president, who will sit on Memorial University's senior executive committee. Increased autonomy, combined with investments in research, faculty, and student services will enhance Grenfell's academic prestige nationally and internationally. As a result, students on the province's west coast will benefit by being able to pursue quality post-secondary education in a university that is close to home.



### **Improved post-secondary student financial assistance package to enhance access to post-secondary education through further debt reduction initiatives**

Government took unprecedented steps in 2009-10 to enhance the affordability of post-secondary education. Budget 2009 allocated \$5 million dollars to eliminate interest on the provincial portion of student loans, effective August 1, 2009. After that date, no new interest will accumulate on the Newfoundland and Labrador portion of student loans; however, interest owing up to and including July 31, 2009 is still required to be paid. This initiative also increased up-front, non-repayable grants from \$70 to \$80 per week and decreased the amount of spousal contributions for married students. These groundbreaking actions will benefit approximately 49,000 people currently repaying loans and 8,400 students expected to receive needs-based grants. Individuals in repayment can expect to save up to \$1,800 over the life of their provincial student loan. These new initiatives, together with previous investments in the student aid program, secure Newfoundland and Labrador's position as the province with the best student aid package in the country. Furthermore, it is the first jurisdiction in Canada to eliminate interest on provincial student loans.



## Improved access to graduate degrees and research opportunities through graduate school fellowships



Through \$1 million in graduate fellowships, the department increased access to graduate degrees and research opportunities for students who might otherwise be discouraged from pursuing advanced studies due to financial costs. This investment increased the amount of entrance award funding provided for masters and doctoral students, resulting in an additional 121 students in 2009. Furthermore, in 2009-10, the total enrolment of full-time and part-time graduate students at Memorial University rose from 2,415 in fall 2008 to 2,673 in fall 2009, an increase of 10.7 percent, and graduate course registration increased 15.9 percent over fall 2008. Competitively funded graduate programs not only attract top-level students from around the world but also encourage local university graduates to stay in Newfoundland and Labrador.

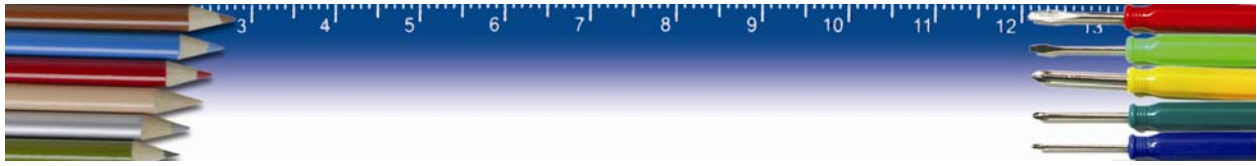
## Strategic Plan Objective for 2010-11

By March 31, 2011, the Department of Education will have improved access to the provincial education system.

**Measure:** Improved access to the provincial education system

**Indicators:**

- Maintained the tuition freeze for Memorial University and College of the North Atlantic to enhance the affordability of post-secondary education
- Improved opportunities for students on the province's west coast by allocating additional funds to increase autonomy for Memorial University's Grenfell Campus in Corner Brook
- Increased access to literacy programming for adults through the implementation of a strategic adult literacy plan
- Continued to improve access to graduate degrees through fellowships, including investments in the doctoral level clinical psychology program



## *An Enhanced K-12 School System*

The Department of Education is committed to a strong K-12 school system that offers students every advantage to learn in a safe and productive environment. In 2009-10, the Department of Education continued to provide quality programming through the *Healthy Students Healthy Schools* program, improved math curriculum, and an expanded K-12 skilled trades program. Furthermore, the Department of Education made significant progress on schools already under construction and initiated additional new capital construction and maintenance projects. Enhanced programming and increased investments in K-12 school infrastructure will ensure students succeed in future educational and career opportunities, as per the strategic direction: improved educational and environments respond to constantly evolving demographics.

### **Goal**

By March 31, 2011, the Department of Education will have enhanced the K-12 education system through program developments and enhanced school facilities.

**Measure:** Enhanced education system  
**Indicator:** Enhanced programming  
Enhanced school facilities

### **Strategic Plan Objective for 2009-10**

By March 31, 2010, the Department of Education will have further enhanced school facilities and improved programming in K-12 schools throughout the province.

**Measure:** Improved facilities and programming

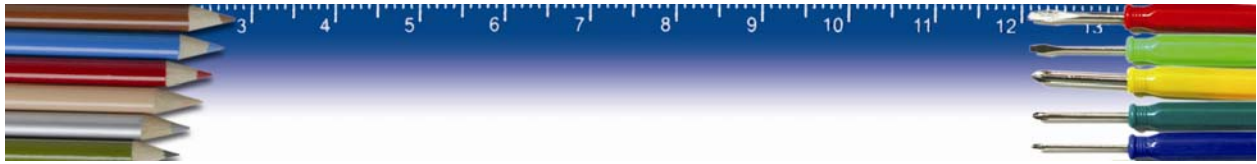
The following details the department's achievement of each of the initiatives for 2009-10.

#### **Indicators:**

#### **Encouraged healthy living through the continued implementation of the *Healthy Students Healthy Schools* program**

*Healthy Students Healthy Schools* continued in 2009-10 with an investment of \$1.5 million to replace cafeteria equipment with appliances more suitable for the preparation of healthy foods in additional schools. Revised school food guidelines, based on changes in Canada's Food Guide, were distributed to schools, school councils, and caterers in fall 2009 and the Brand Name Food list was updated on the *livinghealthyschools.com* website to reflect these changes. Funding was continued in 2009-10 to support the health liaison consultants for each school district and the annual fall *Living Healthy Commotions*. In addition, students across the province participated in special *Living Healthy Commotions* events on February 26, 2010, in honour of Newfoundland and Labrador Day at the 2010 Vancouver Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games. During this exciting event, students celebrated and promoted positive Olympic and Paralympic values of friendship, fair play and the pursuit of excellence.





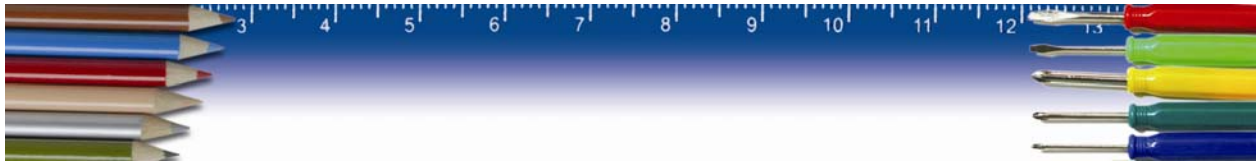
### **Improved math curriculum through the continued implementation of the *Excellence in Mathematics* strategy**

The department invested \$3.6 million in 2009-10 to continue implementation of an improved math curriculum under the *Excellence in Mathematics* strategy. This investment supported the work of the 25 numeracy support teachers, professional development opportunities, an information brochure for the parents of primary school children, and the purchase of new math text books for Grades 3, 6 and 9. In addition, the new curriculum was implemented in Grades 2, 5, and 8 in September 2009. This is in line with the implementation schedule for the *Excellence in Mathematics* strategy that already saw the new curriculum implemented in Kindergarten and Grades 1, 4, and 7 in September 2008, continuing to Grades 3, 6, and 9 in September 2010. Furthermore, the department allocated funds to assist school activities under the Math Promotional Campaign such as competitions, showcases, math fairs, and family nights to encourage positive attitudes about mathematics. To access funding, schools submit proposals to the school district. Once endorsed by the district they are submitted to the department for review. The department provided \$200,000 to 180 projects in schools throughout the province during the 2009-10 school year.



### **Increased repair and maintenance projects in K-12 school facilities**

Budget 2009 allocated an additional \$20 million for K-12 school repair and maintenance projects throughout the province. This increase brought the base budget allocation for school repair and maintenance projects from \$20 million in 2008-09 to \$40 million in 2009-10. Approximately 400 repair and maintenance projects were funded throughout the province during the year. Since 2004, there have been 214 roofing projects, 227 building envelope projects and 185 air quality related projects completed in K-12 school facilities. These numbers continue to rise with particular focus being placed on building envelope and air quality related projects.



### **Initiated additional K-12 school facility capital construction projects**

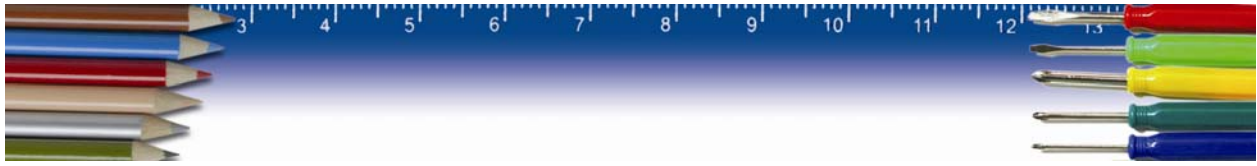
Budget 2009 increased the allocation for school capital construction projects. The budget included \$81.5 million to continue the planning and construction of 12 new schools and multiple extension projects throughout the province. In 2009-10, new school construction projects were awarded in the communities of L'Anse au Loup, Port Saunders, Placentia, Baie Verte, Port Hope Simpson, Torbay and two schools in Paradise. Significant progress was made on the new schools under construction in Paradise, Torbay, Placentia, Port Saunders, and L'Anse au Loup and it is anticipated that they will be completed in 2010. Budget 2009 also allocated funding for new facilities to replace Davis Elementary in Carbonear and St. Teresa's School/École Ste-Thérèse in St. John's. In addition, government announced a new K-12 school for St. Anthony in September 2009. These projects were in initial planning and site selection stages during the year. Construction was delayed on the new school in Baie Verte in fall 2009 due to a site issue. However, this has since been addressed and work continues to progress.

The new francophone school, École Boréale in Happy Valley-Goose Bay, opened its doors in January 2010 with an investment of \$2.2 million by the Provincial Government and \$300,000 under the *Canada-Newfoundland Labrador Agreement on Minority Languages and Second Official Language Instruction* for a pre-school facility to be located in the new building where early childhood learning will be offered to francophone children.

Finally, school extension projects were awarded in fiscal year 2009-10 for Upper Gullies Elementary in Upper Gullies, St. Edward's Elementary in Kelligrews, Roncalli Elementary (Phase II) in St. John's, Beachy Cove Elementary in Portugal Cove-St. Phillips, St. Peter's Junior High in Mount Pearl, St. Bernard's Primary in Witless Bay and Lester Pearson Memorial High in Wesleyville. The redevelopment of Cannon Richards High in Flower's Cove into a K-12 school was also awarded in 2009-10. Progress was made on all of these projects during the year.







### **Expanded the K-12 skilled trades programming to additional schools, using the Centre for Distance Learning and Innovation for small and remote schools**

An additional \$400,000 was allocated in 2009-10 to facilitate access to *Futures in Skilled Trades and Technology* programming for students in small and remote schools. Two new courses were implemented in September 2009. Six more schools were added to the program this year, adding

one or more of Skilled Trades 1201 or Design and Fabrication 2202 to their curriculum offerings. Furthermore, the Centre for Distance Learning and Innovation provided access to Design and Fabrication 2202 for eight schools through distance e-learning and a pilot program for small schools provided sufficient resources for seven schools to offer the Skilled Trades 1201 introductory course. These investments increased the number of schools offering the program from 72 in 2008-09 to 85 in 2009-10.



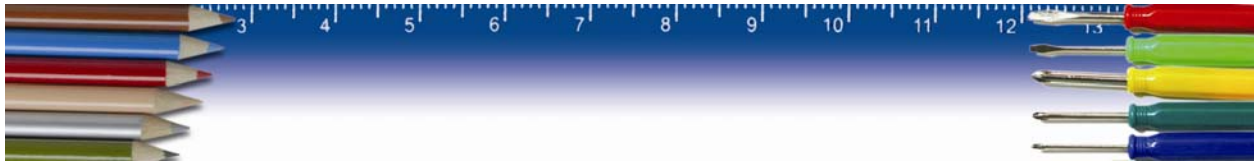
### **Strategic Plan Objective for 2010-11**

By March 31, 2011, the Department of Education will have enhanced the K-12 education system through program developments and enhanced school facilities.

**Measure:** Enhanced facilities and programming

**Indicators:**

- Enhanced K-12 facilities throughout the province with additional repair and maintenance projects
- Continued K-12 school facility capital construction projects
- Enhanced children's learning through development of an early childhood learning framework
- Improved math curriculum through the continued implementation of the *Excellence in Mathematics* strategy
- Expanded the K-12 skilled trades programming to additional small schools



## *Enhanced Opportunities*

In 2009-10, the Department of Education made considerable progress on infrastructure developments at Memorial University's St. John's and Corner Brook campuses and at College of the North Atlantic campuses throughout the province. These investments in post-secondary infrastructure will provide students with safe and modern facilities with enhanced capabilities to offer quality programming. New and improved College of the North Atlantic campuses in Labrador West and Grand-Falls Windsor and the academic building at Memorial University's Corner Brook campus signify enhanced post-secondary opportunities throughout the province. In addition, the department continued programming initiatives in business and engineering, social work, ocean technology, and skilled trades to ensure students are prepared to meet business, industry and social challenges. These initiatives demonstrate the department's commitment to government's strategic direction of improved post-secondary programs and institutions and a qualified and skilled workforce.

### **Goal**

By March 31, 2011, the Department of Education will have enhanced opportunities for Newfoundlanders and Labradorians to obtain the skills and knowledge to participate in society.

**Measure:** Enhanced opportunities

**Indicator:** Increased post-secondary resources and supports

### **Strategic Plan Objective for 2009-10**

By March 31, 2010, the Department of Education will have further invested in various public post-secondary and apprenticeship initiatives.

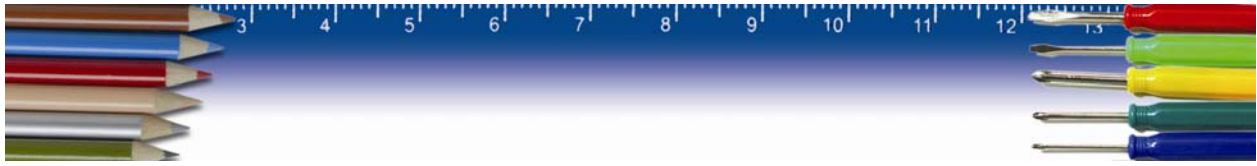
**Measure:** Enhanced post-secondary education system

The following details the department's achievement of each of the initiatives for 2009-10 with some noted variances.

#### **Indicators:**

**Enhanced public post-secondary infrastructure at select sites: student residences in St. John's and Corner Brook; academic building in Corner Brook; and College of the North Atlantic campus in Labrador West**

Government allocated significant funding in 2009-10 to enhance Memorial University's infrastructure with \$13.5 million. This included funding for deferred maintenance, a backflow prevention system to improve the water supply, laboratory upgrades, equipment purchases, and improved building accessibility. To support Memorial University's Accessibility Projects plan, \$300,000 was allocated for the university to upgrade old elevators, provide better accessibility to Corte Real, Burton's Pond Apartments, and continue improvements to walkways, ramps, and railings for persons with disabilities. Construction of new student residences did not begin in 2009-10; however, this additional preparatory work afforded the opportunity to further assess



student housing needs. It is anticipated that tenders will be called in 2010-11 to begin the construction process.

Construction of the new academic building in Corner Brook began in 2009-10. Work on the facility commenced in summer 2009 and the foundation was completed in spring 2010. Total completion of the project is anticipated for July 2011. The provincial government allocated \$15.5 million for the project and leveraged an additional \$11.4 million in funds from the federal government under the Knowledge Infrastructure Program (KIP).

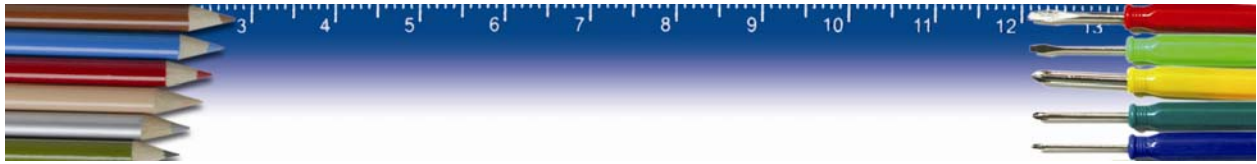
Work continued on the new College of the North Atlantic campus in Labrador City. Site work continued in 2009 and construction will progress throughout 2010. Completion is anticipated for summer 2011 with final building occupancy in September 2011. The provincial government has allocated \$14.5 million and leveraged \$7.6 million in KIP funds to construct this new facility.

Renovations continued at College of the North Atlantic Seal Cove campus. Building renovations concluded and tenders will be awarded in spring and summer 2010 for ventilation equipment and ductwork. Renovations on the Seal Cove campus are anticipated to be fully complete by spring 2011. A total of \$6 million was allocated for the Seal Cove campus, cost shared 50-50 between the federal and provincial governments under KIP.

Renovations at College of the North Atlantic Prince Phillip Drive campus continued in 2009-10. Upgrades included a new roof and ventilation system. These investments will enhance the Prince Phillip Drive campus by providing students and staff with a healthier learning environment. A total of \$4.5 million was allocated, cost shared 50-50 between the federal and provincial governments under KIP.

Additionally, the federal and provincial governments invested in an industrial and construction trades facility at the Grand Falls-Windsor campus of College of the North Atlantic. The federal government contributed \$2.75 million under the Federal Community Adjustment Fund and the provincial government invested \$1.375 million under the Regional/Sectoral Diversification Fund. College of the North Atlantic also provided \$1.375 million for the project. With these investments, the college will construct and equip a new 12,600 square foot facility featuring two different multi-function shops focused on industrial trades and construction trades, respectively. This versatile new facility will provide the Grand Falls-Windsor campus with enhanced capacity to deliver trades training to more students. Construction is anticipated to start in spring 2010.





### **Enhanced professional schools through continued investments in the Faculties of Business and Engineering**

Budget 2009 allocated \$1 million to enhance professional schools at Memorial University. This funding supported the implementation of two new one-year graduate programs, designed to target industry and provincial needs. The master of engineering management and the master of applied science in oil and gas engineering programs admitted the first students in September 2009. The master of engineering management is offered in conjunction with the Faculty of Business Administration and is the first program of its kind in Canada to merge advanced engineering principals with the managerial skills typically obtained in an MBA program. The master of applied science in oil and gas Engineering combines the latest technical training to serve the needs of the oil and gas industry with preparation for issues such as sustainability, risk management, and workplace safety. Both programs have proven popular with local and international students and are expected to grow in the coming years.

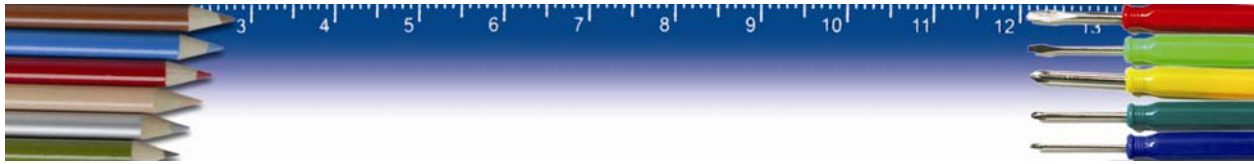


Government also provided \$457,000 in 2009-10 for the purchase of a Selective Laser Sintering system that uses high-powered lasers to meld metal, ceramic and plastic particles together for rapid prototyping and low-volume manufacturing. This equipment will be used by Memorial's Faculty of Engineering, the Ocean Engineering Research Centre and the Institute for Ocean Technology. It will also strengthen ocean technology and engineering technology programs at the Marine Institute and College of the North Atlantic.

### **Increased opportunities for post-secondary students through the creation of a post-degree fast-track social work program**

The Department of Education increased opportunities for post-secondary students through the creation of a post-degree, fast-track social work program. Budget 2009 allocated \$450,000 towards this initiative and Memorial University's Board of Regents formally approved the fast-track social work program, bachelor of social work as a second degree, in January 2010. Applications for the 15 seat program were accepted in March 2010 with first classes beginning in the 2010 spring semester. Priority for admission to the program is reserved for residents of Newfoundland and Labrador. This initiative addresses the increased demand for social workers in this province and enhances educational and professional opportunities for students who have already completed undergraduate degrees.





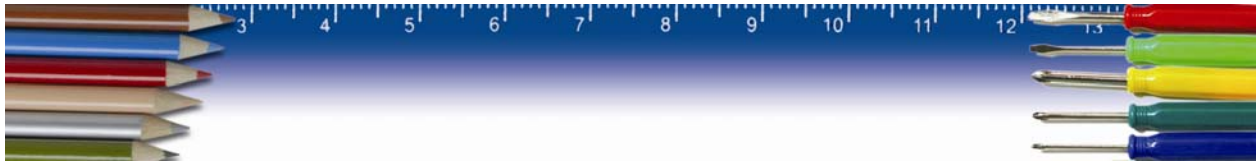
### **Enhanced ocean technology programming**

The Department of Education enhanced ocean technology programming through an allocation of \$3.5 million. This included \$1.4 million to procure multi-beam sonar mapping and ancillary equipment on the Fisheries and Marine Institute of Memorial University's (MI) research vessel – *Anne Pierce*. MI will be Canada's only institution equipped with this technology. Furthermore, government invested \$675,000 to develop a four-year applied ocean mapping program at MI's School of Ocean Technology and provided \$315,000 for MI's Holyrood Marine Base to establish an at-sea research facility. The increased research capabilities associated with these investments solidifies the province as a leader in applied ocean research and technology.

### **Enhanced awareness of skilled trades opportunities for apprentices through continued implementation of the Skills Task Force action items**

Government continued to implement the recommendations of the Skills Task Force in 2009-10 to enhance awareness of opportunities in the skilled trades, including a \$2 million investment for the Provincial Government Hiring Apprenticeship Program. This program enables apprentices to gain valuable work experience at government departments and agencies to be credited towards journeyman status. Expansion of the program was provided in partnership with the Youth Retention and Attraction Strategy to increase apprentices' awareness of employment opportunities in this province. In addition, government instituted a curriculum standards unit within the Department of Education. This unit provides improvements in apprenticeship curriculum and additional academic supports, including the development of study and examination guides to prepare apprentices for certification examinations. All of the above initiatives were announced publicly by the Department of Education in press releases throughout the year to ensure increased awareness.

Furthermore, in May 2009 the Industry Coordinating Committee (ICC) hosted the first Skills Task Force forum, *Strengthening Our Skills to Succeed*. The ICC was established by government in 2007 to oversee implementation of the Skills Task Force report recommendations. Through partnership with key stakeholders in industry, business, labour and education, the ICC ensures a co-ordinated response to labour market needs. Awareness was raised as industry partners gathered to discuss achievements to date, as well as future opportunities to continue to strengthen the province's skilled trades labour market. Between 2006 and 2009, government has invested more than \$50 million toward the Skills Task Force action plan to support apprenticeship, science and technology, programming and training.



## Strategic Plan Objective for 2010-11

By March 31, 2011, the Department of Education will have enhanced opportunities for Newfoundlanders and Labradorians to participate in society.

**Measure:** Enhanced Investment in support of enhanced opportunities

**Indicators:**

- Enhanced public post-secondary infrastructure at select sites: student residences in St. John's and Corner Brook; academic building in Corner Brook; and College of the North Atlantic campus in Labrador West
- Further invested in skilled trades opportunities through the development of an Aboriginal women's career exploration program
- Increased accessibility to the apprenticeship website for Aboriginal persons
- Enhanced awareness of skilled trades opportunities for apprentices through continued implementation of the Skills Task Force action plan





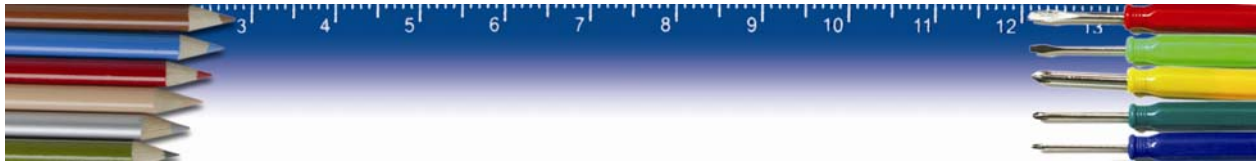
## H1N1 Influenza

The Department of Education, in consultation with the Department of Health and Community Services, worked closely with all five school districts to monitor conditions related to H1N1 influenza. Representatives from school districts, the Department of Education and the Department of Health and Community Services established a Provincial School Health Action Committee. Resource materials promoting the importance of hygiene and infection control practices were provided to school administrators and posted on the department website to ensure that teachers, staff, students and parents had timely access to accurate information. The use of hand sanitizers was introduced in schools as a pilot project and proved a useful supplement to hand washing. As well, school districts compiled action plans to cope with student absences or lost instruction time. In-school vaccinations began on November 5, 2009 with Kindergarten to Grade 3 students and concluded by the end of November, with vaccinations in Grades 10-12. School travel restrictions implemented due to the H1N1 pandemic were lifted by November 27, 2009.



## Schools Celebrate Newfoundland and Labrador Day at the 2010 Vancouver Olympic Winter Games

In July 2008, Newfoundland and Labrador signed a Contributing Province/Territory Program (CPTP) agreement with the Vancouver Organizing Committee for the 2010 Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games. Through the CPTP, the province invested \$1.5 million to support Canadian athletes and promote Newfoundland and Labrador internationally during coverage of the 2010 Winter Games. On February 26, 2010, students throughout the province celebrated Newfoundland and Labrador Day for the Vancouver 2010 Olympic Winter Games. Funding of \$75,000 was provided for the Olympic Healthy Commotions through *Healthy Students Healthy Schools* partners the Department of Education, the Department of Health and Community Services and the Department of Tourism, Culture and Recreation. One school from each district in the province was chosen to have video of their Olympic *Living Healthy Commotions* aired during the province's Victory Celebration at BC place. Students demonstrated to a national and international audience their enthusiasm for Olympic and Paralympic values and showcased our province's vibrant Olympic spirit.



### **School Board Elections**

Budget 2009 allocated \$400,000 to support a renewed public focus on school board elections. The Newfoundland and Labrador School Boards Association launched a public awareness campaign and elections were promoted in Department of Education press releases. Furthermore, the election date was moved to November 3, 2009 to avoid confusion with fall municipal elections. The campaign also sought to increase the number of female trustees to establish a greater gender balance more representative of the overall population. Ninety-nine nominations were filed for the 60 available positions, including 24 female candidates. These numbers are an increase over the 2005 election, which had 56 candidates, just 10 of whom were female. Unfortunately, voter turnout by school district remained low and work is still required to raise the profile of these elections and stress the importance of increased public participation in the school system.

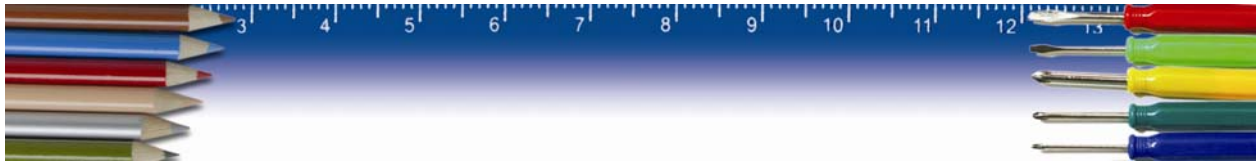
### **Women in Skilled Trades**

Budget 2009 allocated an additional \$200,000 to the \$100,000 contract with the Carpenters Millwrights Union signed by the Department of Education in December 2008. Under the contract, the Office to Advance Women Apprentices has been established, and a registry of female apprentices has been developed to help female apprentices obtain relevant, industry-based employment opportunities. The agreement with the Carpenter Millwrights Union also includes a mentorship program that matches female apprentices with experienced journeypersons. In the first month of operation, the Office to Advance Women Apprentices registered over 100 female tradespersons.



### **Adult Learning Opportunities**

A new pilot program for the online delivery of Level I of the provincial Adult Basic Education (ABE) program was initiated in fall 2009. Partially funded by the Government of Canada's Pan-Canadian Innovations Initiative, this program was tested with assistance from the Twillingate-New World Island Development Association and the Carbonear branch of Women Interested in Successful Employment. These non-profit, community-based organizations are located in two areas of the province that currently do not have ABE Level I programming available. The provincial government has increased funding to support literacy related initiatives and programming by just over \$1.5 million since 2004, with an annual investment of \$6.8 million. This funding includes support for adult literacy grants, the Comprehensive Arts and Science College Transition Program, Adult Basic Education scholarships and the delivery of Adult Basic Education at College of the North Atlantic campuses.



### **Community Access Program**

The Community Access Program (CAP) continued to provide public Internet access at 149 locations throughout the province with approximately \$735,000 in direct funding to maintain and upgrade the services provided at each CAP site. Additionally, through the CAP Youth Initiative, 76 youth were provided with employment at CAP sites, primarily in rural and remote locations. In 2009-10, approximately 344,000 computer sessions were logged at CAP sites and over 3,300 computer training sessions were provided to 8,000 participants.

### **Public Libraries**

Budget 2009 allocated \$50,000 to promote the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Provincial Information and Library Resources Board. Celebrations for this important milestone commenced on January 22, 2010 with the reopening of the Kindale Public Library in Stephenville. Many libraries in rural communities have been upgraded, including the Grand Bank Public Library, which received funding of \$100,000 in 2009 for the replacement of shingles, windows, and brick, as well as repairs to the foundation, replacement of side doors and interior painting and plastering. Over the past four years, government has provided additional annual funding in excess of \$1.8 million, plus one-time funding of \$1 million for public libraries. This funding is dedicated for infrastructure improvements, an early literacy program, salaries, extended operating hours at 47 libraries, and training for volunteer library boards and trustees.





## **THE POWER ENGINEERING EXAMINATION COMMITTEE**

The provincial power engineering examination committee consists of three members who are first class power engineers with backgrounds in various industries. This committee provides examination review and marking services to the department as required. In addition, members provide advice regarding applicants' eligibility for examination. Each classification of power engineering requires each candidate to write and pass a series of examinations before being issued a certificate.

In fiscal year 2009-10, a total of 401 power engineering examination papers were written by 248 candidates. The total number of examinations passed was 193, and 79 new power engineering certificates were issued. There were 365 multiple choice and 36 essay exams written. Once completed, the essay exams are forwarded to the examination committee for marking. In order to improve service to clients, the power engineering examination committee now marks essay exams as the need arises instead of at the quarterly meeting of the committee.

## **TEACHER CERTIFICATION BOARD OF APPEALS**

In accordance with section 14(1) of *The Teacher Training Act*, the Minister of Education may convene a board of appeals to hear two types of appeals: where a teacher remains aggrieved by the decision of the registrar of teacher certification and records following a re-examination of an application; and, where a teacher or the Teachers' Certification Committee remains aggrieved by a decision of the Teacher Certification Review Panel.

A person who is a member of the Teachers' Certification Committee or the Teacher Review Panel is not eligible for appointment to a board of appeals. Members of a board of appeals are appointed on an ad-hoc basis. The decision of a majority of the members of a board of appeals is the decision of the board. The finding or decision of the board is final and binding to the parties of the appeal.

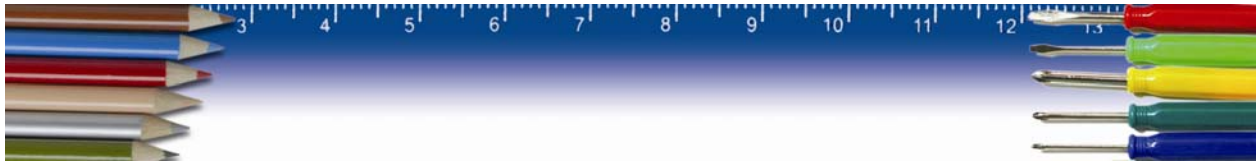
### **Mandate**

In accordance with section 14 of the *Teacher Training Act*, the Minister of Education may convene a board of appeals. Sections 14 and 15 of the act provide its mandate once convened as follows:

The board may hear an appeal:

- Where a teacher remains aggrieved by a decision of the registrar of teachers following a re-examination of an application; or,
- Where a teacher or the Teachers' Certification Committee remains aggrieved by a decision of the Teacher Certification Review Panel.





Subject to the regulations, the board shall:

- Notify the teacher or the committee, or both, of the time the appeal is to be heard;
- Hear the appeal;
- Upon conclusion of the hearing confirm, vary, or set aside the finding or decision of the registrar or review panel; and,
- Communicate in writing its finding or decision to the teacher affected and the committee.

### **Activities**

During 2009-10, the Minister of Education requested a board of appeals. The board of appeals appointed by the Minister of Education included:

- One member nominated by the Newfoundland and Labrador Teachers' Association, Mr. Ray Goulding;
- Two members nominated by the Teacher's Certification Committee, Dr. Alice Collins, Mr. Wade Sheppard;
- One member who is an employee of the Department of Education, Ms. Charlotte Strong; and
- one member nominated by the above four members to be chairperson, Mr. Wayne Thistle, Q.C.

After the board was convened, the request for an appeal was withdrawn. As such, the board did not review the issues of the appeal or render any decisions.

The Teacher Certification Board of Appeals members serve without remuneration. Incidental expenses incurred by the board are minimal and are covered in their entirety by the Department of Education. The board is not required to prepare financial statements.

### **COUNCIL ON HIGHER EDUCATION**

The *Council on Higher Education Act* was proclaimed on January 26, 2007. The council is currently inactive. Once activated, the Council on Higher Education will consider the strategic directions of government, and identify and develop business issues which will guide its work in accordance with its legislated mandate.



**Expenditure and revenue figures included in this document are based on public information. Financial information contained in this document is based on Program Expenditures and Revenues (unaudited) of the Consolidated Revenue Fund for Fiscal Year Ended 31 March 2010.**

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

**STATEMENT OF EXPENDITURE AND RELATED REVENUE (UNAUDITED)  
SUMMARY FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2010**

	Estimates		
	Actual (\$)	Amended (\$)	Original (\$)
Executive Services (13.1.1.01 & 13.1.2.01)	1,418,992	1,443,200	1,430,200
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,418,992</b>	<b>1,443,200</b>	<b>1,430,200</b>
Corporate Services (13.2.1.01 - 13.2.2.01)			
General Administration (13.2.1.01 - 13.2.1.03)	9,081,709	9,231,300	8,580,000
Community Access Program (13.2.2.01)	(347,724)	633,000	633,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>8,733,985</b>	<b>9,864,300</b>	<b>9,213,000</b>
Primary, Elementary, and Secondary Education (13.3.1.01 – 13.3.5.01)			
Financial Assistance (13.3.1.01 - 13.3.1.08)	775,122,571	791,066,700	788,032,600
Program Development (13.3.2.01 - 13.3.2.02)	4,935,720	3,150,300	3,147,700
Student Support Services (13.3.3.01 - 13.3.3.03)	2,790,012	2,867,700	2,833,600
Educational Programs (13.3.4.01 - 13.3.4.06)	20,408,694	21,074,400	21,142,500
Public Libraries & Information Services (13.3.5.01)	10,910,500	10,910,500	10,610,500
<b>Total</b>	<b>814,167,497</b>	<b>829,069,600</b>	<b>825,766,900</b>
Advanced Studies (13.4.1.01 - 13.4.5.02)			
Post-Secondary Education (13.4.1.01- 13.4.1.04)	6,302,079	6,812,900	6,954,900
Memorial University (13.4.2.01 - 13.4.2.02)	276,182,228	275,383,700	270,275,400
College of the North Atlantic (13.4.3.01 - 13.4.3.02)	78,427,692	91,430,200	92,539,500
Student Financial Services(13.4.4.01 - 13.4.4.03)	13,087,658	21,830,500	28,054,500
Industrial Training (13.4.5.01 – 13.4.5.02)	(4)	-	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>373,999,653</b>	<b>395,457,300</b>	<b>397,824,300</b>
<b>Total Department</b>	<b>1,198,320,127</b>	<b>1,235,834,400</b>	<b>1,234,234,400</b>







Newfoundland  
Labrador

**Department of Education - Annual Report 2009-10**