

TEACHERS' CERTIFICATION COMMITTEE

**ANNUAL ACTIVITY REPORT
2010-11**

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Chairperson's Message

October 31, 2011

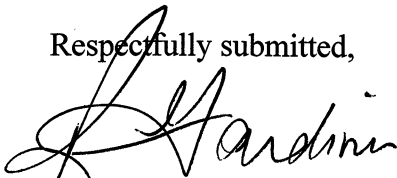
Honourable Clyde Jackman
Minister of Education
West Block, Confederation Building
P.O. Box 8700
St. John's, NL A1B 4J6

Dear Minister:

I am pleased to submit the 2010-11 Annual Activity Report of the Teachers' Certification Committee. This report covers the period April 1, 2010 to March 31, 2011 and is the final report detailing the work completed during the 2008-11 planning period.

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

Respectfully submitted,



ROBERT GARDINER
Chairperson

Overview

Section 8 of the *Teacher Training Act* provides for the membership of the Teachers' Certification Committee. As of March 31, 2011 the membership was:

- the Registrar of Teachers, Ms. Deana Hatcher;
- an officer of the Department of Education who shall be chairperson, Mr. Robert Gardiner;
- two representatives of the Faculty of Education of Memorial University of Newfoundland, Dr. Andrea Rose and Dr. Karen Goodnough;
- two representatives of the Newfoundland and Labrador Teachers' Association, Ms. Beverly Park and Ms. Jean Murphy; and,
- two representatives of the Newfoundland and Labrador School Boards Association, Mr. Brian Shortall and Mr. Goronwy Price.

All members of the committee are located in St. John's with the exception of Mr. Goronwy Price, who is located in Labrador, and Ms. Jean Murphy, who is located in Cow Head.

The committee meets in St. John's. Members of the committee are appointed by virtue of their positions and no remuneration is provided.

The Newfoundland and Labrador School Boards' Association covers the cost of travel and incidental expenses for the member from Labrador. The Newfoundland and Labrador Teachers' Association covers the cost of travel and incidental expenses for the member from Cow Head.

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*.

Furthermore, 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,

- 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 and Mission

Teachers are a key component of a high quality education system, and the Teachers' Certification Committee was committed, during the 2007-08 and 2008-11 periods, to supporting the vision and mission of the Department of Education by ensuring that all the individuals entrusted to educate our province's children from Kindergarten to Level III meet the highest standards in their profession.

Vision of the Department of Education

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 of the Department of Education*

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

*Please refer to the Department of Education Strategic Plan 2008-11 for the complete mission statement.

For a full report on the successful achievement of the above mission, please refer to the Department of Education 2010-11 Annual Report.

Activities

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 2008-11 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, 2011, the Teachers' Certification Committee will have provided advisory services as required.

Measure: Advisory Services provided to Registrar of Teachers

The following details the committee's successful achievement of the indicators presented in the activity plan for 2010-11.

Indicator:

Provided advice with respect to teacher training programs

The Teachers' Certification Committee met in October 2010 and provided advice to the Registrar of Teachers on a number of issues, including qualifications for certification of individuals with foreign credentials.

Issue Two: Review of Regulations

The Teachers' Certification Committee reviews teacher certification regulations on an on-going basis to assess their continued ability to meet need in this area.

Objective:

By March 31, 2011, the Teachers' Certification Committee will have reviewed teacher certification regulations.

Measure: Reviewed teacher certification regulations

The following details the committee's successful achievement of the indicators presented in the activity plan for 2010-11.

Indicator:

Recommended applicable changes to the Minister of Education for the Lieutenant-Governor in Council's consideration

During 2010-11, a review of current teacher certification regulations was completed and areas for change were identified. However, the recommended changes were not put forward to the Minister during the reporting period due to competing priorities. It is anticipated that the recommendations will be put forward for the Lieutenant-Governor in Council's consideration during 2011-12.

Conclusion

The Teachers' Certification Committee is committed to supporting the mandate of the Minister of Education and will continue to do its part to further the vision and mission 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 our children's education in classrooms throughout the province by setting standards for training, qualifying and certifying teachers. An Activity Plan for 2011-14 has been developed which will help guide the work of the Teachers' Certification Committee over the coming years.