

**THE TEACHER CERTIFICATION  
REVIEW PANEL**

**ANNUAL ACTIVITY REPORT  
2007-08**

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## Chairperson's Message

April 29, 2008

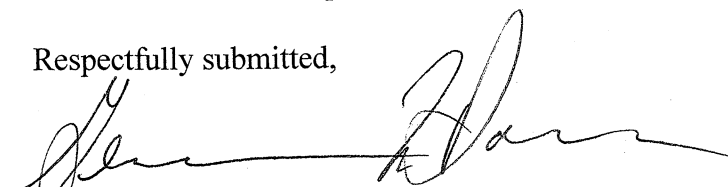
Honourable Joan Burke  
Minister of Education  
West Block, Confederation Building  
P.O. Box 8700  
St. John's, NL  
A1B 4J6

Dear Minister:

I am pleased to submit the 2007-08 Annual Activity Report of the Teacher Certification Review Panel. This report covers the period April 1, 2007 to March 31, 2008.

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

Respectfully submitted,



**GENEVIEVE DAWSON**  
Chairperson

## **Overview**

Section 3 of the *Teacher Training Act RSNL 1990 Chapter T-1* provides for the membership of the Teacher Certification Review Panel as follows:

- a member of the Newfoundland and Labrador Teachers' Association, Mr. Peter Sutherland;
- a member of the Newfoundland and Labrador School Boards' Association, Dr. James Hearn; and
- a representative of the general public, Ms Genevieve Dawson who is Chairperson.

Mr. Sutherland is from Stephenville, Dr. Hearn is from Colliers and Ms. Dawson is from St. John's. The Registrar of Teachers acts in the capacity of executive secretary to the review panel and a clerical staff member from the Department of Education acts as recording secretary during hearings. The panel meets as required in St. John's.

## **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 or an assistant director as defined in the *Schools Act, 1997*) who is 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 1 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 and Mission**

Teachers are a key component of a high quality education system. The Teacher Certification Review Panel is committed 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.

## **Activities**

The Teacher Certification Review Panel identified one goal in their 2007-08 Activity Plan to guide their work throughout the fiscal year:

**Goal One:** By March 31, 2008, the Teacher Certification Review Panel will have reviewed and rendered decisions on requests for certification reviews.

**Measure:** Reviews of certification decisions

**Indicators:** Number of certification review requests received  
Number of review decisions rendered and communicated

### **Objective 1.1:**

By March 31, 2008, the Teacher Certification Review Panel will have reviewed and rendered decisions on requests for certification reviews.

**Measure:** Reviews of certification decisions

**Indicators:** Number of certification review requests received  
Number of review decisions rendered and communicated

The review panel successfully achieved its objective and hence goal for 2007-08.

The review panel held one hearing during 2007-08 in which a teaching certificate was cancelled. The decision of the panel was communicated to the teacher and to other certification authorities across Canada.

During the 2007-08 year the review panel supported the Innovative and High-Performing Educational Delivery Systems strategic direction of government by ensuring timely decisions on all certification requests as per its mandate.

## **Financial Statements**

Two members of the review panel are appointed by virtue of their professional positions and no further remuneration is provided. The chairperson was appointed from the general public and receives remuneration in accordance with Level III of the Treasury Board Guidelines for Rates of Remuneration for Boards, Commissions, and Agencies. The remuneration issued was minimal and covered in its entirety by the Department of Education. Minimal expenses for travel and incidentals were also covered by the department. The review panel is not required to prepare financial statements.