

**TEACHERS' CERTIFICATION COMMITTEE**

**ANNUAL ACTIVITY REPORT  
2013-14**

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## Chairperson's Message

August 4, 2014

Honourable Darin King  
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 2013-14 Annual Activity Report of the Teachers' Certification Committee. This report covers the period April 1, 2013 to March 31, 2014.

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

Respectfully submitted,



GEORGINA LAKE  
Chairperson

## **Overview**

Section 8 of the *Teacher Training Act* provides for the membership of the Teachers' Certification Committee, and as of March 31, 2014 the membership was:

- the Registrar of Teachers, Ms. Lori Williams;
- an officer of the Department of Education who shall be chairperson, Mr. Brian Evans<sup>1</sup>;
- two representatives of the Faculty of Education of Memorial University of Newfoundland, Dr. Andrea Rose and Dr. Gerald Galway;
- two representatives of the Newfoundland and Labrador Teachers' Association, Ms. Beverly Park and Mr. Derek Drover; 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 Mr. Derek Drover, who is located in Gaultois. The committee meets in St. John's.

Members of the committee are appointed by virtue of their professional 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 Gaultois.

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;

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<sup>1</sup> As of August 4, 2014, Ms. Georgina Lake replaced Mr. Brian Evans as an officer of the Department of Education.

- 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 and Mission**

Teachers are a key component of a high quality education system, and the Teachers' Certification Committee 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 meet the highest standards in their profession.

### **Vision of the Department of Education**

An educational community that fosters safe, caring and inclusive learning environments enabling individuals to reach their full potential.

### **Mission of the Department of Education\***

By March 31, 2017, the Department of Education will have improved provincial early childhood learning and the K-12 education system to further opportunities for the people of Newfoundland and Labrador.

\*Please refer to the Department of Education Strategic Plan 2014-17 for the complete mission statement.

## **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 2011-14 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, 2014, 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 indicator as presented in the activity plan for 2011-14.

**Indicator: Provided advice with respect to teacher training programs**

The Teachers' Certification Committee met on one occasion throughout the year and provided advice to the Registrar of Teachers on a number of issues, including protocols for approving Masters' programs, and updates to the Confidential Disclosure Form.

**ISSUE TWO: REVIEW OF REGULATIONS**

The Teachers' Certification Committee reviews teacher certification regulations on an on-going basis to ensure they are effective and efficient.

**Objective:**

By March 31, 2014, the Teachers' Certification Committee will have reviewed teacher certification regulations when necessary and submitted appropriate comments for the Minister of Education's consideration.

**Measure:** Reviewed teacher certification regulations

The following details the committee's work towards the achievement of the indicator as presented in the activity plan for 2011-14.

**Indicator: Submitted appropriate comments**

During 2013-14, the committee submitted comments to the Department of Education for the Minister's consideration regarding an amendment to the regulations. The recommended amendment was a result of the changes brought into effect for the registration of Speech Language Pathologists under the *Health Professions Act*.

**Conclusion**

The Teachers' Certification Committee is committed to supporting the mandate of the Department 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 2014-17 has been developed which will help guide the work of the Teachers' Certification Committee over the coming years.