

TEACHERS' CERTIFICATION COMMITTEE

**ANNUAL ACTIVITY REPORT
2018-19**

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Chairperson's Message

Honourable Brian Warr
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 the 2018-19 Annual Activity Report of the Teachers' Certification Committee. This report was prepared in accordance with the requirements of a Category Three Entity under the **Transparency and Accountability Act** and covers the period of April 1, 2018 to March 31, 2019.

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

Respectfully submitted,



RON SMITH
Chairperson

Overview

Section 8 of the **Teacher Training Act** (the Act) provides for the membership of the Teachers' Certification Committee (the Committee), and as of March 31, 2019 the membership was:

- the Registrar of Teachers, Mr. Sheldon Antle;
- an officer of the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development, who shall be chairperson, Mr. Ron Smith;
- two representatives of the Faculty of Education of Memorial University of Newfoundland, Dr. Rhonda Joy and Dr. Edith Furey;
- two representatives of the Newfoundland and Labrador Teachers' Association, Mr. Steve Brooks and Mr. Derek Drover; and,
- two representatives of the Newfoundland and Labrador School Boards Association, Mr. Brian Shortall and Mr. Lester Simmons.

Ms. Deana Hatcher (Former Registrar of Teachers) and Dr. Gerald Galway (Memorial University) completed their terms with the Committee during the reporting period.

Members of the Committee are located in St. John's with the exception of Mr. Lester Simmons, 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 organizational affiliations 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 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 Act.

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, 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.

Activities

The mandate of the Committee as 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 2017-20 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, 2019, the Teachers' Certification Committee will have provided advisory services as required.

The following details the Committee's successful achievement of the indicator for 2018-19.

Indicator: Provided advice, as required, with respect to teacher training programs

The Teachers' Certification Committee met four times during the reporting period to provide advisory services to the Office of Teacher Certification. The Committee provided significant advice to the Registrar with respect to certification of the newly created Teaching and Learning Assistant certification process.

Objective for 2019-20:

With respect to the provision of advisory services, the following objective is the focus for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2020. This objective will be reported upon in the Teachers' Certification Committee 2019-20 Annual Activity Report.

Objective:

By March 31, 2020, the Teachers' Certification Committee will have provided advisory services as required.

Indicator: 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 they are effective and efficient.

Objective:

By March 31, 2019, the Teachers' Certification Committee will have reviewed teacher certification regulations when issues have been identified.

The following details the committee's work towards the achievement of the indicator for 2018-19.

Indicator: Reviewed regulations when issues have been identified

The Teachers' Certification Committee reviewed and provided feedback to the regulatory requirements, including establishing educational criteria, for the Teaching and Learning Assistant certification process.

Indicator: Provided recommendations to the Minister, as required

The Teachers' Certification Committee provided recommendations to the Minister with respect to qualifications necessary to achieve Teaching and Learning Assistant certification.

Objective for 2019-20:

With respect to review of regulations, the following objective is the focus for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2020. This objective will be reported upon in the Teachers' Certification Committee 2019-20 Annual Activity Report.

Objective:

By March 31, 2020, the Teachers' Certification Committee will have reviewed teacher certification regulations when issues have been identified.

**Indicator: Reviewed regulations when issues have been identified
Provided recommendations to the Minister, as required**

Conclusion

The Committee is dedicated to supporting the mandate of the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development and will continue to ensure that high standards are set to which teachers in the province are held. The committee ensures that 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.