

**TEACHERS' CERTIFICATION COMMITTEE**

**Activity Plan**

**April 1, 2020 to March 31, 2023**



## Chairperson's Message

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

Dear Minister:

I am pleased to submit a three-year Activity Plan for the Teachers' Certification Committee. This plan covers the period April 1, 2020 to March 31, 2023 and is prepared in accordance with the responsibilities for a category three entity under the **Transparency and Accountability Act** and in consideration of the strategic directions of government. The committee is committed to its supporting role in the education system, providing advice to the Registrar of Teachers and Government.

My signature below is on behalf of the Teachers' Certification Committee and indicative of our accountability for the development of this plan and achievement of the contained objectives.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Joanne Hogan".

**JOANNE HOGAN**  
Chair

## Overview

Section 8 of the **Teacher Training Act** (the Act) provides for the membership of the Teachers' Certification Committee (the committee), and as of April 1, 2020, the membership was:

- the Registrar of Teachers, Mr. Sheldon Antle;
- an officer of the Department of Education who shall be chairperson, Vacant;
- two representatives of the Faculty of Education of Memorial University of Newfoundland, Dr. Karen Goodnough and Dr. Edith Furey;
- two representatives of the Newfoundland and Labrador Teachers' Association, Mr. Steve Brooks and Mr. Gabriel Ryan; and,
- two representatives of the Newfoundland and Labrador School Boards' Association, Mr. Brian Shortall and one vacancy.

Ms. Joanne Hogan was appointed to the Teachers' Certification Committee as the new Chairperson in July 2020 as the former Chairperson retired.

The majority of committee members are currently located in St. John's. Mr. Gabriel Ryan resides on the northeast Avalon. 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 and the Newfoundland and Labrador Teachers' Association cover the cost of travel and incidental expenses for their representatives.

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 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.

## **Objectives**

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. Over the course of the

next three years, the committee will perform its function effectively and efficiently. In light of the above, the committee has set the following objectives:

**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.

With respect to the provision of advisory services, the following objective is the focus for each of the fiscal years ending March 31, 2021, 2022, and 2023. This objective will be reported upon in each of the respective annual reports.

**Objective:**

The Teachers' Certification Committee will have provided advisory services as required.

**Indicators:** 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 that they are effective and efficient.

With respect to the review of regulations, the following objective is the focus for each of the fiscal years ending March 31, 2021, 2022, and 2023. This objective will be reported in each of the respective annual reports.

**Objective:**

The Teachers' Certification Committee will have reviewed teacher certification regulations when issues have been identified.

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

## **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 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 the education of children and youth in the K-12 education system throughout the province by setting standards for training, qualifying and certifying teachers.