

**TEACHERS' CERTIFICATION COMMITTEE**

**ACTIVITY PLAN**

**April 1, 2017 to March 31, 2020**

## Chairperson's Message

June 20, 2017

Honourable Dale Kirby  
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 a three-year Activity Plan for the Teachers' Certification Committee. This plan covers the period April 1, 2017 to March 31, 2020 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,



**RON SMITH**  
Chair

## Overview

Section 8 of the *Teacher Training Act* provides for the membership of the Teachers' Certification Committee, and as of April 1, 2017 the membership was:

- the Registrar of Teachers, Ms. Lori Chafe;
- an officer of the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development, who shall be chairperson, vacant<sup>1</sup>;
- two representatives of the Faculty of Education of Memorial University of Newfoundland, Dr. Heather McLeod and Dr. Rhonda Joy;
- 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.

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<sup>1</sup> Mr. Ron Smith was appointed Chairperson on May 4, 2017.

## 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, 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, 2018, 2019, and 2020. 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, 2018, 2019, and 2020. 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 Early Childhood Development 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 our children's education in classrooms throughout the province by setting standards for training, qualifying and certifying teachers.