

THE TEACHERS' CERTIFICATION COMMITTEE

**ANNUAL ACTIVITY REPORT
2008-09**

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Chairperson's Message

June 24, 2009

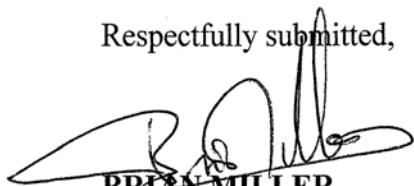
Honourable Darin King
Minister of Education
West Block, Confederation Building
P.O. Box 8700
St. John's, NL A1B 4J6

Dear Minister:

I am pleased to submit the 2008-09 Annual Activity Report of the Teachers' Certification Committee. This report covers the period April 1, 2008 to March 31, 2009.

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

Respectfully submitted,



BRIAN MILLER
Chairperson

Overview

Section 8 of the *Teacher Training Act* provides for the membership of the Teachers' Certification Committee. As of April 1, 2009 the membership was:

- the Registrar of Teachers, Mr. Robert Parsons;
- an officer of the Department of Education who shall be chairperson, Mr. Brian Miller;
- two representatives of the Faculty of Education of Memorial University of Newfoundland, Dr. Andrea Rose and Dr. David Dibbon;
- two representatives of the Newfoundland and Labrador Teachers' Association, Ms. Beverly Park and a vacancy; and,
- two representatives of the Newfoundland and Labrador School Boards Association, Mr. Brian Shortall and Mr. Guy Elliott.

All members of the committee are located in St. John's with the exception of Mr. Guy Elliott, who is located in Labrador West.

The committee meets in St. John's. Members of the committee are appointed by virtue of their 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 West.

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;
- 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 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 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 2008-11 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, 2009, 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 indicators presented in the activity plan.

Provided advice with respect to teacher training programs

The Teacher Certification Committee provided advice to the Registrar of Teachers on a case by case basis, as required.

Year Two Objective:

With respect to advisory services the previous objective is the focus for each of the fiscal years ending March 31, 2010, and 2011. This objective will be reported upon in each of the respective annual reports.

Issue Two: Review of Regulations

The Teachers' Certification Committee reviews teacher certification regulations on an on-going basis to assess their continued ability to meet need in this area.

Objective:

By March 31, 2009, the Teachers' Certification Committee will have reviewed teacher certification regulations.

Measure: Reviewed teacher certification regulations

The following details the committee's successful achievement of the indicators presented in the activity plan.

Recommended applicable changes to the Minister of Education for the Lieutenant-Governor in Council's consideration

The Teachers' Certification Committee recommended an amendment to Section 14.1 of the Teacher Certification Regulations to provide for the certification of educational psychologists. The amendment was approved by the Lieutenant-Governor in Council in May 2008.

Year Two Objective:

With respect to the review of regulations the previous objective is the focus for each of the fiscal years ending March 31, 2010, and 2011. This objective will be reported upon in each of the respective annual reports.

Financial Statements

Members of the committee are appointed by virtue of their 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 West. This committee operates at no additional cost to government and is not required to prepare financial statements.