

Preface

Report Structure

This Annual Report is organized in accordance with the Department's appropriation structure, as set out in the Main Estimates of Expenditure of the Province of Manitoba for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2009. The report includes information at the main and sub-appropriation levels relating to the Department's objectives and actual results achieved. Financial performance information is provided with expenditure and revenue variance explanations, and a five-year adjusted historical table of staffing and expenditures.

Mandate

Manitoba Advanced Education and Literacy (MAEL) is charged with the responsibility of setting priorities and allocating funds for the government's investment in the Province's post-secondary education system, literacy and adult learning initiatives and student financial assistance.

The Department works in collaboration with school divisions, colleges, a university college, universities, other departments, other provincial/territorial governments, the federal government, and other private and public education and training bodies to support high quality adult learning and post-secondary education that meets the needs of all Manitobans.

In addition to identifying broad educational goals, the Department is responsible for the overall legislative and regulatory structure governing the post-secondary and adult learning systems.

The Department is also responsible for providing policy direction on administrative matters of the adult learning and post-secondary education system under authority of the following Acts of the Consolidated Statutes of Manitoba:

- The Adult Learning Centres Act
- The Adult Literacy Act
- The Brandon University Act
- The Colleges Act
- Le Collège universitaire de Saint-Boniface Act
- The Council on Post-Secondary Education Act
- The Degree Granting Act
- The Department of Labour and Immigration Act
(as it applies to certain training programs)
- The Private Vocational Institutions Act
- The Student Aid Act
- The University College of the North Act
- The University of Manitoba Act
- The University of Winnipeg Act

Mission

Together with our partners and stakeholders, MAEL's mission, with respect to post-secondary education, adult learning and literacy, is to:

- Provide Manitobans with relevant, affordable, accessible and high quality learning opportunities;

- Provide financial and other assistance to enable Manitobans to overcome barriers to learning;
- Support seamless and coherent linkages across the learning systems;
- Lead the development, implementation and evaluation of an Adult Literacy Strategy; and
- Provide leadership and facilitate the contribution of the learning systems to Manitoba's economic and social goals.

In carrying out its mission, the Department is guided by the following principles:

- Accessibility/Affordability
- Quality
- Relevance
- Inclusiveness
- Responsiveness
- Innovation
- Accountability

Responsibilities

The primary responsibility of MAEL is to facilitate high quality learning at the post-secondary and adult learning levels. Emphasis is placed upon enhancing learner performance, delineating roles and responsibilities across the post-secondary education and adult learning systems, and facilitating the development and sharing of new knowledge.

The overall responsibilities of the Minister include:

- Setting strategic direction for post-secondary and adult learning, and articulating appropriate legislative and regulatory structures.
- Providing leadership to, and working in co-operation with post-secondary education, adult learning institutions and other organizations to bring about education reform.
- Setting priorities for, and allocating funds to the Province's public post-secondary education system, to adult learning programs and to the student financial assistance program.
- Working in co-operation with colleges, universities and other education and training institutions and organizations to ensure that all Manitobans have access to high quality adult learning and post-secondary education.
- Lead the development, implementation and evaluation of an adult literacy strategy for Manitoba.
- Representing the Province in negotiations with the federal and other governments related to post-secondary education, adult learning, and education finance, as well as participating in relevant meetings with public and private sector organizations.
- Supporting seamless and coherent linkages across the adult learning systems.
- Providing leadership and facilitating the contribution of the adult learning and post-secondary systems to Manitoba's economic and social goals.

Programming and Services Overview

For the year ending March 31, 2009, the programs and services of the Department were budgeted under six main appropriations: Administration and Finance, Support for Universities and Colleges, Manitoba Student Aid, Adult Learning and Literacy, Capital Grants and Costs Related to Capital Assets.

Manitoba's commitment to adult learning and post-secondary education includes funding two community colleges and École technique et professionnelle, one university college, three universities and Collège universitaire de Saint-Boniface as well as literacy programming and adult learning centres, and student financial assistance.

Accessibility to the adult learning and post-secondary system remained a critical priority for the Department in 2008/09 with a focus on the particular needs of individuals from low income and under represented groups.

I Post-Secondary Education

In 2008/09, enrolment at the universities and University College of the North was comprised of 29,920 full-time students and 20,016 part-time students.

Community college full-time enrolments for 2008/09 were estimated at 15,714 and part-time enrolments were estimated at 30,600.

In 2008/09, the Council allocated \$382.4 million in grants to The University of Manitoba, The University of Winnipeg, Brandon University, Collège universitaire de Saint-Boniface and the University College of the North, of which \$9.9 million was included under Capital Grants. In addition, the Council allocated \$5.2 million in grants to the Canadian Mennonite University, Providence College and Seminary, William and Catherine Booth College, and the Steinbach Bible College in support of approximately 1,700 full-time equivalent qualifying students.

In 2008/09, the Council allocated \$84.8 million in grants to Red River College, Assiniboine Community College, and the École technique et professionnelle, of which \$1.8 million was included under Capital Grants. In addition, the Council provided \$0.6 million to the Winnipeg Technical College.

In addition to operating and capital grants, the Council allocated \$0.5 million to stimulate change and to reward innovative developments from the System Restructuring Envelope and \$0.4 million to fund new programming from the Strategic Program Envelope. In 2008/09, the Council allocated \$8.5 million to the Access program to provide program support.

For additional information on Post-Secondary Education, please refer to the 2008/09 Annual Report of the Council on Post-Secondary Education.

II Manitoba Student Aid

Manitoba Student Aid provides supplemental financial assistance to those students whose finances limit their educational choices and who might otherwise be unable to obtain a post-secondary education. In 2008/09, Manitoba Student Aid had the authority to loan up to \$25.0 million in Manitoba Student Loans. As well, approximately \$38.8 million was budgeted for bursary and grant programs including: \$2.6 million for ACCESS bursaries; \$0.6 million for other grants and bursaries; \$5.0 million for the Manitoba Scholarship and Bursaries Initiative; \$3.0 million for Canada Study Grants; \$8.26 million for the Manitoba Bursary Fund; \$12.8 million for the Canada Millennium Scholarship Fund and programs; \$2.0 million for the Manitoba Graduate Scholarships program; \$1.0 million for Bright Futures and \$2.9 million for the Medical Student/Resident Financial Assistance

Program, which is cost recoverable from the Department of Health. Approximately 11,000 applications for Student Aid were processed in the 2008/09 program year.

Manitoba Student Aid also manages the Manitoba Student Loan Portfolio, which includes the disbursement and collection of direct-financed loans. Student Aid has contracted with Credit Union Central of Manitoba (CUCM) for the use of their loan administration system to facilitate the provision and collection of programs. The Loan Services Unit also administers student loan accounts using effective debt management practices, including Interest Relief and Debt Reduction in Repayment and revision of loan terms that will assist students in repaying their student loans, and minimize overall Government risk and loan default rates. In 2008/09, approximately \$3.8 million was budgeted for this program, including \$3.4 million for Provision for Loss, Interest Subsidy, and previous Risk Premiums with national banks, and \$0.4 million for Interest Relief and Debt Reduction Programs.

Manitoba Student Aid also administers the Private Vocational Institutions Act and Regulations.

III Adult Learning and Literacy

The Adult Literacy Act, which came in force January 1, 2009, mandates a provincial Adult Literacy Strategy and formalizes the Manitoba Adult Literacy Program as part of the strategy. The Adult Learning and Literacy Branch (ALL) is leading the development of the Adult Literacy Strategy. The Strategy will contribute to the following global objectives: to provide Manitobans with literacy skills to achieve their economic, educational and personal goals; to create and sustain a skilled and adaptable workforce; to increase civic participation; and to enhance health and social well being.

Adult Learning and Literacy (ALL) funds, coordinates, and supports the development of community-based adult and family literacy programs to meet employment education, training and personal literacy-related goals. ALL also registers and funds the operation of adult learning centres to deliver provincial curriculum to adult students to enable them to obtain their secondary diploma, improve their employment prospects, and qualify for post-secondary enrolment.

Adult literacy programs and adult learning centres provide tuition free programming to enable adults to obtain the literacy/essential skills and prerequisite credentials to pursue further education and training. More than 40% of program participants are employed full or part time, which underscores the importance of these programs for skill development of under-educated adults to enable their full participation in the labour force. Over \$17.5 million was provided for literacy and adult learning centre programming in 2008/09. There are 43 registered adult learning centres in Manitoba and 39 agencies offering literacy programming. In 2008/09, approximately 9,000 adults took advantage of programming offered.

ALL also administers the General Education Development (GED) Testing Service. During the reporting period, 57 test sessions were offered in 12 centres.

IV Corporate Initiatives

Three initiatives have shared mandates and staff from Education, Citizenship and Youth (MECY) and Advanced Education and Literacy: Aboriginal Education, Sustainable Development and the Technical Vocational Initiative. MECY and MAEL also share the support of Human Resource Services, Financial and Administrative Services and Systems and Technology Services.

1. Aboriginal Education

The mandate of the Aboriginal Education Directorate (AED) is to provide leadership and co-ordination for the departmental initiatives within Aboriginal education and training. AED objectives are: to ensure an integrated approach to Aboriginal education and training within MECY, MAEL, and in collaboration with Competitiveness, Training and Trade (MCTT); to promote the removal of systemic barriers to Aboriginal student success; and to participate in, and ensure linkages and

collaboration with inter-sectoral research and policy initiatives related to Aboriginal education and training.

AED coordinates the implementation of the Aboriginal Education Action Plan and provides support and leadership to all branches and units within MECY, MAEL and MCTT on matters as they relate to Aboriginal education and training.

For more information on the Aboriginal Education Directorate, refer to the Annual Report for the Department of Education, Citizenship and Youth.

2. Sustainable Development

In 2008/09, AEL continued to support the province's Sustainable Development Initiative both internally and externally, with particular emphasis on the development, communication and promotion of Education for Sustainable Development (ESD). Manitoba, led by the Department of Education, Citizenship and Youth, continued to serve as the lead jurisdiction for the Council of Ministers of Education, Canada's (CMEC) international work on ESD. Through the CMEC, Manitoba continued to serve on the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe's (UNECE) ESD steering committee to develop ESD indicators, report on progress and implement the UNECE ESD Strategy and Implementation Framework. The Department continued to support the Manitoba ESD Working Group (MESDWG) and its activities that included an International ESD Conference (Choose the Future) held in November 2008.

Branches within AEL carried out management procedures in line with sustainable development including decisions, planning, budgeting and sustainable procurement practices. Branch SD initiatives are highlighted in their respective reports.

3. Technical Vocational Initiative

The Technical Vocational Initiative (TVI) started as a joint initiative between Manitoba Education, Citizenship and Youth (MECY) and Manitoba Advanced Education and Literacy (MAEL) in April 2004 to revitalize technical vocational education in Manitoba. The Technical Vocational Initiative was renewed for four years 2007-2011 and became part of Manitoba Competitiveness, Training and Trade (MCTT). A core objective of the Initiative is to address labour market needs and help develop a skilled workforce through appropriate education and training programs. Access to a skilled workforce continues to be a top concern for Manitoba employers. From a broader perspective, TVI is part of an effort to offer Manitobans a comprehensive continuum of technical vocational education (TVE) and training pathways that are universally accessible, seamless across education levels, synchronized with labour market needs and career focused. TVI continues to build on the successes achieved in relation to the six Pillars of Action, namely:

- to improve the image of vocational careers;
- to enhance awareness of technical vocational programming and trade related opportunities;
- to ensure relevance to labour market needs;
- to facilitate program articulation between high schools and colleges;
- to develop strategies to address technical vocational teacher currency and shortages; and
- to increase funding to support technical vocational equipment upgrades.

In 2008/09, TVI awarded \$699,612 to 36 vocational schools across the Province for equipment upgrade purchases and \$59,852 for associated professional development. Also in 2008/09, TVI awarded \$525,000 to 30 schools/divisions: 13 continuing and 17 new projects. This includes multi-year funding of \$70.0 for the NorMan Consortium, a partnership between Flin Flon, Kelsey and Frontier Schools divisions, OCN Education Authority and UCN.

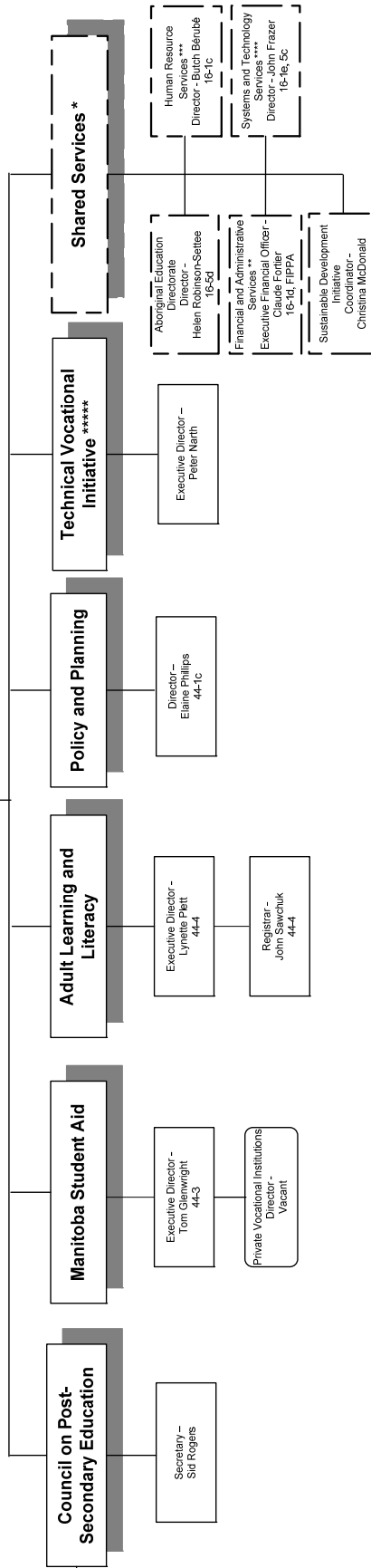
Department of
Advanced Education
and Literacy

MINISTER
Honourable Diane McGifford

Council on Post-Secondary Education
Chairperson - Dr. James Allum

DEPUTY MINISTER
Heather Reichert

March 31, 2009



* Provides services to Education, Citizenship and Youth and Advanced Education and Literacy

** Also provides services to Labour and Immigration

*** Also provides services to Labour and Immigration and Competitiveness, Training and Trade

**** Also provides services to Competitiveness, Training and Trade

*****An initiative of Advanced Education and Literacy, Education, Citizenship and Youth, and Competitiveness, Training and Trade