

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, 2005. 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 Training (MAET) is charged with the responsibility of setting priorities and allocating funds for the government's investment in the Province's post-secondary institutions, skills development and training initiatives.

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

A component of the Department's mandate relates to labour market matters that includes the delivery of employment benefits, employment support measures and the National Employment Services in Manitoba, under the authority of the Canada-Manitoba Labour Market Development Agreement.

In addition to identifying broad educational and skills development goals, the Department is responsible for the overall legislative and regulatory structure governing the education and training system.

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

- The Adult Learning Centres Act
- The Apprenticeship and Trades Qualifications Act
- The Brandon University Act
- The Colleges Act
- The Council on Post-Secondary Education Act
- The Education Administration Act
(clause 3(1)(h), as it relates to advanced education and training)
- The Department of Labour and Immigration Act
(as it applies to certain training programs)
- The Student Aid Act
- The University College of the North Act
- The University of Manitoba Act
- The University of Winnipeg Act
- The Private Vocational Institutions Act

Mission

The mission of Manitoba Advanced Education and Training is to provide access to relevant education and training that is of high quality, affordable, accessible and responsive. An educated citizenry and a skilled and adaptable workforce are considered Manitoba's most important assets in a knowledge-intensive society. All citizens should have the opportunity to develop their individual potential and contribute to the economic, social and cultural life of Manitoba in a global context.

Manitoba Advanced Education and Training is committed to focusing on five primary goals to achieve its mission. These goals are:

- to improve success rates in all programs and institutions;
- to expand the range of people served;
- to better integrate and support knowledge and skills development within economic and social priorities;
- to build the capacity of institutions and the community to support learning; and
- to build partnerships within and across sectors.

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

- Excellence
- Equity
- Openness
- Responsiveness
- Choice and individual responsibility
- Relevance
- Integration
- Accountability

Responsibilities

The primary responsibility of Manitoba Advanced Education and Training is to facilitate the improvement of learning at the post-secondary and skills training levels. Emphasis is placed upon enhancing learner performance, delineating roles and responsibilities across the education and training systems, and facilitating the development and sharing of new knowledge.

The overall responsibilities of the Minister include:

- setting strategic direction for post-secondary education and skills development, and articulating appropriate legislative and regulatory structures;
- setting priorities for, and allocating funds to post-secondary education and to skills development and training initiatives;
- providing leadership to, and working in co-operation with education and training organizations and institutions to bring about education reform;
- providing leadership in labour force development in partnership with Manitoba business and industry and other relevant provincial departments;
- working in co-operation with school divisions, colleges, a university college, universities, and other educational and training institutions and organizations to ensure that all Manitobans have access to high quality education and training; and
- representing the Province in negotiations with the federal and other governments, and participating in meetings related to education and training with a variety of public and private sector organizations.

Programs and Services Overview

For the year ending March 31, 2005, the programs and services of the Department were budgeted under six main appropriations: Administration and Finance, Support for Universities and Colleges, Manitoba Student Aid, Training and Continuing Education, Capital Grants, and Costs Related to Capital Assets.

Manitoba's commitment to advanced education and training includes funding two community colleges and École technique et professionnelle, one university college, three universities and Collège de Saint-Boniface as well as skills development and training initiatives.

I Corporate Initiatives

In 2004/05, the Department continued to focus on accessibility and affordability to post-secondary education and training. The community-based approach to program delivery, designed to increase learner success and improve retention, supports accessibility. Community-based apprenticeship training provides northern and rural First Nations and Métis apprentices the opportunity to complete the classroom component of their apprenticeship in or near their home communities. In 2004/05, five sections of Carpenter apprenticeship training were delivered to 45 apprentices in four communities (Lake Manitoba, Chemawawin, Pinaymootang and TataskwayakIn. In January 2004, the Aboriginal Apprenticeship Program Advisory Committee was established to promote training and employment opportunities in the skilled trades for Aboriginal peoples.

The University College of the North Act came into force on July 1, 2004. The final governance model will have both a learning council and a governing council as defined in the legislation, as well as an elders' council that will function in an advisory capacity. The establishment of the University College of the North has made post-secondary education more accessible and viable by serving northerners closer to home.

In addition to maintaining low university tuition fees, another department highlight was the establishment of Manitoba's first provincially funded graduate scholarship program, which is designed to support research-based graduate studies that will help attract and retain highest quality students from within and outside of Manitoba. As well, the Campus Manitoba program offers over 50 courses through 16 centres so rural Manitobans can take university and college level courses without leaving their communities.

The Technical Vocational Initiative (TVI) was implemented in April 2004 as a three year joint initiative with Manitoba Education, Citizenship and Youth to revitalize technical vocational education in Manitoba and, subsequently address the growing skilled labour shortage. TVI has initiated activities related to each of the Action Pillars, awarded a total of \$700.0 to 17 schools across Manitoba, and created several committees to provide advice and recommendations regarding TVI activity.

The Department continues to work towards ensuring that sustainable development and climate change-related initiatives are co-ordinated, included and integrated in all department activities. A Sustainable Development (SD) Co-ordinator provides leadership and co-ordination of sustainable development and climate change-related initiatives for the Department.

Throughout the year, the Department has participated in numerous government-wide sustainable development climate change-related initiatives. Activities include: supporting the Sustainable Development Procurement Group and the Procurement Council; providing departmental representation on the Sustainability Indicators and Reporting Working Group; providing committee support to the Sustainable Development Innovation Fund Advisory Committee and to the Climate Change Advisory Committee, including the assessment of projects for grant approval; and supporting the Climate Change Task Force Working Group.

II Post-Secondary Education

Post-secondary education is a significant priority for the Government of Manitoba, as evidenced by the creation of Advanced Education and Training.

In 2004/05, enrolment at the universities and the Collège was comprised of 29,460 full-time students and 23,186 part-time students.

Community college full-time enrolments for 2004/05 were estimated at 13,303 and part-time enrolments were estimated at 6,947.

For additional information on Post-Secondary Education, please refer to the 2004/05 Annual Report of the Council on Post-Secondary Education.

III 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 2004/05, approximately \$43.6 million was budgeted for this program including: \$3.3 million for loans and bursaries; \$5.0 million for the Manitoba Scholarship and Bursaries Initiative; \$2.1 million for Canada Study Grants; \$6.3 million for the Manitoba Bursary Fund; \$11.0 million for the Canada Millennium Scholarship Fund; \$13.0 million for Tuition Rebate Grants; and \$2.9 million for the Medical Student/Resident Financial Assistance Program, which is cost recoverable from the Department of Health. Approximately 14,700 applications for Student Aid will be processed in the 2004/05 program year.

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

Manitoba Student Aid also manages the Manitoba Student Loan Portfolio, which includes the disbursement and collection of direct-financed loans; administration of all investment, credit, liability and asset accounts with the Department of Finance; administration of line of credit, disbursement and repayment accounts with Credit Union Central of Manitoba; administration of debt management programs such as Interest Relief and Debt Reduction in Repayment; and the management of the portfolio of loans issued prior to August 1, 2004, including the administration of interest subsidy, provision for loss and risk premium payments. In 2004/05, approximately \$6.2 was budgeted for this program, including \$4.8 million for Provision for Loss, Interest Subsidy and previous Risk Premiums with national banks, and \$1.4 million for Interest Relief and Debt Reduction Programs.

IV Skills Development and Employment Services

Training and Continuing Education undertakes and administers activities aimed at providing opportunities for people to acquire the skills, knowledge and experience necessary to meet current and evolving labour market demands in support of economic and social development in Manitoba.

Training and Continuing Education collaborates with learning providers and funding partners to:

- provide access to a continuum of learning and skill development opportunities that lead to employment and continuing education
- enable citizens to find and sustain employment
- assist business and industries by developing a human resource capacity that is productive and competitive
- develop a workforce that is representative of the population

These goals are achieved within Training and Continuing Education through the following areas: Adult Learning and Literacy, the Hydro Northern Training Initiative, Industry Training Partnerships, Apprenticeship, and Employment and Training Services (ETS).

ETS provided access to services through a provincial network of 16 Employment and Training Services Centres. ETS manages funds provided under the Canada-Manitoba Labour Market Development Agreement. In 2004/05, 9,705 Employment Insurance (EI) clients were assisted in returning to work, which resulted in savings (unpaid benefits) of \$36 million to the EI Account .

V Sustainable Development

For Manitoba to be economically and socially sustainable, its citizens must be highly educated, trained, and employed. The Department continues to work to ensure that youth and adults are provided with accessible life-long learning and employment opportunities. One of the Departments' objectives is to assist Manitobans to prepare for, gain and maintain sustainable employment through direct service and partnerships with community, industry and employer groups, thus contributing to sustainable development in a fundamental way by providing a continuum of education, training, and employment programs and services within provincial social and economic priorities. As part of the Departments' commitment to sustainable development, partnerships with industry, business, labour and government are encouraged to reduce duplication of activity and costs and encourage joint planning, information sharing and decision making. Efforts continue to increase staff knowledge of the principles and guidelines of sustainable development and how these can continue to be integrated and strengthened within the programs and services of the Department.

A Sustainable Development Co-ordinator provides leadership and co-ordination of departmental sustainable development initiatives. A department goal is to promote sustainable development principles and guidelines in departmental activities on a continuous basis so that the inclusion of such principles and guidelines becomes an instinctive element in the conduct of departmental activities.

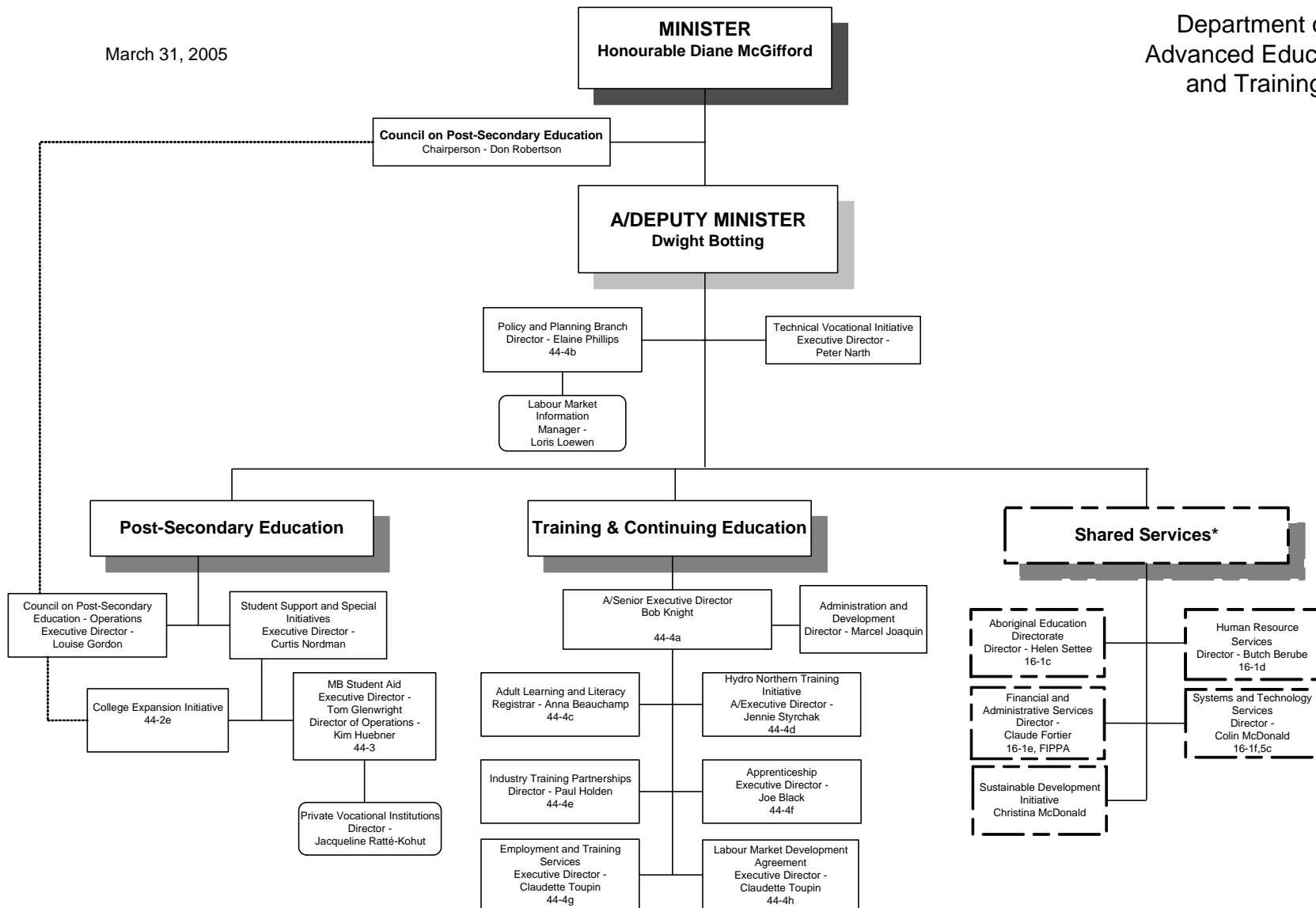
MAET carried out management procedures in line with sustainable development including decision-making, planning, budgeting and procurement processes and attempted to incorporate principles of sustainable development into its policies and programs.

The Department supported and participated in government-wide sustainable development-focused/climate change initiatives such as the Winnipeg Commuter Challenge. Department staff were actively involved in the implementation of the Sustainable Development Act and participated in numerous government-wide initiatives such as supporting the Sustainable Development Procurement Working Group/Implementation Committee and the Procurement Council; providing departmental representation on the Sustainable Development Implementation Steering Committee, the Sustainability Indicators and Reporting Working Group; the Code of Practice Working Group; the Financial Management Guidelines Working Group; the Guidelines Regulations Working Group; and the Education and Communication Working Group (2 education staff are co-chairs). Staff also provided committee support to the Sustainable Development Innovation Fund Advisory Committee and to the Climate Change Advisory Committee, including the assessment of projects for grant approval.

All branches within MAET developed and implemented sustainable development procurement action plans that included activities that resulted in the reduction of solid waste generation and fossil fuel emissions, increasing the participation of Aboriginal peoples in providing for goods and services, and increased education and awareness of sustainable development activities among department staff. Specific Division/Branch activities are presented on a branch by branch basis. The Department implemented waste reduction activities in co-operation with Waste Stream Services.

March 31, 2005

Department of Advanced Education and Training



* Provides services to both the Department of Education,
Citizenship and Youth
and the Department of Advanced Education and Training