

Preface

Report Structure

The Annual Report is organized in accordance with the appropriation structure for Manitoba Education, Citizenship and Youth. It reflects the Department's authorized votes approved by the Legislative Assembly. 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 Education, Citizenship and Youth (MECY) is charged with the responsibility for setting priorities and allocating funds for the Province's public and independent Kindergarten to Senior 4 (K-S4) school system and for citizenship and youth initiatives. The Department is also responsible for providing policy direction on administrative matters of the education system under authority of the following Acts of the Consolidated Statutes of Manitoba:

- The Blind and Deaf Person's Maintenance and Education Act
- The Education Administration Act
- The Property Tax and Insulation Assistance Act (Part III.2)
- The Public Schools Act
- The Public Schools Finance Board Act
- The Teachers' Pensions Act
- The Teachers' Society Act

In addition to identifying broad educational goals, the Department is responsible for the overall legislative and regulatory structure governing the K-S4 education system.

Manitoba Education, Citizenship and Youth represents the Province in negotiations with the federal and other levels of government, and participates in meetings related to education and education finance with a variety of governmental and non-governmental groups.

Manitoba Education, Citizenship and Youth and Manitoba Advanced Education and Training continue to work co-operatively to present a unified direction for education and training in Manitoba. Manitoba Education, Citizenship and Youth also works collaboratively with other departments to develop and implement Healthy Child initiatives.

The Education, Citizenship and Youth sectors include the following elements:

- early childhood education;
- schools, K-S4; and
- youth programs.

Manitoba Education, Citizenship and Youth's goal is to work with partners to provide access to relevant, engaging, high quality, and responsive education that meets the needs of every learner. Specifically for Kindergarten to Senior 4, the Department is committed to six priorities:

- improve outcomes, especially for less successful learners;
- strengthen links among schools, families, and communities;
- strengthen school planning and reporting;
- improve learning opportunities for educators;
- strengthen pathways among secondary schools, post-secondary education, and work; and
- link policy and practice to research and evidence.

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

- honesty and integrity
- dedication and commitment
- partnerships and collaboration

Responsibilities

The primary responsibilities of Manitoba Education, Citizenship and Youth are to facilitate the improvement of learning at the Kindergarten to Senior 4 (K-S4) levels, to enhance citizenship development, and to address transition (career development) issues for youth. Emphasis is placed upon enhancing learner performance, delineating roles and responsibilities across the education system, and facilitating the development and sharing of new knowledge.

The overall responsibilities of the Minister include:

- providing leadership and setting strategic direction for education, citizenship and youth initiatives, and articulating appropriate legislative and regulatory structures;
- setting priorities for, and allocating funds to the Province's public and independent school systems, and to citizenship and youth initiatives;
- working in co-operation with schools and school divisions, colleges, universities and other educational institutions and organizations to ensure that all Manitobans have access to high quality education;
- providing support services to youth so that they can develop their potential in leadership, work, leisure and health; and
- representing the Province in negotiations with the federal and other governments, and
- participating in meetings related to education and education finance with a variety of public and private sector organizations.

Programming and Services Overview

For the year ending March 31, 2006, the programs and services of the Department were budgeted under eight main appropriations (Administration and Finance, School Programs, Bureau de l'éducation française, Education and School Tax Credits, Support to Schools, MB4Youth, Capital Grants for School Divisions, and Costs Related to Capital Assets).

Corporate Initiatives

Three initiatives have shared mandates from Education, Citizenship and Youth and Advanced Education and Training: Aboriginal Education, Sustainable Development and the Technical Vocational Initiative. The two departments also share the support of the Aboriginal Education Directorate, Human Resource Services, Financial and Administrative Services, and Systems and Technology Services.

Within Manitoba Education, Citizenship and Youth, Education Administration Services and the Research and Planning Branch provide general support to policy and program development.

Aboriginal Education

The mandate of the Aboriginal Education Directorate is to provide leadership and co-ordination for departmental initiatives on Aboriginal education and training. The objectives are: to ensure an integrated approach to Aboriginal education and training; to promote the removal of systemic barriers to Aboriginal student success; and to participate in, and ensure linkages with inter-sectoral initiatives related to Aboriginal education and training.

The Aboriginal Education Directorate co-ordinates the implementation of the Aboriginal Education Action Plan and provides support and leadership to all branches and units within Manitoba Education, Citizenship and Youth and Manitoba Advanced Education and Training.

Sustainable Development

In 2005/06, Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) was a high priority for MECY. The department continued to implement the *Education for Sustainable Development Action Plan* focused on forging partnerships to advance ESD in Manitoba and to support educators to help students acquire the knowledge, skills, and values required to contribute to a sustainable future. Many partnerships were forged in 2005. MECY, Environment Canada and Learning for a Sustainable Future worked together to identify sustainable development-focused learning resources for Senior 2-Senior 4 educators and together established a Manitoba Education for Sustainable Development Working Group (MESDWG) aimed at building ESD into the activities of the formal (curriculum), non-formal, and informal education sectors in Manitoba.

MECY also forged a partnership with Manitoba Hydro to establish a new ESD grant for educators that provided awards to schools involved in educators developing and implementing ESD-focused units. In January, MECY announced a new \$500,000 ESD grant to support school divisions in their efforts to incorporate sustainable development into their activities and school programs. In February 2006, MECY, Learning for a Sustainable Future, and R.D. Parker Collegiate (Youth Aboriginal Council) in Thompson, Manitoba, joined forces to plan and deliver the "Sustaining the Dream for a Better Tomorrow" Youth Forum.

In 2005/06, MECY co-ordinated meetings of the five Manitoba schools that are members of the UNESCO Associated Schools Project Network (ASPnet). The schools chose to focus on "environmental concerns" as a theme under sustainable development.

Technical Vocational Initiative

The Technical Vocational Initiative (TVI) was implemented in April 2004 as a three-year joint initiative with Manitoba Advanced Education and Training 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 \$1,850.0 to 40 schools across Manitoba for equipment upgrades and \$250.0 for associated professional learning, awarded \$800.0 to 38 demonstration projects throughout Manitoba. TVI is revising twelve vocational programs for currency and relevance, and is developing a standardized program articulation process across different educational levels. In March 2006 TVI held a successful Manitoba Technical Vocational Education Conference.

Early Childhood Education

As a collaborating department in Healthy Child Manitoba, the Department promotes readiness to learn. The Department leads the intersectoral Early Childhood Development Initiative, collaborates in the implementation of the Early Development Instrument and Educaring, and encourages partnership agreements with day cares in schools. Implementation of the Positive Parenting Program (Triple P), a world-renowned parenting program, began in Manitoba in March 2005. Triple P promotes positive, caring relationships between parents and their children and provides parents with strategies they can use to encourage positive behaviour and development. The Triple P approach applies to all parents and allows them to access supports from trained professionals in local communities. Triple P involves five levels of training to address the differing needs of parents.

Elementary and Secondary Schools

In Manitoba, there are 36 school divisions, 2 special revenue school districts, and 55 independent schools presently receiving funding from the Province. In the 2005/06 fiscal year, government support to school divisions, independent schools, educational organizations, and the Teachers' Retirement Allowance Fund totalled \$937.7 million, comprised of \$899.6 million in 16-5, Support to Schools, and \$38.1 million in 16-7, Capital Grants to School Divisions. In addition, \$145.1 million was provided in support of school divisions through the Education Support Levy.

For the 2005/06 school year, a funding increase of 2.8% or \$25.0 million was announced to support school divisions.

Public school enrolment on September 30, 2005 was 184,498 pupils. Of this total, 119,936 were in Kindergarten to Grade 8; 60,942 were in secondary grades (Senior 1 to Senior 4); 2,127 were nursery pupils; and 1,493 were not in any grade.

There were 12,878 pupils attending funded independent schools on September 30, 2005. Funding to independent schools for eligible pupils is available for instruction and services, special needs, and curricular materials.

MB4Youth

MB4Youth connects Manitoba youth to employment opportunities, citizenship and leadership experiences, volunteer opportunities, career development resources, and information related to provincial youth programs and services. MB4Youth offers over 20 programs and services and provides access to over 220 programs and services through the MB4Youth.ca website.

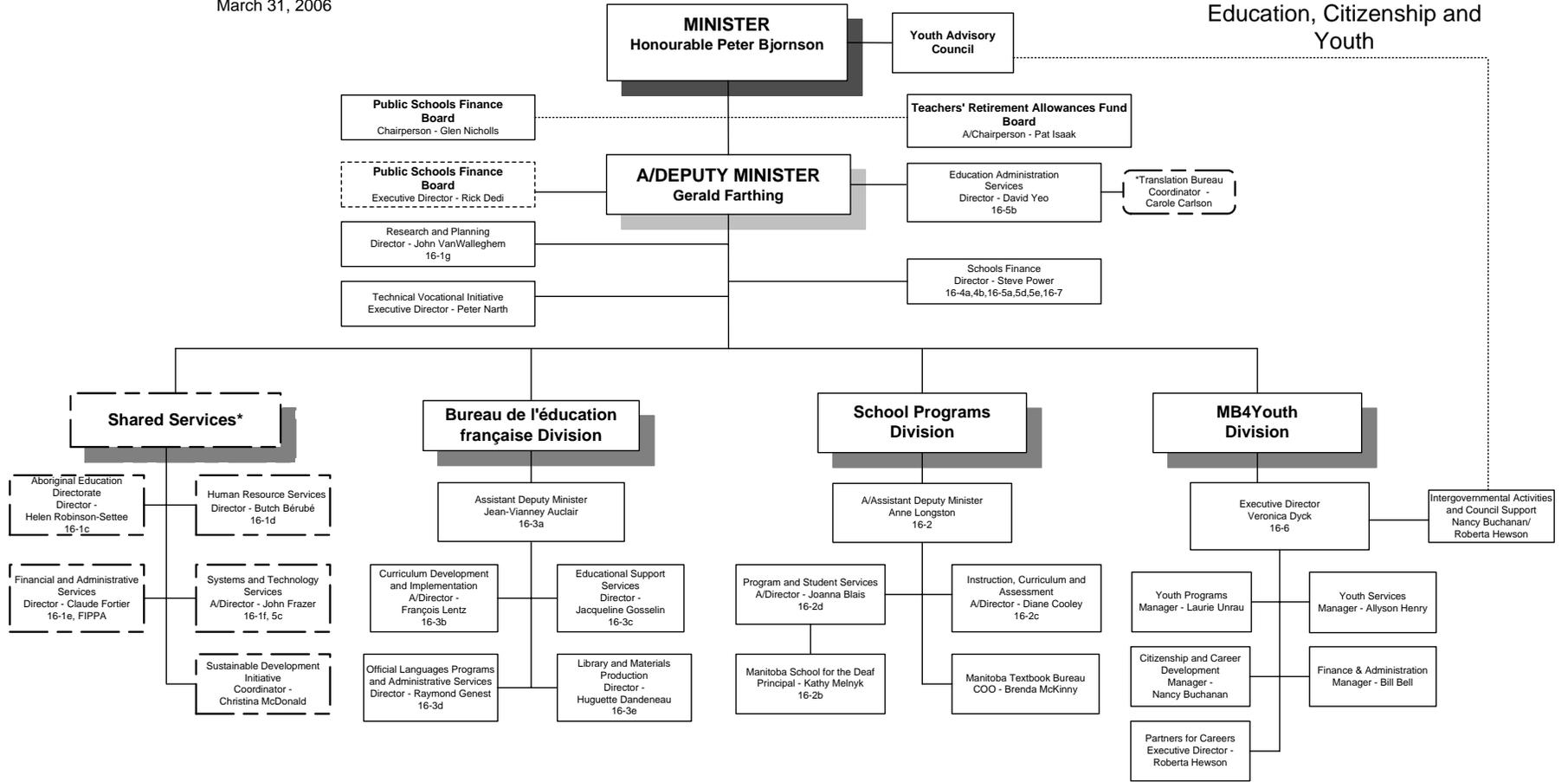
In 2005/06, 9,573 students/youth were employed or assisted through programs and services offered by the Division; 1,577 students/youth were provided with pre-employment assistance and training; 746 projects and/or grants were funded; 468 students/youth participated in citizenship and leadership activities; and over 25,000 students/youth were provided with career planning support in

the areas of resume and portfolio development, interview preparation, self-marketing skills, and career information.

MB4Youth continues to demonstrate a strong commitment to the success of Manitoba youth through youth engagement and citizenship programming as well as a focus on Aboriginal youth in the Province through targeted programming and the Murdo Scribe Centre at 510 Selkirk. MB4Youth has undertaken new initiatives including the School and Community Arts Program and an Annual Citizenship Conference to be rotated throughout the Province. MB4Youth strives to meet the needs of Manitoba youth in all of the activities delivered through the Division.

March 31, 2006

Department of Education, Citizenship and Youth



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