

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 Grade 12 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 Kindergarten to Grade 12 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, Manitoba Advanced Education and Literacy, and Manitoba Competitiveness, Training and Trade 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, Kindergarten to Grade 12; 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 Grade 12, the Department remained 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 Grade 12 levels, to enhance citizenship development, and to address transition issues for youth. Emphasis is placed on 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;
- 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, 2007, 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 and staff from Education, Citizenship and Youth and Advanced Education and Literacy: Aboriginal Education, Sustainable Development and the Technical Vocational Initiative. Education, Citizenship and Youth and Advanced Education and Literacy 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 (AED) is to provide leadership and coordination for departmental initiatives within Aboriginal education and training. AED objectives are: to ensure an integrated approach to Aboriginal education and training within Manitoba Education, Citizenship and Youth, Manitoba Advanced Education and Literacy, and in collaboration with

Competitiveness, Training and Trade; 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.

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 the three education and training departments.

Sustainable Development

Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) was a high priority for MECY in 2006/07. The Department continued to implement the ESD K-12 Action Plan focused on supporting educators in their efforts to incorporate ESD into their teaching and student learning. In 2006/07, curriculum related ESD programs (ESD grants, website development, identifying learning resources) were transferred to the School Programs Division (SPD) to advance and integrate ESD activities across the Department. Details on K-12 ESD programming are highlighted within SPD's section of this report.

MECY supported school divisions and schools in the efforts to enhance the teaching and learning of sustainability in classrooms. In 2006/07 MECY supported 10 schools in their efforts to develop and implement ESD-focused curriculum units. The Department also provided all Manitoba school divisions with funding (totalling \$500,000) during that same period to encourage ESD system-wide.

MECY continued to forge partnerships and collaborate with others at the local, national and international levels to advance ESD in Manitoba.

Locally, the Department provided secretariat and funding support to the Manitoba Education for Sustainable Development Working Group aimed at incorporating ESD into the activities of the formal and non formal educators sectors in Manitoba. Within government, the Department continued to serve on working groups and committees that further sustainable development locally. The Department continues to support community-based ESD initiatives such as the Youth Stewardship in Environmental Sustainability Showcase, the Manitoba Envirothon and others that advance ESD provincially.

Nationally, the Council of Ministers of Education, Canada (CMEC) identified Manitoba as lead on matters having to do with ESD, and to represent provinces and territories in that regard. Through that Council, Manitoba served on the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe's (UNECE) ESD Steering Committee on the development of ESD Indicators. MECY also served on the Board of Directors, Learning for a Sustainable Future (LSF). The Department also partnered with Environment Canada and LSF to establish the National ESD Expert Council and served on its Steering Committee. In 2006/07, the Department also supported the development of the Sustainability and Education Academy led by York University to develop an education program for senior educators on school boards, provincial ministries of education and university faculties of education to create a culture of sustainable development integrated into all aspects of the K-12 and post-secondary systems (policy, curriculum, teaching, learning, professional development, and the sustainable management of human, physical and financial resources).

Internationally, MECY served on the Steering Committee of the UNECE, focusing on the implementation of the UNECE ESD Strategy and Implementation Framework.

In terms of departmental operations, branches carried out management procedures in line with sustainable development including decisions, planning, budgeting and sustainable procurement practices. Branch SD activities are highlighted in their respective reports.

Technical Vocational Initiative

The Technical Vocational Initiative (TVI) was implemented in April 2004 as a three-year joint initiative with Manitoba Advanced Education and Literacy (AEL). TVI's mandate is to revitalize technical vocational education in Manitoba and address the growing skilled labour shortage. TVI has initiated activities related to each of the Action Pillars. It awarded a total of \$1,902.0 to 40 schools across Manitoba for vocational equipment upgrades and \$150.0 for professional development. TVI awarded \$803.0 to 38 demonstration projects throughout Manitoba. TVI is revising vocational programs for currency and relevance, and is developing a standardized program articulation process across different educational levels. In March 2006, TVI hosted a successful first Manitoba Technical Vocational Education Conference. In January 2007, a half day presentation to introduce the concept of school-based teams for career development was held, and in February/March of 2007 regional workshops on "Implementing a Team-Based Career Development Approach in Manitoba Schools" were conducted by Lynne Bezanson and Phil Jarvis.

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 on 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, continued in Manitoba in 2006/07.

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 2006/07 fiscal year, government support to school divisions, independent schools, educational organizations, and the Teachers' Retirement Allowances 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 2006/07 school year, a funding increase of 2.8% or \$25.0 million was announced to support school divisions.

Public school enrolment on September 30, 2006 was 184,498 pupils. Of this total, 119,936 were in Kindergarten to Grade 8; 60,942 were in secondary grades (Grade 9 to Grade 12); 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, 2006. 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, learning, training and opportunities for engagement. MB4Youth has continued to enhance programs and services for youth in transition to and from school and work and youth at-risk. MB4Youth has also made Aboriginal youth a priority through the Murdo Scribe 'front end' service delivery centre and by expanding and developing programs and resources targeted at Aboriginal youth and offering cultural awareness training to youth through various programs. MB4Youth offers over 20 programs and services for youth aged 16 - 29 and provides access to over 220 programs and services through the MB4Youth.ca website.

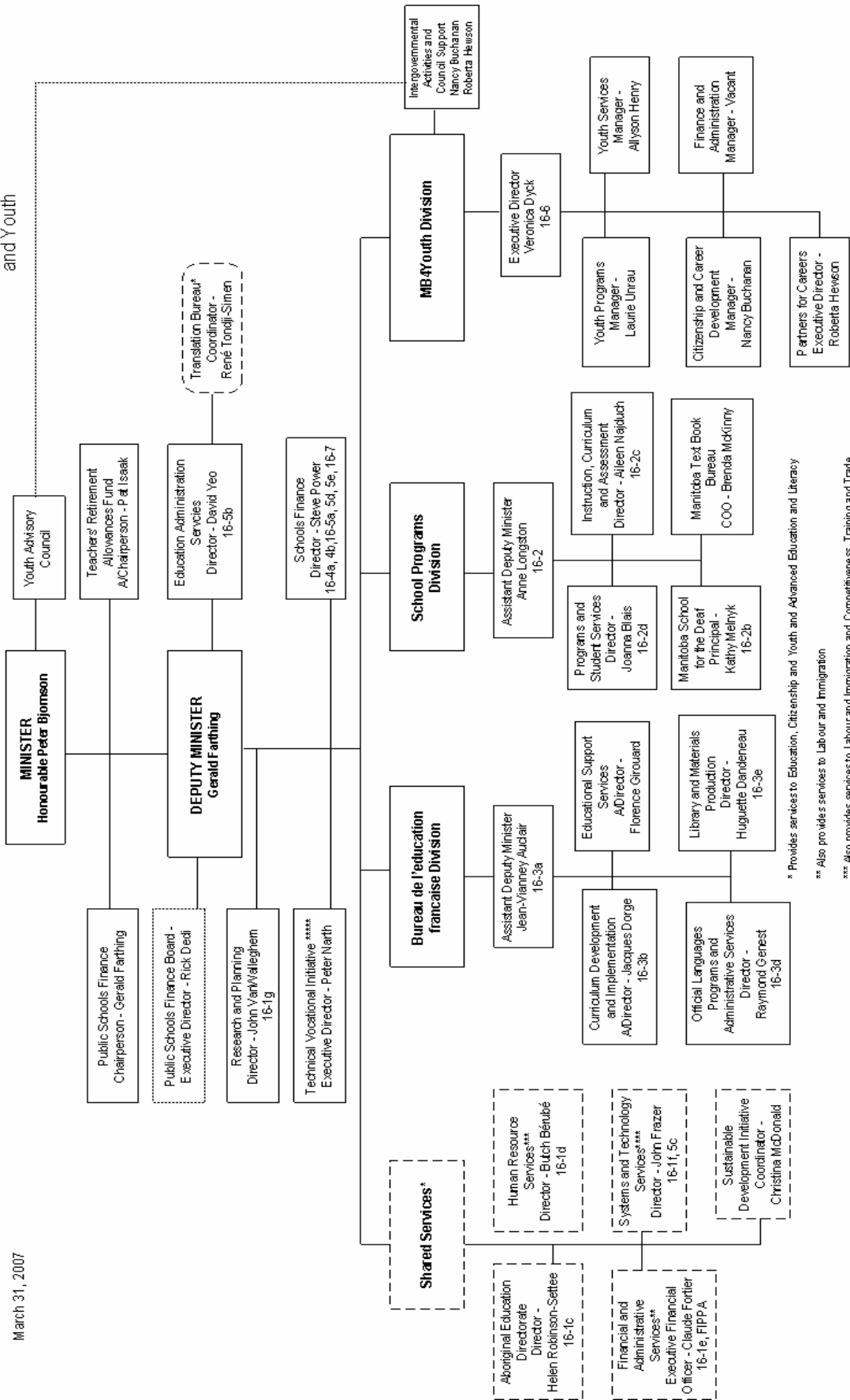
In 2006/07, 7,748 students/youth were employed or assisted through programs and services offered by the Division; 1,689 students/youth were provided with pre-employment assistance and training; 863 projects and/or grants were funded; 379 students/youth participated in citizenship and

leadership activities; and over 23,000 students/youth were provided with career planning support in the areas of résumé and portfolio development, interview preparation, self-marketing skills, and career information.

MB4Youth continues to demonstrate a strong commitment to supporting youth in developing the tools needed to become actively engaged in citizenship and leadership activities and programming. MB4Youth has undertaken several initiatives focused on citizenship and leadership education including the Youth Leadership Scholarships and the Youth Leadership Seminar. MB4Youth strives to meet the needs of Manitoba youth in all of the activities delivered through the Division.

Department of Education, Citizenship and Youth

March 31, 2007



* 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