

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-Grade 12 (K-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 K-12 education system.

MECY 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 (MAEL), and Manitoba Competitiveness, Training and Trade (MCTT) work co-operatively to present a unified direction for education and training in Manitoba. MECY 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- Grade 12; and
- youth programs.

MECY's vision is that Manitoba's children and youth will have access to relevant, engaging, high quality and responsive education that meets the needs of every learner now and in the future.

Responsibilities

The primary responsibilities of MECY are to facilitate the improvement of learning at the K-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;
- articulating appropriate legislative and regulatory structures;
- allocating funds to the Province's public and independent school systems; and
- representing the Province in negotiations with the federal and other governments.

Programming and Services Overview

For the year ending March 31, 2008, 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 Manitoba Education, Citizenship and Youth and Manitoba Advanced Education and Literacy: Aboriginal Education, Sustainable Development and the Technical Vocational Initiative. MECY and MAEL also share the support of the Aboriginal Education Directorate, Human Resource Services, Financial and Administrative Services, and Systems and Technology Services.

Within MECY, 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 co-ordination for 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 Manitoba 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 co-ordinates 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.

Sustainable Development

Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) was a high priority for MECY in 2007/08. The Department strengthened co-operation and partnerships on ESD regionally, nationally and internationally with government, non-government organizations, business, industry, communities and youth to further develop, communicate and promote ESD within Manitoba and across Canada. Manitoba 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 partnering with the Science Teachers Association of Manitoba (STAM) to plan an International ESD Conference (Choose the Future) to be delivered in the fall 2008.

MECY worked to increase the profile of ESD amongst Manitoba educators, as well as students, parents and the broader Manitoba community. In 2007/08, the Department distributed parent pamphlets for students in K-4 and Grades 5-12, featured ESD-related articles in Education Manitoba Newsletters, supported ESD providers such as the Youth and Environmental Sustainability Showcase and the Manitoba Envirothon. The Department identified and shared sustainable development (SD)-related student learning outcomes and resources/materials, redesigned the K-12 ESD website, developed and distributed K-4 and 5-12 posters and teacher guides and developed units of study focusing on SD concepts. The Department also continued support for the UNESCO Associated Schools Project Network (ASPnet) in Manitoba schools.

In 2007/08, the Department partnered with York University to plan the delivery of the Sustainability and Education Academy in Manitoba in 2008, a program for senior officials of school divisions, provincial ministries of education and faculties of education to help incorporate sustainable development into policies, programs and create living and learning environments that model sustainability. The Department also worked with Green Manitoba to develop a Green Schools Program, worked with school divisions to encourage the adoption of division-wide waste collection, began discussions with divisions regarding the Plug in Hybrid Electric School Bus Initiative and provided school divisions with ESD Grants totalling \$500,000 to enhance the teaching and learning of sustainability across divisions and in schools.

The Department continued to promote ESD-focused research. In 2007/08, MECY partnered with the International Institute for Sustainable Development (IISD) to undertake a research process to benchmark and assess the knowledge, skills and behaviour of Manitoba citizens and students at Grades 6, 8, 10 and 12. The Department also supported the work of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe, through the CMEC to report on ESD progress in Canada.

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. The Initiative was renewed for four years (2007-2011) and also become part of a third department, Competitiveness, Training and Trade. TVI's mandate is to revitalize technical vocational education in Manitoba and address the continuing skilled labour shortage. TVI has initiated activities related to each of the Action Pillars. It awarded a total of \$2,500.0 to Manitoba schools for vocational equipment upgrades and \$210.0 for professional development. TVI has awarded \$1,270.0 for a total of 64 demonstration projects throughout Manitoba. TVI is revising vocational programs for currency and relevance, and has developed an articulation development process across different educational levels. In March 2006, TVI hosted a successful first Manitoba Technical Vocational Education Conference. In spring of 2007, TVI presented regional workshops to introduce the concept of school-based teams for career development. In early 2008, the Computer Aided Three Dimensional Interactive Application (CATIA) design software project was implemented, involving ten schools, Red River College and Assiniboine Community College as well as The University of Manitoba's Faculty of Engineering.

In March 2008, TVI entered into an agreement to provide all Manitoba schools and colleges offering automotive technology programs with the most up-to-date CDX online automotive teaching resource, which offers 24/7 access to lessons, technical information and other features to instructors and students.

Early Childhood Education

As a collaborating department in Healthy Child Manitoba, the Department promotes readiness initiatives that prepare children for successful school entry. The Department leads the intersectoral Early Childhood Development Initiative, collaborates on the implementation of the intersectoral Early Childhood Development Instrument and Educaring, and encourages partnership agreements involving child care and schools. Ongoing implementation of the Positive Parenting Program (Triple P), a world-renowned parenting program, is continuing to receive Department support in 2007/08.

Elementary and Secondary Schools

In Manitoba, there are 36 school divisions, 1 special revenue school districts, and 59 independent schools presently receiving funding from the Province. In the 2007/08 fiscal year, government support to school divisions, independent schools, educational organizations, and the Teachers' Retirement Allowances Fund totalled \$1,025.6 million, comprised of \$978.8 million in 16-5, Support to Schools, and \$46.8 million in 16-7, Capital Grants to School Divisions. In addition, \$123.3 million through the Education Support Levy was provided in support of school divisions.

For the 2007/08 school year, a funding increase of 3.3% or \$30.3 million was announced to support school divisions.

Public school enrolment on September 30, 2007 was 181,446 pupils. Of this total, 117,036 were in Kindergarten- Grade 8; 61,081 were in secondary grades (Grades 9-12); 2,126 were nursery pupils; and 1,203 were not in any grade.

There were 13,204 pupils attending funded independent schools on September 30, 2007. Funding to independent schools for eligible pupils is available for instruction and services, special needs, and curricular materials.

MB4Youth

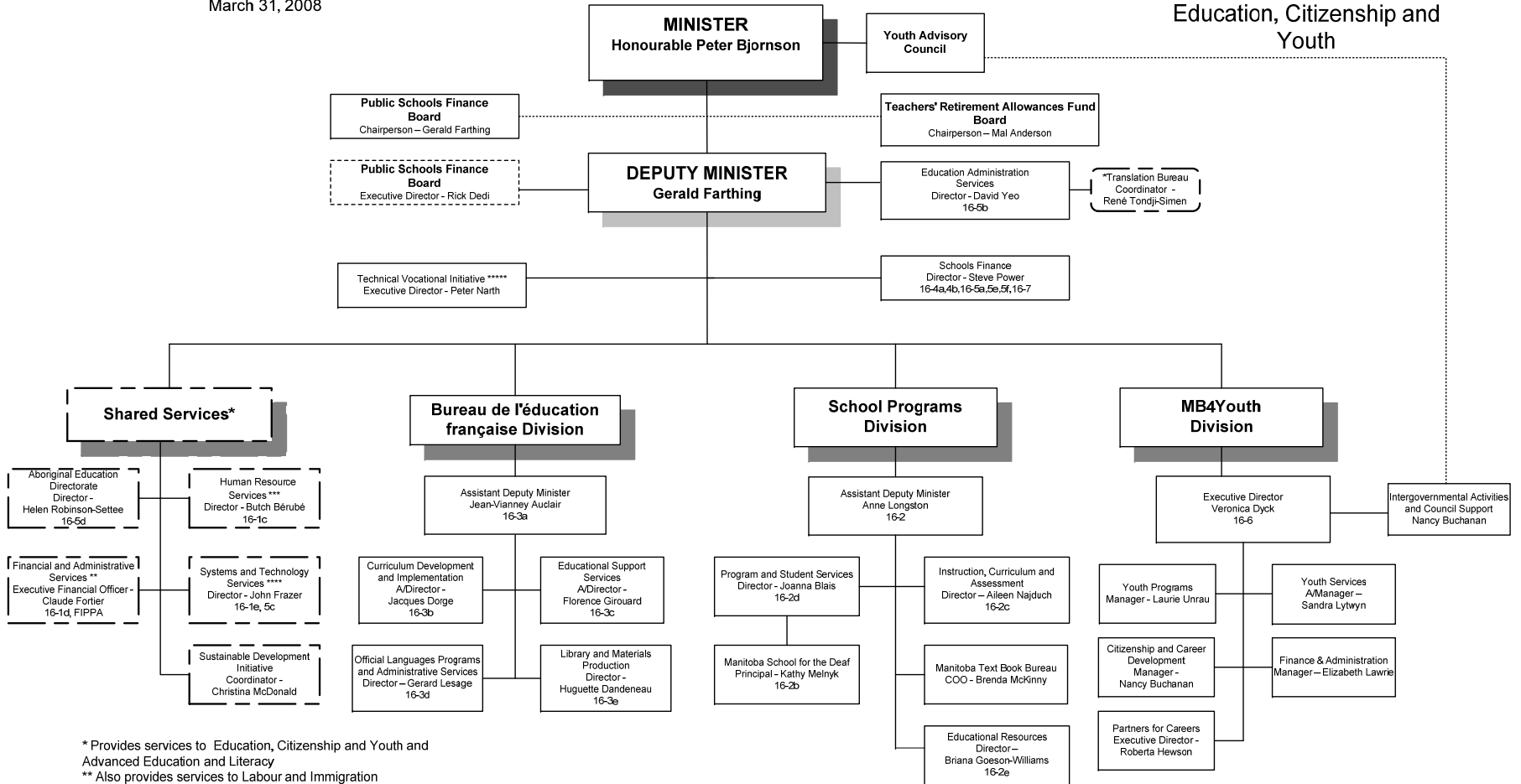
The MB4Youth Division connects youth and students to programs and resources that help in the transition from school to work, further training, high school and post-secondary education. MB4Youth assists youth to plan for and find employment and access learning, training and opportunities for engagement in their communities. MB4Youth encourages and supports young people to consider self-employment and careers in the trades, information technology and arts and cultural industries. In addition, MB4Youth continues to demonstrate a strong commitment to supporting Manitoba businesses, youth serving agencies and community organizations through grants, wage incentives and additional supports. MB4Youth recognizes young people who are making a difference in their community through youth citizenship, engagement and community involvement initiatives such as Youth Serves Manitoba, Youth Leadership Scholarships and Manitoba Grants for Innovation in Citizenship Education.

In 2007/08, 7,108 students/youth were employed or assisted through programs and services offered by the Division; 1,699 students/youth were provided with pre-employment assistance and training; 822 projects and/or grants were funded; 412 students/youth participated in citizenship, leadership and community involvement activities; and over 18,500 students/youth were provided with career planning support in the areas of resumé and portfolio development, interview preparation, self-marketing skills, and career information.

Meeting the needs of Aboriginal youth and newcomers to Canada continues to be a priority for the MB4Youth Division. Through focused programs and services and through Partners @ 510 Selkirk, the MB4Youth Division is building community capacity and connecting young people to programs and services in their local communities while building a network of community organizations.

March 31, 2008

Department of
Education, Citizenship and
Youth



* 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

