

# 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, 2009, 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 Funding 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 Human Resource Services, Financial and Administrative Services and Systems and Technology Services.

Within MECY, Education Administration Services and the position of Senior Advisor 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 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 2008/09. 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. This included providing leadership at both the national and international level on behalf of the Council of Ministers of Education, Canada and provincially through support of the Manitoba Education for Sustainable Development Working Group.

Branches across the Department worked to identify ways to consider efficiency, effectiveness and concern for the environment in carrying out day-to-day work. In 2008/09, this included initiatives such as moving to electronic data collection methods, implementing waste reduction activities in co-operation with Waste Stream Services, establishing a “Green Boardroom” with a no Styrofoam/plastic requirement, and pursuing alternative approaches to delivery of professional learning services, including establishing video-conferencing infrastructure.

MECY worked to increase the profile of ESD amongst Manitoba educators, as well as students, parents and the broader Manitoba community. In 2008/09, this included providing additional classroom resources and professional learning opportunities for educators; administering ESD-related grants; participating in research on school division policies and on attitudes related to sustainable development; ensuring ongoing communications with the field through Education Manitoba and a new ESD newsletter for School Divisions; as well as implementing the Eco-Globe Recognition Program for schools. MECY also partnered with York University to deliver a Sustainability and Education Academy for senior school division staff to help them incorporate sustainable development into policies, programs and to create living and learning environments that model sustainability.

### **Technical Vocational Initiative**

The Technical Vocational Initiative (TVI) started as a joint initiative between MECY and 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 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 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 University College of the North.

### **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, continued to receive Department support in 2008/09.

## **Elementary and Secondary Schools**

In Manitoba, 36 school divisions, 1 special revenue school district, and 60 independent schools receive funding from the Province. In the 2008/09 fiscal year, government support to school divisions, independent schools, educational organizations, and the Teachers' Retirement Allowances Fund totalled \$1,102.7 million, comprised of \$1,055.2 million in 16-5, Support to Schools, and \$47.5 million in 16-7, Capital Funding. In addition, \$125.6 million through the Education Support Levy was provided in support of school divisions.

For the 2008/09 school year, a funding increase of 5.6 % or \$53.5 million was announced to support school divisions.

Public school enrolment on September 30, 2008 was 180,098 pupils. Of this total, 115,491 were in Kindergarten to Grade 8; 61,313 were in secondary grades (Grade 9 to Grade 12); 2,136 were nursery pupils; and 1,158 were not in any grade.

There were 13,362 pupils attending funded independent schools on September 30, 2008. Funding to independent schools for eligible pupils is available for instruction and services, special needs and curricular materials.

## **MB4Youth**

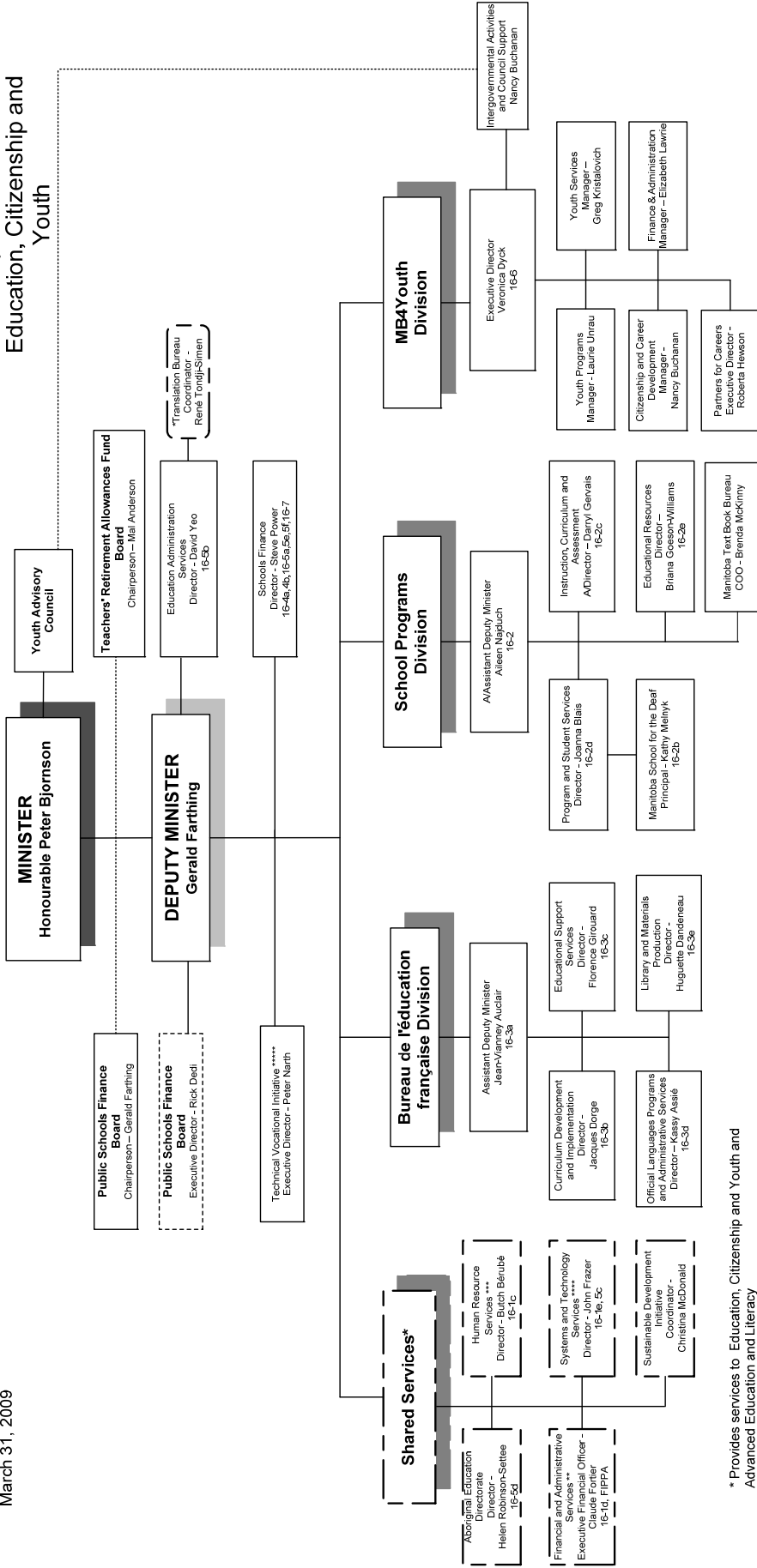
The MB4Youth Division delivers more than 25 programs and services for students and youth that are focused on employment, citizenship, leadership, career development and youth engagement. MB4Youth programming helps youth transition from school to work, access training, develop skills, further their education and make a difference in their community. The MB4Youth Division continues to demonstrate a strong commitment to youth retention and attraction, entrepreneurship, career development and building a strong future for Manitoba youth. In addition, MB4Youth recognizes the importance of giving youth a voice and helping them make a positive difference in their classroom, school and community.

The MB4Youth Division continues to recognize the importance of providing and supporting programming for Aboriginal youth and newcomers to Canada. Various programs and supports are provided online, by phone or in person at Partners@510 Selkirk. Building community capacity and connecting young people to the programs and services available in their local community is essential to building a strong community network and giving youth a chance at a bright future.

In 2008/09, 6,005 students/youth were employed through programs and services offered by the Division; 28,295 students/youth registered in, were assisted with or participated in divisional programming; 1,961 students/youth were provided with pre-employment assistance and training; 860 projects and/or grants were funded; and 343 students/youth participated in citizenship, leadership and community involvement activities.

March 31, 2009

# 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 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

