BRIDGING TO ADULTHOOD:

A Protocol for Transitioning Students with Exceptional Needs from School to Community

March 2008
MTBB Stock # English 80383, French 97009.

English    ISBN 978-0-7711-4031-0
# Table of Contents

## Preface
- Government of Manitoba Interdepartmental Protocols 5
- Mandate 5

## Introduction
- Purpose 6
- Protocol for Transitioning Students with Exceptional Needs from School to Community 7

## Interactive Roles and Responsibilities in Transition Planning
- Manitoba Transition Support System 14
- Students 14
- Parents, Legal Guardians, Foster Parents, Caregivers and Support Networks 15

## Interactive Roles and Responsibilities of Educators
- Student Services Administrator 16
- School Principals 16
- Case Managers (Transition Planning) 17
- School Division - Student Services Staff 17

## Interactive Roles and Responsibilities of Community Workers from:
### Manitoba Family Services and Housing, Regional Health Programs/Services and Child and Family Services Agencies
- Children's Services Workers 18
- Adult Services Workers 19
- Community Service Providers 19

## Adult Support Programs and Services

## Adult Support Programs and Services Administered by
### Manitoba Family Services and Housing or Designated Agencies
- Employment and Income Assistance (EIA) for Persons with Disabilities 20
- Supported Living Program (SLP) – Residential and Day Services 21
- Vocational Rehabilitation 21

## Adult Support Programs Funded by Manitoba Health and Healthy Living
- Community Mental Health Services 23
- Home Care Program 23
- Support Guidelines for Implementation of *Bridging to Adulthood: A Protocol for Transitioning Students with Exceptional Needs from School to Community* 25
The Protocol for Transitioning Students With Exceptional Needs From School to Community has been built on the foundation provided by the committee who developed the Manitoba Transition Planning Process Support Guidelines in 1999.
Preface

Government of Manitoba Interdepartmental Protocols

A protocol is an agreement between two or more departments, agencies or authorities that describes how they will work together to achieve a common goal. It identifies who is responsible, individually or jointly, for specific tasks and their timelines.

Mandate

The Healthy Child Committee of Cabinet directs the province’s interdepartmental protocols on service provision for children, youth and families across the province. These protocols mandate a co-ordinated approach by the staff of departments and related organizations (schools, regional health authorities, child and family services authorities and other designated agencies) who work with children, youth and their families.

The following protocols are available on the Healthy Child Manitoba website at www.gov.mb.ca/healthychild:

- Interdepartmental Protocol Agreement for Children/Adolescents with Severe to Profound Emotional/Behavioural Disorders (1995)
- Bridging to Adulthood: A Protocol for Transitioning Students with Exceptional Needs from School to Community (2008)
Introduction

Purpose
Bridging to Adulthood: A Protocol for Transitioning Students with Exceptional Needs from School to Community:

- directs provincial government departments to support cross-departmental policy development and co-ordinate administering bodies who work directly with students who have exceptional learning needs which include school divisions, institutional schools (including those in correctional and treatment facilities residential settings) regional health authorities, and child and family services authorities
- outlines the interactive roles and responsibilities of transition planning partners and their timelines
- provides guidelines and support materials for transition planning and implementation

This document replaces Manitoba Transition Planning Process Support Guidelines for Students with Special Needs Reaching Age 16 (1999). It is intended for transition planning partners, including Manitoba Family Services and Housing, designated agencies, Child and Family Services Authorities and Agencies, Manitoba Health and Healthy Living, regional health authorities and their programs and services, Manitoba Education, Citizenship and Youth and educators in Manitoba.

As students enter the senior years, they must begin to plan for their options in life after High School. The goal is to help partners better support students with exceptional needs who require supports from the provincial government, its agencies and/or Regional Health Authorities after leaving school. This includes students with mental, learning, physical and psychiatric disabilities, persons with spinal cord injuries and persons with a visual disability or who are Deaf or hard of hearing. The transition planning process facilitates timely access to available adult supports. Supports may assist individuals to contribute to the economic, social and cultural life of Manitoba.