To His Honour,
Peter M. Liba, C.M., O.M.
Lieutenant-Governor of Manitoba

May It Please Your Honour:

I have the privilege of presenting for the information of Your Honour the Annual Report of the Department of Advanced Education and Training for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2003.

Respectfully submitted,

Honourable Diane McGifford
Honourable Diane McGifford  
Minister of Advanced Education and Training  
156 Legislative Building  
Winnipeg, Manitoba  
R3C 0V8

Dear Minister:

It is with a great sense of accomplishment that I present to you the Annual Report of Manitoba Advanced Education and Training for the period April 1, 2002 to March 31, 2003.

Over the past year, the department has made great strides in advancing a number of initiatives that are successfully serving the training and post-secondary education needs of Manitobans. Of particular pride are developments related to the cross-sectoral application of Prior Learning Assessment and Recognition (PLAR), registration and accountability of Adult Learning Centres, targeted training in preparation for the Manitoba Northern Hydro Training Initiative, and the opening of Red River College Princess Street Campus. Additionally, in order to enhance accessibility to high quality and relevant post-secondary education in northern Manitoba, the department has worked with stakeholders across the province to create a conceptual foundation for development of the upcoming innovative University College of the North (UCN). Lastly, of equal importance, the department, through its Employment Centres, new Adult Learning Centres and expanded Apprenticeship program has created a province-wide public service delivery system that is second to none across Canada. Each and every one of these initiatives will provide Manitobans throughout the province with relevant and flexible education and training options that lead to successful employment and future economic prosperity.

I am also pleased to report that, during the past year, our sectoral partnerships have grown in number, quality and importance. We acknowledge that our appreciation to Manitobans across the training and post-secondary education sectors can never be overstated nor under-emphasized.

As Manitoba’s economy continues to develop and the demand of employers for a highly skilled and knowledgeable workforce increases, it is incumbent upon the department to provide a comprehensive and coordinated training and post-secondary education system. Each year the number of learners increases and the types of programming required to meet their needs changes. As noted above, great strides have been achieved, but at the same time, I am very aware that more remains to be done. Thanks to the devotion and commitment of departmental staff and Manitobans across all geographic, social and economic sectors, I am confident that the challenges of tomorrow will be met with continued success.

Respectfully submitted,

Pat Rowantree  
Deputy Minister