The Honourable Peter Liba,
Lieutenant-Governor of Manitoba
Room 235 Legislative Building
Winnipeg, MB R3C 0V8

May It Please Your Honour:

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

Respectfully submitted,

Ron Lemieux
Honourable Ron Lemieux  
Minister of Education and Youth  
168 Legislative Building  
Winnipeg, Manitoba R3C 0V8

Dear Minister:

I am pleased to present the Annual Report of Manitoba Education and Youth for the period April 1, 2002 to March 31, 2003. This is the first year for which the report for Education and Youth is separate from the report for Advanced Education and Training. However, the two departments retain a coordinated administrative structure that integrates their approach to education policy and serves the needs of learners more effectively.

During the past year the focus of Education and Youth was on achieving the key goals outlined in this report. These goals are operationalized through strategies and priorities in each of the main areas of the Department, including the K-S4 Education Agenda for Student Success and the Manitoba Training Strategy. These strategies are complemented by an Aboriginal Education and Training Framework and by a variety of operating policies.

I can report that significant progress was made in all areas during the 2002/03 year. The creation of a MB4Youth Division significantly enhanced our focus on this key transitional period in the lives of Manitobans. The K-S4 Agenda advanced from the planning to the implementation stage. Most importantly, our progress has been characterized by conscious collaboration with educational and social partners. While partnership development and consensus building takes time, the result is a more robust and organized system.

Education is a people process. I wish to express my appreciation for the students who are its focus and the parents, educators, and community members who work with those students. Together, they help to realize Manitoba’s goal of enhanced community and economic development through a commitment to lifelong learning.

Expectations for education have never been higher and the benefits have never been greater. Statistics confirm the economic (and thus lifestyle) value of increased education. Our annual report presents a picture of an educational system that is rising to the challenge of being competitive within a knowledge economy. I am proud to work with the people who make it so.

Respectfully submitted,

Pat Rowantree  
Deputy Minister