Preface

Report Structure

The Annual Report is organized in accordance with the departmental appropriation structure, which reflects the departments’ authorized votes approved by the Legislative Assembly. The report includes information at the main and sub-appropriation levels relating to the departments’ objectives, actual results achieved, financial performance and variances, and presents a five-year historical table showing the departmental expenditures and staffing. In January 2001, the Department of Education and Training was divided into two ministries: Manitoba Education, Training and Youth and Manitoba Advanced Education. In September 2002, the two ministries were realigned to become Manitoba Education and Youth and Manitoba Advanced Education and Training. They continue to work co-operatively to present a unified direction for education and training in Manitoba. A single Deputy Minister reports to both Ministers. Expenditures and revenue variance explanations previously contained in the Public Accounts of Manitoba are now provided in the Annual Report.

Mandate

Manitoba Education and Youth is charged with the responsibility of setting priorities and allocating funds for the province’s public and independent school systems and for youth initiatives. The department is also responsible for providing policy direction on administrative matters of the education and youth 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 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 education system.

The department works with school divisions, colleges, universities, and other educational bodies to ensure that Manitoba children and youth have access to high quality education.

Manitoba Education and Youth 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.

Mission

Manitoba Education and Youth shares a common mission with Manitoba Advanced Education and Training – to provide access to relevant education and training that is of high quality, affordable, available and responsive. An educated citizenry and a skilled and adaptable work force are considered as Manitoba’s most important assets in a knowledge-intensive society. All citizens should have the opportunity to develop their individual potential and contribute to the economic, social, and cultural life of Manitoba in a global context.
The education and youth sectors comprise three elements:

- early childhood education;
- schools, Kindergarten to Senior 4;
- youth initiatives that focus on successful transition from secondary school to post-secondary education, work, and healthy lifestyles.

Manitoba Education and Youth is committed to focusing on five primary goals to achieve this mission:

- to improve success rates in all programs and institutions;
- to expand the range of people served;
- to better integrate and support knowledge and skill development within economic and social priorities;
- to build the capacity of institutions and the community to support learning; and
- to build partnerships within and across sectors.

In carrying out its mission, the department is guided by the following principles:

- Excellence
- Equity
- Openness
- Responsiveness
- Choice and individual responsibility
- Relevance
- Integration
- Accountability

Responsibilities

The primary responsibilities of Manitoba Education and Youth are to facilitate the improvement of learning at the Kindergarten to Senior 4 (K-S4) levels and to address transition issues for youth. Emphasis is placed upon 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:

- setting strategic direction for education and youth transition, and articulating appropriate legislative and regulatory structures;
- providing leadership to, and working in cooperation with education and youth organizations and institutions to bring about education reform;
- setting priorities for, and allocating funds to the province’s public and independent school systems and to youth initiatives;
- working in cooperation with school divisions, colleges, universities and other educational institutions and organizations to ensure that all Manitobans have access to high quality education; and
- representing the province in negotiations with the federal and other governments, and participating in meetings related to education and education finance with a variety of public and private sector organizations.
Programming and Services Overview

For the year ending March 31, 2003, the programs and services of the department are 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 Amortization and Other Costs Related to Capital Assets).

Manitoba’s commitment to education and training includes funding of elementary and secondary schools and youth initiatives.

I Corporate Initiatives

In keeping with government’s vision to promote economic/social and environmental prosperity for all Manitobans, two initiatives have corporate mandates that include both Education and Youth, and Advanced Education and Training. These are Aboriginal education and training, and sustainable development. Manitoba’s changing demographics, the globalization of information, and the need for economic/social/environmental accountability will receive high levels of coordination within and across both the K-S4 and youth sectors.

In June 2002, the Native Education Directorate changed its name to the Aboriginal Education Directorate to be more inclusive of Manitoba’s Aboriginal population.

The mandate of the Aboriginal Education Directorate is to provide leadership and coordination for departmental initiatives on Aboriginal education and training. The objectives are to ensure an integrated approach to Aboriginal education and training within Manitoba Education and Youth and Manitoba Advanced Education and Training; to promote the removal of systemic barriers to Aboriginal student success; and to participate and ensure linkages with inter-sectoral initiatives related to Aboriginal education and training.

The Aboriginal Education Directorate coordinates the implementation of the Aboriginal Education and Training Framework and provides support and leadership to all branches and units within both Manitoba Education and Youth and Manitoba Advanced Education and Training.

The two departments share support services for Administration and Finance, and Human Resources. In addition, Manitoba Education and Youth has a Research and Planning Branch that supports policy and program development.

Sustainable Development

The mandate of the Sustainable Development Initiative is to provide leadership and coordination for departmental initiatives on sustainable development. The Initiative coordinates the implementation of the Sustainable Development Act and provides support and leadership to all branches and units within both Manitoba Education departments.

The two Education departments continue to work towards ensuring that sustainable development and climate change-related initiatives are coordinated, included and integrated into all department activities where applicable. A Sustainable Development (SD) Coordinator provides leadership, support, and coordination of sustainable development and climate change-related initiatives for both departments.

Throughout 2002/03, the department has participated in numerous government-wide sustainable-development/climate-change related initiatives. Activities include promoting the government-wide
Sustainable Development Implementation Process by participating on all SD Working Groups as Co-chairs or representatives. The department participates on the Sustainable Development Implementation Steering Committee, The Sustainability Indicators and Reporting Working Group, the Code of Practice Working Group, the Financial Management Working Group, the Guidelines Regulation Working Group, and The Sustainable Development Procurement Working Group and Procurement Council. In support of Manitoba's Sustainable Development Procurement Goals, Education branches from both departments developed Sustainable Development Procurement Action Plans which included over 270 activities to address the five procurement goals. The departments have also participated in the Sustainable Development Innovation Fund Advisory Committee and the Climate Change Advisory Committee, including the assessment/monitoring of projects for grant approval, supporting the Climate Change Task Force Working Group. Youth Programs continues to support sustainable development-focused initiatives. For example, 365 projects were funded for the Urban Green Team and 278 for the REDI Green Team.

Education and Youth continues to integrate sustainable development concepts into K-S4 curricula and has assisted Manitoba curriculum developers and educators to also integrate sustainability into new and existing curricula and to have suggestion learning resources for effective SD implementation. Manitoba School for the Deaf has been designated an Environmental Green School by completing and recording 100 environmental and recycling projects.

Education and Youth also served on the Board of Directors for Learning for a Sustainable Future (Ottawa), participated in a national consultation on environmental education and sustainability led by Environment Canada, and prepared an Educating for Sustainability Action Plan in preparation for the World Summit on Sustainable Development. Education and Youth has been acknowledged as an early adopter and supporter of Environment Canada's Framework for Environmental Learning and Sustainability in Canada.

II Elementary and Secondary Schools

In Manitoba, there are 37 school divisions, 2 special revenue school districts, and 54 independent schools presently receiving funding from the Province. In the 2002/03 fiscal year, government support to school divisions, independent schools, educational organizations and the Teachers’ Retirement Allowance Fund totalled $791.2 million. Of that, $766.6 million was included in 16-5, Support to Schools and $24.6 million in 16-7, Capital Grants to School Divisions. In addition, $201.4 million was provided through the Education Support Levy.

For the 2002/03 school year, a funding increase of $16.1 million was provided to support school divisions.

Public school enrollment on September 30, 2002 was 189,217 pupils. Of this total, 124,821 were in Kindergarten to Grade 8, and 60,762 were in secondary grades (Senior 1 to Senior 4), 2,325 were nursery pupils and 1,309 were not in any grade.

There were 13,164 pupils attending funded independent schools on September 30, 2002. Funding to independent schools for eligible pupils is available for instruction and services, special needs, and curricular materials.
III MB4Youth

In February 2003, the Minister reorganized within the Department of Education and Youth to create the MB4Youth Division.

MB4Youth is comprised of staff from the former Youth Programs area and three shared staff from the Program Development Branch, the Program and Student Services Branch, and the Bureau de l'éducation française respectively. MB4Youth offers programs and services in the areas of career development, youth employment and training, youth entrepreneurism, youth community development and youth leadership. MB4Youth also maintains the MB4Youth.ca website and is the central communication point for youth programs from across government.

The Executive Director of MB4Youth and the Assistant Deputy Minister of the Schools Program Division co-chair the government-wide ADM Committee on Youth. The ADM Committee meets regularly to share information, to support interdepartmental youth initiatives, and to undertake ongoing work to coordinate provincial youth programs.