

Preface

Report Structure

This report meets the annual reporting requirements for the Manitoba government and contains the department's financial information for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2012. It includes expenditure and revenue variance explanations, and a five-year adjusted historical table of staffing and expenditures.

Mandate

Manitoba Advanced Education and Literacy (AEL) sets priorities and allocates funds for the government's investment in post-secondary education, literacy, adult learning and student financial aid.

AEL works with school divisions, colleges, a university college, universities, other departments, other provincial/territorial governments, the federal government and other private and public education and training organizations. The goal is to support high quality adult learning and post-secondary education that meets the needs of all Manitobans.

AEL is responsible for the overall legislative and regulatory structure for post-secondary and adult education. It also provides policy direction under these acts:

- *The Adult Learning Centres Act*
- *The Adult Literacy Act*
- *The Advanced Education Administration Act*
- *The Brandon University Act*
- *The Colleges Act*
- *The Université de Saint-Boniface Act*
- *The Council on Post-Secondary Education Act*
- *The Degree Granting Act*
- *The Private Vocational Institutions Act*
- *The Student Aid Act*
- *The University College of the North Act*
- *The University of Manitoba Act*
- *The University of Winnipeg Act*

Mission

Together with our partners and stakeholders, AEL's mission, with respect to post-secondary education, adult learning and literacy, is to:

- provide Manitobans with relevant, affordable, accessible and high quality learning opportunities;
- provide financial and other assistance to enable Manitobans to overcome barriers to learning;
- support seamless and coherent links across the learning systems;
- support increased adult literacy skills in the Province through an Adult Literacy Strategy;
- provide leadership and facilitate the contribution of the learning systems to Manitoba's economic and social goals.

AEL adheres to these values:

- quality

- inclusiveness
- innovation
- collaboration

Responsibilities

AEL's primary responsibility is to manage high-quality post-secondary and adult learning. It emphasises improved student performance, clarifying roles within the education systems and sharing new information.

The overall responsibilities of the Minister include:

- set strategic direction for post-secondary and adult learning and providing legislative and regulatory support for the strategy
- provide leadership and support for reform in post-secondary and adult learning institutions and other organizations
- set priorities and allocate funds for post-secondary and adult learning providers and financial aid for students
- work with colleges, universities and other education and training organizations to ensure access to quality, post-secondary and adult education for all Manitobans.
- co-ordinate and promote international education opportunities through Manitoba's international education strategy
- lead the development, implementation and evaluation of an adult literacy strategy for Manitoba
- represent the Manitoba government in meetings and negotiations with the federal and other governments and public and private sector organizations on post-secondary education, adult learning and education finance
- support effective links with other post-secondary education and adult learning organizations
- lead and support the contributions of the adult learning and post-secondary organizations to Manitoba's economic and social goals

Programming and Services Overview

For the year ending March 31, 2012, AEL's programs and services were budgeted under six main appropriations: Administration and Finance, Support for Universities and Colleges, Manitoba Student Aid, Adult Learning and Literacy, Capital Grants and Costs Related to Capital Assets.

Manitoba's commitment to adult learning and post-secondary education includes:

- funding of seven public post-secondary institutions (universities and colleges)
- funding literacy programs
- funding adult learning centres
- providing student aid

I Post-Secondary Education

Manitoba's Council on Post-secondary Education (COPSE) plans and co-ordinates a post-secondary education system that promotes excellence and accessibility. It acts as an intermediary between the post-secondary institutions and the Manitoba government. COPSE reviews and approves university and college programs, advises the Manitoba government on policy, and promotes fiscal responsibility and accountability in the post-secondary education system.

The Council's mandate is “. . . to plan and co-ordinate the development of a post-secondary education system in the province that promotes excellence in and accessibility to education, supports the co-ordination and integration of services and facilities and promotes fiscal responsibility.”

COPSE allocates funds to Manitoba's seven public post-secondary institutions:

- University of Manitoba
- University of Winnipeg
- Brandon University
- Red River College
- Assiniboine Community College
- University College of the North
- Université de Saint-Boniface (including École technique et professionnelle)

COPSE also provides grants to:

- Canadian Mennonite University
- some private religious institutions
 - Steinbach Bible College
 - Providence University College and Seminary
 - William and Catherine Booth University College.

In 2011/12, there were 32,349 full time students and 10,308 part-time students at the universities and University College of the North.

Community college full-time enrolment for 2010/11 was 15,517 students. Part-time enrolment was 1,618. Enrolment numbers for 2011/12 will be available in fall 2012.

II Manitoba Student Aid

Manitoba Student Aid provides additional financing to students who need support to expand their education choices or who might not be able to afford a post-secondary education. In 2011/12, Manitoba Student Aid had the authority to loan up to \$30 million in Manitoba Student Loans and another \$31.8 million was budgeted for bursaries and grants. About 13,000 applications for Manitoba Student Aid were processed in 2011/12.

Manitoba Student Aid also manages the Manitoba Student Loan Portfolio to disburse and collect direct-financed loans. As well, the Loan Services Unit manages student loan accounts, including the Repayment Assistance Plan, to help students repay their loans and reduce the risk of default.

Manitoba Student Aid also administers *The Private Vocational Institutions Act* and Regulations.

III International Education

The International Education Branch (IEB) was established in 2000 to co-ordinate international education activities across government departments -- Education and Advanced Education and Literacy, Family Services and Labour; Immigration and Multiculturalism and Entrepreneurship, Training and Trade. The branch also helps Manitoba's education institutions increase study opportunities for international students. It promotes Manitoba as a provider of high quality, affordable education and training.

IEB supports the vision contained in Reaching Beyond Our Borders – The Framework for Manitoba's International Activities, and has developed an International Education Strategy for the Manitoba government. The strategy's goal is to:

- promote global awareness about the competencies of Manitoba students and teachers
- increase the cross-cultural exposure of Manitobans
- maximize the benefits of international education to the Manitoba economy
- bring an international focus to teaching and learning in all aspects of education throughout Manitoba
- raise international recognition of Manitoba as an excellent source of high quality, affordable education and training

IV Adult Learning and Literacy

Adult Learning and Literacy (ALL) funds agencies that provide adult literacy programs, through the Manitoba Adult Literacy Program (MALP). The programs help adults improve literacy to get jobs and qualify for further education and training. ALL also registers and funds the operation of adult learning centres that help adult students obtain a Mature Student High School Diploma, improve job prospects and qualify for post-secondary education.

Adult literacy programs and adult learning centres provide free programs so adults can gain the literacy levels needed to get further education and training. More than 40% of program participants are employed full or part time. These programs enable adults to develop skills for full participation in the labour force. Over \$20.5 million was provided for adult literacy and adult learning centre programs in 2011/2012. There are 44 registered adult learning centres in Manitoba and 37 MALP funded agencies offering adult literacy programs.

ALL advances the Adult Literacy Strategy to address the need for higher adult literacy levels in Manitoba. The strategy supports several global objectives:

- create and sustain a skilled and adaptable workforce
- provide Manitobans with literacy skills to achieve their economic, educational and personal goals
- increase civic participation
- enhance health and social well-being

Adult Learning and Literacy administers *The Adult Learning Centres Act* and General Regulation and *The Adult Literacy Act* and Adult Literacy Regulation.

ALL also administers the GED Testing Service in Manitoba.

IV Corporate Initiatives

Two initiatives have shared mandates and staff from Manitoba Education and Advanced Education and Literacy: Aboriginal Education and Technical Vocational Initiative (TVI). TVI is also a joint initiative with Manitoba Entrepreneurship, Training and Trade. Manitoba Education and AEL also share the support of Financial and Administrative Services, including Systems and Technology Services.

Aboriginal Education

The Aboriginal Education Directorate (AED) leads and co-ordinates Aboriginal education and training initiatives. AED objectives are:

- ensure an integrated approach to Aboriginal education and training within Manitoba Education, Manitoba Advanced Education and Literacy

- work with Manitoba Aboriginal and Northern Affairs (ANA) and Manitoba Entrepreneurship, Training and Trade (ETT) to remove systemic barriers to Aboriginal student success
- collaborate and ensure linkages with inter-sector research and policy initiatives on Aboriginal education and training

AED co-ordinates implementation of the Aboriginal Education and Employment Action Plan. It provides support and leadership to all branches and units within Education, AEL, ANA and ETT on Aboriginal education and training issues.

Technical Vocational Initiative

The Technical Vocational Initiative (TVI) is a joint initiative between Manitoba Education, AEL, and ETT. Its main goals are to revitalize and promote technical vocational education in Manitoba; address labour market needs; and help develop a skilled workforce through appropriate education and training programs.

TVI focuses on providing technical vocational opportunities and access to rural, northern and remote communities. It continues to support and work with regional groups to create technical vocational programs on renewable energy and sustainability.

Manitoba still has some critical shortages in some labour skills. TVI addresses these labour market issues to create a comprehensive continuum of technical vocational education and training that is:

- universally accessible
- seamless across education levels
- in keeping with current labour market needs
- career-focused

TVI activities are based on six areas that have demonstrated success:

- improving the image of vocational careers
- improving awareness of, and access to, technical vocational programming and trade opportunities throughout the province
- reviewing and renewing the curriculum to keep programs current and relevant to market needs
- managing the communication of program information between high schools and post-secondary institutions
- developing strategies to keep technical-vocational teachers current through professional development
- targeting funding to support upgrades of technical-vocational equipment

TVI supports:

- funding to schools, school divisions and colleges for equipment, professional development and project support. Funding includes:

From 2004 to 2011:

- \$ 5.4 million to technical vocational schools across the province for equipment upgrade purchases
- \$ 565,000 to professional development for teachers to keep them current and aware of rapidly changing industry standards
- \$ 2.3 million to 37 schools/school divisions, Red River College (RRC) and University College of the North (UCN) for 122 demonstration projects.

This funding supports:

- multi-year funding of \$70,000 for the NorMan Consortium – a partnership between Flin Flon, Kelsey and Frontier school divisions, Opaskwayak Cree Nation (OCN) Education Authority, and UCN
- an expanded-options program for technology education and career exploration for Frontier School division students

- a professional learning group to promote the high-school apprenticeship program
- developing an alternative energy program in the Red River Technical Vocational area
- providing innovative learning opportunities for youth
- developing alternative in program delivery to improve access to skills development

Other TVI activities

- providing the CDX online Automotive Technology resource to all Manitoba schools and colleges
- providing schools and colleges with CATIA software licensing and introducing the F1 in Schools' network and competition (which allowed Manitoba to represent Canada at the international championship in London, England in 2009, Malaysia in the fall of 2011, and as part of a collaboration team with South Korea in Abu Dhabi, in 2012)
- supporting school divisions developing programs with regional relevance
- linking industry and business with education and training

V Knowledge Infrastructure Program (KIP)

The Knowledge Infrastructure Program (KIP) was a two-year, \$2 billion, economic stimulus program that ended October 31, 2011.

KIP provided federal-provincial support to post-secondary institutions for projects that helped further knowledge and skills training, by supporting:

- deferred maintenance
- renovations
- new construction
- research and development improvements

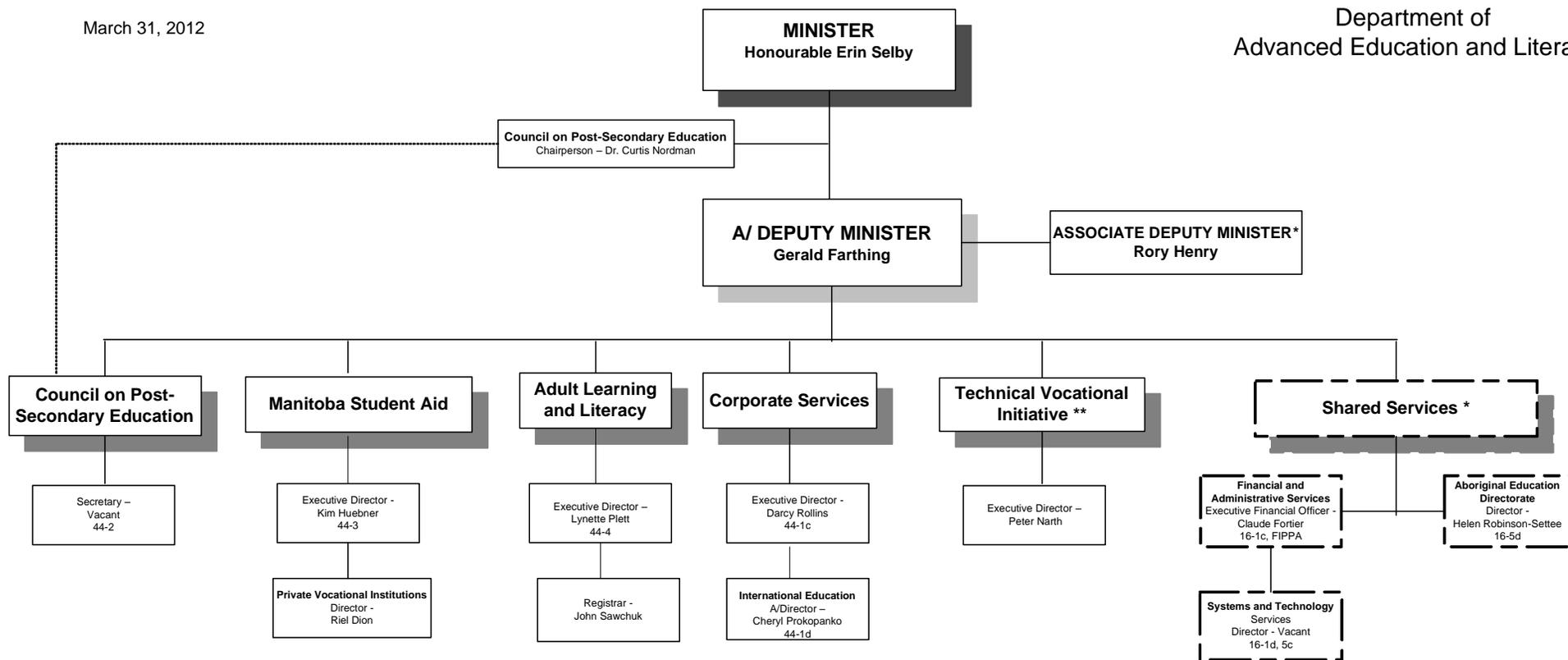
KIP was part of the \$12-billion, Government of Canada Economic Action Plan, announced in Federal Budget 2009. Over \$153 million in provincial and federal KIP funding supported 29 projects at post-secondary institutions in Manitoba.

Projects supported under KIP continue to generate economic benefits, create jobs and attract new students. KIP projects also improved the technological infrastructure at Manitoba's post-secondary institutions, which was needed to keep them competitive and promote green building initiatives.

All projects funded under KIP have met program requirements.

March 31, 2012

Department of
Advanced Education and Literacy



* Provides services to Education and Advanced Education and Literacy

**An initiative of Advanced Education and Literacy, Education and Entrepreneurship, Training and Trade

