



Education

Corporate and Education Services Division
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September 2, 2020

To: Principals of Funded Independent Schools

Dear Colleagues:

The department has been working with education stakeholders on efforts to support the anticipated additional workforce needs as part of the COVID-19 response. I am pleased to provide you with an update on these measures.

In the 2020/21 school year only, the department is creating greater flexibility to retain substitute teachers. School divisions and funded independent schools are able to assign an uncertified person to teach for up to 15 consecutive days, for not more than 20 aggregate days in the year, after which an application for a Limited Teaching Permit (LTP) must be made. This measure aligns with the self-quarantine timeframe. The updated LTP Guidelines and Application Form is attached.

School divisions and funded independent schools are still expected to recruit certified teachers to fill substitute teacher posts where possible. Recognizing there may be additional challenges in this school year, the department and other educational partners are reaching out to current teacher candidates and alumni of Bachelor of Education programs through the Faculties of Education. As a sector, we will be communicating our encouragement for candidates and graduates not working in the field to apply as substitute teachers where their schedules permit. In addition, the department is reaching out to retired teachers with a similar message, through both the Retired Teachers Association of Manitoba and the Teachers' Retirement Allowances Fund.

.../2

The department has heard clearly that the recruitment challenges remain significant for bus drivers. The department is working with MPI on an expediated pathway for driver testing (both road and written) for those drivers who are still completing their training and those yet to be recruited. If you have any drivers that require testing, please contact EASAdministration@gov.mb.ca.

I would like to thank all partners in our system for their innovative ideas and their efforts in moving forward with solutions.

Sincerely,

Original signed by

Sarah Whiteford
Assistant Deputy Minister

- c. Honourable Kelvin Goertzen, Minister of Education
Dana Rudy, Acting Deputy Minister of Education
David Yeo, Acting Assistant Deputy Minister, K-12 Education Division
Sharon Curtis, Acting Director, Education Administration Services
Manitoba Federation of Independent Schools