

TO: Superintendents of School Divisions/Districts
Chairpersons of School Divisions/Districts
Principals of Schools
School Counsellors (Grades 7-S4)
Advisory/Parent Councils
Student Services Administrators
First Nations Education Authorities
Adult Learning Centres
Faculties of Education
Teacher Associations
Chambers of Commerce

Dear Colleagues:

In 2002, the Canada Millennium Scholarship Foundation undertook a research project on career guidance functions and policies in high school systems, in partnership with four provinces – Manitoba, Saskatchewan, New Brunswick, and Newfoundland and Labrador. The focus was on preparing students for making choices among the wide variety of education and training options after high school, and on the extent that students and their parents felt well informed about the options and their financial implications. The summary report, *The Role of Guidance in Planning for Post-Secondary Education*, combines results for the four provinces and is available on-line at http://www.millenniumscholarships.ca/en/research/guidance_en.pdf.

I am pleased to provide you with *The Role of Guidance in Post-Secondary Planning – Findings for Manitoba*. Although this research is based upon a relatively small representative sample (four school divisions and nine schools), its themes are supported in current educational research literature. The report provides information for the Manitoba education community and offers insight into current practice and places where improvements are needed. It is also available on-line at <http://www2.edu.gov.mb.ca/ks4/docs/catalogue/index.asp>. Additional information is available from Keith Lowe, Research and Planning Branch, Manitoba Education, Citizenship and Youth, at (204) 945-8772 or klowe@gov.mb.ca.

This report is timely as it follows the Regional Dialogue Sessions that took place in late 2003 on *Preparing for After High School: Linking Education, Career and Financial Planning*. Sessions were held in Winnipeg, Brandon, and The Pas in mid-October and were attended by approximately 150 participants. Education planners, guidance staff, administrators, division/district officials, educators from middle and senior year schools, as well as parent and industry representatives and department staff engaged in an important dialogue about improving educational and career planning for after high school. The *Summary of Regional Dialogue Sessions* is available on-line at http://www.edu.gov.mb.ca/ks4/policy/car_dev.html.

Yours sincerely,

Pat Rowantree
Deputy Minister

Enclosure

- c. Manitoba Association of School Trustees
- Manitoba Teachers' Society
- Manitoba Association of School Superintendents
- Manitoba Association of School Business Officials
- Council of School Leaders
- Manitoba Association of Parent Councils
- Manitoba Federation of Independent Schools
- Manitoba Council for Leadership in Education
- Manitoba School Improvement Program
- Manitoba School Counsellors Association
- Manitoba Education Research Network