

**TEACHER CERTIFICATION
REVIEW PANEL**

**ANNUAL ACTIVITY REPORT
2023-2024**

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Government of Newfoundland and Labrador

Teacher Certification Review Panel

Honourable Krista Lynn Howell
Minister of Education
West Block, Confederation Building
P.O. Box 8700
St. John's, NL A1B 4J6

Dear Minister:

I am pleased to submit the 2023-24 Annual Activity Report of the Teacher Certification Review Panel. This report was prepared in accordance with the requirements of a category three entity under the **Transparency and Accountability Act** and covers the period of April 1, 2023 to March 31, 2024.

My signature below is on behalf of the review panel and is indicative of the panel's accountability for the actual results reported herein.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Thomas Kendall".

Thomas Kendall
Committee Member

Overview

Section 3 of the **Teacher Training Act** sets out the membership of Teachers Certification Review Panel (TCRP):

- a member of the Newfoundland and Labrador Teachers' Association;
- a member of the Newfoundland and Labrador School Boards' Association; and
- a representative of the general public.

As per the Act, the review panel is appointed by the Minister of Education.

As of March 31, 2024, the membership of the Teacher Certification Review Panel was as follows:

Name	Position	Type of Appointment
Vacant, representative of the general public	Chairperson	-
Thomas Kendall, member of NLSBA	Member	Ministerial appointment
Peter Sutherland, member of NLTA	Member	Ministerial appointment

Two members of the review panel are nominated by their organizations for appointment. The representative of the general public is chosen through a merit-based process, and appointed as the Chairperson.

Members of the review panel receive remuneration in accordance with Level III of the Treasury Board Guidelines for Rates of Remuneration for Agencies, Boards and Commissions. The remuneration issued is minimal and is covered in its entirety by the Department of Education. Minimal expenses for travel and incidentals are also covered by the Department of Education. The review panel is not required to prepare financial statements.

The Registrar of Teachers acts in the capacity of executive secretary to the review panel, which meets, as required, in St. John's.

Mandate

Under sections 5, 10 and 13 of the **Teacher Training Act**, the Teacher Certification Review Panel is mandated to:

- suspend or cancel the certificate or licence of a teacher as defined in the **Schools Act, 1997** (and includes a director, an assistant director or a senior management official), who is guilty of gross misconduct, incompetence or for other just cause;
- suspend for up to one year the certificate or licence of a teacher who,
 - while required by contract to teach with the department, accepts a position with conseil scolaire without obtaining a written release from the department,
 - while required by contract to teach with the conseil scolaire, accepts a position with department without obtaining a written release from the department,
 - having contracted to teach with the department or the conseil scolaire, terminates that contract before beginning service as a teacher with the department or the conseil scolaire unless, where special circumstances arise which the department or the conseil scolaire and the teacher agree make it inappropriate for the teacher to fulfil his or her contract, the department or the conseil scolaire has given the teacher a written release, or
 - having contracted to teach with the department or the conseil scolaire terminates that contract without giving to the department or the conseil scolaire the notice required by the collective agreement; and
- at the request of a teacher or the committee, review the cancellation or suspension of, or a refusal to cancel or suspend, a teaching certificate or licence made by the review panel, and make its decision in accordance with the Act and regulations.

Activities

The Teacher Certification Review Panel identified one objective in its 2023-26 Activity Plan to guide its work throughout the year.

Issue One: Review Certification Decisions

The Teacher Certification Review Panel was established to ensure due process with respect to the cancellation or suspension of teaching certificates. The panel only meets when required; however, and it is committed to providing timely decisions effectively and efficiently.

With respect to the review panel, the following objective is the focus for each of the fiscal years ending March 31, 2024, 2025, and 2026. This objective will be reported upon in each of the respective annual reports.

Objective:

The Teacher Certification Review Panel will have reviewed and rendered decisions, as required, with respect to teacher certification issues.

Indicators:

Number of issues reviewed

In 2023-24 fiscal year, the Teacher Certification Review Panel did not meet as no cases were received for review and the Independent Appointments Commission is continuing its work to find a replacement for the representative of the general public.

Number of decisions rendered

Through out the 2023-24 fiscal year, the Teacher Certification Review Panel did not meet, and there were no decisions rendered.

Conclusion

The Teacher Certification Review Panel is committed to supporting the mandate of the Minister of Education and will continue to ensure that teachers in the province are held to the highest standards of their profession.