Introduction

Chapter 1: Introduction

Public interest in school-level data, particularly student achievement, is very high and increasing all the time. People want to know how their children and their schools are performing. In an effort to make our education system open and accountable to the public it serves, the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development publishes the annual Indicators report. This report provides a snapshot of how the province's 67,293 students performed during the 2014/15 school year. When possible, information from several years will be provided to explore long term trends.

Indicators 2014/15 - A Report on Schools is divided into three parts

- Part I provides a profile of the educational system reporting such things as the number of schools, students and teachers in the province.

- Part II explores student performance on a variety of provincial, national and international standardized assessments.

- Part III focuses on the high school years examining such topics as the graduation and dropout rates.

Many factors contribute to the success of a school and its students. While this report does not contain every indicator which influences a school's success, it does provide a broad range of statistical information designed to inform administrators, educators, students and the school community where their schools are succeeding at this moment in time and where they can work together to improve.

A companion document that includes a collection of demographic and performance indicators for each of the 262 schools in the province is available on the following website: *http://www.education.gov.nl.ca/sch_rep/2014/index.htm*

It is important to note that this school level information is not meant to rank schools in any fashion. Rather, this information can be used to inform administrators, educators, students and the broader school community where their schools are succeeding at this moment in time and where they can work together to improve.

PART I

The Educational System