



Department of Education and Lifelong Learning
ANNUAL REPORT
2022-2023



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EDUCATION and LIFELONG LEARNING

MINISTER'S MESSAGE



The Honourable Antoinette Perry
Lieutenant Governor of Prince Edward Island
P.O. Box 2000
Charlottetown, PE C1A 7N8

May it Please Your Honour:

I have the honour to submit herewith the Annual Report of the Department of Education and Lifelong Learning for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2023.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Natalie Jameson". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Natalie Jameson
Minister

EDUCATION and LIFELONG LEARNING

DEPUTY'S MESSAGE



The Honourable Natalie Jameson
Minister of Education and Lifelong Learning

Madam:

I am pleased to submit the Annual Report of the Department of Education and Lifelong Learning for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2023.

The report outlines the Department's activities from April 1, 2022 to March 31, 2023.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Erin McGrath-Gaudet'.

Erin McGrath-Gaudet
Deputy Minister

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Department Overview

The Department of Education and Lifelong Learning (DELL) develops and delivers high quality programs and curriculum in English and French to Island children from birth to grade 12. The Department also promotes access to tertiary education for Islanders through the Post-secondary and Continuing Education Division, which administers post-secondary institutions, private training schools and community schools. As well, the Interministerial Women's Secretariat is currently included in the Department, as it is part of Minister Jameson's portfolio.

The overarching goals of the Department are to:

- Lead changes to advance educational excellence in the province;
- Provide leadership to promote student success in the education system;
- Increase schools' technology capacity; and
- Implement evidence-based, best practices to enhance teacher and student engagement in schools.

The Department operates within a structure that is partitioned into the following:

Division	Full Time Equivalents
Early Childhood Development	43.00
Educational Services	26.00
English Education, Programs and Services	45.50
Finance and Administration	5.00
French Education, Programs and Services	26.00
Libraries & Archives	80.63
Post-Secondary and Continuing Education	9.00
Interministerial Women's Secretariat	7.00

Through the above structure, the Department provides the following services:

• Assessment of students	• Library and archival services
• Certification of instructional personnel	• Planning and evaluation
• Development of department-specific legislation	• Post-secondary and continuing education
• Distribution of learning materials	• Recorded information management
• Early childhood curriculum development	• Private Training Schools
• English curriculum development	• Research and evaluation
• French curriculum development	• School athletics
• Funding and coaching for autism	• School health
• General and financial administration	• Student well-being
• Grants to early childhood centres	• Student Financial Services
• Instructional development	• Support for preschool children with exceptional needs
• Leadership for early learning centres	• Technology support

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• Legislation coordination

• Workforce development

The mandate letter the Department of Education and Lifelong Learning (DELL) received from the Premier on October 11, 2019, continues to inform the priorities for the Department. DELL's ongoing review of its mandate and those priorities maintain the Department's focus on the importance of communication between government and community, as well as intergovernmental collaboration. The priorities sustain the commitment of the Department to a number of critical issues in education:

- the importance of the critical early learning period from birth to age three in shaping the future of our children;
- the value of providing a voice to all stakeholders in our children's education;
- building an educational framework to provide an achievable model for inclusion to meet the diverse and complex needs of our students;
- Continuing to focus on the continuous improvement of the education of Island children and youth through curriculum review and development and a commitment to our educators' professional development;
- making post-secondary education affordable for low and middle-income families
- providing individuals, at various stages of life and career with the skills to successfully transition into, re-enter, or progress in the workforce; and
- making entry into the trades, and upgrading within a trade, more accessible and affordable.

In the 2022-2023 fiscal year, the Department continued to oversee the education system's return to regular operations following the COVID-19 pandemic. English School Board elections were held for the first time since 2008, with mail-in ballots being tabulated on October 21, 2022, following the enactment of legislation to allow elected school boards to oversee the province's two Education Authorities. This election fulfilled one of the government's major education policy commitments. The implementation of the Canada – Prince Edward Island, Canada-wide Early Learning and Child Care Agreement for the period from 2021 to 2026, begun in 2021-22, continued. This allowed a significant increase in the number of spaces available while continuing to reduce the costs for Island families. The Foundations program to improve early childhood literacy has been fully implemented in grade 1, with expanded interventions (Foundations Tier 2) added in order to help students at that crucial learning point. The Foundations pilot was extended in Grade 2 and has begun at higher grade levels. A new curriculum for French Immersion Grades 3-4 and 7-9 has been implemented after extensive review and development. Initiatives to improve curricula and services for the province's students continued in a wide array of areas. With renovations completed or underway on a number of elementary schools, the Stratford High School Planning Committee has finalized the design for a new high school to be built in the Stratford area. It is in the tendering process with completion slated for fall 2025.

In the following section the successes in meeting the priorities set out in the mandate letter will be reviewed.

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Key Priorities 2022-2023

1. Work with the private and public sectors to ensure that the delivery of childcare services is accessible and responsive to the needs of all Islanders.

Early Childhood Development has continued to support the expansion of licensed spaces in early childhood centres, preschool centres and family home centres. There are now 4525 childcare spaces available to Island families and continuing emphasis on providing affordable care has now brought fees down to \$20/day.

Autism Coordination Act initiatives have increased funding to Autism and Special Needs programs has resulted in increased access and lower wait times for families. A third child psychologist was hired to further reduce wait times for ASD diagnosis. Through the Private Assessment Initiative, over 100 families on the pediatric waitlist have been given the opportunity to participate in the initiative, which supports families with the cost of private psychologist pediatric diagnostic assessments. As member of the federal/provincial Working Group on Autism, PEI is working for the development of a National Autism Strategy.

The Department continues to implement the recommendations from the Kindergarten report and has expanded the pilot of “La Forêt de l’Alphabet” in Kindergarten while the CSLF has developed new curriculum guides for the early grades.

2. Establish a youth school-to-workforce transition taskforce so that our young graduates are properly prepared for employment.

The Early Years division launched accelerated certificate and diploma programs through collaboration with our partners at Holland College and College de L’Ile. These programs support educators in upskilling to new certification levels and workforce transitions. Educators participating in the program are backfilled by Steps to Success participants. As a result, existing early years educators gain greater professional knowledge and certifications which are a benefit to the participants and to young Island children while the Steps to Success participants gain workplace experience and complete the three introductory level courses to gain the first level of certification by the end of the program.

The French Education, Programs and Services division is developing initiatives allowing flexibility in the schedule for students (independent studies, double credit, external credit, leadership, etc.) and are developing a course in the field of culinary arts/nutrition for students in grades 7 to 12. These and other initiatives in development are intended to support the needs of students interested in the field of trades and other career options.

3. Ensure that all stakeholders have a voice in the delivery of education, including parents, grandparents, guardians, and students.

Prior to facilitating the introduction of legislation to re-implement the school board elections which were successfully held in fall 2022, the Department has carried out consultations with education stakeholders and the community in order to ensure that this initiative, to provide greater role to the public in the operation of the Island’s schools, was being implemented in a way that met the needs and expectations of the public.

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The Autism Coordination Project Lead and members of the Autism Coordinating Committee continue to meet with a wide variety of stakeholders including numerous individuals and families living with Autism, community stakeholders such as Autism Society of PEI, PEI Association for Community Living and Stars for Life and government stakeholders within the Departments of Health and Wellness; Education and Lifelong Learning; Social Development and Housing; Justice and Public Safety; Health PEI; Skills PEI; the Commission scolaire de langue française and the Public Schools Branch. These consultations are part of ongoing efforts to make new connections, or enhance existing ones, seek feedback, identify gaps in autism services, gather ideas for improvement, enhance communication between all stakeholders and to ensure clear pathway for clear communications.

4. Review educational funding and program models, such as the inclusive education model, and make practical adjustments to meet the complex and diverse needs in our Island classrooms.

English Education and Programs

To support later-to-literacy youth in language and literacy development, English as an additional language (EAL) EAL771, a course designed to build functional English language and literacy readiness skills, was implemented and several resource selections were distributed to Island high schools.

English as an Additional Language

In collaboration with the Immigrant and Refugee Services Association of PEI, an intercultural pilot program was designed to increase the awareness of culture and diversity among grade 6 students.

Increased access to of school-age autism services

The Department of Social Development and Housing and the Department of Education and Lifelong Learning continue to explore ways to make the autism school-age funding eligibility criteria more responsive to the needs of families. With guidance and input from community organizations, families, and those with lived and living experiences, the school-age funding criteria was expanded so that families have greater choice in how and where they can access supports for their children.

The Private Psychology Autism Spectrum Disorder Assessment Initiative, launched in March 2022, is a collaboration between Health PEI, Department of Education and Lifelong Learning, Department of Health and Wellness, and the Autism Society of PEI designed to support autism spectrum disorder (ASD) diagnostic assessments for Prince Edward Island children, aged two (2) to seven (7) years, who have a confirmed referral (that is, have already seen a Pediatrician who has requested) for a diagnostic assessment within PEI's Pediatric Psychology Services. In 2022-2023, over 100 families on the pediatric waitlist were given the opportunity to participate in the initiative. In April 2022, a third child psychologist was hired to help reduce wait times for ASD diagnosis.

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Leadership for Inclusive Education and Student Well Being

The Department supported Island Physical and Health Education teachers to attend the PHE Canada National Conference (held in Charlottetown) which provided opportunities to engage in high caliber professional learning opportunities across K-12, including comprehensive outdoor education, social emotional learning, diversity, sexual education and inclusive education practices.

The Student Well Being Teams continue to expand and improve services to help students as they recover from the social, emotional and health issues related to the COVID 19 pandemic. Highlights of this expansion include:

- A reduction in the number of students on the waitlist to 18 down from 91 in 2021-2022
- A dramatic increase in the number of well-being activities offered up to 309 (current school year) from 50 in the 2021-2022 school year. This reflects an increase of 82 classes reached with well-being activities (2021-2022) to 354 classes (current school year)
- Two new positions (Family Support Workers) have been established to focus on providing support and skill building that promotes positive parenting. These positions are currently in Bluefield FOS and Montague FOS
- A dramatic increase in the number of student participating in well-being activities up to 6,227 (current school year) from 1,492 in 2021-2022 and an increase in the number of parents participating in well-being activities from 44 (2021-2022 school year) to 379 (current school year)
- In the 2022-2023 school year individual services were provided to 805 students and 156 parents.

Post-Secondary mental health supports

The Post-Secondary and Continuing Education division provided operational funding of \$360,000 this fiscal year towards the establishment of the Holland College Centre of Wellness and Student Academic Success while continuing to provide mental health supports funds paid directly to the Island's publicly funded post-secondary institutions - approximately \$431,000 for the 2022-23 academic year.

5. Identify skill gaps and emerging employment sectors and work with our Island educators and institutions to deliver programming to address these opportunities including the expansion of technology-related post-secondary programs.

The Post-Secondary and Continuing Education division continues to be engaged in the ongoing work to design, develop and implement a new Canadian Credential (Made in Canada GED-General Education Development) with national colleagues that will replace the current GED tests administered in Canada. The new tests will be tailored to meet the needs of adults in Canada including individuals who require accommodations (ex: visual impairment, hearing impairment, etc.) and will be inclusive of diverse cultures and perspectives including Indigenous, Francophone, and visible minorities. The new tests are expected to be launched in 2024.

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7. Reduce the financial burden for Island post-secondary students through direct funding and innovative solutions such as open-textbook initiatives.

French Education

The French Education, Programs and Services division has worked in partnership with Société Acadienne et Francophone de l'Île-du-Prince-Édouard to provide bursaries for Island students studying in French out-of-province.

Post-Secondary Education

The Post-Secondary and Continuing Education division provides federal and provincial loans, bursaries and grants to students to pursue post-secondary education through the Student Financial Assistance Corporation. The division has implemented a number of initiatives to increase financial aid to PEI post-secondary students.

- The George Coles Bursary increased to \$2,600 for the 2022-23 academic year; providing over 2,000 grants totaling approximately \$5.1M
- The Community Service Bursary doubled from a maximum of \$750 to \$1,500 for eligible students, providing students with the ability to gain valuable volunteer experience while earning a bursary for post-secondary education
- Amendments to the *Student Financial Assistance Act* Regulations were made for the 2022-23 academic year to allow students with a verified persistent or prolonged disability to access additional funding and resources to assist in their post-secondary journey
- The Island Advantage Bursary: Low and Middle Income provided over \$2.7M to approximately 1,190 Island students most in need.

Approximately 1,000 students received sufficient grants for the 2022-23 academic year to cover or exceed their full tuition costs.

8. Reinstate school boards that have elected representatives and encourage further collaboration and communication between school boards, the Department and education and community stakeholders.

The reinstatement of elected school boards

Following extensive public consultations (January-March 2021) and continued education stakeholder engagement (September 2021–February 2022), the Department of Education and Lifelong Learning proposed legislative and regulatory amendments to facilitate the re-instatement of school board elections on the Island.

Bill No. 56 “*An Act to Amend the Education Act*” was tabled on Feb 22, 2022, during the 2nd Session of the 66th General Assembly of the Legislature and was passed on May 5, 2022. Subsequent regulatory amendments were also required, which were approved by Cabinet and Executive Council and came into effect on June 4, 2022.

The Public-School Branch changed from a board of three appointed directors to a hybrid model of eight elected/three appointed trustees. The Commission scolaire de langue française retained the original complement of nine elected trustees.

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- The trustee elections demonstrated an extensive partnership between DELL, Elections PEI, education authorities, and home and school organizations.
- Elected school board trustees can strengthen communication and collaboration between the Education Authorities, DELL, community members and education stakeholders.
- A total of 40 people put their names forward for 17 PSB/CSLF elected trustee positions.

Public School Board (PSB) and Commission scolaire de langue française (CSLF) school board trustee elections were successfully held by Elections PEI on November 10, 2022.

11. Work with your colleague the Minister of Agriculture and Land to develop and implement a fulsome provincial school food program building on recent pilot success.

School Breakfast and Snack Program

- The Department provided \$300,000 in funding to public schools and Alternative Education sites
- Financial support was provided to 86 programs (65 breakfast, 21 snack) within 69 schools (55 PSB, 11 Alternative Education, 3 CSLF)
- School-based programs provided approximately 51,000 breakfasts/snacks to 11,000 students each week.
- In addition, Social Development and Housing is responsible for funding the PEI School Food Program originally implemented by the Department of Education and Lifelong Learning.

12. Work with your colleague the Minister of Transportation, Infrastructure and Energy to increase vocational opportunities in Island high-schools and increase the participation of equity-seeking groups in our trades.

The English Education Programs and Services division offers two innovative programs designed to facilitate Island students' smooth transition to the workplace: 1. The Academy Diploma Program provides students with workplace-based experiences and courses in support of their post-secondary pathway plans. Students are provided with a specialized program "cluster" of credits and community experience and gain an additional certification upon completion and 2. The Essential Skills Achievement Pathway (ESAP) Program, an opportunity for students to earn a high school diploma that prepares them for a post-secondary education, apprenticeship or the world of work, is being piloted this school year and will be implemented in all 10 PSB high schools for the 2023-24 school year. The program consists of personalized learning opportunities that allow students to explore their skills, talents, abilities and interests while attaining the nine (9) federally identified Skills for Success. This program prepares students for the current skills-based economy as well as future work and learning.

In addition, the English A certified Food Handling Safety Course was implemented in the High Schools' Foods 421 course, in collaboration with the Department of Health and Wellness, which will allow students to gain an industry recognized certification valid for five (5) years from the date of completion.

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- 13. Work with your colleague the Minister of Economic Growth, Tourism and Culture to fund, grow, and retain research and intellectual property here on PEI, and support the marketing and commercialization for the benefit of all Islanders.**

International education has completed a strategic plan to guide further growth and development of the Prince Edward Island International Student Program (PEIISP). The program continues to deliver K-12 public education opportunities to the global community through the Department of Education and Lifelong Learning. International students who reside outside of Canada may apply to attend one of our 62 public schools in Prince Edward Island. New homestay agreements have been developed to ensure our international students learn about the Island way of life while enjoying safe, welcoming places to stay while studying.

The Prince Edward Island Affiliate School Program continues to expand with Royal Canadian School, Cairo and Keystone International School, Turkey reaching fully accredited status in 2022-2023 bringing the total number of affiliate schools to five. The program allows students to attend schools in their home country that are inspected and certified by the Government of PEI through the Department of Education and Lifelong Learning and receive instruction in English by PEI Certified Teachers and following the PEI Program of Studies and curriculum. Students in PEI Affiliated Programs who meet all of the PEI Graduation Requirements will graduate with a PEI High School Certificate. This creates a path that supports international students to come to PEI to continue their studies, live and work.

- 16. Work with your colleague the Minister of Economic Growth, Tourism and Culture to champion and inspire Island culture and heritage and increase awareness and education of our proud past.**

The Department continues to work in collaboration with the Indigenous Education Advisory Committee, to incorporate Indigenous culture, knowledge, and ways of knowing into the curriculum and supporting resources.

French Education

The French Education, Programs and Services division provides grants and educator training to support the continuing development of French Cultural Programming for schools. In 2022-23, exploratory courses were developed at the Intermediate level in French culture and other subjects for both the PSB and the CSLF.

English Education

The division has implemented a new elementary music curriculum with a focus on diversity and Indigenous culture and history through the “Diversity Resource Package”.

The Secret Path by Gord Downie and Jeff Lemire was implemented as an authorized resource for English 621 and English 671. This involved training at Lennox Island and Indigenous Cultural Contextual Learning and Understanding with knowledge keeper, Julie Pelletier-Lush.

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Libraries and Archives

The Public Archives is responsible for acquiring, preserving and making accessible the history of Prince Edward Island. The Public Archives works with many stakeholders to fulfill this responsibility including PEI Museums and Heritage as well as various historical and cultural groups. Public Libraries are community centers supporting arts, culture and heritage through programs and resources.

Post Secondary Education

The establishment of the UPEI Faculty of Indigenous Knowledge, Education, Research and Applied Studies (IKERAS) was supported with funding of \$1.45M over two fiscal years (2022-23 & 2023-24).

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Highlights and Accomplishments 2022-2023

In addition to the priority directives indicated in the mandate letter, the Department continued to address and advance the usual work of the various divisions and sections that include the following:

- Early Childhood Development
- Educational Services
- English Education, Programs and Services
- Finance and Administration
- French Education, Programs and Services
- Interministerial Women's Secretariat
- Libraries and Archives
- Post-Secondary and Continuing Education
- Human Resources

Early Childhood Development

The Early Childhood Development division provides support for children, families and early childhood educators island-wide through policy, and program and funding initiatives in order to foster a robust and high-quality early learning and childcare sector. The division continues to grow a publicly managed system of Early Years Centres (EYC), pre-kindergarten programs and family home centres. The division continues to implement the Canada-PEI Bilateral Agreement in Early Learning and Child Care as well as the Canada-PEI Canada-Wide Agreement, both of which continue to support a variety of initiatives including space creation, capital funding support, educational grants, Intensive Behavioral Intervention (IBI) and Special Needs funding.

Ongoing Initiatives:

- Growing spaces across the sector; there are now 4525 licensed spaces for children (birth to school age) in early years centres (designated) and early childhood centres (non-designated) across PEI
- Operationalizing education grants for early childhood educators
- Provision of funding to the universal pre-kindergarten program
- Workforce initiatives intended to strengthen recruitment and retention including retention grants to individuals, innovative retention practices grants to centres, return to profession grants, wage enhancements, and development of a defined contribution pension plan
- Administering funding to the Intensive Behavioral Intervention (IBI) and Special Needs funding programs
- Funding Handle with Care and Des la Naissance programs
- Providing extended access to the provincial subsidy program for lower-income families.

New Initiatives 2022-2023:

- Funding pedagogical support in all Early Years Centres
- Increasing wage grid for early childhood educators
- Partnering with the Offord Centre at McMaster to complete a fulsome and updated iteration of the "Early Development Instrument" for all kindergarten students across PEI
- Providing Physical Environment and Program Improvement grants to EYCs and Pre-Kindergartens to support programming initiatives
- Growth and expansion of the current network of licensed family home centres to support the increased need for spaces.

Highlights and accomplishments:

- Accelerated certificate and diploma programs were launched through collaborations with our partners at Holland College and College de L'Ile.
 - These intensive programs support educators in upskilling to new certification levels
 - Educators participating in the program are backfilled by Steps to Success participants.

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- The Steps to Success participants gain workplace experience and complete the three introductory level courses to gain the first level of certification by the end of the program.
- Comprehensive funding options available to Family Home Centres (licensing incentives, capital grants and operational grants) has resulted in an increase in licensed family home centres operating across PEI providing new spaces for island children, including infant spaces.
 - Parent fees for childcare spaces continue to be reduced as the province moves closer to an average of \$10 a day childcare
 - The first decrease was in January 2022 to \$25/day
 - a second reduction occurred in October 2022 bringing fees to \$20/day
 - For a family with an infant and a three-year-old requiring childcare, this would mean an estimated annual savings of \$5450.
- Increased funding to the Autism and Special Needs programs resulting in greater, and more rapid intake into the programs for children and their families.

Educational Services

The Educational Services Branch is responsible for advising the Deputy Minister and Minister on matters related to external education programs and services. The branch oversees the management of research, corporate services, school health, certification and standards for teachers, policy, legislative development and the implementation of major departmental initiatives. The branch is also responsible for providing English as an Additional Language/French as an Additional Language programming and coordinating the response to the *Autism Coordination Act*.

The branch carries out its work through the following sections:

Autism Coordination Act

The *Autism Coordination Act* is intended to support improved coordination of autism services throughout the life course. Over the last year, additional investments were made across government to support autism initiatives and programs. As a result, stronger relationships with service providers and community partners have led to greater collaboration and coordination of programs and services across Prince Edward Island.

Progress in ongoing work

- Increased consultations with stakeholders (individuals/families with lived experiences, government service providers, advocates, and community organizations)
- Increased representation of autism stakeholders on departmental committees and initiatives
- Supported families to navigate and access government and community programs, resources and supports
- Supported inter/intra departmental and community collaboration on autism initiatives
- HPEI's Social ABCs early intervention program is supporting families, pre-diagnosis, while on the diagnosis wait list
- Continued to review guidelines and initiatives to improve accessibility and simplify navigation.

Accomplishments/Highlights

- In April 2022, a third child psychologist was hired to help reduce wait times for ASD diagnosis
- Through the Private Assessment Initiative, over 100 families on the pediatric waitlist have been given the opportunity to participate in the initiative, which supports families with the cost of private psychologist pediatric diagnostic assessments
- Member of the Federal/Provincial/Territorial Working Group on Autism for the development of a National Autism Strategy.

Certification and Standards

The Certification and Standards Section is comprised of the Registrar and a part-time Administrative Assistant. The Certification and Standards Section is responsible for three main areas: 1) teacher certification, 2) educational assistant authorizations, and 3) private school inspections.

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Teacher Licensure

The *Education Act* prescribes that only holders of a valid PEI teacher's license may be employed to teach by education authorities. Teacher licensing works to protect the public interest in ensuring that those persons who are authorized to teach by the Minister possess the required academic and professional qualifications. The Registrar is appointed by the Minister under the *Education Act* to evaluate the academic and professional credentials of provincial, regional, national, and international applicants for a PEI teacher's license. Criteria for teacher licensing is developed and reviewed by the minister-appointed Teacher Certification and Standards Board (TCSB). The work of the Registrar with respect to teacher licensure is framed by the *Education Act*, Teacher Certification and Standards Regulations, Instructional Personnel Regulations, and Teacher Discipline Regulations.

Number of Teacher's Licenses and Authorizations Issued

- The Office of the Registrar issued 391 teacher licenses this year: 295 were new licenses, 55 were upgrades in qualification level, 19 were conditional licenses, and 22 were interim licenses
- A total of 190 Statements of Professional Standing were issued; of that total, 52 percent were sent to Ontario and 11 percent were sent to British Columbia
- A total of 863 authorizations to substitute teach were issued: 355 were for licensed teachers while 508 were to Temporary Permit holders
- A total of 623 authorizations for educational assistants were issued: 94 were for Regular Educational Assistant Authorization and 529 were for Substitute Only Educational Assistant Authorization
- A total of eight (8) administrative certificates, and 6 additional designation in inclusive education were issued.

English as an Additional Language/French as an Additional Language

The English as an Additional Language (EAL)/French as an Additional Language (FAL) section supports the language acquisition needs of immigrant students who were born outside of Canada or those who speak a language other than English, French or Mi'kmaq. The work of the EAL/FAL team constantly evolves as new students arrive and the use of evidence-based research and practice has ensured that the service delivered to new language learners is relevant and progress oriented. Collaboration and cooperation with the Provincial Office of Immigration, Island Investment Development Inc., the Immigrant and Refugee Services Association of PEI, and local organizations involved in service to our newcomer community continue to be a priority.

This school year, the division received almost 800 new EAL/FAL students into the school system which has resulted in an overall EAL/FAL total of 2915, almost 15% of the public-school enrollment. Of the 2915 EAL/FAL students, approximately 1025 have received support for language acquisition.

Recognition of the importance of language acquisition to settlement and population growth has resulted in significant growth in the EAL/FAL section over the past few years. In November of 2022, the Department approved the addition of 10 FTE Instructional and 15 FTE Non-Instructional positions to support the increased influx of EAL/FAL students within the PSB and CSLF. Itinerant teachers travel to schools across the province to provide language support and EAL/FAL Youth Service Workers are in place in some island schools to support transition and integration of new language learners into our school system. Additionally, Educational Assistants have been allocated

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to EAL and FAL students with exceptional needs. Assessment Specialists maintained and enhanced new intake and assessment procedures. They completed 756 intakes and assessments during this fiscal year. The top source countries for new arrivals were the Philippines, Vietnam, China, India and Ukraine with Mexico, Jamaica and the Bahamas.

Ongoing Initiatives

Nuwelcom

- is a locally developed app intended to bridge the communication gap for people new to PEI who do not speak English.
- provides a platform for new islanders to receive information about important topics including schools, health, volunteer opportunities, mental health, job searches, and weather in 13 languages specific to PEI.
- is funded in part by the Department of Economic Growth, Tourism and Culture.
- in collaboration with the Nuwelcom team, presentations have been given to schools, itinerant teachers and Early Childhood leadership on the app itself and how it can be used to communicate with newcomers to PEI.

New Initiatives

Grade Six Intercultural Pilot

- In collaboration with the Immigrant and Refugee Services Association of PEI, an intercultural pilot program was designed to increase the awareness of culture and diversity among grade 6 students.
- A total of 10 schools within the PSB, five (5) in Summerside and West and five (5) in Central and East participated in the pilot.
- Grade 6 students participated in two (2), one (1) hour sessions on intercultural awareness
- Once the information sessions were complete, grade 6 students were tasked with developing a culminating activity or project that represented the cultural diversity of their schools in collaboration with their teachers.
- Feedback from all schools has been positive and will potentially lead to continuation of the pilot during the 2023-24 school year.

Professional Development

- Due to the high volume of new EAL/FAL students into the school system and the widespread nature of registrations across PEI, the need for professional development opportunities for educators and other support personnel has become paramount.
- In person professional development is hugely expensive, therefore, work is being done to create professional development that can be accessed online.
- There are three (3) levels being developed; level one is a two (2) hour commitment and is intended for all people attached to education, level two is a six (6) hour commitment and is intended for teachers and support staff, level three is a 15-20 hour commitment and is intended for teachers who wish to become competent in their teaching skills with new language learners.

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- Level One: The Big Picture, is complete and will be offered to all PEITF members and hopefully all CUPE members on September 1, 2023.
- Level Two: Building Capacity in Culturally and Linguistically Responsive Schools, is currently under development and is expected to be ready to access by November of 2023.

In summary, the province has:

- Welcomed 642 new EAL/FAL students during the 2022-23 school year;
- Provided educational service to 201 refugee students and 18 Ukrainian students; and
- Provided 908 EAL/FAL learners with itinerant teacher support and 62 students with school-based EAL courses.

District/Board	Number of Students	Percentage
PSB	2818	96.7 %
CSLF	95	3.3%
Total	2913	100.0%

International Education

The Prince Edward Island International Student Program (PEIISP) is designed to support students who choose to study abroad in PEI (www.peiisp.ca). Each year, we welcome students from around the world to live and study in PEI. In the 2022-23 school year we welcomed 91 students from 12 countries attending 12 different Island schools.

Ongoing Initiatives

Promotional material

- New promotional website with testimonial videos www.peiisp.ca
- Updated government webpages www.princeedwardisland.ca/isp

Recruitment Efforts

- Agent visits from Turkiye and Spain (The Amancio Ortega Foundation Scholarship Programme). The return on these meetings brought our first three students from Turkiye in 2022-23 and eight scholarship students will be attending eight different PEI high schools in 2023-24.

Homestay Developments

- Signed contract for homestay partnership with Study Abroad Canada to provide homestay services for international students.

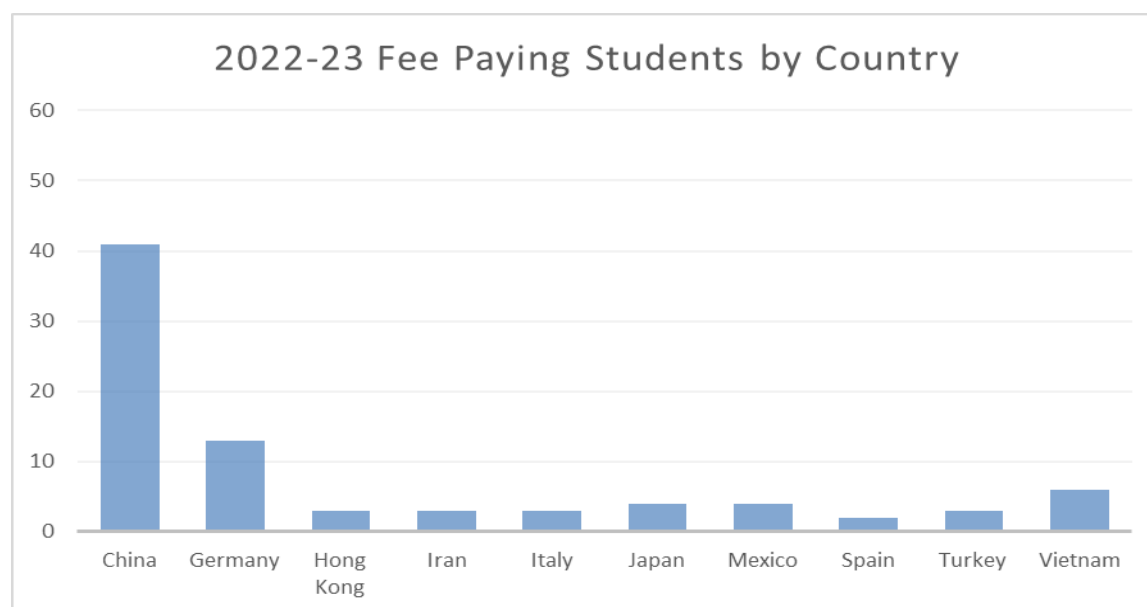
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- Partnership with Study Abroad Canada on a homestay recruitment drive.
- Development of Feedback Survey for students in the homestay program.
- Held first formal orientation day for international students.
- Continued monthly social activities for students in the homestay program.

New initiatives

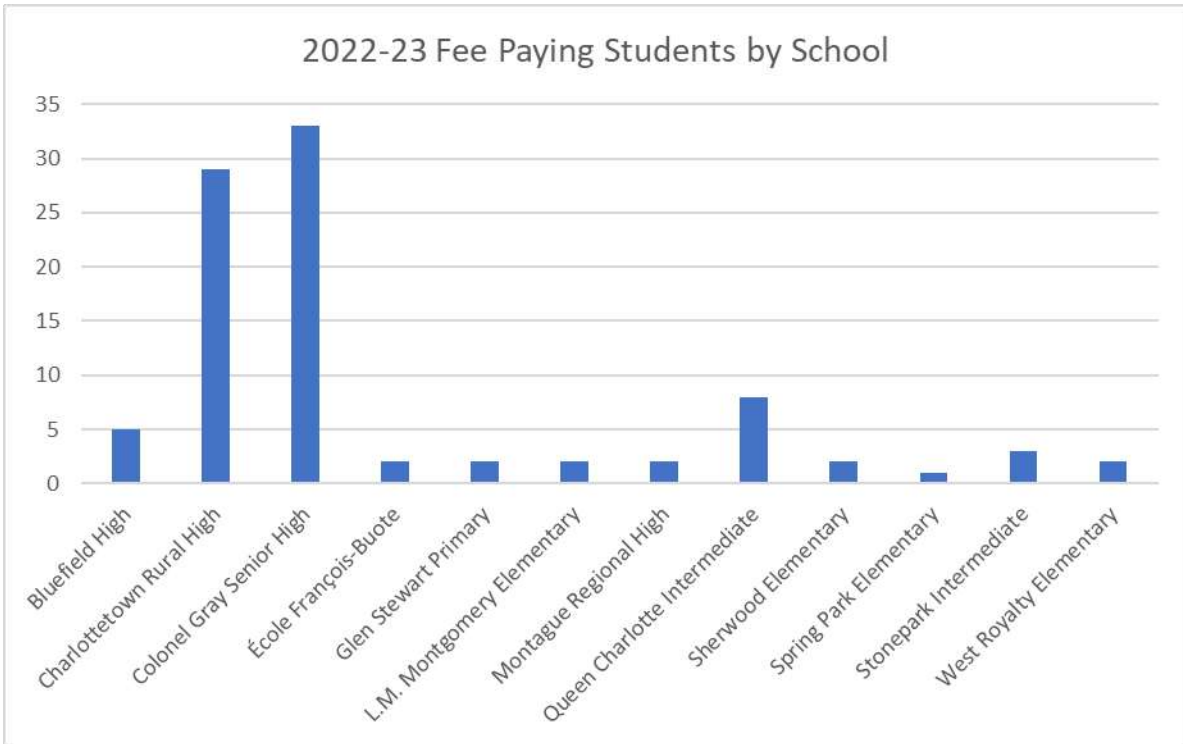
- St. Thomas University will provide a tuition discount of \$20 000 for eligible graduating PEIISP students. <https://www.stu.ca/future-students/prince-edward-island-international-student-program/>
- Development of an on-line pre-arrival Learning Program for students in grades 9-12
- Completion of an International Education Strategic Plan.

Key Measures

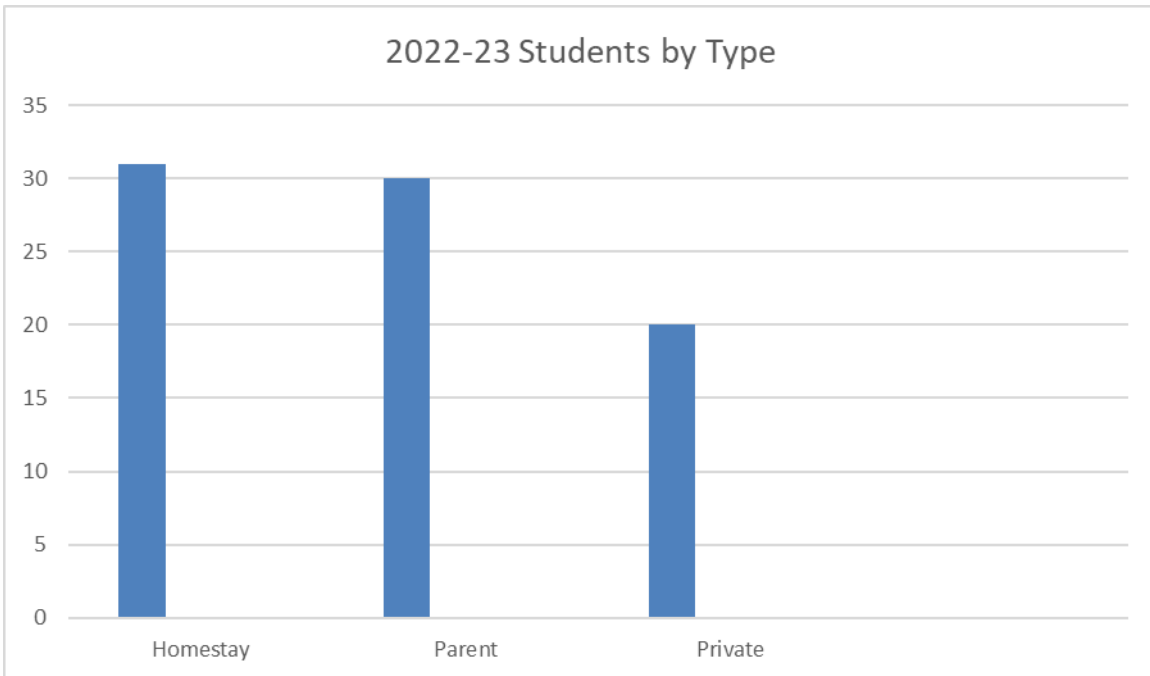


In addition: Bahamas, Czech Republic, France, India, Philippines, Saudi Arabia, Taiwan, United States, Venezuela, one (1) from each
Does not include students who withdrew during the school year.

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In addition: Spring Park Elementary had one (1) student. Does not include students who withdrew during the school year



Homestay (students who are using the services of the contracted provider)

Parent (students who are living with a parent(s))

Private (students have made private living arrangements)

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Prince Edward Island Affiliated Schools Program (PEIASP)

The Prince Edward Island Affiliated Schools Program provides educational partnerships with international schools that have been granted accredited status with the Department of Education and Lifelong Learning. Our affiliated schools implement the Prince Edward Island curriculum and follow the standards and procedures that guide our instructional and assessment practices. Only teachers who are fluent in English and have a PEI teaching license will be approved to teach our curriculum at our partner schools. Students who meet our graduation requirements will receive a PEI graduation diploma.

The Prince Edward Island Affiliated Schools Program presently has five international school partnerships. Two of these affiliated schools became accredited for the 2022-2023 school year. Royal Canadian School, Cairo and Keystone International Schools,

Turkiye has expanded our educational market into two growing countries. Prince Edward Island continues to work with and seeks new global partners to make our excellent kindergarten to Grade 12 curricula available to students in other countries. The Department has the following Affiliated School partnerships:

Table 1: Affiliated Schools

School	Country	Grades	Affiliated School Date
Canadian International School (CIS) Tokyo	Japan	1-12	July 1, 1999
Jinling High School Hexi Campus	China	10-12	July 1, 2015
Ganzhou #3 Middle School (2+1 Program)	China	10-11	July 1, 2011
Royal Canadian School – Cairo	Egypt	K-9	July 1, 2022
Keystone International Schools, Turkiye	Turkiye	1-9	July 1, 2022

Table 2: Student Numbers

2017-2018	2018-2019	2019-2020	2020-2021	2021-2022	2022-2023
390	460	500	537	538	666

Highlights 2022-2023

1. Keystone School, Istanbul and Royal Canadian School, Cairo are two new affiliated schools that began their contracts with us on July 1, 2022. These schools are presently delivering the elementary and intermediate key stages of our curriculum. They will both

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- be expanding into the high school component of our curriculum for the 2023-2024 school year
2. PowerSchool has been implemented into our affiliated schools for the 2022-2023 school year. Staff received formal training sessions and have been given individualized support throughout the rollout of this program
 3. A records information management schedule was drafted for international education and approved for implementation
 4. Revenue generated from affiliated schools for the 2022-2023 fiscal year will be approximately \$271,500.

Legislation

The Department of Education and Lifelong Learning is responsible for the development and administration of the following legislation:

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Apprenticeship and Trades Qualification Act</i> and Regulations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Maritime Provinces Higher Education Commission Act</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Archives and Records Act</i> and Regulations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Private Training Schools Act</i> and Regulations
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Autism Coordination Act</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Post-Secondary Institutions Sexual Violence Policy Act</i> and Regulations
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Early Learning and Child Care Act</i> and Regulations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Public Libraries Act</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Education Act</i> and Regulations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Student Financial Assistance Act</i> and Regulations
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Hairdressers' Act</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Teachers' Superannuation Act</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Holland College Act</i> and Regulations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>University Act</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Island Regulatory and Appeals Commission Act</i> 	

Legislative and Regulatory Action

Education Act

Bill No. 57 (*An Act to Amend the Education Act (No. 2)*) received Royal Assent on December 1, 2022. This amendment to Section 58 of the Act will allow for disclosure of selected student information for research purposes, and thereby facilitate the implementation of the Atlantic Student Tracking System agreed to among the Council of Atlantic Ministers of Education. The bill was previously introduced into the legislature in the Spring 2022 session, but did not reach second reading prior to its conclusion.

Early Learning and Child Care Act

Bill No. 76 (*An Act to Amend the Early Learning and Child Care Act*) received Royal Assent on December 1, 2022. This suite of amendments revised the Act's definition of "infant" to reflect current practices, updated terminology relating to certification, and provided new powers to enact further regulatory changes to interim certification.

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Student Financial Assistance Act Regulations

The *Student Financial Assistance Act Regulations* were amended to update the definitions of permanent and severe permanent disability to reflect modern sensibilities and usage and create a new category of persistent or prolonged disability. These amendments were proclaimed in the Royal Gazette on July 16, 2022.

Ministerial Directives

The Department issued the following Minister's Directives for the 2022-2023 fiscal year:

MD 22-01 Education Authority Staffing and Funding Program for the 2022-2023 School Year

MD 22-02 School Calendar for the 2022-2023 School Year

Pan-Canadian Joint Consortium for School Health

Established in 2005, the Pan-Canadian Joint Consortium for School Health (JCSH) is a partnership of federal, provincial and territorial governments working together to promote the health, well-being and achievement of children and youth in the school setting. In 2020, the Provincial and Territorial Ministers of Education and Provincial and Territorial Ministers responsible for Health and/or Wellness committed to the current five-year JCSH mandate (2020-2025) which continues to bring together key representatives of government departments responsible for health and education to:

- Strengthen cooperation among ministries, agencies, departments, and others in support of healthy schools
- Build the capacity of the health and education sectors to work together more effectively and efficiently
- Promote understanding of, and support for, the concept and benefits of comprehensive school health initiatives.

Projects & Initiatives

Like other areas of government, the JCSH spent much of 2022-2023 focused on how the Ministries of Education and Health in Canada communicate and collaborate on the multiple areas from the COVID-19 pandemic that impact education/academics, health, and well-being of school-aged children in this country. The health, well-being, and learning successes of all Canadian students are both fundamental goals of the JCSH and key to the post-COVID-19 responses.

Environmental scans in 2022-2023 developed by JCSH included initial scans and/or updates on the following issues:

- Canadian Policies Concerning Sensitive Content in Health Curricula
- Student Engagement Policies – School Board/District Level
- School-Based Communicable Disease Plans in Canadian P/Ts
- School Health Grants
- Health in All Policies and Health Equity in Canadian P/Ts

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- School Development/Improvement Models and Equity Tools
- School-Based Mental Health Plans
- Daily Physical Activity Policies & Guidelines for Canadian Schools
- Canadian School-Based Child & Youth Health Surveys
- COVID Plans for 2022-2023 School Year
- School Absenteeism Data
- Second Step Program – Canadian/Indigenous Context
- School Social Work Programs
- School Food and Beverage Policies
- Outdoor Learning Opportunities

Phase 1 of the work to revise the Healthy School Planner is well underway. Dr. Paul Veugelers and Dr. Katerina Maximova are leading the first phase of the work with the development of the “Canadian Standards and Indicators for Health Promoting Schools” resource. This resource will be integral in informing the new Healthy School Planner.

A webinar series has been added to the School Health Coordinators’ Committee regular meetings; every second of the monthly meetings is devoted to having two one-hour presentations on a variety of topics. Those held in 2022-2023 are as follows:

- Youth Substance Use
- School Food Programs Across Canada
- Physical Literacy-Enriched School Communities
- Comprehensive School Health Project – Newfoundland & Labrador
- Embracing Life: A tool to support wellness and resiliency
- New Brunswick Student Wellness Survey
- Wellness Together Canada
- Inuit Child First Initiative: Nunatsiavut Government
- An Integrated Population Health Model

JCSH’s commitment to ongoing monitoring, evaluation, and accountability continues through task groups in 2022-2023 in the following areas: Healthy School Planner/Equity, Planning & Evaluation, and a JCSH Research Network. All these help to maintain and improve JCSH’s work as the government voice of comprehensive school health, and the multifaceted nature of capacity building.

The Truth and Reconciliation Commission’s 94 Calls to Action have been studied and considered as JCSH provides ongoing review and additions to its Operational Plan. The JCSH Reconciliation Working Group developed the JCSH Statement on Reconciliation. It has been translated into French, Inuktitut and Inuinnaqtun. For more information, including access to JCSH resources, please visit the JCSH website: www.jcsh-cces.ca.

PEI School Athletic Association

The PEISAA is the body responsible for the administration of school sport in PEI according to the rules and expectations of the Department and the provincial school boards, under the auspices of the *Education Act*. Recent projects include:

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- 2022-23 - This was the first year since pre Covid that PEISAA was able to hold ALL our regular Provincial Championships with novice cross country, gymnastics and wrestling all taking place for the first time in three years.
- September 2022 – As per a New PEISAA Policy, ALL coaches that participate in PEISAA must take “Safe Sport” in addition to “Making Headway”, an online concussion course offered by the NCCP. About 1,000 coaches completed the “Safe Sport” training.
- September 2022 – The PEISAA approved funding to pay for coaches interested in taking “Redefining Winning”, a course developed by School Sport Canada, specific to coaching school sport. About 80 coaches took the training this year.
- September 2022 – The PEISAA became a member of CIAAA (Canadian Interscholastic Athletic Administrators Association), allowing all our Athletic Directors (AD) to utilize the resources from this association. The PEISAA also paid for a course delivered to our High School ADs. The PEISAA has committed more funds for training and professional development for our ADs.

School sport highlights

- PEISAA is the only provincial school sport organization that offers competition to all levels of students in the Province across six (6) age classifications.
- Provides extracurricular interscholastic competition for 66 Member Schools.
- Offers over 90 Provincial Championships, 10,000+ student athletes, 17 team and individual sports.
- Support provided by over 1000 volunteer coaches, convened by 24 sport commissioners, and a volunteer Executive.

Provincial Learning Materials Distribution Centre

The Provincial Learning Materials Distribution Centre (PLMDC) orders learning materials on behalf of all publicly funded Island. The PLMDC also orders materials for English and French Consultants in the Department and supplies home schoolers with resources.

The materials are sourced from publishers throughout the country and distributed through the PLMDC warehouse. The PLMDC is responsible for shipping materials to schools and for maintaining an inventory of materials at schools and in the warehouse.

Research and Corporate Services

Efforts in 2022-23 involved developing an interim strategic plan to guide the future work of the Department, conducting school board elections and supporting a new initiatives to promote literacy while continuing to prioritize school health, student well-being initiatives and the integration of technology into the classroom.

Literacy Strategy

The Department is currently in the initial stages of developing a provincial literacy strategy. The Literacy Strategy Working Group was formed in the Spring of 2022 and has since developed and approved a work plan for the first phase of the strategy. This multi-phase strategy will provide an overview of literacy programming across government departments and, for the first time,

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encompass literacy needs for all ages from early years through adulthood. The primary task in Phase One of the Strategy has been identifying all the literacy programs, services, and initiatives across government. During Phase One, the Working Group has:

- Completed a provincial and territorial jurisdictional scan. An overview of the findings and recommendations have been made to the Working Group.
- Completed an internal scan of the Department of Education and Lifelong Learning's literacy programs and services.
- Initiated an internal scan of remaining government literacy programs and services in other departments that is currently underway.

The provincial literacy strategy will

- Provide an overview of the current literacy programs and services available on PEI, across the lifespan.
- Identify opportunities that will support the development of literacy skills.
- Develop a holistic literacy strategy that considers the entire lifespan of an individual.
- Support collaboration and coordination between stakeholders.
- Develop a roadmap for literacy services that will support literacy programming.

School Board Elections

- Following an extensive consultation process, and subsequent legislative and regulatory changes to authorize Elections PEI to hold a school board election, Public School Board (PSB) and Commission scolaire de langue française (CSLF) school board trustee elections were held on November 10, 2022.
- The PSB changed from a board of three appointed directors to a hybrid model of eight elected / three appointed trustees. The CSLF retained their original complement of nine elected trustees.
- The trustee elections demonstrated an extensive partnership between DELL, Elections PEI, education authorities, and home and school organizations.
- Elected school board trustees can strengthen communication and collaboration between the Education Authorities, DELL, community members, and education stakeholders.
- A total of 40 people put their names forward for 17 PSB/CSLF elected trustee positions:
 - PSB - 31 candidates ran for eight (8) trustee positions within seven (7) Electoral Zones
 - CSLF – nine (9) candidates ran for nine (9) trustee positions within six (6) Electoral Zones
 - Zone 1 - 3 Candidates (2 Trustees required)
 - Zone 2 - 1 Candidate
 - Zone 3 - 1 Candidate (2 Trustees required)
 - Zone 4 - 1 Candidate
 - Zone 5 - 2 Candidates (2 Trustees required)
 - Zone 6 - 1 Candidate
- Throughout the election, all partners (the Department, Elections PEI, PEI Home and School Federation (PEIHSF), and Fédération des parents IPE (FPIPE)) ensured all election messages and materials were bilingual.
- This included, but was not limited to:

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- o Promotion of the upcoming election;
 - o Information for potential candidates and voters;
 - o Elections PEI web site, press releases, social media, and election materials (i.e. candidate forms, mail-in ballots etc.);
 - o The Department's web site, press releases, social media, and PowerSchool messages to parents;
 - o PEIHSF hosted CSLF candidate profile information on their site in French for voters; and
 - o FPIPE distribute French information throughout their social media and parent network.
- Historically, voter turn-out for school board elections have been low. In 2018, the CSLF had a voter turnout of 0.42%. In the 2022 school board elections, the voter turnout was 6.73%; in the electoral Zone 1 where an election was held.
 - CSLF election results:
 - o Zone 1 - two (2) trustees elected
 - o Zone 2 - one (1) trustee elected by acclamation
 - o Zone 3 - one (1) trustee elected by acclamation and one (1) trustee appointed
 - o Zone 4 - one (1) trustee elected by acclamation
 - o Zone 5 - two (2) trustees elected by acclamation
 - o Zone 6 - one (1) trustee elected by acclamation

School Breakfast and Snack Programs

- The Department provided \$300,000 in funding to public schools and Alternative Education sites.
- Financial support was provided to 86 programs (65 breakfast, 21 snack) within 69 schools (55 PSB, 11 Alternative Education, 3 CSLF).
- School-based programs provided approximately 51,000 breakfasts/snacks to 11,000 students each week.

Student Well-Being Teams

The Student Well-being Teams are in place to support the mental health and well-being of school-aged children and their families through their service in all public schools across Prince Edward Island. These teams include registered nurses, social workers, outreach workers and family support workers (Bluefield and Montague FOS only), who help students and families to develop strength in mental, social, and physical health; resilience; and well-being, in their lives. Support is offered through well-being activities focused on education and prevention (e.g., healthy eating, positive relationship presentations); group activities focused on specific target skills (e.g., depression, social skills); individual support focused on specific target skills (e.g., anxiety, depression).

Ongoing Projects/Initiatives

- Health staff have moved to a new modality (Unified Protocol) for offering group and 1:1 intervention being used throughout all families of schools, ensuring students and families are receiving standardized, evidence-based programming.
- Outreach staff have been trained in One Circle, with a recent additional training in Mitigating Gender and Racial Bias.

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- Continued Operationalization work, including the completion of our Logic Model and the development of outcome measurements connected back to each area of the Logic Model and include short term (1-3 year), intermediate term (2-5 year) and long term (6-10 year) goals and measurement tools for assessing these goals. This includes exit surveys for assessing effectiveness of our presentations and 1:1 service and will soon include exit surveys for our group service.
- Teams have moved to scheduled times for servicing schools to allow schools and students better predictability for when our teams will be in the building and for clustering staff to specific schools to strengthen relationships between schools and our teams.

New initiatives

- Two new positions (Family Support Workers) have been established to focus on providing support and skill building that promotes positive parenting. These positions are currently in Bluefield FOS and Montague FOS.
- A case management spreadsheet has been created and all staff have been trained.
- This allows us to retrieve and send monthly updates to school principals, school counselors and counseling consultants who detail new referrals, students on the waitlist, and students who are receiving 1:1 or group service. It also provides schools with the name of the Student Well-being Team member who is associated with that student. The case management spreadsheet will also maintain better accuracy in our waitlist by filtering students/families who have declined an offer of service from those who are waiting for service.
- Regional approach to summer programming, including pop-up clinics that are offered weekly, as well as summer group programming in each FOS area. These programs include a balance of referral-based groups, sign up and drop-in opportunities.

Accomplishments/Highlights

- From September 2022 - April 2023, we received 685 new referrals and assigned 297 new files.
- Of these referrals, 39% were for emotional support; 17% for social functioning; 13% for academic or education needs; 11% for changes in sleep, 6% for safety/risk; 4% for new life challenges; 3% for other reasons; 3% for parenting support; 2% for substance use; 1% for physical/sexual health reasons.
- We have increased the number of well-being activities offered from 50 (2021-2022 school year) to 309 (current school year). This reflects an increase of 82 classes reached with well-being activities (2021-2022) to 354 class (current school year).
- We have increased the number of students participating in well-being activities from 1,492 (2021-2022 school year) to 6,227 (current school year), and the number of parents participating in well-being activities from 44 (2021-2022 school year) to 379 (current school year).
- In the 2022-2023 school year we completed a total of 113 groups, providing service to 805 students and 156 parents. We are focused on increasing the number of groups we offer over time as our team has now worked through a learning curve with a new counseling modality.

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Technology

Ongoing Projects/Initiatives

- PowerSchool use expanded to international schools. Affiliated schools in Egypt, Turkey and China began tracking student enrollment, marks and attendance on a separate PowerSchool instance. Training for administration staff on the PowerSchool SIS and training for instructional staff on PowerTeacher Pro was completed through the fall.
- PowerSchool documentation was reviewed and revised as necessary, including the creation of report card guides and a best practices document.
- PowerTeacher Pro PD Session offered for teachers in the fall.
- Bring Your Own Device network for students was turned on at KISH, Souris Regional and TOSH.

Accomplishments/Highlights

- In June 2022, PowerSchool was used to generate report cards for all grade levels from K to 12 in both the CSLF and PSB for the first time.
- Schools began communicating with their families and staff using the text and voice broadcast functionality of School Messenger. By the end of FY 2022, 60% of parents had opted in to receive information from schools by text message.
- Between October 2022 and March 2023, the PowerSchool team released a series of tools and reports to assist school staff in identifying and tracking attendance concerns and communicating with students and parents.
- School website migration was completed in March 2023.
- Maker cart materials and support were provided to requesting schools.

Minister's Advisory Council on Lifelong Learning

The Minister's Advisory Council on Lifelong Learning (MACLL) was formed during fiscal year 2022/23 and consists of 14 community members from across the Island. Members were selected through an Engage PEI process. The Council was formed to provide the Minister of Education and Lifelong Learning with input from community members on education related issues. The Council's work is guided by a Terms of Reference and envisions meeting a minimum of three times per year. Bill Whelan and Kathleen Flannigan serve as co-chairs to the group.

The first meeting of MACLL occurred in February 2023 and provided an opportunity for members to review their mandate and have information sharing on topics of interest for future meetings. Minister Jameson and Deputy Minister MacLeod attended the first meeting and welcomed members to the Council.

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English Education, Programs and Services

The English Education, Programs and Services (EEPS) Division is responsible for providing leadership, coordination and support in developing quality English language curricula. The division provides support services and resources for teachers and students from kindergarten to grade 12. Successful attainment of this goal requires the effective completion of the following objectives:

- Deliver services and resources to improve achievement
- Deliver services and resources to support educators
- Develop high-quality curriculum

Curriculum Initiatives 2022-2023

Curriculum Renewal and Innovation

Renewal of curriculum begins with the collective understanding that kindergarten to grade 12 students must be educated to participate in a world of rapid and complex change. The goals of curriculum renewal are achieved through clarifying expectations, outcomes, standards and benchmarks for students; ensuring relevance and consistency for all students across grade levels and areas of study; focusing on central tenets and developing a deep understanding within the areas of study and incorporating effective research-based instruction and assessment practices while providing ease of access and use for teachers.

The division continues to focus on offering flexible learning options, independent study credit opportunities and external credential opportunities

- Professional learning opportunities to support teachers with the renewed 7-9 Physical and Health Education Curriculum implementation have continued in the 2022-2023 school year.
- Grades 7 & 8, English Language Arts renewed curriculum was implemented.
- The Academy Diploma Program (ADP). The ADP provides students with sector-based experiences and courses in support of their post-secondary pathway plans. Students are provided with a specialized program “cluster” of credits and community experiences. It is offered as an additional certification to students who successfully complete the programming.
- Mathematics manipulatives provided for all 1-9 classrooms.

Accomplishments/Highlights

- The Essential Skills Achievement Pathway (ESAP) Program, an opportunity for students to earn a high school diploma that prepares them for a post-secondary education, apprenticeship or the world of work is being piloted this school year and will be implemented in all ten PSB high schools for the 2023-24 school year. The program consists of personalized learning opportunities that allow students to explore their skills, talents, abilities and interests while intentionally attaining the nine (9) federally identified Skills for Success. Proficiency in these skills is demonstrated and evaluated through problem and

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project-based learning in the essential skills classroom, content specific courses, community experiential learning and workplace opportunities.

- Career Exploration and Opportunities (CEO) Curriculum Outcomes support student exploration of pathways through high school and beyond, including school-to-workforce planning. Additional resources were provided in the 2022-23 school year: SHIFT to support students in both recognizing and empowering themselves to deal with workplace sexual harassment, and Enriched Academy to provide financial literacy education.
- New curriculum for Biology 521A was implemented island wide. The renewed science curriculum is designed for competency-based education.
- New curriculum for Biology 621A was developed following the same design principles and philosophy that was used for all recent science curricula, including Biology 521A. Implementation date: September 2023.
- Data Logging technology (Class sets of Pasco wireless temperature, current, and voltage sensors) was acquired and distributed to schools having intermediate grades. Grade 7 and 9 Science teachers were provided with training/professional learning on the effective use of this new technology.
- Climate/STEAM - Grade 7 and 9 science teachers were provided with lessons, assessments, materials, and professional learning on ways to incorporate climate education, engineering design, and modern data collection techniques to address select curriculum outcomes in their respective curriculum areas.
- English as an additional language (EAL) EAL771, a foundational language course designed to build functional English language and literacy readiness skills, was implemented and several resource selections were distributed to Island high schools to support later-to-literacy youth in language and literacy development.
- In collaboration with the Department of Health and Wellness, a certified Food Handling Safety Course was implemented in the High Schools' Foods 421 course. This course will allow students to gain an industry recognized certification valid for five (5) years from the date of completion.
- Support for Island Physical and Health Education teachers to attend the PHE Canada National Conference. This provided opportunities to engage in high caliber professional learning opportunities across K-12, such as comprehensive sexual, outdoor education, social emotional learning, diversity, and inclusive education practices among others.

Promoting Island Culture

- Elementary Music Curriculum implementation: focus on diversity and Indigenous Culture and History through the Diversity Resource Package.
- Discovery day events occurred as a partnership with the Department and the Confederation Centre of the Arts promoting integrated experience of social studies and language arts through the Arts (visual, dance and drama).
- The Premier's Student Art Garden Exhibition is displayed in both the reception and foyer area of the Premier's office. This exhibition encourages, supports, promotes and celebrates students' creativity as an important part of our Island's cultural fabric.
- Art to the Schools is a partnership with the Friends of Confederation Centre of the Arts with over 400 original pieces of Canadian artwork with supporting learning resources that can be seen in schools throughout our Island. This program showcases a diverse, inclusive, cultural cross-curricular approach to learning.

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- Drama Festival enables schools from across our Island to experience every aspect of the theatre experience, including school visits from local artists to learn about script writing, choreography and dance, costumes, singing, blocking and theatrical skills and stage makeup. School productions allow learners to experience the process from the creating to the acting.
- The annual Band “Jazz” Days with all high school music learners across the province and Rock Band Showcase featured Island schools from elementary through high school across the province.
- The Department continues to work in collaboration with the Indigenous Education Advisory Committee, to incorporate Indigenous culture, knowledge, and ways of knowing into the curriculum and supporting resources.

Accomplishments/Highlights

- The Canada Games Catch the Spirit Educational Program online resources and the Wowkwis STEAM Challenge used throughout classrooms and communities across our Island as part of the Canada Games Movement. The programs showed 800 hits a day.
- Canada Games Arts Smarts learning experience in schools with 700 students involved in creating art to place within an Island artwork piece by artist Gary Talone and the ArtsSmarts team. It was exhibited at the Royalty Crossing Mall in Charlottetown and then transported to the ArtsSmarts exhibit at the Confederation Centre of the Arts.
- The Popular Music Performance course piloted. It will be implemented in 2023 with high school music educators. This course uses various genres, styles and cultures to explore, express and create music while offering the same learning foundation as other music courses encouraging the exploration of diversity, equality, and inclusion to prepare learners to become socially responsible citizens in a globalized world.
- The StoMP music program in Intermediate grades was piloted. Will be implemented in 2023 with all grades 7-9 music educators. This course offers a similar creative process with music learning as the high school Popular Music Performance course at a foundational level using various genres, styles, and cultures to explore, express and create music while offering the same learning foundation as other music courses encouraging the exploration of diversity, equality, and inclusion to prepare learners to become socially responsible citizens in a globalized world.
- A renewed grade 7 Canadian Studies - Time Immemorial to 1900 was piloted. Will implement across island Intermediate schools in 2023.
- A renewed grade 8 social studies curriculum was developed. This will pilot in 2023.
- The Secret Path by Gord Downie and Jeff Lemire was implemented as an authorized resource for English 621 and English 671. This involved training at Lennox Island and Indigenous Cultural Contextual Learning and Understanding with knowledge keeper, Julie Pelletier-Lush.
- A new Civics 421A - Civics and Citizenship course was piloted. Will be implemented Island wide in 2023.
- New resources have been purchased to support the implementation of grade 7 social studies and CIV421A in the 2023/24 school year.
- ArtsSmarts programming:
 - o 17 projects involving 11 schools were awarded funding for integrated learning experiences through the Arts;
 - o Many Indigenous artists, including Julie Pelletier-Lush, involved in ArtsSmarts program to encourage Indigenous cultural contextual learning and understanding;

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- o Artworks shared across the Island at host schools and three Provincial exhibition sites: Confederation Centre of the Arts, Eptek Art and Culture Centre, and Kings Playhouse.
- The Provincial Heritage Fair was held after a three (3) year pause due to COVID. Over 150 students in grades 5-8 were able to participate at the Confederation Centre of the Arts in a day of fun and presentation of their inquiry-based projects at Orwell Corner.
- The Provincial Forest Envirothon is part of the international education program known as the National Conservation Foundation Envirothon. In partnership with PEI's Forests, Fish and Wildlife Division, and local forestry industry partners, interested Island high school students learn how people depend on and interact with the natural world. This year the competition was held in person. This year's winning team was from Morell Regional Senior High. This is the first win for a Morell team.
- The Provincial Science Fair, held in-person for the first time in two years, was a huge success having hosted 123 projects, involving 168 students. These numbers do not include the multitude of projects and students that competed locally at their respective schools.

Leadership and Learning

Leadership and Learning refers to the professional learning of instructional staff in the Public Schools Branch including the optimization of practices, processes and systems to support student achievement. While staff at all grade levels receive professional development throughout the school year, following are selected highlights from 2022-23:

Literacy Instruction

- EEPS has continued its partnership with Dr. Gabriela Arias de Sanchez, UPEI Faculty of Education, in a research project, "Play pedagogy: A pathway to global competency-based learning". This project committee consists of a focus group including UPEI researchers, ten teachers of kindergarten, as well as English Programs staff. The committee, along with EEPS staff, provided 1.5 days of play-based pedagogy training to all 80 Kindergarten teachers.
- Grade 3 teachers were provided with professional learning to support the implementation of their classroom libraries. This involved 70 teachers and 1750 students.
- Grade 4-6 teachers were provided with an Independent Reading Classroom library collection, offering engaging text with varying genres and levels of complexity to foster the love of reading through choice. The books support students to reinforce good reading habits, using high-quality books they find engaging and enjoy reading. All grade levels now have Independent Reading Classroom Libraries.
- Grade 7-8 English language arts renewed curriculum completed implementation.
- A review of our existing practices in primary literacy instruction based on the science of reading research is underway. The following Science of Reading-aligned recommendations have already been initiated, and are being supported by teacher training and literacy coach support:
 - o Foundations incorporates the science of reading and writing in a carefully designed scope and sequence for all K-3 students and provides small group setting programming for early intervention at the Tier 2 level.
 - o Foundations was implemented into all Grade one classrooms which included 67 teachers, resource teachers and 1340 students.

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- o Foundations was piloted at the Grade 2 level. The pilot included 9 teachers, 9 resource teachers and 200 students.
- o The Grade 3 pilot program continued for the 2022-2023 year, adding 2 new schools that included 6 teachers, 3 resource teachers and 150 students.
- o Foundations Tier 2 Intervention was implemented at the grade 1 level, which involved the training of 42 additional teachers. Kindergarten Tier 2 teachers received continued support with Tier 2 Intervention.
- o Decodable Books were purchased for all K-1 classrooms and all 130 K-1 teachers were provided with training in using decodable texts to support reading instruction, which will impact 2000 teachers.

Numeracy Instruction

- Grade 5 teachers were provided with three (3) days of professional learning on Mastery Learning in Mathematics. The focus of the year's work was around teacher clarity, a high yield instructional strategy supported by research. This involved 66 teachers and will impact 1088 students.
- Grades 7-9 Continued support for teachers with effective corrective instruction for students working below grade level. Professional development provided an essential skills resource in grades 7-9. This involved 8 teachers and 121 additional students using the resource this year.
- 10 high school resource teachers were provided with training to allow them to serve students who are significantly below grade level in mathematics using the essential skills resource.
- Mathematics coaches continue to support teachers at the elbow with math instruction at all levels.

Program Evaluation

Program evaluation is a systematic method for improving projects, policies and programs by collecting, analyzing, and using information to answer questions about their effectiveness and efficiency.

- In May and June 2022, a sample of Grade 3, 6 and 9 students across PEI participated in Math and Literacy Program Evaluation.
- The Program Evaluation aims to collect data to measure the effectiveness of the revised curriculum in math and literacy.

Social Emotional Learning

- Social and emotional learning (SEL) is a lifelong process of developing skills that help students to be successful in school and all parts of their lives, such as communicating effectively, building relationships, working through challenges, and making decisions that benefit themselves and others. The term also describes how educators help students learn and practice these skills.
- All EEPS staff have had two (2) days of training in SEL to better equip them to support teachers and schools.

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- All K-12 schools have goals focused on building SEL competencies and creating safe and inclusive places to learn.
- All school principals have been provided with professional learning on SEL.
- All senior high department heads were provided with two (2) days of training on Social Emotional Learning (SEL) and its impact on student achievement to enable them to support their school staff with SEL over the coming school year.

Cultural Competency

- Developed PRISM (Promoting Rights Identity and Self-Actualization of Marginalized People) cultural competency training and provides ongoing professional development with English Education team members, school administrators, and school staff:
 - o Training is designed to provide education around topics of diversity and give tangible tools for teachers to utilize in their daily practice.
 - o This year, five (5) sessions have been provided to schools based around Indigenous Seven Sacred Teachings, and covering various topics of diversity, equity and inclusion.
 - o PRISM Educator Volunteer Training – 25 teacher participants from across all Island schools attended an immersive two-day workshop aimed at developing an understanding of the importance of cultural competency, identifying bias, understanding the needs of diverse populations, and becoming familiar with strategies and resources to support teachers and students in their schools.
- Established a Diversity Equity Inclusion (DEI) committee to oversee issues around DEI. This team, along with coordinators, completed an eight (8) week anti-racist pedagogy course to enable them to support teachers and school leaders with DEI.
- All EEPS staff participated in one (1) day of cultural competency training at Lennox Island First Nation, along with high school language arts teachers and intermediate social studies teachers.

PEI Teacher Induction Program

Approximately 65 probationary teachers accessed virtual asynchronous professional learning on the high yield instructional practices on which our education system is grounded. Additionally, new teachers learned about taking care of their mental health during the early years of the profession, as well as sessions focused on navigating professional learning, anti-racism, and building inclusive and diverse schools. Beginning teachers were also connected with instructional coaches to support their ongoing professional learning, and after-school virtual training sessions were offered to any new teacher.

Finance and Administration

The Finance and Administration division provides administrative and financial support services to the Department and public-school system in compliance with legislation and established government and Department policies. The division is responsible for budget development and control, accounting, purchasing, payroll support for education authorities, the School Construction and Repair program and is a liaison with education authorities. The division also provides support services and advice on matters of a financial or administrative nature to all other divisions and to the education authorities.

Its primary responsibilities include:

- Financial management including budgeting, accounting, procurement and payroll;
- Public school staffing and funding; and
- School construction and repair.

French Education, Programs and Services

The French Education, Programs and Services Division exists to support the province's 62 schools in offering French-language education programs (French First Language, French Immersion and Core French programs). Members of the French Education, Programs and Services division are responsible for the development, implementation and renewal of curricula, selection of appropriate educational resources to support teaching and learning, providing professional development opportunities and French cultural programming offerings. The division works in collaboration with both la Commission scolaire de langue française (CSLF) and the Public School (PSB) to ensure access to high quality French-language education for all students in the province.

Projects Initiatives

Elementary (Grades K-6) French Language Arts (PSB)

- Implement the recommendations from the Kindergarten report
- Expand the pilot of “La Forêt de l’Alphabet” in Kindergarten
- Develop oral communication tools for the primary level (Songbook, assessment, Google classrooms, etc.)
- Pilot a Grade 1 literacy/phonemic awareness/oral communication project
- Provide foundations in literacy training (Literacy 101) for new French immersion teachers (K-6)
- Develop writing exemplars document for Core French 4-6
- Support new core French teachers from grades 4-6
- Provide in-service for new and continuing IPLÉ/RR teachers.

French language Arts (CSLF)

- Implement the oral communication continuum
- Implement the new language arts curriculum in Grades 3 and 4
- Develop a draft curriculum guide for Grades 1 and 2
- Develop short videos that summarize the main information of "Shifting the Balance"
- Identify book clubs and novels for students in Grades 3-5
- Determine teaching strategies for oral communication in all subjects
- Offer Literacy 101 training to new French First Language teachers.

Math (PSB and CSLF)

- Pilot a new math resource Modulo Mathématiques in Grades 1-2
- Provide four (4) days of math in-service for Grade 5 teachers
- Provide digital subscription to Zorbits (Grades 1-3) Netmath (Grades 4-6)
- Develop more on-line materials that can be accessed on the Learn platform
- Provide support for teachers new to Grade level.

Others (PSB and CSLF)

- Implement Grade 3 Integrated Units
- Pilot Integrated Units in Grades 4-6.

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Junior/High schools (7-12) French Language Arts (PSB)

- Implement new curriculum in French Immersion (Grades 7-9)
- Collaborate with English Language Arts Leader to adjust ELA curriculum for French.

Immersion students (Grades 7-9)

- Continue to add titles to classroom libraries (Grades 7-12).

French Language Arts (CSLF)

- Pilot of Grades 9-10 curriculum (identifying compulsory and optional genres)
- Professional development in oral communication and classroom testing
- Renew books for reading circles Grades 9 and 10
- Update the grammar progression in junior/high school (Grades 7-12)
- Consider the bridging aspect in the development of curricula
- Use the virtual professional development developed with Annick Sirard (the foundations of the workshop class in junior/high school).

Core French (PSB)

- Oral communication in-service for Core French Grades 7-9
- Finalize and implement Core French curriculum Grades 10-12.

Math/Sciences (PSB)

- Revise Grades 7-9 science curriculum to reduce the number of outcomes and provide a better alignment with the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR)
- Revise math outcomes and continuum for Grades 7-12.

Math/Sciences (CSLF)

- Revise the science curriculum for Grades 7-9
- Review the learning outcomes and the continuum in mathematics from Grades 7 to 12
- Implement new Chemistry curricula Grades 11-12
- Implement new Forestry, Agriculture and Fishing curriculum Grade 11.

Social Studies (PSB and CSLF)

- Integrate the new resource on Acadian history in social studies curricula
- Support provincial initiatives to develop a greater understanding of Indigenous culture and history
- Review the Grade 7-9 social studies curriculum.

Other (PSB)

- Collect exit survey data on French Immersion in High school
- Provide more distance education options for French Immersion students in Grades 11-12

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- Develop and pilot exploratory courses at the Intermediate level (technology, French culture, communication, career and personal development, citizenship)
- Coordination of DELF (Diploma of French Language Studies) Assessment (April 24-29, 2023).

Other (CSLF)

- Develop and pilot exploratory courses at the intermediate level (technology, French culture, communication, personal and professional development, citizenship)
- Pilot and support the François-Buote school to renew its schedule and its choice of intermediate courses
- Support the initiatives of the CSLF related to the virtual school and renewed secondary projects
- Promote initiatives allowing flexibility in the schedule for students (independent studies, double credit, external credit, leadership, etc.)
- Develop a course in the field of culinary arts/nutrition for students in grades 7 to 12 (Support optional secondary courses 185 hours or 4 modules)
- Develop a music program (grades 7-9) and a visual arts program
- Support the needs of the system in the field of trades and other optional courses.

French Cultural Development

- Coordinate and hire French monitors for the school system and provide professional development (PSB and CSLF)
- Coordinate the Explore and Clic programs (PSB and CSLF)
- Develop cultural programming for schools and provide French cultural grants for schools (PSB and CSLF)
- Coordinate the PPL (Language Development Program) for teachers (PSB)
- Support the participation of all CSLF teaching staff at the ACELF conference (October 7, 2023) (CSLF).

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Human Resources

The Public Service Commission (PSC) provides innovative and timely human resources leadership and services that support performance excellence, public service values and help build the capacity of the Civil Service to deliver government's programs and services. Through the *Civil Service Act*, the PSC is mandated to provide strategic advice, support, coordination, services and programs in the following areas:

- Human resources management and planning
- Employer/employee relations
- Employee and organization learning and development (including French language training and diversity programs)
- Human resources processes and systems (including staffing, classification, and payroll administration)
- Human resources legislation, policies and collective agreements
- Employee health, safety and well-being.

In addition to the above, employees of the PSC are assigned to government Departments to lead, support and provide counsel on day-to-day human resources and operational initiatives. In 2022-2023, the human resources team assigned to the Department of Education and Lifelong Learning proudly:

- Processed payroll for approximately 330 employees.
- Facilitated the classification of 47 positions.
- Supported and conducted 66 internal and external competitions.
- Hired 65 employees that included casual, contract and permanent positions, along with secondments, Public Service Commission casuals and Public Service Commission temporary assignments.
- Assisted 48 employees with accessing and receiving funds from the Unionized or Excluded Development and Training Fund in order to pursue external learning opportunities that enhanced their current job skills or potential future responsibilities relevant to the public service.
- Promoted, assisted and encouraged employee participation in the PSC Pathways for Learning courses resulting in 252 registrations from the Department.
- Supported senior management and employees with important human resource functions such as succession planning, compensation, benefit & pension information, classification of positions, Treasury Board submissions, union grievances, workplace investigations, performance management, occupational health & safety and employee engagement.

The Interministerial Women's Secretariat

The Interministerial Women's Secretariat (IWS) provides assistance to the provincial government to promote the legal; health; social; and economic equality of women. The IWS contributes to a variety of initiatives and provides a variety of services and funding in support of this mandate.

- Provide annual Violence Against Women Prevention Grants in November (to commemorate the International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women, November 25) and annual Interministerial Women's Secretariat Grants in March (to commemorate International Women's Day on March 8). Additionally, the IWS now provides core funding to four women's organizations in the province.
- Provide menstrual products to women's shelters, food banks, post-secondary institutions and throughout the provincial school system.
- Develop and distribute "The Information Guide for People in Abusive Relationships", updated in 2022 and 2023. This guide provides information about services available to victims of violence (and abusers) as well families, friends and others who want to help.
- Work to improve Enhanced Emergency Sexual Assault Services (EESAS) in hospitals with representatives from health services; police; justice and the PEI Rape and Sexual Assault Centre.
- Coordinate Family Violence Prevention efforts in the province. This includes supports for the Premier's Action Committee on Family Violence Prevention. Approximately 26 events were held during Family Violence Prevention Week in 2022. As part of this initiative, 17 Mini Grants were distributed to community groups and municipalities, and more than 500 seed packets were delivered throughout the province.
- Develop and launch (February 2022) a provincial strategy to improve response and coordination to prevent harm associated with adult sexual violence in Prince Edward Island. This initiative received bilateral funding from Women and Gender Equality Canada
- Support for the Cybersafe Care website, a resource designed to be a supportive information resource for parents, caregivers and educators which includes information on gaming, social media, cyberbullying and recommends resources for help.
- Supported the Task Force for Advancing Gender Equity and Diversity, an interdepartmental working group that works to ensure gender equity and diversity considerations are included in government policy and programs, to develop a three (3) year workplan to support the uptake of GDA across all government departments.
- Provided support for the development and consultation of the Guidelines for Respecting, Accommodating and Supporting Gender Identity, Gender Expression, and Sexual Orientation in Our Schools.
- Coordinate efforts for a government response to the Advisory Council on the Status of Women's Equality Report Card. The Prince Edward Island Advisory Council on the Status of Women awarded the Government of Prince Edward Island a B+ in the 2022 Equality Report Card on progress towards gender equality goals from 2019 to 2021. This is the highest grade for government since the Report Card was initiated in 2007 and since the first pilot report was released in 2008.

Libraries and Archives

The Public Library Service operates 25 libraries across the province in partnership with local communities. Public libraries are welcoming, inclusive community centres for lifelong learning.

The Public Archives and Records Office (PARO) is comprised of the Public Archives and the Recorded Information Management (RIM) unit. The Public Archives acquires, preserves, and makes available for public research the records of the government of this Province and private-sector papers and records deemed to be of lasting historical value. The Recorded Information Management (RIM) unit provides central recorded information management services and support to all departments, agencies, corporations, and commissions within the Government of Prince Edward Island.

Ongoing Projects/ Initiatives

Public Library Service

- Community care book delivery service to seniors, Talking Book Home Service for print disabled persons and Home Library Delivery Service to patrons unable to visit a library, continue to be popular outreach services.
- 2023 launching Partnership with Social Support and Seniors to place staff from Social Supports, Accessibility Supports, and Senior's navigator on a weekly basis to assist clients at the Charlottetown Library Learning Centre.
- Plan to conduct diversity audits to ensure availability of inclusive programs and collections in Public Library Service.

Public Archives and Records

- In recent years, the Public Archives has refocused its efforts on the foundational archival activities of arrangement and description of archival materials and making that material more readily available to its patrons. Staff have increased their efforts to undertake basic item level identification in collections and increase the number of archival items digitized for online access.
- The RIM unit has completed year two of the new strategy, One Box at a Time: Recorded Information Management (RIM) Strategy and Three-Year Plan 2.0, 2021-2024, which was approved for use by all of government. The goal of the strategy is to build on the success of the original strategy in order to continue to increase the level of RIM compliance in government departments, agencies, and commissions and to ensure that the records of government are maintained and preserved. Included in the strategy is the provision for hiring new staff to develop and implement records retention and disposition schedules and to implement the Electronic Document and Records Management System (EDRMS).
- The RIM unit worked closely with IT Shared Services (ITSS) to complete the Request for Proposals process for an Electronic Documents Record Management system which will integrate with Office 365. Implementation of the new system is expected to begin early in 2023.

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New initiatives/Accomplishments

Public Library Service

- Charlottetown Library Learning Centre opened in July 2022. Averaging 1000 visitors daily, the 40,000 square foot facility offers a makerspace, café, room rentals, community kitchen, children's library, podcast studio and extensive seating areas throughout.
- Library of Things continues to expand with a new tool library launching in spring 2023 including gardening kits, household repair kits, bicycle repair kits. New C pens and noise canceling headphones are also now available. Ice skates were added in 2022.
- 2023 plan to conduct diversity audits to ensure availability of inclusive programs and collections in Public Library Service.

Public Archives and Records

- Public Archives staff will work with ITSS to update the collections database and online exhibit editor in order to provide greater online access to the resources of the Public Archives.
- Public Archives staff are in the process of completing the updates to the Disaster Preparedness Plan for the Public Archives in anticipation of re-certification as a Class A institution under the federal Movable Cultural Property guidelines.
- Digital Screen presentations: Three (3) new exhibits were created for digital screens at the Public Archives and seven (7) Public Library Service sites across the province. Existing digital exhibits were also displayed on the digital screens throughout the year.
- Physical Exhibits: Three (3) new physical exhibits were displayed in the hallway outside of the Archives facility. Other existing physical exhibits were also displayed during the year.
- Vital Statistics records digitized: This year, 1,716 original death registrations (1966-1967 – in progress) were digitized. Staff also captured technical metadata and created access and thumbnail copies of the digital files. Also, staff digitized 393 original marriage licenses (1889-1891 – in progress), for a total of 785 marriage license images.
- RIM staff created 17 records systems containing 171 records retention and disposition schedules which were approved by the Public Records Committee. This includes a major revision of the Classification Plan and Retention Schedules (CPRS) which is used by all of government.
- RIM staff developed four (4) new records management policies for use by all of government. Topics include records management and retirement, transporting records, government transitions, and incident reporting.

Post-Secondary and Continuing Education

The Post-Secondary and Continuing Education Division is responsible for programs and services relating to post-secondary education, student financial assistance, private training schools and adult learning in Prince Edward Island.

Ongoing Projects/ Initiatives

Post-Secondary Education

- Provides significant funding to the Island's publicly funded post-secondary institutions (UPEI, Holland College, and Collège de l'Île).
- This funding is to support the operations, initiatives, and programming to advance post-secondary education on Prince Edward Island.
- The Division aims to provide stable, predictable, long-term funding to the Islands institutions to ensure continued growth and advancement in post-secondary education in the province.
- Funding includes annual, core operating grants, in addition to several restricted grants (debt service agreements, program specific funding). Included in the annual budget, but not limited to, are the following core operational funding for the current fiscal year:
 - o UPEI - \$36.8M
 - o Atlantic Vet College - \$9.2M
 - o Holland College - \$20.2M
 - o Collège de l'Île - \$316,700
 - o Disbursements to institutions for mental health supports totaled \$431,000 for the 2022-23 academic year
 - o Provided \$50,000 in 2022-23 to support the Open Educational Resources project at UPEI.

New Projects/ Initiatives

- Financial support of \$1.45M over two fiscal years (2022-23 & 2023-24) for the establishment of the UPEI Faculty of Indigenous Knowledge, Education, Research and Applied Studies (IKERAS).
- Funding towards the establishment of the Holland College Centre of Wellness and Student Academic Success in the form of operational funding of \$360,000 this fiscal year.

Student Financial Services

This section provides federal and provincial loans, bursaries and grants to students to pursue post-secondary education through the Student Financial Assistance Corporation. In recent years, the division has implemented a number of initiatives to increase financial aid to PEI post-secondary students. Some examples are:

- The George Coles Bursary increased to \$2,600 for the 2022-23 academic year; providing over 2,000 grants totaling approximately \$5.1M.

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- The Community Service Bursary doubled from a maximum of \$750 to \$1,500 for eligible students, providing students with the ability to gain valuable volunteer experience while earning a bursary for post-secondary education.
- Amendments to the *Student Financial Assistance Act* Regulations were made for the 2022-23 academic year to amend the definition of a permanent disability to include those students with a persistent or prolonged disability. This allows students with a verified persistent or prolonged disability to access valuable funding and resources to assist in their post-secondary journey.
- The Island Advantage Bursary: Low and Middle Income provided over \$2.7M to approximately 1,190 Island students most in need.
- Approximately 1,000 students received sufficient grants for the 2022-23 academic year to cover or exceed their full tuition costs.

Private Training Schools

The *Private Training Schools Act* regulates the operation of private training schools in Prince Edward Island. The Administrator, under the Act, provides oversight regarding licensing, program review, and maintenance of private training schools, ensuring that such things as instructor qualifications, equipment, course curriculum and facilities, meet the requirements set out in the Regulations. The Administrator also oversees the student protection fund (SPF), guaranteeing that some form of deposited money is forfeited to the Department if the school does not live up to its obligations to students.

The Department also:

- Educates private training school operators on their responsibilities under the *Private Training Schools Act* (February 2020), and on the enforcement of new reporting requirements under the Act.
- Ensures that private training institutions are meeting their requirement to financially contribute to the SPF, with funds received in the 2022-23 academic year totaling over \$20,000.

There are currently 16 registered private training schools on Prince Edward Island offering courses including, Resident Care Worker, Commercial Truck Driving, Hairdressing and Cyber Security.

Adult Learning Programs

The Division contracts with Holland College to manage and deliver the Adult Basic Education (ABE) and Upgrading Programs to adult Islanders. The ABE program allows adults who did not complete Grade 12 to do so while the upgrading program provides the opportunity for people who already have Grade 12 to earn academic credits that are pre-requisites for post-secondary training. The GED Testing Service manages and administers the five (5) GED Tests: Language Arts Reading, Language Arts Writing, Social Studies, Science and Math to approximately 150-200 adult Islanders annually. There are over 25 group-testing sessions annually administered by Holland College as well as one-on-one testing, as needed, for candidates requiring special accommodations (hearing/sight impairments, autism, mobility issues and mental health issues). Other items to note: 79 individuals earned their GED via Holland College and Workplace Learning PEI.

Four (4) individuals received their PEI High School Graduation Certificate for Mature Students.

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Ongoing work to design, develop and implement a new Canadian Credential (Made in Canada GED- General Education Development) with national colleagues that will replace the current GED tests administered in Canada. The new tests will be tailored to meet the needs of adults in Canada. Implementation is planned for the Spring of 2024.

School and Student Enrolment Information 2022-2023

Number of Schools by Board by Category										
Board	Primary	Primary	Elementary	Elementary	Elementary	Intermediate	Consolidated	Senior High	Other	Total
	K-2	K-3	K-6	3-6	4-6	7-9	K-9	7-12	K-12	
PSB	1	1	22	1	1	8	12	9	1	56
CSLF	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	5	6
Private	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	5
Total	1	1	23	1	1	8	12	9	11	67

Number of Students by Board by Grade														
Board	K	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	Total
PSB	1382	1489	1445	1519	1522	1424	1560	1581	1624	1705	1720	1639	1588	20,198
CSLF	89	115	117	133	110	109	102	92	79	75	62	69	52	1,204
Private	23	25	34	25	26	19	34	28	41	43	92	100	107	597
Total	1494	1629	1596	1677	1658	1552	1696	1701	1744	1823	1874	1808	1747	21,999

French Immersion Enrolment by Grade														
Grade	K	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	Total
Total	418	418	360	375	354	331	322	553	521	486	390	363	277	5,168

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Financial Statements

Performance Against Budget & Full-Time Equivalents			
	2022-2023	2022-2023	Resources (FTE)
Description	Budget Estimate	Forecast	
Autism Services	\$2,304,800	\$2,304,800	12.00
EAL/FAL	\$677,200	\$677,200	5.00
Early Childhood Development	\$55,219,900	\$50,819,900	31.00
English Education, Programs & Services	\$3,695,400	\$3,695,400	24.00
Educational Services	\$1,811,100	\$1,811,100	17.00
Finance & Administration	\$5,053,800	\$4,873,800	5.00
French Education, Programs & Services	\$3,510,200	\$3,510,200	26.00
Interministerial Women's Secretariat	\$2,708,300	\$3,163,300	7.00
Leadership & Learning	\$3,176,400	\$3,176,400	21.50
Pan-Canadian Joint Consortium for School Health	\$252,800	\$252,800	2.00
Post-Secondary and Continuing Education Operations	\$1,256,500	\$1,256,500	9.00
Post-Secondary Grants	\$89,981,100	\$98,531,100	0.00
Provincial Learning Materials Distribution Centre	\$950,100	\$950,100	2.00
Provincial Library Services	\$3,326,400	\$3,326,400	44.13
Public Archives & Records Office	<u>\$2,388,900</u>	<u>\$1,828,900</u>	36.50
Department Budget Total	\$176,312,900	\$180,177,900	242.13
Revenue (all sources)	<u>\$38,286,100</u>	<u>\$34,711,100</u>	
Net Department Budget	<u>\$138,026,800</u>	<u>\$145,466,800</u>	
PEI Student Financial Assistance Corporation	\$12,075,000	\$12,075,000	
Public Schools Branch	\$255,972,800	\$262,443,800	
La Commission scolaire de langue française	\$20,727,400	\$21,417,400	

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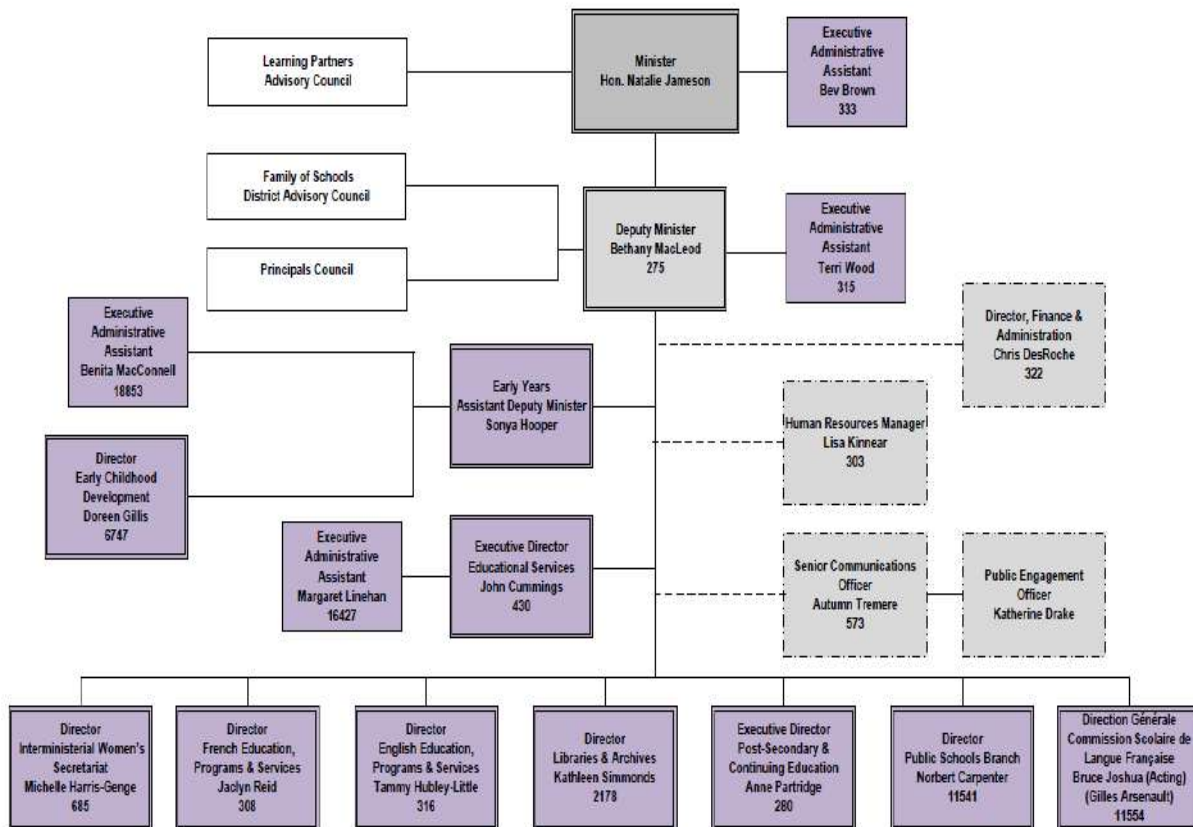
Capital Project Budget, 2022-2023		
Capital Budget Area	Budget Estimate 2022-2023	Forecast 2022-2023
School Construction/School Repairs	\$23,000,000	\$29,281,000
Records Centre Expansion	\$360,000	\$360,000
Total Capital Improvements	\$23,360,000	\$29,641,000
School Bus & Vehicle Replacement	\$7,920,000	\$16,250,000
Trades Training Capital	\$250,000	\$250,000
Classroom Equipment	\$1,600,000	\$1,600,000
Childhood Recreation Fund	\$100,000	\$200,000
Public Library Service Equipment	\$0	\$70,000
Total Equipment Capital	\$1,950,000	\$2,120,000
Total Department Capital Budget	\$33,230,000	\$48,011,000

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Organization Chart

Temporary - white
 Excluded - purple
 Central services assigned - grey

Department of Education and Lifelong Learning



Revision Date: March 29, 2023