

The K-12 Education Review and 2019/20 Funding Announcement



The
Manitoba
Teachers'
Society

WHAT YOU SHOULD KNOW

As you know, the government formally kicked off its long-awaited comprehensive K-12 education review on January 23 with a press conference introducing the Commissioners who will spearhead the review. It followed up the following day with an announcement of educational funding, a mirror image of last year's commitment which, factoring in the rate of inflation, amounts to a third annual cut in funding to Manitoba schools.

K-12 Education Review

Here is what the Manitoba Government has shared.

The K-12 education review will be led by a nine-member Commission tasked with proposing a “renewed vision” for kindergarten-to-Grade 12 education and making “bold recommendations to ignite change” within existing systems and programs that will inspire excellence in teaching and learning.

What will be the focus of the Review?

1. Long-term vision – What should the goals and purpose of K-12 education be in a rapidly changing world?
2. Student learning – What are the conditions required to achieve excellence in student achievement and outcomes in Manitoba?
3. Teaching – How can teachers and school leaders become more effective?
4. Accountability for student learning – How can the education system develop a stronger sense of shared accountability for student learning?
5. Governance – What type of governance structures are needed to create a coordinated and relevant education system?
6. Funding – What actions are required to ensure that the education system is sustainable and provides equitable learning opportunities for all children and youth?

Who are the Commissioners?

Manitoba's Commission on Kindergarten to Grade 12 Education includes Ian Wishart, legislative assistant to the minister of education and training, who will lead public consultation and stakeholder engagement. The eight other commissioners are:

- **Dr. Janice MacKinnon** (co-chair) served as a Saskatchewan cabinet minister from 1991 to 2001.
- **Clayton Manness** (co-chair) was a member of the legislative assembly for Morris from 1981 to 1995, and served as minister of finance, minister of education and training and government house leader.
- **Terry Brown** is an owner and partner of Legacy Bowes Group and the past chair of the Aboriginal Chamber of Commerce.
- **Mark Frison** is president and chief executive officer of Assiniboine Community College.
- **John Daniel** (JD) Lees is a former science teacher at Steinbach Regional Secondary School.
- **Jill Quilty** is a lawyer with Law North Law Corporation and served as a member of the Truth and Reconciliation Academic Working Group, the Ad Hoc Response Committee for Gender Discrimination and the Indigenous, Black and Mi'kmaq Standing Committee.
- **Laurel Repski** served as vice-president (human resources, sustainability and audit) at the University of Winnipeg from 2006 to 2018.
- **Denis Robert** is a retired principal with 32 years' experience in Manitoba schools. He spent the final 23 years of his career at Collège Béliveau, one of Canada's first French immersion schools.

How can Manitobans participate?

All Manitobans are encouraged to participate in the consultation process, which will run from February to May 2019.

You can participate by attending a public meeting, submitting a written report or filling out the online survey.

MTS will participate as a stakeholder but it is especially important that teachers from across the province take the time to add their voice to this review.

The Commission will also seek input from students.

What is the timeline?

- Online engagement and public and stakeholder meetings – February – May 2019
- Analysis and formulation of recommendations – June 2019 – January 2020

- Recommendations to the Minister of Education and Training – February 2020
- Public release – March 2020
- Provincial election – October 2020

For more information about the review visit www.edu.gov.mb.ca/educationreview/.

Here is how the Manitoba Teachers' Society will participate

The Manitoba Teachers' Society will be intensely involved in the Education Review, and will speak up at every opportunity and in every forum available.

We will encourage and support local associations who wish to do the same - and we'll guarantee that staff will attend every public meeting.

Count on us to keep you current on the dates and venues of public and stakeholder meetings, share the most recent developments through email and social media and the Manitoba Teacher.

We want you to know the issues and be able to communicate our position so that our collective voices cannot be ignore.

Public Schools Funding Announcement 2019/20

This MTS News Release was shared with all Manitoba media outlets, plus provincial executive and staff, on January 24.

Public school funding announced against Education Review backdrop

2019-20 funds not nearly enough to maintain programs

For the third year in a row, the Manitoba government has announced a real dollar drop in funding for public schools. And the prospect of doing more with even less next school year against the background of a major K-12 education review does not sit well with Manitoba teachers.

"No matter how you slice it, a 0.5% "increase" doesn't even play catch up to roughly 2% inflation and increases in student enrollment," says Manitoba Teachers' Society President Norm Gould. "Teachers face more diverse student needs than ever. This announcement will not help."

In addition, Gould says the province is once again directing divisions to cap increases to their local education property tax at two per cent for the 2019-20 school year and will ask divisions to continue to cut administrative costs.

A detailed backgrounder sheet distributed along with today's government news release detailed winners and losers among individual divisions, "with fewer getting increases", said Gould.

As for yesterday's announcement of the K-12 Education Review Commission, the MTS President says the Society is onboard.

“We are pleased to see the education review getting underway and we’re hopeful that the recommendations will address funding shortfalls for public schools so that students can get the resources and help they need in every corner of the province.”

Click below for **Points to Consider** on the Funding Announcement and more.

<http://www.mbteach.org/mtscms/2019/01/28/2019-20-funding-announcement/>

Manitoba Government News Release

<https://news.gov.mb.ca/news/?item=44961&posted=2019-01-24>

Click below for Impact of 2019-20 funding announcement on School Divisions.

https://news.gov.mb.ca/asset_library/en/newslinks/2019/01/BG-School_Funding-ET.pdf

Media Round Up: Education Funding Announcement and K-12 Review

There has been a flurry of media activity leading to both the Education Review and Funding Announcements. Click below to access all of it including the MTS President’s comments.

<http://www.mbteach.org/mtscms/2019/01/28/2019-20-funding-announcement/>



Participate in the Manitoba Government K-12 Education Review.

Consultation process runs from February to May 2019.

www.edu.gov.mb.ca/educationreview/