

# Education

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## Executive summary

Effective April 1, 2002, Cabinet amalgamated the Department of Education with the Department of Post-Secondary Education and Skills Training to form the Department of Learning.

This chapter focuses on the Kindergarten to Grade 12 education system.

In the first part of this chapter, we provide a brief overview of the Department's role, goals, and key risks and report the results of audits of the Department and its four agencies. We note the Department's progress in moving school divisions towards preparing better financial and non-financial information. The Department, legislators, and the public need this information to assess school divisions' performance in achieving the Goals of Education. We report that each agency prepared reliable financial statements. However, two of the agencies need to provide their financial statements to legislators faster. We also report that the Teachers' Superannuation Commission needs to improve its processes to ensure it invests \$231 million of its over \$1 billion of investments in accordance with the law.

In the second part, we focus on one of the ways the Department encourages schools divisions to use the provincial curriculum successfully. The Department formally evaluates the extent to which school divisions implement the curriculum and reports its results publicly. In these reports, the Department routinely makes recommendations to improve the use of the curriculum. To effect change, the recommendations must be implemented. We report that the Department adequately follows up on these recommendations with one exception. It needs to establish processes to monitor action taken and to report progress towards achieving specific recommendations.