

EDUCATION FUNDING MODEL REVIEW TEAM TERMS OF REFERENCE

PURPOSE

A new funding model for Kindergarten to Grade 12 education in Manitoba will create a system of fair and sustainable funding for schools, providing more opportunities and supports for all students in Manitoba, no matter where they live. Manitoba is the only province to set taxes at the school division level, which leads to disparities in funding and outcomes for students. The Commission on K to 12 Education recommended moving away from education property taxes, and in 2021 the Manitoba government launched an initiative to phase out these taxes.

The new funding model will simplify funding to schools, better support specialized learning needs, and create predictability in funding. This will support planning and provide flexibility to address local needs.

The Funding Model Review Team will provide input and inform the development of the new education funding model.

SCOPE AND OUTCOMES

The Funding Model Review Team provides

- feedback and recommendations on the development of the education funding model at key points within the design process
- a forum for members to communicate their perspectives, experiences, and knowledge
- representation of community and diverse interests in the development of a new education funding model

The new funding model will be in place for the 2023/24 school year.

COMPOSITION AND TIMELINE

The panel will comprise up to 20 members from the education sector and from stakeholder organizations. From the education sector, membership will ensure perspectives from public and independent schools, as well as a teacher and a parent representative.

It is expected that the team will meet monthly or more frequently at key points within the project life cycle. The first meeting will convene in December 2021. Meeting dates and next steps will be

developed in consultation and confirmed at each meeting. Meetings will be held virtually until it is deemed safe to meet in person.

The term of the Funding Model Review Team is for the duration of the development of the new education funding model (2021 to 2023). Determination of the need for an ongoing consultative committee on education funding beyond this time frame will be reviewed upon the launch of the new model.

SELECTION CRITERIA

The Funding Model Review Team will include individuals who

- are respected and proven experts in the education sector, including those with a background in programming, funding, and student outcomes
- have lived experience in the area of education funding, with insightful knowledge of challenges and promising practices
- represent sectors with significant connections to education funding and are recognized and respected in their sector/organizations
- represent communities and areas of the province with unique funding considerations
- can dedicate the time for meetings, discussions, and reflection
- are passionate about the future of K to 12 education in Manitoba

REPORTING STRUCTURE

The Project Lead for the Funding Model Review will chair the Team. Staff from the Department of Education will facilitate and support the work of the Team and will be responsible for the design of the new education funding model and implementation plan. Department staff will prepare research, analyses, and other support materials for input from the Funding Model Review Team.