



August 2006

**TO:** Superintendents of School Divisions/Districts  
Principals of Schools – Grades 9 to 12 (Senior 1 to Senior 4)  
Directors of First Nation Education Authorities  
Manitoba Teachers' Society  
Manitoba Association of School Trustees  
Manitoba Association of School Superintendents  
Council of School Leaders  
Manitoba Association of Parent Councils

Dear Colleagues:

**Subject: Consultation Sessions Focusing on Changes to Senior Years  
Programs and Graduation Requirements**

In April 2006, Manitoba Education, Citizenship and Youth held consultation sessions seeking feedback on the following questions:

- Eliminating the Senior Years Technology Education Program Diploma
- Instituting a new provincial Specialty Certificate for students achieving the minimum of 8 credits in a provincially approved technology education cluster
- Maintaining the present 28 credits for high school graduation or adopting a new 30 credit graduation requirement (to accommodate the addition of two compulsory credits for Grades 11 and 12 (S3 and S4) physical education/health education).

The sessions in Brandon, Winnipeg, and The Pas were well attended by principals, superintendents, teachers, consultants and trustees. Participants provided written feedback to the Department in the form of divisional responses. The sessions stimulated discussion among the participants and a variety of views on the three questions surfaced. Generally, no consensus emerged with regards to the direction the Department should take on any of the questions outlined above. A variety of opinions, both pros and cons, were noted for each of the issues and some common themes emerged. Reports on the consultations are available on the Department's website at <[www.edu.gov.mb.ca/k12/policy/grad\\_require.html](http://www.edu.gov.mb.ca/k12/policy/grad_require.html)>.

The Department will take this feedback into consideration as we examine options for changes to Senior Years programs.

Thank you for your participation in this consultation process.

Sincerely,  
Jean-Vianney Auclair  
Assistant Deputy Minister  
Bureau de l'éducation française Division

Anne Longston  
Acting Assistant Deputy Minister  
School Programs Division