

## APPENDIX C

### Assessments Conducted Under the Provincial Degree Granting Acts

(Services to Provinces: NB, NS)

- The Commission, at the Minister's request, conducts a variety of assessments under the New Brunswick Degree Granting Act (on a cost-recovery basis). At year-end, the Commission had concluded the following assessments:
  - **Master of Arts in Counselling Psychology (existing) – Yorkville University:** The Commission conducted a review of Yorkville's MACP program in accordance with the Minister's decision stemming from a 2012-13 assessment. The review focused on implementation of Yorkville's proposed action plan and adherence to assessments standards and conditions earlier identified. The Commission advised the Minister that the MACP program "as delivered, does not (yet) appear to correspond to the standards usually associated with the credential" and recommended a change in degree name. It further recommended the program undergo a follow-up review in two years and identified specific areas for reporting, annually to the Minister and for the follow-up, relating to course revisions and alignment with rubrics/policies/criteria; the practicum component; and students' progression through the program. It also recommended immediate hiring related to the practicum component. Given that designation of the MACP was to expire in April 2014, the MPHEC further recommended the designation be extended until after the two-year follow-up. The Minister announced in April 2014 that the institution is required to undergo a follow-up review as recommended by the MPHEC and that this review is to occur in March 2016; it did not require a change in program name and renewed the designation for another ten-year period subject to conditions, including the aforementioned review. Other conditions are to be addressed in annual reporting to the Minister and in the follow-up assessment as recommended by the MPHEC.
  - **Master of Business Administration / Executive Master of Business Administration (existing) – University of Fredericton:** The Commission conducted a review of the University of Fredericton's MBA and EMBA programs in accordance with the conditions to designation for all programs under the NBDGA. The MPHEC advised the Minister that the programs "appeared to continue to correspond to the standards usually associated with these credentials" on the condition that a full-time senior academic leader be hired and that a two-year follow-up review be undertaken. In addition to the standard elements of the review, the Commission recommended specific evidence to be provided (related to program advertising and correspondence, academic policies, governing bodies, Key Performance Indicators, and professional development/assessment). The Minister announced in September 2014 that the University of Fredericton is required to undergo a follow-up review as recommended by the Commission and that this is to occur in fall 2016; other conditions to be addressed in advance of the review, and as part of the review, were outlined as recommended by the Commission.
  - **Master of Education, Specializations in Educational Leadership and Inclusive Education (new), and Adult Education (follow-up) – Yorkville University:** The Commission conducted a review of Yorkville University's MEd in Adult Education in accordance with the initial condition to designation; in concert with that review, at the request of the Minister, the MPHEC also carried out an assessment of two new specializations in Educational Leadership and Inclusive Education as well as a proposed modification to the Adult Education program. In response to findings resulting from the MPHEC review, Yorkville chose to withdraw the Inclusive Education program. The Commission advised the Minister that the Adult Education program "appears to meet the conditions that were identified by the Minister" and "appears to be developing appropriately" with conditions identified that apply to both the Adult Education and Educational Leadership specializations (i.e., that Yorkville fully implement its action plan in advance of new admissions). The Commission further advised the Minister that the Educational Leadership program "appeared to correspond to the standards normally associated with the proposed credential" on the condition that it be subject to a two-year follow-up review that could be carried out in parallel to the five-year assessment of the Adult Education program (which is required of all programs designated under the NBDGA); specific areas for reporting (annually, and for the aforementioned reviews) were identified (relating to implementation of Yorkville's action plan; faculty resources; and students' progression through the program). The MPHEC recommended other specific conditions for the Educational Leadership program, including, among others, that Yorkville be required to proactively communicate to students whether the Educational Leadership specialization is accepted in the Province for certification upgrading, and where the program has been accepted for such certification outside NB as well as specific work experience requirements for students pursuing the Educational Administration micro-specialization. The MPHEC further advised the Minister that did not have any concerns with the proposed Adult Education modifications. The Minister announced in September 2014 that the Adult Education program would maintain its designation subject to the conditions as recommended by the Commission; in March 2015, the Minister announced that the Educational Leadership program had been designated subject to a two-year follow-up review to occur in early 2017 and with the conditions as recommended by the Commission.
- At year-end, the following assessment was also underway:
  - **Bachelor of Business Administration (follow-up review) – Yorkville University:** this assessment is being carried out on request of the Minister and in accordance with the initial (March 2012) conditions to designation. The assessment also includes consideration of a proposed program modification.
- In November 2014, the Commission approved a (pilot) framework for the assessment of proposed modifications to programs designated under the NBDGA. Procedures for such assessments will be posted to the MPHEC website.
- No assessments were undertaken under the Nova Scotia Degree Granting Act.