Developing Indicators to Measure Success

It is my pleasure to report on the Post-Secondary Education Indicators Project introduced by Advanced Education Minister Scott Moe in May 2015. The project focuses on credentialed education and includes all Saskatchewan post-secondary institutions – public, private and aboriginal.

The indicators support improvement in the post-secondary education system and highlight its successes and contribution to Saskatchewan. The Project represents strong collaboration across the post-secondary sector, building on work already underway.

Please accept my best wishes for the holiday season and the new year ahead.

Kick Off Event
October 2015

Participants from across the post-secondary education sector met to discuss the project. The feedback was positive and sector partners endorsed the initiative. Action has been taken on the concerns identified:

• Include the regional colleges and the aboriginal institutions on the Senior Management Committee
• Identify project objectives and how the data/information will be used
• Focus on on-going communication as required
• Incorporate a First Nations and Métis perspective into the indicators framework
• Ensure data integrity
• Investigate potential leading indicators
• Monitor the impact on financial and human resources

Objectives

The post-secondary indicators will:

• Increase the sector’s profile and demonstrate its return on investment
  ➢ Profile sector outcomes in a public document
• Support consistent and comparable sector-wide reporting
  ➢ Report progress related to government and Ministry plans
• Provide quantitative evidence to support decision-making, continuous sector improvement and the development of public policy
  ➢ Provide sector data to inform policy and budget decisions
• Allow for comparisons with other jurisdictions within the Saskatchewan context

Louise Greenberg
Deputy Minister of Advanced Education

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The pilot phase involves the Senior Management Committee made up of the universities, Sask Polytech, the regional colleges and aboriginal institutions. The universities and Sask Polytech provide the majority of credentialed education and have greater capacity for participation. The rest of the sector and additional indicators will be brought into the project in stages.

Committees and Groups

Senior Management Committee

The Senior Management Committee oversees the pilot project and development of indicators. It provides direction to the working groups and acts on their recommendations. Members liaise with their own institution on matters pertinent to the project.

Members:

Chair - David Boehm, Advanced Education

University of Regina - Brian Christie

Sask Polytech - Reg Urbanowski

University of Saskatchewan - John Rigby

Aboriginal Institutions - Brett Vandale, Dumont Technical Institute; Kim Fraser-Saddleback, SIIT

Regional Colleges - Shelley Romanyszyn-Cross

Member - Linda Smith, Advanced Education

Secretariat - Jan Gray, Kate McGovern, Patrice Kelly Advanced Education

Indicators Working Group

The Indicators Working Group develops and recommends sector-wide data definitions, collection and reporting protocols and their implementation. The Indicators Working Group has focused on comparable data definitions and variables for credentials, graduates, enrolment and tuition.

Information Technology Working Group

In collaboration with the Indicators Working Group, the Information Technology Working Group makes recommendations on the data management system, based on its assessment of various options to the Senior Management Committee. The Information Technology Working Group has met once to develop a work plan and will commence regular meetings in February 2016.

Projected Timelines 2015-2020

Sept 2015 - Sept 2017
- Initial indicator development and data collection
- IT solution for collection and reporting identified
- First public report

Sept 2016 - Sept 2019
- Number of indicators increases annually
- Number of institutions reporting and number of indicators increase annually

Sept 2020
- All institutions report on all indicators

For more information or to provide feedback

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