Dear Sir/Madam:

**New Process for Grant Applications for Literacy Projects**

With the release of our Strategic Literacy Plan, government is embarking on a new direction to enhance literacy development in Newfoundland and Labrador.

We are pleased to announce the establishment of a Strategic Literacy Funding Committee which will review proposals based on the directions outlined in our new Strategic Literacy Plan. This committee, which replaces the grants review committees of both the National Literacy Secretariat (NLS) and the Literacy Development Council, has been established in the spirit of finding a new and better way to coordinate federal and provincial literacy funding consistent with the Strategic Literacy Plan, with a value-added role for organizations represented on the committee.

We also have the pleasure of officially announcing that the Minister of Human Resources Development Canada, the Honourable Jane Stewart, has agreed to partner with the Department of Education and the Literacy Development Council to establish an Endowment Fund for literacy development. Monies from this fund, which we intend to grow through attracting donations, will be used along with the annual NLS funding to support initiatives in the area of adult literacy. In addition, government has awarded $500,000 to the Literacy Development Council which, together with a portion of its annual grant, will be used to implement initiatives in all areas outlined in the Plan. Through this funding committee, all partners will ensure our strategic priorities are achieved.

Enclosed you will find the 2000/2001 application package for literacy project funding offered by the Literacy Development Council of Newfoundland and Labrador and the National Literacy Secretariat (NLS), Human Resources Development Canada, in collaboration with the Department of Education. You are encouraged to read these documents carefully prior to preparing an application. Proposals will be recommended for funding based on their ability to meet the priorities outlined in the Strategic Literacy Plan and the attached Guidelines. The Strategic Literacy Funding Committee looks forward to reviewing your literacy project application.

Sincerely,

JUDYM.FOOTE,M.H.A.
Grand Bank District Minister

WILLIAM T. FAGAN
Chairperson
Literacy Development Council