##### Private Acquisitions Strategy:

### Analysis Report of the Education Sector in Ontario

July 2014

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### 1. Executive Summary

The purpose of this report is to carry forward key recommendations from the Archives of Ontario Private Acquisitions Strategy by conducting examinations of Ontario’s major sectors. This report highlights sub-sectors or areas within the private education sector which are likely to generate records of provincial significance.

The Ministry of Education administers the system of publicly funded elementary and secondary school education in Ontario. The Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities is responsible for the administration of laws relating to postsecondary education and skills training. These two ministries create many kinds of records that document their functions and activities, but do not document all of the provincially significant education activities in Ontario.

The identification and appraisal of activities within the education sector will drive and support private records acquisition policy for education sector records in the *Archives of Ontario Private Acquisitions Strategy*.

While specific organizations and bodies have been cited for illustrative purposes within this report as examples of the kinds of organizations, associations, and other bodies which could be acquired, it is not the intention of this report to provide such a low-level review.

### 2. Overview of the Education Sector in Ontario

Education has long been a priority of the Ontario government. The education sector, and “a renewed partnership with . . . educational institutions” were among Premier Kathleen Wynne’s priorities in her February 19, 2013 Speech from the Throne.[[1]](#footnote-1) Protecting education was identified as one of three aims of Ontario’s 2012 budget.[[2]](#footnote-2) In the 2011-2012 fiscal year, the Ontario Government spent an estimated $24 billion on education.[[3]](#footnote-3) The sector is obviously important to both the Ontario Government, and to the citizens of the province.

The Ministry of Education and the Ontario Government play an active role in the education of Ontarians, introducing full day Kindergarten in 2011 and implementing legislation such as the *Putting Students First Act* in 2012.

Education in Ontario falls under provincial jurisdiction. The Ministry of Education administers publicly funded primary and secondary schools, while the Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities oversees colleges and universities. Ontario operates four publicly funded school systems: an English-language public school system, a French-language public school system, an English language separate school system and a French language separate school system.

Ontario allows private schools that meet provincial standards to offer the Ontario Secondary School Diploma. Ontario’s private schools are regulated by the province's Ministry of Education, and must meet their standards.

Activities related to education also appear in the private sector in the form of professional associations of educators, advocacy groups, labour organizations, research and advancement organizations, and in the work of important individuals.

As Education continues to be a priority for the province of Ontario, it remains important to examine these areas of the private sector for records of lasting provincial significance.

### 3. Analysis of Archives of Ontario Holdings

In examining the holdings of the Archives of Ontario, a search of the Archives Descriptive Database was undertaken to determine what records have been acquired from the private sector that complement the functions of the government with respect to the administration and regulation of education. This revealed that the Archives’ holdings contain a fairly representative collection of private records documenting some of the functions carried out by the Ministry of Education and the Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities.

The Archives of Ontario Appraisal Focus Report: Functional Analysis for the Ministry of Education and Select Agencies: Education Quality & Accountability Office, Minister’s Advisory Council on Special Education, Provincial Schools Authority (2008) identifies the Ministry’s six core functions as:

1. Developing policy for Elementary and Secondary Schools

2. Developing Elementary and Secondary Schools’ curricula

3. Developing learning resources

4. Assessing students

5. Funding public Elementary and Secondary schools

6. Supporting teachers and setting standards for teacher qualification

The Ministry is also responsible for four other functions:

1. Operating Provincial schools

2. Inspecting Private schools

3. Managing labour relations with Teachers

4. Managing, analysing and reporting information

The Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities is responsible for the following five core functions:

1. Developing policy on postsecondary issues

2. Developing policy on labour market and training issues

3. Funding and monitoring of postsecondary students and institutions and providers of training and adult education

4. Regulation of private institutions

5. Providing training, skills development and workplace mobility

Currently, the Archives has some representation within its private records holdings for 10 of the 15 identified functions.

While some of these functions, such as operating provincial schools or funding public elementary and secondary schools are the responsibility solely of the Government of Ontario, many of these functions can be reflected in some capacity in the Archives’ private records holdings. An example of this is F 1219, Ontario Music Educators’ Association fonds. The records in this fonds help to document the private sector’s understanding of the function of “supporting teachers and setting standards for teacher qualification,” because one of the primary activities of the organization is to provide its members with curriculum resources and professional development.

Other fonds in the Archives’ holdings that help to document the identified functions include F 1195, Ontario Library Association fonds, which helps to document the function of “developing learning resources” in the private sector, and F 4646, Inez Elliston fonds, which helps to document the function of “developing policy for elementary and secondary schools.”

### 4. Methodology for Analyzing the Education Sector

Sub-sector Identifications

Sub-sectors within the Education sector were selected based upon an analysis of major activities related to education, educators and other significant education activities known to occur within Ontario. Sub-sectors were identified based upon the major categories of organizations, bodies and individuals known to be involved or have an interest in such activities within the private sector.

Exclusions and Limitations

This section provides an overview of certain sectors or categories in the Ontario education sector which were excluded from the analysis.

Records of closed private schools are held by the Ministry of Education, and are therefore excluded from this analysis.

Records of residential schools attended by First Nations children are primarily held by Indian Residential Schools Resolution Canada, and are therefore excluded from this analysis.

Some records of dissolved Ontario school boards are held by the Archives of Ontario. Local school boards may, under the authority of the *Education Act,* *Section 171(1), 38,* ask the Archives of Ontario to provide for the archival retention of their records. The Archives does not actively seek to acquire these records, and therefore, they have been excluded from this analysis.

### 5. Analysis of Education Sub-Sectors

This section examines the scope of Education Sector records with respect to:

1. Identifying and defining sub-sectors and categories within the Education Sector,
2. Making connections between private sector activities and government functions,
3. Identifying existing holdings in the Archives of Ontario related to the Education Sector (containing records dated 1980-CCY),
4. Identifying possible acquisition targets in the private sector,
5. Providing a rationale for the importance of acquiring documentation within a sub-sector or category, and
6. Identifying level of acquisition priority for each sub-sector based upon the rationale.

Education Sector Sub-sectors and categories

For the purposes of analysis, the activities within the Education Sector have been divided into the following sub-sectors and categories.

1. Publicly funded educational institutions
2. Privately funded educational institutions
3. Professional associations
4. Education, advocacy and labour organizations
5. Research and advancement organizations
6. Individuals and educators.

Government Functional Linkages

The functional linkages provided in the following table are based upon the Appraisal Focus Report: Functional Analysis for the Ministry of Education and Select Agencies: Education Quality & Accountability Office, Minister’s Advisory Council on Special Education, Provincial Schools Authority (2008) which identifies the two Ministries’ 15 core functions as:

1. Developing policy for Elementary and Secondary Schools
2. Developing Elementary and Secondary Schools’ curricula
3. Developing learning resources
4. Assessing students
5. Funding public Elementary and Secondary schools
6. Supporting teachers and setting standards for teacher qualification
7. Operating Provincial schools
8. Inspecting Private schools
9. Managing labour relations with Teachers
10. Managing, analysing and reporting information
11. Developing policy on postsecondary issues
12. Developing policy on labour market and training issues
13. Funding and monitoring of postsecondary students and institutions and providers of training and adult education
14. Regulation of private institutions
15. Providing training, skills development and workplace mobility

| **Education Sub-sector / Category** | **Sub-sector / category description** | **Government Function and responsible ministry** | **Related Archives of Ontario private holdings (1980-CCY)** | **Sub-sector / category Appraisal Rationale** | **Secondary considerations** | **Priority:High** (AO has little to no documentation), **Medium** (AO has some documentation), **Low** (AO has significant documentation) |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Publicly funded educational institutions | This sub-sector includes educational institutions that are funded and regulated by either the Ministry of Education or the Ministry of Training, College and Universities.  | Funding and monitoring of postsecondary students, institutions and providers of training and adult education, (Training Colleges and Universities) Developing policy on postsecondary issues (TCU) Funding public Elementary and Secondary schools (Education), Developing policy for Elementary and Secondary Schools (EDU),  | C 238 Anne M. Logan fonds,C 96 Ryerson Polytechnical Institute fonds, F 1405-94-70 Wai Chun Chik textual records, RG LS 51 Local School Board Records. | Records created in this sub-sector document citizen-state interaction as students engage with publicly funded educational institutions. They also document how education is delivered in Ontario, and complement Ontario Government records that document the policies and practices that guide the delivery of education in Ontario. | The archives has some records documenting this sub-sector. While the archival significance of many post-secondary institutions is high, these institutions tend to maintain their own archives, and so the likelihood of acquiring records while the institutions exist is low. The significance of acquiring public primary and secondary school records would be as examples of the delivery of education in the province, rather than as provincially significant on their own. | MEDIUM |
| Privately funded educational institutions | This sub-sector includes educational institutions and organizations that are funded privately and are not administered by public school boards under the direction of the Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities or the Ministry of Education. | Inspecting Private schools (EDU), Funding and monitoring of postsecondary students, institutions and providers of training and adult education (TCU), Regulation of private institutions (TCU) | F 1406-19 Latvian National Federation in Canada Hamilton language schoolF 1406-31 Toronto Latvian Society Language School recordsF 4619-7 Records related to OHCG schools and regional workshopsF 1164 Toronto Dance Theatre fondsF 229-419 Eaton School of Retail records | Records created in this sub-sector document the experience of Ontario citizens as they receive privately funded education. They also document the delivery of private education in Ontario, and complement the Ontario Government records that document their regulation and inspection. | The archives has some records documenting this sub-sector. Many schools maintain their own archives. Also of note, secondary student records of closed private schools are maintained by the Ministry of Education, and records of schools attended by First Nations students can be accessed via Indian Residential Schools Resolution Canada. | MEDIUM |
| Professional associations | This sub-sector includes associations of professionals working in the fields of providing or promoting education. | Supporting teachers and setting standards for teacher qualification (EDU), Providing training, skills development and workplace mobility (TCU) | F 1219 Ontario Music Educators' Association fondsF 4355-1 Ontario School Board Reform Network (OSBRN) correspondence and administration filesF 4435 Ontario Family Studies / Home Economic Educators Association fonds | Records created in this sub-sector document self-regulating bodies of educators in Ontario. They also complement functions of the Ministries of Education and Training, Colleges and Universities (providing training, skills development, setting standards for teacher qualification). | The archives has some records documenting this sub-sector. | MEDIUM |
| Education, advocacy and labour organizations | This sub-sector includes organizations with a mandate to advocate and lobby for education and teachers within the province. | Managing labour relations with Teachers (Education), Developing policy on labour market and training issues (TCU) | F 1217 Workers' Educational Association fonds, F 1289 CUPE Ontario fonds, F 1204 J.R. Kidd fonds | Records created in this sub-sector document the function of managing labour relations with teachers and documents how developed policies rolled out. These records would also complement records series created by the Government of Ontario to document the same function. | The archives has some records documenting this sub-sector. | MEDIUM |
| Research and advancement organizations | This sub-sector includes organizations that conduct research in education and advocate for students with exceptionalities or other barriers to learning. | Developing learning resources (EDU) Developing policy for Elementary and Secondary Schools (EDU) Developing policy on postsecondary issues (TCU) | F 1195 Ontario Library Association fonds, F 2117 COSTI - IIAS Immigrant Services fonds, F 4615 Ontario Council for Exceptional Children fonds, F 1229 Ontario Federation of Home and School Associations fonds | Records created by organizations in this sub-sector document the experience of Ontarians with exceptionalities or other barriers to learning. They also create records documenting research and innovation in education. | The archives has some records documenting this sub-sector. | MEDIUM |
| Individuals and educators | This sub-sector includes individuals who have made significant contributions in the areas of research, development and other advancements in providing and promoting education in Ontario. | Supporting teachers and setting standards for teacher qualification (EDU) | F 9 George S. Henry family fondsF 15 John P. Robarts fondsF 2094 Clare Westcott fondsF 2190 D'Arcy Martin fondsF 4355 Paul W. Bennett fondsF 4640 Harry K. Fisher fondsF 1204 J.R. Kidd fondsF 4646 Inez Elliston fonds | Records created by individuals in this sub-sector document the lives and work of Ontarians, who have contributed significantly to the province of Ontario. | The archives has some records documenting this sub-sector. | MEDIUM |

1. The Way Forward, Premier Kathleen Wynne http://www.premier.gov.on.ca/news/thronespeech.php?Lang=EN [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. Strong Action for Ontario 2012, Ontario Budget, Queen’s Printer for Ontario, 2012 http://www.fin.gov.on.ca/en/budget/ontariobudgets/2012/budhi.pdf [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. Ministry of Education – The Estimates 2012-2013 - Summary http://www.fin.gov.on.ca/en/budget/estimates/2012-13/volume1/EDU.html [↑](#footnote-ref-3)