

Health and Safety Committee
Annual Report 2023-2024

The mandate of the Health and Safety Committee is to:

- a. advise and make recommendations to the Provincial Executive on health and safety issues;
- b. advise the Provincial Executive on methods to promote Member participation on Regional Joint Occupational Health and Safety Committees.
- c. make recommendations to the Provincial Executive regarding professional development workshops to assist members with health and safety issues as defined by the *Nova Scotia Occupational Health and Safety Act*;
- d. consider such resolutions submitted to Annual Council to make recommendations for Council's consideration where appropriate; and,
- e. participate as required in the NSTU Policy Review Process by providing recommendations for the Provincial Executive's consideration.

This year, the Committee was composed of:

- Denise Palmer, Chair (Colchester-East Hants)
- Emily Atkinson (Halifax City)
- Paul Murphy (Halifax County)
- Randy Lucas (Northside-Victoria)
- Keli Brewer (Cape Breton)
- Melissa Deveau (Executive Member – Annapolis)
- Jeff Morse (NSTU Staff Liaison)

Meeting dates:

December 8, 2023, February 25, 2024 (virtual), & April 19, 2024.

During the year, the committee:

- Reviewed the mandate and composition of the Committee;
- Revised the Workplace Health and Safety "Right to Refuse" flowchart;
- Researched and reviewed OHS training practices in different bargaining units;
- Received information and training from in-house legal, NSTU president, and a Safety Advisor from the NS Department of Labour, Skills, and Immigration.
- Discussed violence in the workplace and the reporting process per OHS guidelines;
- Discussed simplification of the OHS materials presented on the NSTU website;

Expenses:

The expenditures for the Health and Safety Committee during the 2023-24 year were \$1835.46 from the total budgeted amount of \$3700.00.