

**Year End Report**  
**Professional Associations Coordinating Committee**  
**2018-2019**

The Professional Associations Coordinating Committee (PACC) is a group of dedicated leaders who endeavor to support professional learning and member engagement across subject and professional areas. There are 21 professional associations of the NSTU.

**Mandate:**

The mandate of the Professional Associations Coordinating Committee is:

- a. To review resolutions forwarded by Professional Associations prior to submission to the Provincial Executive
- b. To recommend policy to the Provincial Executive with regard to the operation of Professional Associations
- c. To make recommendations to the Provincial Executive regarding the formation or disbandment of Professional Associations
- d. To advise the Provincial Executive on Professional Association matters
- e. To monitor the financial status of Professional Associations
- f. To assist the officers of Professional Associations in organizing, managing and directing the business and affairs of their respective Associations
- g. To receive the annual reports of Professional Associations
- h. To organize and facilitate an annual Professional Associations Conference
- i. Such other functions or tasks as assigned by the Provincial Executive of the NSTU

There were many discussions on the topic of the difficulties that the associations faced with the online registration process this year. Our focus then shifted to discussions about a suggestion that associations should consider offering satellite sessions in different locations. The goal would be that members would have easy access to October conferences.

**Committee Members:**

Joe MacDonald (MTA) - Math Teachers Association  
Danielle LeBlanc (BETA) - Business Education Teachers Association  
Kelly Brewer (NSMEA) - Nova Scotia Music Educators Association  
Denise Boulton (SPA) - Speech-Language Pathologists and Audiologists Association  
Tim Taylor – (ATA) – Art Teachers Association  
Sandra Keddy (ATENS) - Association of Teachers of English of Nova Scotia  
David MacFarlane (MTA)  
Gerald Reber (PE member)  
Paul Syme, Staff Liaison, semester one  
Adela Njie, Staff Liaison, semester two

**Committee Meeting Dates:**

October 5<sup>th</sup>, 2018  
November 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2018  
April 18, 2019

### PALC Conference

PACC hosted the Professional Associations Leadership Conference (PALC) in November 2018. The focus of the conference was an effort to allow representatives from the different associations the time to network and share ideas. Presidents from the different associations appreciated the opportunity to discuss the online registration process.

### PA Support

One of our Professional Associations, the Nova Scotia Language Teachers Association (NSLTA) had been unable to maintain an Executive and had not been able to host an October conference for two consecutive years. With supports, a language conference was offered in October 2018 and two members from their newly formed executive attended our PALC sessions. The PACC also discussed the importance of support the Speech Pathologists, Psychologists and Counselors as their position within the NSTU is being modified by the hiring of contracted, non-union staff. The PACC discussed the challenges faced by the TAPHE (Physical Education Teachers). Their members have expressed concerns with the new report cards that no longer require comments for Physical Education. The PACC also support their efforts to be recognized as physical education teachers and not “gym teachers”.

### Annual Council

Professional Associations’ presidents/ delegates attended and participated as voting delegates.

Two resolutions relating to satellite sessions had been proposed. ***(I was unable to attend the AGM, I know there was a question as to whether those resolutions might be withdrawn)***

***I also think that there may have been a resolution to add PAs into the NSTU by-laws.***

- Resolution going to Annual Council that would see Professional Associations added to the NSTU By-Laws for the first time.
- There is a new model constitution coming. Louis will be sending out a memo to the PA’s with their current constitution.

### Recommendations:

The committee recommends that associations consider hosting sessions outside of Halifax. Associations are also encouraged to consider hosting satellite sessions in order to reach members living outside of HRM. The PACC recommends that the October conference online registration process be modified and improved. The PACC feels that the opportunity for networking at the PALC is extremely valuable. The PACC recommends that there be more interactive sessions at the PALC.

### Budget

The Committee budget for 2018 – 2019 was \$7,680 and the Committee spent \$3,041.

### Acknowledgements

PACC would like to acknowledge the support of NSTU Staff:

Bev Tufts for her commitment to October Conference registration, PA websites and email, and other technical and logistical support.

Melanie Waye for financial advice, support and information, reports for executive meetings, and prompt consideration of professional associations’ needs.

Toni Maggio for administrative and other logistical support in the fall of 2018 conference season

Paul Syme, Gerard Cormier and Adela Ndji for staff support, meetings, minutes, and focus/ themes for discussion and PALC conference organization.

PACC would also recognize the passing of long time NSTU member and Provincial Executive representative of PACC, Allister Wadden.

Respectfully submitted,  
Danielle LeBlanc, Chair