

Professional Development Committee
Year End Report 2014-2015

Mandate:

The mandate of the Professional development Committee is:

- To support and develop strategies and programs to promote professional development for the membership of the Nova Scotia Teachers Union at the individual, school, Local and provincial levels.
- To provide advice to the Provincial Executive on matters relating to professional development and in-service education.
- To monitor the professional development needs of the membership.
- To liaise with the Local Professional Development Committees.
- To meet annually to identify themes and topics for future issues of Aviso
 - to set editorial policy
 - to set advertising policy
 - to evaluate issues of Aviso
- To make recommendations with regard to future directions for the publications; and to prepare recommendations for the Provincial Executive.
- To consider such resolutions as may be referred by Annual Council and make appropriate recommendations for the Provincial Executive.
- To participate as required in the NSTU Policy Review Process by providing recommendations for Provincial Executive consideration.

Activities of the PD Committee include:

- Administering the Out-of-Province Grants
- Administering the Full Time Study Grants
- Administering the NSTU Summer Travel Fellowship Grant Program
- Administering the NSTU Education Research Award Program
- Supporting and assisting Local PD Committees
- Offering professional development opportunities, in cooperation with Local PD Committees, to enhance skills at the Local PD Committee level
- Recommending policy to the Provincial Executive on matters relative to the professional development needs of the membership

The NSTU Professional Development Committee for the 2014-2015 school year was comprised of the following members:

Lori Richard (Chair, Inverness)
Ian Kent (Queens)
Tanya Chisholm (Halifax County)
Tanya Samson (Richmond)
Raylene Nicholson (Cape Breton)
Daniel Doroshenko (Colchester-East Hants)
Cheri Abriel (Provincial Executive)
Betty-Jean Aucoin, NSTU Staff Liaison

Meeting Dates:

The Professional Development Committee met on the following dates during the 2014-2015 school year:

October 10, 2014

January 14, 2015 (*Online Meeting*)

April 8, 2015

The activities of this year's Professional Development Committee included the following:

- The committee successfully implemented an online meeting environment, which was well received by all members of the PD Committee.
- The committee organized and facilitated a very successful PD Conference. The title for this year's conference was "Reclaiming our Profession." This conference was held from November 7-8, 2014 at the Delta Halifax, to rave reviews.
- The committee vetted applications for Summer Travel Fellowships, Education Research Awards, Out-of-Province Conference Grants, and Full Time Study Grants.
- The committee reviewed resolution to Annual Council and gave voice on professional development resolutions at Annual Council.
- The committee reviewed existing policies as required under the Policy Review Procedures.
- Committee members regularly made contact with and brought forward concerns from their local zone contacts.
- The committee met with the AVISO Editorial Advisory Board. The committee provided feedback on recent issues and selected themes and features for the 2015-2016 school year.
 - *Mind Up for PD*
 - *Grant Success = Great Learning and Teaching*
 - *Opening Doors for Cross Cultural Competency*
- The committee selected meeting dates for the 2015-2016 school year, including the annual PD Conference
 - October 9, 2015
 - November 6-7, 2015 (*PD Conference*)
 - January 15, 2016 (*Online Meeting*)
 - April 22, 2016
- The budget for the committee was \$6,300. The actual cost for the committee's business was \$4,172.

As outgoing chair, I wish to thank all of the committee members for their commitment of time, energy, and expertise.

Respectfully Submitted,

Lori Richard, Chair