

news



3106 Joseph Howe Drive
Halifax, Nova Scotia B3L 4L7
www.nstu.ca • pr@nstu.ca
Tel 902.477.5621
Fax 902.477.3517

N O V A S C O T I A T E A C H E R S U N I O N

Date: May 7, 2017 For Release: Immediately Contact: Angela Murray

NSTU passes motion to join Federation of Labour at Annual Council

Some 263 voting delegates to the 96th Annual Council of the Nova Scotia Teachers Union voted 77 per cent in favour of joining the Nova Scotia Federation of Labour.

“Given our most recent labour dispute NSTU members want to collaborate more with other unions to advance the cause of all workers in our province,” says NSTU president Liette Doucet. “The support we received from members of the Federation of Labour during the imposition of Bill 75, which legislated a contract on teachers, was unprecedented, highly appreciated and will never be forgotten.”

On Saturday, May 6, Tami Cox Jardine, who is president of NSTU’s Hants West Local was elected as the NSTU’s new first vice president. Cox Jardine is a Grade 3 teacher at Falmouth Elementary School. Canadian Teachers’ Federation (CTF) president Heather Smith addressed NSTU members on Saturday discussing the support CTF and its affiliates had for the NSTU over the recent job action.

During the weekend NSTU member leaders continued to raise concerns around report cards, attendance and discipline policies, and the demands placed on teachers in using PowerSchool and TIENET. “The demands on teachers’ time continue to have a negative impact on the ability of our members to effectively address the needs of students,” says Doucet. “Teachers are also continuously expected to meet diverse student needs without adequate tools and resources.”

Most of the business of the meeting focused on resolutions to lobby government for change. Ensuring that subject-area teachers are involved in the creation and procurement of curriculum, providing adequate ongoing professional development, and ensuring meaningful consultation with the NSTU is sought before implementing initiatives, were among the issues discussed. “Teachers are experiencing implementation overload, and we need more collaboration with the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development to ensure our perspectives are included in upcoming changes to the education system,” adds Doucet.

The annual meeting wrapped up Sunday in Halifax. From May 5 to May 7, 60 plus resolutions were debated.

-30-

More info: Angela Murray, PR Coordinator, Cell: 902-497-0194, amurray@staff.nstu.ca, twitter @NSTeachersUnion