

news



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

Date: November 9, 2016 **For Release:** Immediately **Contact:** Angela Murray

NSTU postpones participation in working conditions committee

The NSTU has notified the Minister responsible for Education that the inaugural meeting of the Partnership on Systemic Working Conditions, scheduled for November 10, must be postponed.

“When we agreed to participate in the Partnership we believed that Government was ready to finally listen and partner with teachers to tackle tough working condition issues. Since then the Premier has insisted that working conditions will only be discussed in this process and not through bargaining. The final straw was yesterday when Minister Casey held a news conference about teacher workload issues and did not invite or inform the NSTU.”

Doucet says a partnership, by definition, needs partners. “Teachers have lost faith that Government is truly willing to form a partnership based on mutual respect.”

“Many teachers, and other citizens, have told me that their faith in Government was shaken by the Premier’s announcement that he and the NS Liberal Party have begun an anti-teacher media campaign.”

“We will not lead teachers into a process with Government that appears intended to provide sound bites and distract from our ongoing labour dispute,” continues Doucet.

Teachers will be in a legal strike position on December 3. Over the last few weeks, Government has refused the NSTU’s request to convene a Conciliation Board and refused the NSTU’s request for appointment of a Mediation Officer pursuant to the Teachers’ Collective Bargaining Act.

-30-

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