



## NSTU hopes for more collaborative government following election

Nova Scotia's 40th general provincial election was held on Tuesday, May 30 after a month-long campaign that focused on key issues such as health care, job creation and education. In the end Stephen McNeil secured a slim majority government that wasn't decided until the early morning hours of the following day.

As recently as mid January, the Liberal party held a 37-point lead in opinion polls. By election night that lead had eroded and the governing party won the popular vote by fewer than four percentage points. The government also lost seven seats and two cabinet ministers. It was noted by some pundits that this sharp decline in support was attributed to the imposition of Bill 75.

NSTU President Liette Doucet says she is willing to work with any government and looks forward to increased collaboration. "We are always open to working with the government to improve the

education system, and we hope this government will seek our input and ensure teacher voice is included in decisions moving forward," says Doucet. "Bill 75 has made this relationship extremely difficult. We are hoping the Premier takes a different approach moving forward."

Doucet adds, "One thing for certain is that teachers were very engaged leading up to and during this election. There is a strong desire for change and the status quo will no longer be tolerated. We will continue to push for needed reforms in our classrooms regardless of what the attitude of the government is."

Doucet says the issues raised by teachers appointed to the Council to Improve Classroom Conditions will help to achieve this. She's also looking forward to the recommendations from the Commission on Inclusive Education. "There needs to be a strong and thorough analysis of inclusive education in this



*Shown are members of the Kings Local at their May 16th General and Local Council meeting.*

province to ensure needs of all students are being met."

Several NSTU members ran as candidates including Tim Halman, a teacher at Prince Andrew High School in Dartmouth when the writ was dropped. Halman was elected, becoming one of three Progressive Conservative candidates to win seats in HRM for the first time since 2006.

Halman, a recent widower, and father of two daughters, told Metro Halifax he decided to run to improve the education system. "Part of the dealing with grief, is you've got to keep yourself occupied. And it dawned on me well I could go back and teach, or I could go back and try to fix the classroom," said Halman.

Doucet says NSTU members

remain concerned with the current government's priorities and the NSTU will be closely monitoring how negotiations proceed with other public sector unions.

"Our membership recently voted in favour of joining the Federation of Labour, largely due to the support we received during our stand for better education this winter," says Doucet. "We are prepared to support other workers across this province defend their right to a fair collective bargaining process."

As for Bill 75, regardless of who is in power Doucet expects the courts will eventually overturn the legislation. In May the NSTU submitted its mandatory two-month notice of application with the Nova

Scotia Attorney General for a Charter Challenge against Bill 75. The application contends that with Bill 75, and the imposition of the legislation, the Premier and his government repeatedly engaged in activities that violated NSTU public school members' rights to freedom of association and freedom of expression guaranteed under the Charter.

"The current government took numerous steps to erode NSTU's ability to engage in a fair collective bargaining process, which culminated with Bill 75," says Doucet.

Many NSTU Locals were active during this election campaign holding candidate forums, meeting with candidates and staying engaged on social media.

## NSTU passes motion to join Federation of Labour

### Tami Cox Jardine elected first vice-president

At Annual Council 2017, May 5 to 7 some 263 voting delegates 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



*New First Vice-President  
Tami Cox-Jardine*

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 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. Her term begins on August 1. 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. "Teachers are experiencing implementation overload, and we need more collaboration with the Department to ensure our perspectives are included in upcoming changes to the education system," adds Doucet. From May 5 to May 7, 60 resolutions were debated.

### 2017 NSTU Summer Hours

*NSTU Summer Hours will be  
Monday to Thursday  
8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.  
and Fridays  
8:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.*

*These hours will be in effect from  
Tuesday, July 4 through to  
and including  
Friday, September 1.*

*Regular hours will resume on  
Tuesday, September 5.*

*The NSTU office summer  
shutdown will be  
July 17 to July 28 inclusive.*



# people

## 2016-17 John Huntley Internship wraps up

The John Huntley Memorial Internship Program wrapped up for the 2016-17 school year on May 25 and 26. Huntley interns get to experience various NSTU employee roles, and learn about the many programs and services for NSTU members and the staff role in delivering NSTU programs. Three NSTU members spent two-days meeting with NSTU staff from member services, professional development, public relations and the Member Assistance program. They also met with the NSTU president.



Shown left to right: NSTU president Liette Doucet; Karen MacIsaac (Inverness), who is a family studies, science and math teacher at Bayview Education Centre in Port Hood; Melanie Légaré (CSANE) who teaches Grade 2 and is a resource teacher at École Bois-Joli; and Julie Marchand (Community College), who teaches in the Business Faculty at NSCC's Strait Area Campus.

## NSSAF Celebration of Sport

For a fifth year in a row the NSTU supported the Nova Scotia School Athletic Foundation's (NSSAF) Celebration of School Sport through a table sponsorship. This year's event took place at the World Trade and Convention Centre on May 5. Longtime NSSAF Darrell Dempster executive director and former phys ed teacher received this year's Hugh A. Noble Distinguished Service Award. From left to right seated are: West Kings District High School exemplary participation student athlete award recipients Dylan Gannon and Emma Picard; and Amherst Regional High School exemplary participation student athlete award recipients Madeline Bacon and Jordan Dyck. Standing: West Kings District High vice principal Peter Gebhardt; outstanding service award coach recipient Jim Duguid; and Amherst Regional High principal Aaron Stubbart and outstanding service award coach recipient Amanda Barlow; and NSTU president Liette Doucet.



THE

teacher

ISSN 0382-408X

Managing Editor: **Angela Murray**

Advertising & Circulation: **Christa Blackmore**

Layout: **Paul Hamer**

Published eight times a year (September-June)

by the **Nova Scotia Teachers Union**

Return undeliverable Canadian addresses to:

**3106 Joseph Howe Drive,**

**Halifax, N.S. B3L 4L7**

Phone: 902-477-5621 Fax: 902-477-3517

Toll free: 1-800-565-6788

Email: [theteacher@nstu.ca](mailto:theteacher@nstu.ca)

Website: [www.nstu.ca](http://www.nstu.ca)

All materials for publication must be submitted

13 working days prior to printing date.

Submission deadlines for 2016-2017:

**ISSUE..... DEADLINE**

September..... August 18

**Mailed under Canada Post Publications**

**Agreement Number 40063555.**

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## Local Service Awards 2017

Above are recipients of this year's Service Awards, which were presented at an Awards Luncheon on May 6 during NSTU's 96th Annual Council. These awards recognize outstanding contribution of NSTU members who serve for their Local, for their hard work, dedication, and commitment to their members and profession.



Front row left to right front row: Jodie McIlreith (Halifax County); Gerry Alley (Colchester-East Hants); Cindy MacKinnon (Pictou); and Lauren Currans (CSANE). Middle row: Carmel Rooney (Halifax City); Virginie Latour (CSANE); Paulette O'Connor (Halifax City); Susan Spurrell (Northside-Victoria); Sue Larivière-Jenkins (CSANE); NSTU president Liette Doucet; and Nancy Doyle (Pictou). Back row: Ann Slater (Pictou); Shane MacRae (Northside-Victoria); Greg Nix (Cumberland); Rosalie MacDonald (Kings); Pamela Hoar (Cumberland); and Joel Chiasson (CSANE). Missing: Lisa Nearing (Halifax County).

The deadline for the September issue of The Teacher is August 18  
Contact the NSTU at 1-800-565-6788 or [theteacher@nstu.ca](mailto:theteacher@nstu.ca)



# Rachel Creasor receives Special Award at Annual Council

Rachel Creasor (Kings Local) a resource and behaviour intervention teacher at Glooscap Elementary School in Canning received a Special Award at Annual Council 2017.

She received the award in recognition of her major contributions to public education, the profession and the union for her activism in defending teachers’ democratic rights through her lone protest against Bill 75, which imposed a contract on public school members.

Her one-woman demonstration in a blizzard on February 13, in which she marched around Province House in blinding snow for hours and streamed live, garnered significant media coverage and brought attention to the loss of free collective bargaining rights in Nova Scotia. On the day of her protest Creasor told media she felt the premier put legislation forward at a time when teachers could not participate in the process.

“I went out in the snow that day for the children at Glooscap,” she says. “I wanted them to know when they feel something is wrong, when they are being pushed and bullied, that they must stand up, speak up, and be heard—that they should never let anyone make them feel small.”

“I want to thank the greatest teachers in my life—my four year old twins, Marley and Lawson,” she continues. “They make me proud every day.” The day Creasor protested was also her children’s fourth birthday.



Very humbled to receive this award, she was grateful and thankful, but too shy to speak in front of Annual Council members. “I am so overwhelmed by the recognition,” she says. “I thank my partner Tasha for listening to me drone on and on about the ups and downs of my profession for the past 13 years.” Creasor is also grateful for the support of her parents and brother, who encouraged her to follow her dream of being a teacher. She also acknowledges NSTU president Liette Doucet. “I fully support you, and am proud to call you my president.”

She acknowledges the support of the NSTU leadership, in particular that of past president Shelley Morse and Kings Local president Natalie MacIsaac, and her principal Corena Burbridge, all of her teaching and non-teaching colleagues, students and their families at Glooscap Elementary. “I am continually inspired by all of you.”

While her actions further advanced the NSTU cause to improve learning conditions, Creasor knows it was a collective behind this cause. “To all of the people who protested locally and at the legislature, and all of those brave people who got to speak at the Law Amendments—I will never forget what you shared with us. I will always remember that I am not alone.”

Creasor has been an NSTU rep, activist and defender of teachers’ rights throughout her career. She continually works to make improvements in her school culture and build capacity within the NSTU membership. NSTU’s Special Award is awarded at the sole discretion of the provincial executive to active members for a particular outstanding service to education, the teaching profession or to the Nova Scotia Teachers Union.

## Car Loans as low as 3.99%



## Teachers *Plus* Credit Union will be Closed

Monday, July 3<sup>rd</sup> 2017  
Monday, August 7<sup>th</sup>, 2017  
Monday, September 4<sup>th</sup>, 2017

## GRANTS

Teachers *Plus* Credit Union is offering Grants up to \$2,000 per project to teachers for use in the implementation of an educational based project to be completed with students in Grades 10 to 12.

Please visit our web site [www.teachersplus.ca](http://www.teachersplus.ca) for Grant Criteria and Applications.

Applications must be submitted to Teachers *Plus* Credit Union postmarked no later than September 30<sup>th</sup>, 2017.

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# from the nstu president



## Report to Annual Council 2017

(excerpt from Liette Doucet's Address to Council 2017)

It is my honour to be here today to speak about my first 9 months as your president.

I wish I could say it has been smooth sailing but the last nine months have been amongst the most challenging in our 122-year history. That being said, watching how we have handled adversity as a united body, and experiencing the resilience we have displayed gives me a tremendous amount of pride.

Never before has a government displayed such utter contempt and acrimony towards our profession.

Never before has a Premier promised so much for education and delivered so little.

Never before have students been locked out of classrooms.

Never before has a government limited our ability to negotiate a fair contract with one piece of legislation, then striped us entirely of our collective rights with another.

Never before have we been so popular with the free press. Since September there has been just over 1,700 different documents in traditional media about the NSTU, just over 1,300 of those mention NSTU president or Liette Doucet.

We've also issued 43 news releases since my term as president began. I've been scrummed 21 times, and have appeared on CTV Live At 5 with Steve Murphy, five times.

Never before have we had a legislated contract imposed on us. And never before have we been provoked into a province-wide strike. I'd be understating things, if I said teachers are disappointed in the McNeil government. Given what's happened in the last year we are disgusted.

But through all this turmoil, there have been many high points. Things we can be proud of and we should draw strength from moving forward

Our march on the legislature has been called the largest protest in the history of our province. Thousands of people came out to demand better education. We surrounded Province House and we spoke with one United Voice.

Our amazing Local leadership, NSTU reps and staff were able to mobilize with little more than a day's notice to make this happen after the very early morning decision of the Provincial Executive to organize a show of force by way of a full, province-wide walkout.

Inside the House our voice was even stronger, over two stormy days teachers lined up to speak at Law Amendments.

Telling stories the public had never heard before. They told of abuse, they told of deteriorating buildings and overcrowded classrooms, they told of students who simply cannot get the support they need because the government isn't willing to make needed investments. This process was incredibly empowering.

This was a moment in time we can never forget—An event in our history we need to build on. We have become stronger and more united through this and we must continue to do so.

Governments will come, and governments will go, but if we learn from the experiences of last year and remain NSTUUnited we can build a stronger NSTU, a stronger education system and we can restore what has been stolen from us.

It is very hard to be optimistic about the promises the Premier has made in recent months. Given his treatment of teachers he will never regain the trust that has been lost.

I know many of you are skeptical of the Council to Improve Classroom Conditions now in place—especially since it is a product of Bill 75.

I have had to get past the fact that this government has ignored the voice of teachers, making it seem that the very issues being dealt with now at the Council table were never brought up as concerns in the past. If Government had listened to us, our system would already be better than it was three years ago. Despite the tremendous amount of pressure put on the 10 teachers on the Council, they have been able to put forward thoughtful solutions to help address problems in our system.

Government may try to use this new body to drive a wedge between the union and its members. We can't let it. We need to ensure that the Council is an instrument that reflects our voice so it can become a positive and powerful

## Rapport à l'AGA du Conseil 2017

(Extrait du discours de Liette Doucet à l'AGA du Conseil 2017)

J'ai l'honneur d'être ici aujourd'hui pour parler de mes neuf premiers mois au poste de présidente de votre syndicat.

J'aimerais pouvoir dire que tout s'est déroulé en douceur mais les neuf derniers mois ont été parmi les plus éprouvants de nos 122 ans d'histoire. Ceci dit, je tire une énorme fierté de la manière nous avons fait front uni contre l'adversité, et de la résistance dont nous avons fait preuve.

Jamais auparavant un gouvernement n'a manifesté un tel mépris et une telle acrimonie à l'égard de notre profession.

Jamais auparavant un premier ministre n'a promis autant et n'a si peu tenu parole en ce qui concerne l'éducation.

Jamais auparavant les élèves n'ont été lock-outer des salles de classe.

Jamais auparavant un gouvernement n'a pris une mesure législative pour limiter notre capacité à négocier une convention équitable, puis une autre mesure législative pour nous dépouiller complètement de nos droits collectifs.

Jamais auparavant nous n'avons été si populaires dans la presse gratuite. Depuis septembre, il y a eu un peu plus de 1 700 articles dans les médias traditionnels au sujet du NSTU, et un peu plus de 1 300 d'entre eux ont mentionné la présidente du NSTU ou Liette Doucet.

Nous avons également publié 43 communiqués de presse depuis le début de mon mandat de présidente. J'ai été bombardé de questions par les médias 21 fois, et je suis passée cinq fois à l'émission Live At 5 de CTV avec Steve Murphy.

Jamais auparavant une convention nous a été imposée par voie législative. Et jamais auparavant nous n'avons été contraints à appeler une grève provinciale. Je serais bien en-dessous de la vérité si je disais que les enseignants sont déçus par le gouvernement McNeil. Compte tenu de ce qui s'est passé durant la dernière année, nous sommes déçoutés.

Mais durant toute cette agitation, il y a eu de nombreux points forts. Des choses dont nous pouvons être fiers et dont nous devrions tirer courage pour aller de l'avant.

Notre marche autour de l'assemblée législative a été appelée la plus grande manifestation de l'histoire de notre province. Des milliers de personnes y ont participé pour exiger une meilleure éducation. Nous avons encerclé Province House et nous nous sommes exprimés à l'unisson.

Nos dirigeants locaux exceptionnels, nos représentants d'école et notre personnel ont réussi à se mobiliser avec un préavis d'à peine une journée pour que cela ait lieu suite à la décision prise très tôt le matin par le Comité exécutif provincial d'organiser une démonstration de force au moyen d'une grève totale à l'échelle de la province.

A l'intérieur de la Chambre d'assemblée, nous nous sommes également faits clairement entendre et, durant deux journées orageuses, des enseignants se sont relayés pour s'adresser au Comité des modifications législatives.

Nous avons partagé des expériences que le public n'avait jamais entendu auparavant. Nous avons parlé des abus, nous avons parlé de la détérioration des bâtiments et des salles de classe surchargées, nous avons parlé des élèves qui ne peuvent tout simplement pas obtenir le soutien dont ils ont besoin parce que le gouvernement n'est pas disposé à effectuer les investissements nécessaires. Ce processus a été extraordinairement valorisant.

Ce fut un moment que nous ne pourrions jamais oublier – Un événement de notre histoire sur lequel nous devons nous appuyer. Grâce à cela, nous sommes devenus plus forts et plus unis et nous devons continuer dans cette voie.

Les gouvernements vont et viennent, mais si nous nous inspirons de l'expérience de l'année dernière et restons NSTUUni, nous pouvons construire un NSTU plus fort, un système éducatif plus solide et nous pouvons récupérer ce qui nous a été volé.

Il est très difficile d'être optimiste au sujet des promesses faites par le premier ministre au cours des derniers mois. Compte tenu de la manière dont il a traité les enseignants, il ne regagnera jamais la confiance qu'il a perdue.

Je sais que beaucoup d'entre vous sont sceptiques au sujet du Conseil pour l'amélioration des conditions en classe qui est maintenant en place, d'autant plus qu'il s'agit d'un produit du projet de loi 75.

J'ai dû passer outre au fait que ce gouvernement a ignoré la voix des enseignants, faisant croire que les problèmes abordés aujourd'hui à la table du Conseil n'avaient jamais été signalés comme préoccupants auparavant. Si le gouvernement nous avait écoutés, notre système serait déjà meilleur qu'il ne l'était il y a trois ans. En dépit de l'énorme pression exercée sur les dix enseignants qui siègent à ce Conseil, ils ont réussi à proposer des solutions réfléchies pour résoudre les problèmes de notre système.

Le gouvernement pourrait essayer d'utiliser ce nouvel organe pour créer une scission entre le



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instrument for change.

The status quo is no longer acceptable and it's time to create a new normal both in and out of the classroom.

It is time now to take part in some serious reflection. It is time to begin to heal the divisions that have emerged in the past three years. There is nothing wrong with taking a hard look at ourselves, keeping what works, changing what doesn't. We must do this to move forward as an organization and prepare for upcoming challenges.

First and foremost, we are challenging Bill 75 in court. I assure you this is a top priority and we are taking a careful and thorough approach to developing our charter challenge. I am confident that ultimately we will win this fight, but as was the case in British Columbia it could take many years for justice to be served.

The announcement that government is spending \$1 million to outsource psychological assessments is a concerning one—it must be challenged.

We'll have other challenges, but we can't forget about our Community College members. Their contract expired almost three years ago, and we need to now focus on getting them a fair and free collective agreement.

In two years time, this imposed contract will expire and we will have a chance to go back to the table.

The events of the past two years have taught us we can't just expect fairness we need to go out and demand it.

We must learn from our recent experiences and come together to support a better outcome in our next contract. We need to prepare for the next round of negotiations now, not in two years time.

One thing is for certain—teachers have been empowered. Gone are the days when governments can just expect teachers to accept whatever is offered. It will be a long time before another Premier tries to set a wage pattern at our expense.

When we stay united, we are a force. Moving forward we need to use our voice to restore a fair collective bargaining process, improve learning conditions for our students, and increase support for students with special needs.

I would also like to acknowledge one more, unexpected high point. Through this difficult year, we have experienced how displaying our resolve and exercising the power of voice can be made so much easier when we are not working alone. The support we have received from retired teachers, our CTF affiliates, Parents for Teachers, Students for teachers, members of the Nova Scotia Federation of Labour, other Unions and organizations has been unprecedented, so highly appreciated and will never be forgotten.

The next time we go to the table. Things will be much different.

As teachers, as public sector workers, as parents, as students and as Nova Scotians—we deserve better and we will achieve better.

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syndicat et ses membres. Nous ne pouvons pas le laisser faire. Nous devons veiller à ce que ce Conseil soit un instrument fidèle à notre voix afin qu'il puisse devenir un instrument de changement positif et puissant.

Le statu quo n'est plus acceptable et il est temps de créer une nouvelle normalité à la fois dans et hors de la salle de classe.

Il est grand temps de prendre part à une réflexion sérieuse. Il est temps de commencer à réparer les divisions qui ont émergé au cours des trois dernières années. Il n'y a aucun mal à procéder à un examen rigoureux, à conserver ce qui fonctionne, à changer ce qui ne fonctionne pas. Nous devons faire cela pour aller de l'avant en tant qu'organisation et nous préparer à relever les défis à venir.

D'abord et avant tout, nous entamons une contestation du projet de loi 75 devant les tribunaux. Je vous assure qu'il s'agit d'une priorité absolue et nous adoptons une approche prudente et minutieuse pour préparer notre contestation fondée sur la Charte. Je suis confiante que nous gagnerons en fin de compte ce combat mais, comme ce fut le cas en Colombie-Britannique, cela pourrait prendre de nombreuses années avant que justice soit faite.

L'annonce selon laquelle le gouvernement consacre 1 million de \$ à la sous-traitance des évaluations psychologiques est préoccupante. Cela doit être contesté.

D'autres défis nous attendent, mais nous ne pouvons pas oublier les membres de notre Collège communautaire. Leur convention a pris fin il y a presque trois ans, et nous devons maintenant nous concentrer pour les aider à obtenir une convention collective équitable et libre.

Dans deux ans, la convention qui nous a été imposée prendra fin et nous aurons une chance de revenir à la table des négociations.

Les événements des deux dernières années nous ont appris que nous ne pouvons pas simplement compter sur l'équité, nous devons agir pour l'exiger.

Nous devons tirer les leçons de nos expériences récentes et nous unir pour obtenir un meilleur résultat lors de notre prochaine convention. Nous devons nous préparer pour la prochaine ronde de négociations dès maintenant, et pas dans deux ans.

Une chose est certaine : les enseignants ont gagné en puissance. Finie l'époque où les gouvernements peuvent simplement s'attendre à ce que les enseignants acceptent ce qui leur est offert. Ce n'est pas demain qu'un autre premier ministre tentera de fixer un barème salarial à nos frais.

Lorsque nous restons unis, nous sommes une force qu'on ne peut ignorer. À l'avenir, nous devons faire entendre notre voix pour rétablir un processus de négociation collective équitable, améliorer les conditions d'apprentissage de nos élèves et accroître le soutien aux élèves ayant des besoins spéciaux.

Je voudrais également signaler un autre point fort, inattendu. Au cours de cette année difficile, nous avons constaté qu'il était beaucoup plus facile de manifester notre détermination et de faire entendre notre voix lorsque nous ne travaillions pas seul. Le soutien que nous avons reçu des enseignants à la retraite, des associations membres de la FCE, des associations Parents for Teachers et Students for Teachers, des membres de la Fédération du travail de la Nouvelle-Écosse, d'autres syndicats et organisations a été sans précédent, hautement apprécié et nous le l'oublierons jamais.

La prochaine fois que nous irons à la table des négociations, les choses seront très différentes.

En tant qu'enseignants, en tant que travailleurs du secteur public, en tant que parents, en tant qu'élèves et en tant que Néo-écossais, nous méritons mieux et nous obtiendrons davantage.

## Shelley Morse receives NSTU's Life Membership award

NSTU's past president Shelley Morse was honoured at Annual Council 2017 with a Life Membership award for her contribution to education, the profession and the Union. Her dedication has spanned over her 32 years of service.

NSTU's first vice-president Wally Fiander was honoured to present Morse with her award. She has been recognized locally, regionally, provincially, nationally and internationally for her leadership and ability to inspire, which has had a positive impact on teachers, students, and the Nova Scotia Teachers Union.

"Her active Union involvement, committee work and offices held over the last three decades have allowed Shelley to become the leader who is recognized by her peers, for her dedication to education and unionism," Fiander said.

Morse served as NSTU's 43rd president from 2012 to 2016, is NSTU's past president, and continues to serve as a vice-president of the Canadian Teachers' Federation after being involved in every facet of the NSTU including school rep, Kings Local president, provincial executive member and First Vice-president.

Through her varied experiences she has chaired or presided over committees that advance diversity, status of women, poverty and social justice issues. She has worked tirelessly to confront poverty issues locally and provincially, break down barriers for women, provide voice for those not included in the Canadian mainstream, and correct long standing injustices.

Her solid knowledge of the legislative and governance process has been honed through her involvement with the NSTU and the Canadian Teachers' Federation. She understands the different regional perspectives that exist in Canada as well as the urban and rural viewpoints. She has eloquently expressed the plight of the profession through her presentations to the Law Amendments committees for Bill 148 and Bill 75. Her Bill 75 Law Amendments presentation garnered much attention having been viewed by over 200,000 Canadians.

At the national level, she has represented the NSTU as a member of the CTF Advisory Committee on Diversity and Human Rights, was appointed Chair to the CTF Advisory Committee on the Status of Women, sat as a trustee for the CTF Trust Fund and served on the AGM Resolutions Committee, Finance and Negotiations Committees, Advisory Committee on the Teaching Profession and the ad hoc Committee on CTF membership.

She has also served as Vice-president of the Nova Scotia Teachers College Alumni Association; sat on the Board of Directors of Peaceful Schools International, and received a Women of Excellence Award for Education and Research from the Canadian Progress Club of Halifax.

Her nominator, Northside-Victoria provincial executive member Darlene Bereta, said it is with, "A strong sense of pride the I recommend Shelley Morse for the Life

Membership Award. Shelley was our provincial president and her performance was exceptional. She has exceeded the criteria requirements for the NSTU Life Membership Award. Shelley has never faltered in her support for teachers and public education. She is an engaging communicator, personable, and enthusiastic about the Union. Shelley has a genuine servant's heart for the teachers of Nova Scotia."

The Life Membership Award is awarded at the sole discretion of the Provincial Executive to a member retiring from the profession for displaying consistently high qualities of leadership, performance and service to education, the teaching profession or to the Nova Scotia Teachers Union.



*Shelley Morse is shown receiving her Life Membership Award from Wally Fiander during Annual Council 2017.*



# Disposition of Annual Council Resolutions 2017

## Governance

**2017-1** *Adopted as Amended*

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** Standing Order 4. Council Procedures be amended by adding a new (k) “Costed resolutions to Annual Council which cost more than 2% of the budget require a 2/3 majority to be carried.”  
(Community College)

**2017-2** *Adopted*

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** By-Law 10. Membership Rights be amended, in all categories, by removing the words “the NSTU Members Only material” from the following clause: The right to access the NSTU Members Only material on the NSTU website and replacing them with the words “materials, as assigned,”:

**The clause as amended would read:**

The right to access the NSTU Members Only material materials, as assigned, on the NSTU website  
(Provincial Executive)

**2017-3** *Adopted*

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the NSTU investigate the possibility of granting members on Long Term Disability the right to cast a ballot in a vote that is open to NSTU Members and report to Annual Council 2018.  
(Halifax County)

**2017-4** *Adopted*

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the NSTU investigate the possibility of granting members on Parental Leave the right to cast a ballot in a vote that is open to the NSTU Members and report to Annual Council in 2018.  
(Halifax County)

**2017-5** *Referred to Provincial Executive to report to Annual Council 2018*

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** By-Law: ARTICLE IX – REGIONAL GOVERNANCE Mandate (a) be amended by inserting the words “, as well as advance the teaching profession and quality public education” following the words “unit issues”

**The By-Law as amended would now read:**

The mandate of the Regional Representative Council within the geographic boundaries of a school board shall be to address bargaining unit issues, as well as advance the teaching profession and quality public education for NSTU members employed with that school board.  
(Halifax County)

**2017-6** *Defeated*

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** By-law ARTICLE IV – THE PROVINCIAL EXECUTIVE 6. REGIONAL REPRESENTATION (b) be amended by deleting the word “consecutive” and deleting the final sentence.

**By-Law as amended would now read:**

(b) No regional members shall serve for more than two consecutive terms. A regional member may be re-elected following a term in which he/she is absent from the Executive.  
(Halifax County)

## Costed

**2017-7** *Adopted*

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the NSTU join the Nova Scotia Federation of Labour (NSFL).  
(Colchester-East Hants, Community College, Dartmouth, Halifax City)

**2017-8** *Defeated*

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the NSTU commit to securing a more reliable communication delivery service, whether that be a new email service provider or a more effective server to deliver information to all members in a timely fashion.  
(Dartmouth)

**2017-9** *Adopted*

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the budget for Out of Province Conference Grants be increased from \$9,000 to \$25,000. (This item is included within the Budget line 5.19 Study and Research Grants).  
(Dartmouth)

**2017-10** *Defeated*

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the NSTU hire an internal union organizer as a pilot project for one year.  
(Dartmouth)

**2017-11** *Defeated*

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the NSTU continue to set aside funds of 300,000 for ongoing Public Relations campaigns.  
(Halifax City)

**2017-12** *Defeated*

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the NSTU rehire and maintain a third counsellor.  
(Halifax County)

**2017-A** *Adopted as Amended*

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** an amount of \$350,000 from the Reserve Fund be used to balance the 2017-2018 Budget.  
(Provincial Executive)

## Economic Welfare & Working Conditions

**2017-13** *Adopted*

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** if the NSTU leadership or Provincial Bargaining Team determine that an outside expert should be brought in to assist with provincial contract negotiations, primary consideration will be given to individuals with teaching and union experience in Nova Scotia.  
(Dartmouth)

**2017-14** *Adopted*

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** eye care receives greater priority in the next round of negotiations we seek an increase to cover the cost up to 80% of the total cost.  
(Cape Breton District)

**2017-15** *Referred to Provincial Economic Welfare Committee as Amended*

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** in the next round of negotiations the NSTU seek to have prep time increased to a minimum 20 percent.  
(Cape Breton District)

**2017-16** *Adopted as Amended*

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the NSTU investigate a cap on the number of students on a given student support/services NSTU member’s caseload as it varies from board to board in our province.  
(Kings)

**2017-17** *Adopted as Amended*

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the NSTU will establish a policy with clear guidelines pertaining to expectations for electronic communication with parents, students, and colleagues outside of the instructional day.  
(Dartmouth)

**2017-18** *Adopted as Amended*

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** in the next round of Provincial Negotiations the NSTU seek to achieve the inclusion of \$800 per member per calendar year for physical activity or wellness centre membership and or exercise class passes.  
(Halifax City)

## Curriculum

**2017-19** *Adopted*

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** Policy 18. Accountability Principles be amended by deleting (a) (i) and (a) (iii) and by adding a new (d):  
(d) Within this model of educational accountability, in partnership with the Nova Scotia Teachers Union, the Government and School Boards are responsible for developing programs to assist teachers in pursuing their professional learning, establishing and promoting standards of professional practice and responding to concerns relating to teacher competency  
(Provincial Executive)

**2017-20** *Adopted*

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** Policy 20. Assessment be amended as follows:

- by inserting the words “and board” following the word “provincial” and by inserting the words “, administrator or school” after the word “teacher” in the second paragraph
- that (a) become a third paragraph with the word “While” inserted at the beginning and the words “provincial exams” deleted and replaced with the words “standardized tests”
- by inserting the words “and regional school boards” following the word “Education”; deleting the word “should” and replacing it with the word “must” and deleting the word “Provincial” and replacing it with the word “standardized” in (b)
- by deleting (c)
- by deleting the word “should” and replacing it with the word “must” in (d)
- by deleting the word “should” and replacing it with the word “must” in (e)
- by deleting the word “should” and replacing it with the word “must” in (g)

(Provincial Executive)

**2017-21** *Adopted*

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** Policy 21. Censorship be amended as follows:

- In (a) delete the words “recognizes the” following the words “The NSTU” and replacing them with the word “believes:”. This phrase will now become the introduction the policy
- In (a) insert the words “have the” following the word “students”.
- The current (a) will end after the words “learning materials”. The remainder of (a) will become a new (b)
- In the new (b) delete the words “The local” and pluralize the word “board”
- In the current (b) delete the words “The right of the” and pluralize the word “member”.
- In the current (b) insert the words “have the right” following the word “members”
- Delete the current (c) and (d)

(Provincial Executive)

**2017-22** *Adopted*

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** Policy 23. Counsellors be amended as follows:

- In (a) add the following sentence to the end. “This position should not be included in the site FTE ratio.”
- In (b) add the following words “minimum of one” following the words “should be a”.

(Provincial Executive)

**2017-23** *Adopted*

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** Policy 24. Curriculum be amended as follows:

- In (a) (iv) delete the word “specialist” and replace it with the word “specialized”
- In (a) (v) delete the words “extensive in-service programs designed to assure” and insert the word “through” following the word “elementary
- delete (a) (vi)
- move (b) to the end and renumber (c) to (b)
- insert a new (c)

The NSTU believes that prior to implementation of any new program, or change to present programs, the teacher must receive:

- sufficient professional development
- materials, resources and support

- delete the current (e)
- delete the current (f)

(Provincial Executive)

**2017-24** *Adopted*

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** Policy 33. Multiculturalism be amended as follows:

- remove the lettering from (a), (b), (c) and (d) to create a preamble.
- In (e) move the words “The curriculum should” above to create a heading and renumber as (a)
- In (f) delete the words “The curriculum should” and renumber as (b)
- In (g) delete the words “The curriculum should” and renumber as (c)
- In (h) delete the words “The curriculum should” and renumber as (d)
- Insert a heading “The Employer should” prior to the current (i)





report the findings to all stakeholders; where standardized testing refers to assessments where the administration, format and scoring of a test is the same for all examinees.  
(Inverness)

General

**2017-55 Adopted as Amended**  
**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the NSTU recognizes: that we live and work on unceded Mi'kmaq territory, that we are privileged to be together in Mi'kmak'i, that we are all treaty people, and that we wish to acknowledge this relationship.  
(Provincial Executive (Annapolis Valley RRC))

**2017-56 Adopted**  
**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the NSTU explore the financial implications of securing a residence (an asset) intended for the NSTU President.  
(Dartmouth)

**2017-57 Adopted**  
**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the NSTU investigate and resolve issues with the NSTU website platform crashing during periods of peak usage such as NSTU elections, tentative agreement votes and other periods of heightened usage. This may include creating a secondary website for members only and/or advancing the secure login page to the main page so the public and members section are accessed completely separately to avoid overloads and crashes.  
(Queens County)

**2017-58 Adopted as Amended**  
**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the NSTU staff no longer provide professional development or other services, including a mock council and sales of advertising space, to the following universities: Acadia, Cape Breton, Mount Saint Vincent, St. Francis Xavier, and Sainte-Anne. This action is a direct result of the lawsuit filed against the NSTU in January 2017.  
(Provincial Executive)

**New Business**

**2017-NB1 Adopted**  
**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the NSTU staff study the growing mental health services provided in schools by non-NSTU members and the efficacy of the Schools Plus program as it pertains to meeting the growing demands of mental health supports for students in schools by comparing it to the workload demands of School Counsellors and its impact on the employment of the NSTU members and report back to Provincial Executive in 2017 and Annual Council in 2018.  
(Cumberland)

**2017-NB2 Adopted**  
**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the NSTU collaborates with sister unions through the Nova Scotia Federation of Labour to identify and initiate effective ways to communicate critical information in a timely manner to members via email, secured website content, social media, robo calls and other appropriate and emerging technologies.  
(Halifax City)

Suite donnée aux résolutions 2017 de l’AGA du Conseil

Gouvernance

**2017-1 Adoptée telle que modifiée**  
**IL EST RÉSOLU QUE** l’Ordre permanent 4, Procédures pour l’AGA du Conseil, soit amendé en ajoutant un nouveau paragraphe (k) « Les résolutions chiffrées à l’intention de l’AGA du Conseil et dont le coût dépasse 2 % du budget exige une majorité aux 2/3 pour être adoptées. »  
(Collège communautaire)

**2017-2 Adoptée**  
**IL EST RÉSOLU QUE** le Règlement intérieur 10. Droits des membres soit amendé, dans toutes les catégories, en éliminant les mots « les documents réservés aux membres » de la clause suivante « Le droit de consulter les documents réservés aux membres sur le site Web du NSTU » et en les remplaçant par les mots « les documents, tels qu’attribués... »  
**La clause amendée se lirait comme suit :**  
Le droit de consulter les documents réservés aux membres **les documents, tels qu’attribués**, sur le site Web du NSTU.  
(Comité exécutif provincial)

**2017-3 Adoptée**  
**IL EST RÉSOLU QUE** le NSTU étudie la possibilité d’accorder aux membres en invalidité de longue durée le droit de voter lors d’un vote ouvert aux membres du NSTU et de faire un compte-rendu à l’AGA du Conseil 2018.  
(Halifax County)

**2017-4 Adoptée**  
**IL EST RÉSOLU QUE** le NSTU étudie la possibilité d’accorder aux membres en congé parental le droit de voter lors d’un vote ouvert aux membres du NSTU et de faire un compte-rendu à l’AGA du Conseil 2018.  
(Halifax County)

**2017-5 Adressée au Comité exécutif provincial en vue d’un rapport à l’AGA du Conseil 2018**  
**IL EST RÉSOLU QUE** le Règlement intérieur, ARTICLE IX – GOUVERNANCE RÉGIONALE, Mandat (a) soit amendé en insérant les mots « ainsi qu’à promouvoir la profession enseignante et la qualité de l’éducation publique » à la suite des mots « l’unité de négociations ».  
**Le Règlement intérieur tel qu’amendé se lirait à présent comme suit :**  
Le mandat du Conseil des représentants régionaux, au sein des limites géographiques du conseil scolaire, consiste à s’occuper des questions relatives à l’unité de négociations, **ainsi qu’à promouvoir la profession enseignante et la qualité de l’éducation publique**, pour les membres du NSTU employés par ce conseil scolaire.  
(Halifax County)

**2017-6 Rejetée**  
**IL EST RÉSOLU QUE** le Règlement intérieur, ARTICLE IV – COMITÉ EXÉCUTIF PROVINCIAL 6. Représentation régionale (b) soit amendé en supprimant le mot « consécutifs » et en supprimant la dernière phrase.  
**Le Règlement intérieur tel qu’amendé se lirait à présent comme suit :**  
(b) Aucun membre régional ne peut siéger pendant plus de deux mandats consécutifs. Un membre régional peut être réélu à l’issue d’un mandat durant lequel il était absent du Comité exécutif.  
(Halifax County)

Résolutions chiffrées

**2017-7 Adoptée**  
**IL EST RÉSOLU QUE** le NSTU adhère à la Nova Scotia Federation of Labour (NSFL).  
(Colchester-East Hants, Collège communautaire, Dartmouth, Halifax City)

**2017-8 Rejetée**  
**IL EST RÉSOLU QUE** le NSTU s’engage à assurer un service de communication plus fiable, que ce soit par le biais d’un nouveau fournisseur de services de courriel ou d’un serveur plus efficace pour distribuer les informations à tous les membres en temps opportun.  
(Dartmouth)

**2017-9 Adoptée**  
**IL EST RÉSOLU QUE** le budget des subventions pour les conférences hors province passe de 9 000 \$ à 25 000 \$. (Cet article est inclus dans le poste budgétaire 5.19 Subventions d’études et de recherche).  
(Dartmouth)

**2017-10 Rejetée**  
**IL EST RÉSOLU QUE** le NSTU embauche un organisateur syndical interne pour un projet pilote d’un an.  
(Dartmouth)

**2017-11 Rejetée**  
**IL EST RÉSOLU QUE** le NSTU continue à mettre de côté des fonds de 300 000 \$ pour des campagnes régulières de relations publiques.  
(Halifax City)

**2017-12 Rejetée**  
**IL EST RÉSOLU QUE** le NSTU réembauche et conserve un troisième conseiller.  
(Halifax County)

**2017-A Adoptée telle que modifiée**  
**IL EST RÉSOLU QU’**un montant de 350 000 \$ du Fonds de réserve soit utilisé pour équilibrer le budget 2017-2018.  
(Comité exécutif provincial)

Bien-être économique et conditions de travail

**2017-13 Adoptée**  
**IL EST RÉSOLU QUE** si la direction ou l’équipe de négociation provinciale du NSTU détermine qu’un expert externe doit être amené pour faciliter les négociations de la convention provinciale, la priorité sera accordée aux personnes ayant une expérience de l’enseignement et du syndicalisme en Nouvelle-Écosse.  
(Dartmouth)

**2017-14 Adoptée**  
**IL EST RÉSOLU QUE** les soins oculaires se voient accorder une plus grande priorité lors de la prochaine ronde de négociations. Nous demandons une augmentation en vue d’une couverture allant jusqu’à 80 % du coût total.  
(Cape Breton District)

**2017-15 Adressée au Comité provincial du bien-être économique telle que modifiée**  
**IL EST RÉSOLU QUE**, lors de la prochaine ronde de négociations, le NSTU cherche à augmenter le temps de préparation à un minimum de 20%.  
(Cape Breton District)

**2017-16 Adoptée telle que modifiée**  
**IL EST RÉSOLU QUE** le NSTU étudie l’option d’imposer un plafond au nombre d’élèves dont est chargé un membre du NSTU responsable des soutiens et des services aux élèves, car cela varie d’un conseil scolaire à l’autre dans notre province.  
(Kings)

**2017-17 Adoptée telle que modifiée**  
**IL EST RÉSOLU QUE** le NSTU établisse une politique contenant des directives claires concernant les attentes en matière de communication électronique avec les parents, les élèves et les collègues en dehors de la journée d’enseignement.  
(Dartmouth)

**2017-18 Adoptée telle que modifiée**  
**IL EST RÉSOLU QUE**, lors de la prochaine ronde de négociations provinciales, le NSTU cherche à inclure 800 \$ par membre par année civile pour l’inscription à un centre de conditionnement physique ou de bien-être ou bien des cartes d’abonnement à des cours de conditionnement physique.  
(Halifax City)

**Programmation**

**2017-19 Adoptée**  
**IL EST RÉSOLU QUE** la Politique 18. Principes de la responsabilisation, soit amendée en supprimant les alinéas (a) (i) et (a) (iii) et en ajoutant un nouveau paragraphe (d) :  
(d) Au sein de ce modèle de responsabilisation de l’éducation, en collaboration avec le Nova Scotia Teachers Union, le gouvernement et les conseils scolaires ont la responsabilité d’élaborer des programmes pour aider les enseignants à poursuivre leur apprentissage professionnel, d’établir et de promouvoir des normes de pratique professionnelle et de répondre aux préoccupations relatives à la compétence des enseignants.  
(Comité exécutif provincial)



<b>2017-20</b>	<b>Adoptée</b>	
<b>IL EST RÉSOLU QUE</b> la Politique 20. Évaluation, soit amendée comme suit :		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Remplacer « tests provinciaux standardisés » par « tests standardisés mandatés par la province et les conseils scolaires » et insérer les mots « des administrateurs ou des écoles » après le mot « enseignants » dans le deuxième paragraphe.</li><li>Que le paragraphe (a) devienne un troisième paragraphe. Insérer les mots « Bien que » au début, remplacer les mots « d’examens provinciaux » par les mots « de tests standardisés » et supprimer le mot « mais ».</li><li>Dans le paragraphe (b), insérer les mots « et les conseils scolaires régionaux » après le mot « enfance »; remplacer le mot « devrait » par le mot « doivent » et remplacer le mot « provinciales » par le mot « standardisées ».</li><li>Supprimer le paragraphe (c)</li><li>Dans le paragraphe (d), remplacer le mot « devraient » par le mot « doivent ».</li><li>Dans le paragraphe (e), remplacer le mot « devrait » par le mot « doit ».</li><li>Dans le paragraphe (g), remplacer le mot « devraient » par le mot « doivent ».</li></ul>		
<i>(Comité exécutif provincial)</i>		
<b>2017-21</b>	<b>Adoptée</b>	
<b>IL EST RÉSOLU QUE</b> la Politique 21. Censure, soit amendée comme suit :		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Dans le paragraphe (a), supprimer les mots « reconnaît le droit des » après les mots « Le NSTU” et remplacer par les mots « est d’avis que ». Cette phrase deviendra alors l’introduction de la politique.</li><li>Dans le paragraphe (a), insérer les mots « ont le droit d’accéder librement » après les mots « Les élèves ».</li><li>L’actuel paragraphe (a) se terminera après les mots « matériel pédagogique ». Le reste du paragraphe (a) deviendra un nouveau paragraphe (b).</li><li>Dans l’actuel paragraphe (b), supprimer les mots « Nous soutenons pleinement le droit des membres » et insérer les mots « Les membres ont le droit ».</li><li>Supprimez les actuels paragraphes (c) et (d).</li></ul>		
<i>(Comité exécutif provincial)</i>		
<b>2017-22</b>	<b>Adoptée</b>	
<b>IL EST RÉSOLU QUE</b> la Politique 23. Conseillers, soit amendée comme suit :		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Dans le paragraphe (a), ajouter la phrase suivante à la fin : « Ce poste ne devrait pas être inclus dans le rapport ETP de l’établissement. »</li><li>Dans le paragraphe (b), ajouter les mots « au moins » après les mots « Il devrait y avoir ».</li></ul>		
<i>(Comité exécutif provincial)</i>		
<b>2017-23</b>	<b>Adoptée</b>	
<b>IL EST RÉSOLU QUE</b> la Politique 24. Programmes d’études, soit amendée comme suit :		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Dans l’alinéa (a) (v), supprimer les mots « fournir de vastes programmes de formation en cours d’emploi destinés à » et insérer le mot « jusqu’ » après le mot « élémentaire ».</li><li>Supprimer l’alinéa (a) (vi).</li><li>Placer le paragraphe (b) à la fin. Le paragraphe (c) est renommé (b).</li><li>Insérer un nouveau paragraphe (c). Le NSTU est d’avis que, avant la mise en œuvre de tout nouveau programme ou changement aux programmes actuels, l’enseignant doit recevoir :<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>un perfectionnement professionnel suffisant</li><li>du matériel, des ressources et du soutien</li></ul></li><li>Supprimer l’actuel paragraphe (e)</li><li>Supprimer l’actuel paragraphe (f)</li></ul>		
<i>(Comité exécutif provincial)</i>		
<b>2017-24</b>	<b>Adoptée</b>	
<b>IL EST RÉSOLU QUE</b> la Politique 33. Multiculturalisme, soit amendé comme suit :		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Supprimer la désignation littérale (a), (b), (c) et (d) pour créer un préambule.</li><li>Dans le paragraphe (e), déplacer les mots « Le programme d’études devrait » pour créer un titre et le renommer paragraphe (a).</li><li>Dans le paragraphe (f), supprimer les mots « Le programme d’études devrait » et le renommer paragraphe (b).</li><li>Dans le paragraphe (g), supprimer les mots « Le programme d’études devrait » et le renommer paragraphe (c).</li><li>Dans le paragraphe (h), supprimer les mots « Le programme d’études devrait » et le renommer paragraphe (d).</li><li>Insérer le sous-titre « L’employeur devrait » avant l’actuel paragraphe (i).</li><li>L’actuel paragraphe (i) est renommé (e). Remplacer les mots « Les politiques et les procédures scolaires devraient favoriser » par les mots « établir des politiques et des procédures qui favorisent ».</li><li>Le paragraphe (k) est renommé (f). Remplacer les mots « Des informations seront fournies » par les mots « fournir des informations ».</li><li>Insérer le sous-titre « Le NSTU devrait » avant l’actuel paragraphe (j).</li><li>Dans le paragraphe (j), remplacer les mots « Le NSTU s’efforcera d’encourager et d’inciter » par les mots « encourager et inciter » et le renommer paragraphe (g).</li><li>Dans le paragraphe (l), remplacer les mots « Le NSTU s’efforcera d’encourager et de promouvoir » par les mots « encourager et promouvoir » et le renommer paragraphe (h).</li><li>Dans le paragraphe (m), remplacer les mots « Le NSTU encourage » par le mot « encourager » et le renommer paragraphe (i).</li><li>Dans le paragraphe (n), remplacer les mots « Le NSTU encourage » par le mot « promouvoir » et le renommer paragraphe (j).</li><li>Insérer le sous-titre « Les éducateurs devraient : » et insérer un nouveau paragraphe (k) : accepter leur responsabilité de s’éduquer eux-mêmes et de réfléchir à leurs propres attitudes et comportements pour donner l’exemple du respect, de la compréhension et de l’affirmation de la diversité.</li></ul>		
<i>(Comité exécutif provincial)</i>		
<b>2017-25</b>	<b>Adoptée</b>	
<b>IL EST RÉSOLU QUE</b> la Politique 39. Soutien professionnel, soit amendée en supprimant les mots « davantage de » et en ajoutant le mot « adéquat » après le mot « soutien ».		
<i>(Comité exécutif provincial)</i>		
<b>2017-26</b>	<b>Ajournée jusqu’à l’AGA du Conseil 2018</b>	
<b>IL EST RÉSOLU QUE</b> la Politique 40. Projets d’élèves – concours d’affiches soit abrogée.		
<i>(Comité exécutif provincial)</i>		
<b>2017-27</b>	<b>Adoptée</b>	
<b>IL EST RÉSOLU QUE</b> la Politique 42. Principes pour l’intégration de la technologie, soit amendée comme suit :		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Dans le paragraphe (c), supprimer le mot « scolaire » et le remplacer par le mot « éducatif ».</li></ul>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Dans le paragraphe (f), supprimer le mot « scolaire » et le remplacer par le mot « éducatif ».</li><li>Dans le paragraphe (h), remplacer les mots « un ordinateur » par les mots « la technologie » et remplacer les mots « une connexion Internet » par les mots « l’Internet ».</li><li>Dans le paragraphe (i), remplacer les mots « matériel, logiciels, consommables » par le mot « ressources ».</li><li>Dans le paragraphe (l), remplacer le mot « scolaire » par le mot « éducatif » et remplacer le mot « écoles » pour le remplacer par les mots « établissements éducatifs ».</li><li>Insérer un nouveau paragraphe (o) : « Le développement d’un environnement éducatif favorable exige de mettre l’accent sur l’enseignement et l’apprentissage de la cyberconduite en ligne appropriée. »</li></ul>		
<i>(Comité exécutif provincial)</i>		
<b>Gouvernement</b>		
<b>2017-28</b>	<b>Adoptée</b>	
<b>IL EST RÉSOLU QUE</b> le NSTU discute avec le ministère de l’Éducation et du Développement de la petite enfance de la pratique des conseils scolaires consistant à charger les écoles de travaux qui ne sont pas sanctionnés par le ministère de l’Éducation et du Développement de la petite enfance.		
<i>(Cape Breton District)</i>		
<b>2017-29</b>	<b>Adoptée telle que modifiée</b>	
<b>IL EST RÉSOLU QUE</b> le NSTU étudie les attentes concernant l’utilisation de PowerSchool / GradeBook à travers la province, les options devant être présentées au Comité professionnel.		
<i>(Colchester-East Hants)</i>		
<b>2017-30</b>	<b>Adoptée telle que modifiée</b>	
<b>IL EST RÉSOLU QUE</b> , lors de la prochaine ronde de négociations provinciales, le NSTU cherche à augmenter le temps de préparation des membres du NSTU afin de refléter l’augmentation de la charge de travail journalière entraînée par les exigences technologiques de révision, d’enregistrement et de rapport de TIENET et de PowerSchool / GradeBook.		
<i>(Colchester-East Hants)</i>		
<b>2017-31</b>	<b>Adoptée</b>	
<b>IL EST RÉSOLU QUE</b> le NSTU incite le ministère de l’Éducation et du Développement de la petite enfance à limiter le nombre d’emplacements où les enseignants doivent rendre compte de l’apprentissage des élèves à l’aide du programme PowerSchool pour les élèves qui suivent un plan de programme individuel.		
<i>(Digby)</i>		
<b>2017-32</b>	<b>Adoptée telle que modifiée</b>	
<b>IL EST RÉSOLU QUE</b> le NSTU fasse pression sur le ministère de l’Éducation et du Développement de la petite enfance afin qu’il mette à l’essai les nouvelles initiatives avant de les mettre en œuvre dans toute la province; ces essais porteront sur un échantillon représentatif de la démographie et de l’expérience d’enseignement et il y aura un mécanisme permettant une rétroaction et des recommandations sensées et en temps voulu.		
<i>(Colchester-East Hants)</i>		
<b>2017-33</b>	<b>Adoptée</b>	
<b>IL EST RÉSOLU QUE</b> le NSTU incite le ministère de l’Éducation et du Développement de la petite enfance à effectuer une vérification, avec l’aide du NSTU, pour examiner la distribution équitable de la technologie fonctionnelle fournie par l’employeur parmi les écoles.		
<i>(Halifax County)</i>		
<b>2017-34</b>	<b>Adoptée</b>	
<b>IL EST RÉSOLU QUE</b> le NSTU fasse pression sur le ministère de l’Éducation et du Développement de la petite enfance afin qu’il s’associe au NSTU pour établir des normes minimales en matière de matériel et de réseau afin d’enseigner le curriculum et de répondre aux attentes professionnelles.		
<i>(Colchester-East Hants)</i>		
<b>2017-35</b>	<b>Adoptée</b>	
<b>IL EST RÉSOLU QUE</b> le NSTU fasse pression sur le ministère de l’Éducation et du Développement de la petite enfance afin qu’il s’assure que toutes les écoles sont équipées de la technologie et disposent de la formation professionnelle nécessaires pour enseigner la TCI (Technologie de communication intégrée).		
<i>(Colchester-East Hants)</i>		
<b>2017-36</b>	<b>Rejetée telle que modifiée</b>	
<b>IL EST RÉSOLU QUE</b> , lors de la prochaine ronde de négociations, le NSTU cherche à négocier un plafond strict de vingt-cinq (25) élèves pour toutes les classes de la 3e à la 12e année, et un plafond de vingt (20) élèves pour les classes à années multiples ou à sujets multiples.		
<i>(Colchester-East Hants)</i>		
<b>2017-37</b>	<b>Adoptée</b>	
<b>IL EST RÉSOLU QUE</b> le NSTU entame des discussions avec le ministère de l’Éducation et du Développement de la petite enfance et les conseils scolaires régionaux en vue de ne pas compter les conseillers d’orientation et les administrateurs dans la formule utilisée pour calculer l’allocation des enseignants dans les écoles.		
<i>(Halifax City)</i>		
<b>2017-38</b>	<b>Adoptée</b>	
<b>IL EST RÉSOLU QUE</b> le NSTU fasse pression sur le ministère de l’Éducation et du Développement de la petite enfance pour qu’il crée des comités mixtes permanents NSTU – ministère de l’Éducation et du Développement de la petite enfance afin de faciliter l’élaboration et la prestation des programmes et des initiatives; ces comités seraient composés d’au moins 50 % d’enseignants dont les responsabilités sont en rapport avec ces initiatives.		
<i>(Colchester-East Hants)</i>		
<b>2017-39</b>	<b>Adoptée</b>	
<b>IL EST RÉSOLU QUE</b> le NSTU fasse pression sur le ministère de l’Éducation et du Développement de la petite enfance pour qu’il fournisse des recherches canadiennes récentes, évaluées par des pairs, et des raisons fondées sur des données probantes pour appuyer les décisions de politique.		
<i>(Colchester-East Hants)</i>		
<b>2017-40</b>	<b>Adoptée telle que modifiée</b>	
<b>IL EST RÉSOLU QUE</b> le NSTU propose d’assurer la liaison avec le ministère de l’Éducation et du Développement de la petite enfance afin de créer une politique fournissant des directives au sujet des devoirs en retard ou manquants.		
<i>(Cumberland)</i>		



**2017-41                    Adoptée telle que modifiée**  
**IL EST RÉSOLU QUE** le NSTU propose d’assurer la liaison avec le ministère de l’Éducation et du Développement de la petite enfance pour créer une politique fonctionnelle concernant l’assiduité pour les classes M-12.  
(Cumberland)

**2017-42                    Adoptée**  
**IL EST RÉSOLU QUE** le NSTU fasse pression sur le ministère de l’Éducation et du Développement de la petite enfance pour que les initiatives soient déployées et que le PP approprié soit fourni durant la période allant de novembre à mai en vue de leur mise en œuvre l’année suivante.  
(Cumberland)

**2017-43                    Adoptée telle que modifiée**  
**IL EST RÉSOLU QUE** le NSTU incite le ministère de l’Éducation et du Développement de la petite enfance à organiser des groupes de travail d’enseignants travaillant dans les manières concernées pour mettre à jour les ressources pour les cours dont les ressources sont actuellement périmées ou incomplètes.  
(Digby)

**2017-44                    Adoptée telle que modifiée**  
**IL EST RÉSOLU QUE** le NSTU incite le ministère de l’Éducation et du Développement de la petite enfance à élaborer des lignes directrices transparentes pour l’allocation équitable de soutiens pédagogiques appropriés qui reflètent les besoins de programmation au sein de l’école.  
(Digby)

**2017-45                    Adressée au Comité exécutif provincial et au Comité des enseignants exerçant des responsabilités administratives**  
**IL EST RÉSOLU QUE** le NSTU entame des discussions avec le ministère de l’Éducation et du Développement de la petite enfance et les conseils scolaires régionaux au sujet du concept selon lequel tous les administrateurs d’école et de conseil scolaire doivent retourner en salle de classe tous les 5 ans pour une année scolaire.  
(Halifax City)

**2017-46                    Adressée au Comité des services aux membres telle que modifiée**  
**IL EST RÉSOLU QUE** le NSTU recommande au ministère de l’Éducation et du Développement de la petite enfance que les parents / tuteurs reçoivent des copies électroniques des bulletins scolaires plutôt que des copies papier, sauf demande contraire, pour les périodes de rapport désignées.  
(Halifax County)

**2017-47                    Adoptée**  
**IL EST RÉSOLU QUE** le NSTU fasse part au ministère de l’Éducation et du Développement de la petite enfance de la nécessité de créer des bulletins scolaires brefs et faciles à lire pour communiquer les progrès scolaires, sociaux et comportementaux de l’élève.  
(Halifax County)

**2017-48                    Adoptée telle que modifiée**  
**IL EST RÉSOLU QUE** le NSTU incite le ministère de l’Éducation et du Développement de la petite enfance à faire enseigner le codage par des enseignants spécialisés ou à fournir un perfectionnement professionnel sérieux au sein de la journée d’enseignement à tous les enseignants de classe qui sont tenus d’enseigner les résultats d’apprentissage relatifs au codage.  
(Halifax County)

**2017-49                    Adoptée**  
**IL EST RÉSOLU QUE** le NSTU incite le ministère de l’Éducation et du Développement de la petite enfance à fournir aux enseignants une banque d’activités d’apprentissage enrichissantes destinées spécifiquement aux classes à niveaux multiples.  
(Halifax County)

**2017-50                    Adoptée**  
**IL EST RÉSOLU QUE** le NSTU incite le ministère de l’Éducation et du Développement de la petite enfance à fournir et à rendre accessibles toutes les ressources nécessaires, y compris les guides de programmation, les rubriques d’évaluation et les activités d’apprentissage différenciées pour tous les cours du Programme des écoles publiques.  
(Halifax County)

**2017-51                    Adoptée**  
**IL EST RÉSOLU QUE** le NSTU incite le ministère de l’Éducation et du Développement de la petite enfance à faire participer les enseignants exerçant dans une discipline donnée à la création ou à l’acquisition et à l’examen du curriculum du Programme des écoles publiques avant sa mise en œuvre.  
(Halifax County)

**2017-52                    Retirée**  
**IL EST RÉSOLU QUE** le NSTU incite le ministère de l’Éducation et du Développement de la petite enfance à fournir des enseignants suppléants lorsque les enseignants sont tenus d’effectuer une « Observational Survey ».  
(Halifax County)

**2017-53                    Adoptée telle que modifiée**  
**IL EST RÉSOLU QUE** le NSTU recommande au ministère de l’Éducation et du Développement de la petite enfance que les initiatives soient mises en œuvre avec un financement approprié, et en consultation et en accord préalables avec le NSTU.  
(Halifax County)

**2017-54                    Adoptée telle que modifiée**  
**IL EST RÉSOLU QUE** le NSTU incite vivement le ministère de l’Éducation et du Développement de la petite enfance à examiner la question des partis-pris sociaux et culturels dans les évaluations uniformisées dans toute la province pour mesurer le rendement des élèves en mathématiques et en littérature; le terme « tests uniformisés » fait référence aux évaluations dont l’administration, le format et la notation sont semblables pour tous les candidats.  
(Inverness)

Généralités

**2017-55                    Adoptée telle que modifiée**  
**IL EST RÉSOLU QUE** le NSTU reconnaisse que nous vivons et travaillons sur un territoire mi’kmaq non cédé, que nous avons le privilège d’être ensemble dans Mi’kmak’i, que nous sommes tous des peuples visés par les traités et que nous voulons reconnaître cette relation.  
(Comité exécutif provincial (CRR d’Annapolis Valley))

**2017-56                    Adoptée**  
**IL EST RÉSOLU QUE** le NSTU explore les implications financières de l’acquisition d’une résidence (un actif) destinée au président du NSTU.  
(Dartmouth)

**2017-57                    Adoptée**  
**IL EST RÉSOLU QUE** le NSTU étudie et règle les problèmes concernant les défaillances de la plate-forme du site Web du NSTU pendant les périodes de forte utilisation telles que les élections du NSTU, les votes sur les accords préliminaires et autres périodes d’utilisation accrue. Cela pourrait comporter la création d’un site Web secondaire réservé aux membres et / ou le placement du lien de connexion sécurisée sur la page principale afin que l’accès à la section publique et l’accès à la section réservée aux membres soient complètement distincts pour éviter les surcharges et les défaillances.  
(Queens County)

**2017-58                    Adoptée telle que modifiée**  
**IL EST RÉSOLU QUE** le personnel de NSTU ne fournisse plus de perfectionnement professionnel ou d’autres services, y compris un conseil fictif ou la vente d’espace publicitaire, aux universités suivantes: Acadia, Cape Breton, Mount Saint Vincent, St. Francis Xavier et Sainte-Anne. Cette action est une conséquence directe du procès intenté contre le NSTU en janvier 2017.  
(Provincial Executive)

Affaires nouvelles

**2017-NB1                    Adoptée**  
**IL EST RÉSOLU QUE** le personnel du NSTU étudie l’augmentation des services de santé mentale fournis dans les écoles par des personnes qui ne sont pas membres du NSTU et l’efficacité du programme Écoles Plus pour ce qui est de répondre aux demandes croissantes de soutien en santé mentale pour les élèves des écoles en le comparant à la charge de travail des conseillers scolaires et son impact sur l’emploi des membres du NSTU et fasse un rapport au Comité exécutif provincial en 2017 et l’AGA du Conseil en 2018.  
(Cumberland)

**2017-NB2                    Adoptée**  
**IL EST RÉSOLU QUE** le NSTU collabore avec les autres syndicats par le biais de la Fédération du travail de la Nouvelle-Écosse afin de trouver et de mettre en œuvre des moyens efficaces de communiquer les informations critiques en temps voulu aux membres par le biais du courriel, du contenu sécurisé du site Web, des médias sociaux, des appels robotisés et autres technologies appropriées et émergentes.  
(Halifax City)

Learn how teaching yoga can bring joy to a school.

Inspire growth, inner peace and connection in your students.



**YOGA**  
in schools

**CANADIAN**  
CONFERENCE

This conference offers workshops for every level, from the curious beginner to the certified yoga instructor, and for the first time in Canada provides complete Yoga in Schools training. Workshop titles include: Introduction to Yoga, Yoga Grade 11, Yoga for Special Needs and Autism, NEW Girl on Fire Empowerment Program, NEW Mindfulness Manual, Yoga and Story telling as well as multi-level posture classes.

**Conference Leaders:**

**Jenny Kierstead**, author of 8 yoga school programs and award-winning educator, is founder of Breathing Space Yoga Studios.  
**Blair Abbass** has been teaching meditation and stress reduction for students and teachers for over 30 years and was the first teacher to bring Yoga 11 to HRSB.

**Who can attend:** This program is suitable for all teachers/specialist especially Phys.Ed., support staff and guidance.

**Date(s):** July 17th-20th, 2017  
**Location:** Chocolate Lake Hotel, Halifax, Nova Scotia  
**Fee:** \$ 500.00 + HST

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For an up-to-date listing with details of

**DEALS & DISCOUNTS**

for NSTU members (including retired members), please visit the website at [www.nstu.ca](http://www.nstu.ca) email [theteacher@nstu.ca](mailto:theteacher@nstu.ca) or phone 1-800-565-6788



# 2017 NSTU Professional Associations Conferences

## FRIDAY, OCTOBER 27



**NO ON-SITE  
REGISTRATION**  
*Register  
Early!*

*Online Registration  
Opens – September 8  
Closes – October 13  
(no refunds after  
October 13)*

**For registration and  
conference details go to  
[www.nstu.ca](http://www.nstu.ca)**

While we encourage members to have a NSTU web account, please be advised that one is NOT required to register for a conference. A member may register utilizing any email address.

### Association of Adult Educators (AAE)

Theme: ***Make Every Connection Count***

Location: NSCC, Marconi Campus

Keynote: Kate Snyder – Moving Forward, Positive and Connected

Fee(s): \$100.00 (Substitutes/Retirees/Students: \$70.00)

Contact: Kevin Wilson, aaeconference@nstu.ca, (902)563-8074;  
Fax: (902)563-0511

### Association des enseignants acadiens (AEA)

Theme: ***Prenons-nous garde et prenons garde à nos élèves***

Location: École du Carrefour (201a, avenue du Portage,  
Dartmouth)

Fee(s): \$90 (dinner included)

Contact: <http://www.academieimpact.com/fr/>, <http://aea.nstu.ca/>

### Association of Science Teachers (AST)

Theme: ***Let's Make Time for Science***

Location: Halifax West High

Fee(s): \$100 teachers, \$45 students, substitutes and retired teachers. \*Note: There will be an additional \$35 fee for who registers to take First Aid.

Contact: James Parsons, 902-235-7500, jeparsons@nstu.ca

### Art Teachers Association (ATA)

Theme: ***Partnerships***

Location: Numerous Halifax locations: Oxford School, Art Gallery of NS, Wonder'neath, NS Centre for Craft and Design

Fee(s): \$90.00 NSTU members / \$45.00 for subs, student teachers and retirees

Contact: Katie McKelvie

### Association of Teachers of Exceptional Children (ATEC)

Theme: ***Rising with Resiliency***

Location: Cineplex Theatre – Dartmouth Crossing

Fee(s): \$100 (students/substitutes/retirees, \$75.00)

Contact: Wade Selig, 543-9987, weselig@nstu.ca

### Association of Teachers of English of NS (ATENS)

Theme: ***The Pen is Mighty***

Location: Delta Hotels by Marriott Dartmouth

Fee(s): \$95 (including lunch), (Student/Substitute/ Retired, \$85.00)

Contact: Tina Buott, atensconference@nstu.ca

### Association of Teachers of Young Adolescents (ATYA)

Theme: ***Resiliency 101: Class Is In***

Location: Riverside Education Centre, Milford, NS

Keynote: Red Fish (Halifax Theatre for Young People) – A Comedy about Depression

Fee(s): \$90 (\$45 for students / substitutes /retired teachers)

Contact: Starr Pettipas, sapettipas@nstu.ca

### Business Education Teachers Association (BETA)

Theme: ***Trendsetters in Business***

Location: Delta Halifax

Fee(s):

Contact: Danielle LeBlanc, danleblanc@nstu.ca

### Educational Drama Association of Nova Scotia (EDANS)

Theme: ***Improv Everywhere***

Location: Dartmouth High School/Grafton Dinner Theatre

Keynote: Grafton Street Dinner Theatre

Fee(s):

Contact: John Hendsbee jehendsbee@nstu.ca or  
john.hendsbee@srsb.ca

### Family Studies Teachers Association (FSTA)

Theme: ***Stepping Out***

Location: St. Matthew's United Church, 1479 Barrington St,  
Halifax, NS

Keynote: Samantha Smith – The Secret to a Lifetime of Perfect Nutrition and the Dirty Truth of Weight Loss

Fee(s): \$85 for full time teachers. \$55 for students, substitutes and retired teachers.

Contact: Denise Forgeron, adforgeron@nstu.ca

### Math Teachers Association (MTA)

Theme: ***Navigating Math for All***

Location: Charles P. Allen High School, Bedford, NS

Keynote: Matt Larson

Fee(s): Membership Conference Fee: \$80.00 Substitutes & Retirees: \$40.00 Students (Register after September 30th) \$20.00

Contact: Sonya O'Sullivan, slo@sullivan@nstu.ca

### NS Music Educators' Association (NSMEA)

Theme: ***Music Makers & Agents of Change***

Location: Auburn Drive High School, 300 Auburn Drive

Keynote: Scott Jones

Fee(s): \$100 regular teachers, \$50 substitutes & retired teachers, \$45 students

Contact: Keli Brewer, klbrewer@nstu.ca

### NS School Counsellors' Association (NSSCA)

Theme: ***Our Force, Awakened***

Location: Spatz Theatre, Citadel High School, Halifax

Keynote: Barry McClatchey, Sue Smiley & TBA

Fee(s): \$95 (includes NSSCA professional membership), \$75 substitute teachers, \$55 full time students and retired teachers

Contact: Martia MacLean, mnmaclean@nstu.ca

### NS Teachers Association for Literacy and Learning (NSTALL)

Theme: ***Dabbing into Literacy***

Location: Cobequid Educational Centre, 34 Lorne St., Truro

Fee(s): \$85 (lunch included on site)

Contact: betsy.jardine@srsb.ca, Justin.fougere@srsb.ca

### NS Technology Education Association (NSTEA)

Theme: ***BIT by Tech Ed (Business, Industry and Trades)***

Location: Avon View high School, 225 Payzant Dr., Windsor, NS

Keynote: Colin Campbell, Michelin Tire Waterville Plant – Youth Transitioning to Industry

Fee(s): Active NSTU Members – \$50, Substitute or Retired Teachers – \$20, BEd Students – \$0

Contact: Jeff Raine, jiraine@nstu.ca

### Primary Elementary Teacher's Association (PETA)

Theme: ***Multiple Paths to Literacy with Miriam Trehearne***

Location: Double Tree by Hilton – Dartmouth, 101 Wyse Road,  
Dartmouth, NS B3A 1L9

Keynote: Miriam Trehearne

Fee(s): \$90.00 for term/permanent Teachers / \$65 for retired teachers, substitutes and students.

Contact: Ashley Chapman, petaconference@nstu.ca

### Psychologists in Schools Association (PISA)

Theme: ***Understanding and Intervening with Trauma-Impacted Youth in the School Setting***

Location: Rosaria Centre, Mount Saint Vincent University

Keynote: Dr. Margaret Blaustein, Director of Training and Education at the Trauma Centre at JRI in Brookline, MA

Fee(s): \$100.00, Students, substitutes, and retired teachers: \$80.00

Contact: Matthew MacLeod, pisaconference@nstu.ca

### School Administrators' Association (SAA)

Theme: ***"Its Starts with us!" The Restorative Approach in Today's Schools***

Location: Ecole Secondaire Du Sommet, Larry Uteck Blvd, Halifax

Fee(s):

Contact: Heather Foote, hwfoote@nstu.ca

### Speech-Language Pathologists and Audiologists Association (SPAA)

Theme: ***Word Finding Assessment and Intervention***

Location: Best Western Plus Dartmouth Hotel and Suites

Keynote: Dr. Diane German, PhD

Fee(s): \$100 – NSTU member (includes SPAA membership), \$100 – non-NSTU member, \$75.00 – student, parent, substitute, retiree

Contact: Krista Lunn, kdLunn@nstu.ca

### Social Studies Teachers' Association (SSTA)

Theme: ***"Engaging Narratives"***

Location: Saint Mary's University, Halifax

Keynote: The Honorable Jean Augustine

Fee(s):

Contact: Wendy Driscoll, wadriscoll@nstu.ca

### Teachers Association for Physical and Health Education (TAPHE)

Theme: ***Now Let's Do What's Best For You!***

Location: Sackville High, 1 Kingfisher Way, Lower Sackville

Keynote: Joyce Sunada

Fee(s): \$80

Contact: Jen McKenzie jlloyd-mckenzie@hrsba.ca, Steve Ranni, shranni@nstu.ca, Justin Oliver jroliver@nstu.ca



# NSTU president tours schools with Inverness Local president

NSTU president Liette Doucet met with members of the Inverness Local executive, Strait RRC and Community College during a school/media tour of the Inverness Local on May 15 and 16.

“I visited four schools and the NSCC campus, and the schools are fantastic. They are well-kept up, the students are engaged, and the teachers are working very hard as usual,” says Doucet. “We have an imposed contract right now, and teachers are not happy about that, but teachers are doing their jobs as they have been all year.”

Doucet met and visited with public school members at Dalbrae Academy, Whycomagh Education Centre, Tamarac Education Centre and SAERC (Strait Area Education and Recreation Centre).

Doucet was particularly impressed with the O2 and skilled trades program offerings she witnessed at Dalbrae Academy. At Whycomagh Education Centre, she saw students take part in a Milling Frolic in celebration of Gaelic Month, learning more about Gaelic language and culture. “What a great opportunity for students to

learn a different language and more about their family heritage,” she says. French, Gaelic and Mi’kmaw languages are all offered. While at SAERC, she was given a tour of the new offices of the Strait Regional School Board and welcomed by SRSB superintendent Ford Rice.

Teacher workload continues to be an issue for NSTU. “I spoke to a lot of specialists teachers—guidance counsellors, resource teachers and learning center teachers,” Doucet says. “They have concerns about case loads, especially guidance counsellors who work in more than one school and want to ensure students’ needs are met on a consistent basis.”

She also toured the NSCC Strait Area Campus and met with Community College faculty and professional support members. The campus houses the Nautical Institute, which provides Transport Canada-approved marine training. “It was amazing to see all the facilities at the campus for marine training,” adds Doucet. “It’s also great to see the Campus offers programs in Wagmatcook First Nation.”



Doucet’s first stop was at Dalbrae Academy. Left to right are: science and math teacher Stan Cameron; vice principal Ben Berthiaume; principal Ann Whalley; Liette Doucet; Robert LeLievre and O2 and Co-op teacher John MacInnis.



NSTU president Liette Doucet is shown with Dalbrae Academy’s skilled trades and tech ed teacher Duncan Campbell.



Whycomagh Education teachers Shelley Campbell and Lisa Cameron are shown with Inverness Local president Robert LeLievre and NSTU president Liette Doucet.



Doucet is shown with teacher Mike Turner watching a Milling Frolic demonstration by Highland Village volunteers.



Above are Tamarac Education Centre teachers Gina Boudreau (Grade 7 – 8), Lori Richard (Resource), and Verla MacNeil (Grade 7) with LeLievre and Doucet.



Shown (l – r) front row: Richmond Local president Phil Samson; Inverness Local vice-president PA/PR Lori Richard; Liette Doucet; incoming Inverness Local vice president of PD Karen MacIsaac; member-at-large Jill Burton; and secretary Pauline LeLievre. Back row: provincial executive member Angela Deagle; Strait RRC chair Tammy Landry; Inverness Local president Robert LeLievre; first vice-president Ann Marie LeLievre; and Community College rep for Strait Area Campus Ellen Campbell (faculty member).



LeLievre and Doucet are shown with SAERC teachers Jill Burton (Math & Chemistry) and Monica LeBlanc (French, Art & Drama).



Above are Community College members from the Strait Area Campus (l – r) faculty member Rand Hartley, Instructor Marine Engineering; NSTU rep, faculty member Ellen Campbell, Trades; and NSTU rep, faculty member Carroll MacIsaac, Carpentry.



# PDAF Committee

Above are members of the PDAF (Program Development Assistance Fund) committee, who met at the NSTU Central Office on June 9 to review the final round of PDAF applications for the school year. The PDAF committee comes from the Teachers' Provincial Agreement Article 14, in which an annual sum of \$200,000 is set aside to provide financial support for projects directly related to the Public School Program. The PDAF program encourages innovative program development in Nova Scotia's public schools. It is co-sponsored by the NSTU and the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development.



Shown (l – r) seated: NSTU staff liaison Gérard Cormier; Kenna MacLean (Cape Breton District); and Angela Wisen (Halifax County). Standing: Department of Education and Early Childhood Development PDAF committee representatives Peter Oldreive and Roy Bourgeois.

# Autism Atlantic Consulting Services

## Summer Institute 2017 “Girls on the Autism Spectrum”

Please join us for 12-hours of professional development focusing on the characteristics, learning styles and major issues in education and personal growth of **girls on the autism spectrum from elementary age through high school graduation**. This informative two days, devoted to understanding females with ASD, will be of interest to parents, siblings, caregivers, professionals, educators, student teachers, teacher assistants and other support workers.

Topics specific to **girls on the spectrum** will include such topics as current research, executive functioning deficits, the hidden curriculum, social development, puberty, and sex education issues, along with reviewing effective teaching/learning strategies for these topics. **A panel of females diagnosed with an autism diagnosis will be included.**

**When:** August 17 & 18 (9:00 – 4:00)

**Where:** École secondaire du Sommet  
500, boulevard Larry Uteck  
Halifax NS

**Registration Fees:** Teachers and Professionals: \$220.  
Non-teachers including post-secondary students, teacher assistants, parents/guardians, caregivers, and other support workers: \$185.

Registration will close on August 1<sup>st</sup>.

\*Minimum Registration: 20 participants

For an expression of interest, questions, and a registration form, please forward your name and email contact information to:  
[autismatlantic@gmail.com](mailto:autismatlantic@gmail.com)

We hope you can join us!  
Kym Hume M.Ed & Yvonne Rafuse M.Ed, M.SpEd

# Sheonorail Conference: Getting Better Together



Above are members of the Sheonorail Board of Directors with keynote speaker Zac Crouse (l – r) Front: NSTU staff liaison Betty-Jean Aucoin and Sheonorail Board Chair Joan Ling. Back: Alison MacPherson (retired member); Wanda Rodgerston Fuller (Insurance Trustees rep); Jennifer Field (Cumberland); Vera Ryan (Yarmouth); Angela Gillis (Halifax City); Zac Crouse; and Damian Hall (provincial executive member). Missing: NSTU president Liette Doucet; Debbie McVeigh (Community College); and Kirsta Moore (Digby).

The Sheonorail Foundation's Board of Directors hosted the conference *Getting Better Together, Teaching and Living Well with Educator's Health Guide*, on April 27 and 28, 2017 at the Westin Nova Scotian. Participants attended keynotes and workshops in support of their emotional, mental, physical, and social health. The conference opened with Dr. Stan Kutcher who shared the concept *Literacy of Mental Health*. This literacy is the foundation of understanding and responding appropriately to mental health issues. He noted, “Life is not stress free.” Moderate discomfort is okay and natural. We need to support our students in getting better with the reality of life. Dr. Kutcher got a shout out from the audience when he said, “If you want to improve schools, hire guidance counsellors to support nurturing relationships.”

The Friday morning session began with a keynote from Dr. Michael Ungar, presenting on the topic of *Resilience at Home and at Work*. Throughout his presentation he shared key messages focusing on resilience. His first message taught us that our mental and physical well-being depends on the quality of our social, built and natural environments. Our resilience is supported by the many things and people around us. Dr. Ungar shared the dozen ‘Resilience resources.’ Navigating and negotiating the resources we need for resilience is a key factor in our success.

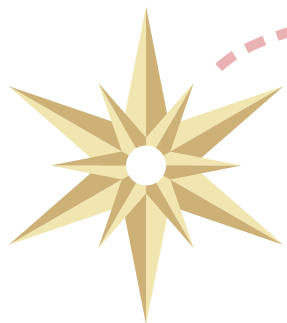
Attendees throughout the morning and afternoon had an opportunity to choose from five excellent workshops in support of *Getting Better Together*. The workshops involved many current and former members who delivered the following workshops; *Using Mindfulness to Support Difficult Emotions*, *Change Your Mind, Change Your Life*, *Body Breaks in Your Life and Classroom*, *Transitioning to the New You* and *A Restorative Approach to a Collaborative Future*. All workshops provided knowledge, understanding, and strategies to support teachers' and students' health.

To conclude, the audience was treated to a closing keynote from Zac Crouse. He used stories, music and video to share his life story of overcoming his own mental health issues. His message was clear in stating that, “We need to talk about it. If we don't, we can't see it and it becomes something non-real. Let's Talk.” Throughout his keynote we learned the importance of finding our flow; something that brings us peace, happiness and health. He noted that resilience is how we respond to what happens in our lives. ‘What happens matters, what happens next is important!’

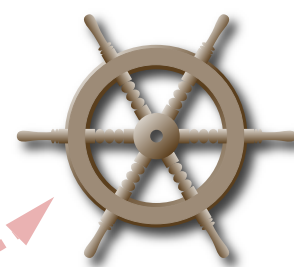


Delegates at the Sheonorail Getting Better Together conference attend the *Change your Mind, Change your Life* workshop presented by Blair Abbass and Jenny Kierstead. This workshop provided participants with evidence-based mind-body techniques for riding the wave of life with skill, resilience and joy.





# Charting Your Course FOR PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT



## Transitioning to the NEW YOU!

By Betty-Jean Aucoin, Executive Staff Officer, Professional Development

*"There are moments that mark your life, moments when you realize nothing will ever be the same, and time is divided into two parts.*

*'Before this and after this.'*

*When a moment comes,*

*You either do the right thing  
or the wrong thing.*

— Joshua Naylor

Once or twice in everyone's life we have an experience we call a 'life changing' moment. In that moment, we often make life-changing decisions. These decisions inherently involve a change in our actions and our life. Such a moment happened collectively for the NSTU membership this year.

*Before this*, there were many moments within our teachers' journey which brought them to a point of no return. Throughout the first two months of the 2016-2017 school year, I had the opportunity to visit many schools. During these visits I saw many teachers tired, exhausted, and frustrated. What was different? Why was I seeing this happening in all Boards, in all areas of the province? It may have been many years of additional workload being dropped at the doors of schools and classrooms without anything being removed. It could have been the increase of mental health issues without additional supports or resources, or one of the many stories teachers recounted at Law Amendments.

On Monday, December 5 public school NSTU members began a work-to-rule job action. The legal strike directed teachers to perform the duties of a teacher as outlined in the TPA, minus a few contractual items such as meetings. The just over two months of work-to-rule brought many light bulb moments, moments when members realized they had time to teach, develop relationships with students and staff, eat lunch without disruption, be home to cook a healthy supper, take up walking, be a present mother, father, spouse and so much more. Veteran teachers were reminded of the past when students were valued as more than data. Mid-career teachers were able to balance professional life with personal life. New teachers were shocked to realize many of the expectations placed upon them were not contractual. These light bulb moments caused teachers to pause and reflect on the number of hours given above and beyond their professional responsibilities. It also gave an opportunity to find their voice.

After voting no to the third tentative agreement, the life changing moment happened. That moment took place on a cold Friday, February 17, 2017 when the Nova Scotia Teachers Union participated in its first strike. Ninety-three hundred public school teachers left their classrooms schools and offices to strike for better classroom conditions and fair bargaining. During this strike, their NSTU colleagues from APSEA and Community College, students, parents and others supported them. Teachers walked for their students, for public education and for their profession.

*After this*, on Wednesday, February 22, the NSTU members woke up to an imposed legislated contract. NSTU members lost their right to negotiate a contract in good faith. With this imposed contract, many conversations took place discussing the *New Normal*. How will teachers move forward having experienced a momentous WTR, Strike, and Legislated Contract?

Lest we forget. It is human nature to return to what we have always done. Over the years, all of the additions became normalized and accepted. After all of this you can either do the right thing or the wrong thing. To support teachers in framing their new normal, I developed a workshop for members in transitioning to the 'New You'. I veered away from the concept of New Normal. What is normal for me as an educator may not be for someone else.

This workshop supports participants within the three areas of their lives they experience every day: structured professional, unstructured professional and personal life. In the session, teachers come to an understanding of the difference between contractual and non-contractual responsibilities. Finally, they learn new strategies in moving forward, transitioning to a life of balance that respects and values them.

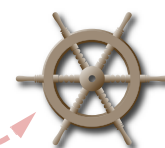
Who cares? Should you? This 2016-2017 school year taught us that we could neither ignore nor hoard time. It also showed us that we cannot rely on others to honour our profession and our rights. Every moment offers us the opportunity to do the right or wrong thing. My wish is that teachers take time this summer to reflect on the past year and make choices of how they will proceed next year in support of their students and themselves.



Credit: Bryghton Towns



## Charting Your Course FOR PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT



**Email your name, home address, and the name of your school or campus with PD Giveaway in the subject line to [theteacher@nstu.ca](mailto:theteacher@nstu.ca) by August 11, 2017 to be eligible for the draw.**

### ***Too Safe for their Own Good by Michael Ungar***

*Too Safe for their Own Good*, published by McLelland & Stewart, provides new and relevant ideas about how teenagers need to take risk and seek responsibility to thrive. Dr. Ungar, a professor at Dalhousie's School of Social Work is a world-renown expert on resilience in at-risk youth and the leader of the International Resilience Project, who was a keynote at NSTU's recent Sheonorail Conference.





# Cumberland Local NSTU member receives national physical education award



Credit: Darrell Cole and The Amherst News

White is shown above with Kaelin Gillis, president of the TAPHE.

Spring Street Academy Physical Education teacher Daren White, was surprised and humbled to receive the Physical and Health Education (PHE) Canada National Award for Teaching Excellence in Physical Education in a special ceremony at his school on April 29.

Joined by the entire school and his family, White was lauded for his amazing efforts to promote physical, mental and emotional health. This is the second major award he has won for his teaching practice. In 2016, Daren was awarded the Teaching Excellence Award for Physical and Health Education by TAPHE (Teachers Association for Physical and Health Education) a professional association of the Nova Scotia Teachers Union. He is also a past Excellence in Teaching Award recipient, which is presented annually by Chignecto Central Regional School Board and the Colchester-East Hants, Cumberland and Pictou Locals of NSTU.

The PHE Canada National Award for Teaching Excellence in Physical Education honours Canadian teachers who provide outstanding teaching performance at the elementary, middle or secondary levels, who have an exceptional ability to motivate students to participate in a lifetime of physical activity, and who further Physical Education in Canada.

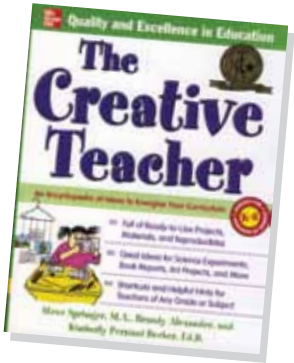


Putting new members in the KNOW!

Email your name, home address, and the name of your school or campus with **FRESH** in the subject line to [theteacher@nstu.ca](mailto:theteacher@nstu.ca) by August 11, 2017 to be eligible for the draw.

*The Creative Teacher, by Steve Springer, Brandy Alexander and Kimberly Persiani-Becker*

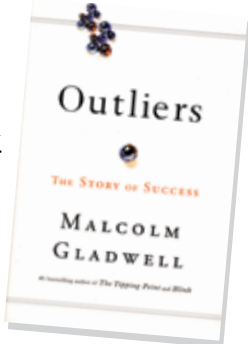
The Creative Teacher published by McGraw Hill provides an encyclopedia of ideas to energize curricula. Targeted to P to 6 teachers, it provides a wealth of ideas, practical tips and ready-to-use materials to keep students engaged in learning.



Email your name, home address, and the name of your school or campus with **EQUITY** in the subject line to [theteacher@nstu.ca](mailto:theteacher@nstu.ca) by August 11, 2017 to be eligible for the draw.

*Outliers by Malcolm Gladwell*

Published by Little, Brown and Company Hachette Book Group Outliers explores Malcolm Gladwell's theories of success. He argues that understanding how people's success is impacted by family, birthplace and birthdate. This book explores how generation, family, culture and class influence how people flourish.



# NSTU initiates Charter Challenge against Bill 75

On May 17, the NSTU submitted its mandatory two-month notice of application with the Nova Scotia Attorney General for a Charter Challenge against Bill 75.

The application contends that with Bill 75, and the imposition of the legislation, the Premier and his government repeatedly engaged in activities that violated NSTU public school members' rights to freedom of association and freedom of expression guaranteed under the Charter.

"The current government took numerous steps to erode NSTU's ability to engage in a fair collective bargaining process, which culminated with Bill 75," says NSTU president Liette Doucet. "The government actions were both reckless and inappropriate and prevented teachers from negotiating a fair contract that included needed reforms to improve classroom conditions."

The documents included in the notice of application are available on-line <http://nstu.ca/the-nstu/communications/the-media-room/>. A link to the documents were also sent via email to all NSTU public school members the same day.

## CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR APRIL BOOK WINNERS!

PD — Diane Lewis — CBVRSB  
EQUITY — Debbie Supple — HRSB  
FRESH — Mélodie Couturier — CSAP

## CONTRACT HOTEL CHANGE

The contract hotel for all Nova Scotia Teachers Union business is now the **Delta Halifax**. New guest rates will apply with the Delta Halifax as outlined below.

The **Westin Nova Scotian** will continue as the overflow hotel for NSTU business **until June 30, 2017** in the event the Delta Halifax is fully booked. The Delta Barrington will become the overflow hotel for NSTU business effective **July 1, 2017**.

Any guest rooms required at the above hotels for NSTU business must be booked through the **NSTU Central Office**.

### Guest Rates:

**The following guest rates will apply for NSTU business travel at the Delta Halifax and Barrington:**

**\$94.00 (plus tax and marketing levy)** – single/double occupancy. Includes parking for one vehicle, full hot buffet breakfast for one person at Harbour City Bar and Grill, free local and long distance access fees, and free high speed internet. (Black out date – Dec 31, 2017). **Please note that due to higher occupancy at both hotels during the following 2017 dates ONLY, the rates will be either \$109 or \$149 (plus tax and marketing levy): May 20, 24, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31 and June 1, 2, 3, 6, 7, 8, 9, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 28, 29, 30.** Both the Delta Halifax and Delta Barrington are offering a preferred rate for NSTU leisure travel. Effective immediately the following rates will apply:

**\$109 (plus tax and marketing levy when forecasting LESS than 95% occupancy)** to include a \$10 discounted self-parking rate. (Black out date – Dec 31, 2017)

**\$149 (plus tax and marketing levy when forecasting MORE than 95% occupancy)** to include a \$10 discounted self-parking rate. (Black out date – Dec 31, 2017)

### PLEASE NOTE:

Any Local or RRC wishing to use the contract or overflow hotel must contact the NSTU Central Office in advance and provide the approximate number of guest rooms and meeting rooms required. The hotels will not be accepting bookings for business purposes directly without prior authorization from the NSTU Central Office.

Once the hotel space availability has been confirmed by the NSTU Central Office, the Locals and RRCS can provide details of the meeting requirements directly to the hotel.

### NSTU Central Office Contact Information:

Phone: 1-800-565-6788

Email: [events@nstu.ca](mailto:events@nstu.ca)



# Art Therapy: Reconnecting with the Creative Self

by Jen Vivian, BFA, MA

The questions I get the most when I tell people that I am an art therapist is “What is that?”, sometimes followed by “...are you a therapist for artists?” and inevitably “I am no good at art, I can’t even draw a straight line..” or a barrage of other negative self talk. This speaks to a person’s core belief about their ability to express themselves using art. In this article, my goal is to explain a little about what art therapy is, what art therapy isn’t and how creative expression can be used to help promote overall wellness.

## What is art therapy? Art Psychotherapy and Art as therapy

### Art Psychotherapy

The Canadian Association of Creative Arts Therapists define art therapy in the following way: “Art therapy combines the creative process and psychotherapy, facilitating self-exploration and understanding. Using imagery, colour and shape as part of this creative therapeutic process, thoughts and feelings can be expressed that would otherwise be difficult to articulate.” (<http://www.canadianarttherapy.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/03/CATA-ACAT-Fact-Sheet-1.pdf>)

The role of the art therapist in art psychotherapy is to demonstrate how art materials work and to act as a guide for the client to start to explore and understand their own personal imagery and ways of using creative expression. This can allow for the client to work on deeper, possibly unconscious issues through the use of metaphor. Usually the art therapist works in a non-directive way, but occasionally art directives may be given. This type of art psychotherapy would generally take place in a setting where there would be privacy for the client/clients to allow for confidentiality and for the full immersion into the art psychotherapy process. Art psychotherapy should always only be facilitated by a trained art therapist.

Art psychotherapy is particularly useful for clients who:

- have experienced trauma or are experiencing PTSD
- have experienced abuse
- are children who are experiencing difficulties at home or in foster care

- are experiencing depression or anxiety
- are experiencing behavior or emotional issues
- are undergoing prolonged medical treatment
- have experienced loss or are coping with grief

### Art as therapy

Art therapy that does not take a psychodynamic approach is sometimes referred to as art as therapy. This approach to art therapy focuses more on the therapeutic value of the act of creative expression itself. Meaning that the very act of expressing oneself through creative art materials may help improve emotional, physical, spiritual and mental well being. Again, the art therapist may act as a guide, demonstrating how to use art materials. In general, more directive art making approaches are used that the art therapist has determined would be beneficial for the client.

Art as therapy is particularly useful for clients who:

- have been diagnosed with Alzheimers or dementia
- experience depression, anxiety and panic attacks
- are on the Autism spectrum
- are looking for a pain management tool
- have a diagnosis of ADHD
- are looking for stress reduction and wellness techniques for self-care

Again, art as therapy should be facilitated by a trained art therapist who has knowledge of the best materials and techniques for each client's needs.

Art therapy may be offered to individuals, groups or to a wider community through an open studio. There are as many different approaches to art therapy as there are art therapists and the key if you are interested in seeing an art therapist for your own healing, is to find one whose approach resonates with you. It is through the therapeutic relationship and creative expression that you set yourself up for therapeutic success.

### What materials are used?

Art therapists present a wide variety of materials which people may use. These

can include: markers, pencils, charcoal, color pencils, pastels, paint (watercolor, acrylic), plasticine, playdough, clay, pipecleaners, beads, fabric, paper, tissue paper, recyclables and puppets and toys. An art therapist may choose different materials depending on who they are working with. For example, an art therapist who works mainly with children may have more toys than an art therapist who works with soldiers who are dealing with PTSD.

### What art therapy is not.

Most adults with whom I have worked can recall a moment in their childhood when their artistic skill was valued or devalued by a respected adult. The effects of the devaluing of a child’s creative expression through art can have lasting detrimental effects. Most notably, turning a person off creative expression through art materials well into their adult life. The danger with this is that it deprives them an outlet for self expression, self care and healing that could and should be a valuable life skill. Instead, all too often, there is an emphasis on artistic ability at a young age, rather than an emphasis on artistic expression. Art therapy **never focuses on artistic ability**, but rather, on the process of creating, of using creative play and experimentation to explore areas of oneself that may otherwise remain hidden.

Art therapists **do not interpret** the meaning of a clients artwork. The meaning behind the creative expression is for the client to explore, and this meaning may change over time. Clients are often encouraged to look back at past artworks to explore meanings that may have been overlooked immediately after the artwork was complete.

Art therapy **does not focus on the art product** but rather on the process of art making as a therapeutic tool for wellness and growth.

### How creative expression can be used to help promote overall wellness?

To fully experience the benefits of art therapy, it is recommended to see a trained art therapist who has a background in both art making and psychology. There are three institutions in Canada where

art therapists are trained: The Vancouver Art Therapy Institute, The Toronto Art therapy Institute, St. Stephens College and Concordia University. The Canadian Art Therapy Association is the regulatory body for art therapists in Canada who has outlined the code of ethics for art therapists nationwide. You can find the code of ethics as well as a list of art therapists by region on their website: <http://www.canadianarttherapy.org/>

Many art therapists also belong to the Canadian Counselling and Psychotherapy Association as well as the Nova Scotia College of Counselling Therapists here in Nova Scotia.

Creative expression may still be used to promote overall wellness outside of art therapy. I believe that the very act of dedicating some time to creative play and expression has many benefits. These may include reducing stress, improving self esteem and self-exploration.

Here are some of my suggested guidelines to benefit from art making at home:

- Have a dedicated space for art-making, it could be the kitchen table, or a sketchbook or any place where you feel comfortable and inspired.
- Use materials that you enjoy. The dollar store is a great source for some quick art materials. Make sure to choose materials that you get excited about.
- Pay attention to your inner voice. Try to silence your inner critic and approach making art in a non-judgemental way. It is a time for creative play.
- Spend some time (even 5 minutes) reflecting on the art that you created when you are finished.
- Have fun!

*Jen Vivian is a trained art therapist who completed her Master of Arts degree in Creative Art Therapy at Concordia University in Montreal in 2013. Jen lives and works in Cape Breton. Jen is a member of the Canadian Counselling and Psychotherapy Association and the Canadian Art Therapy Association.*



For previous The Well Teacher articles, go to [www.nstu.ca](http://www.nstu.ca)

Click on ► Communications ► NSTU Publications ► The Teacher ► The Well Teacher



# resources

media  
LIBRARY  
@LRTS

Digital  
Resources  
for  
Teachers

The Media Library is the place to go for all your curriculum video needs! We provide you with access to over 10,000 online videos to stream or download and have a collection of over 5,000 educational videos and DVDs that support grades P-12 in all subject areas of the Nova Scotia curriculum. Visit our website at <http://medialibrary.ednet.ns.ca> to access these and other digital classroom resources!

## *Expired titles... Get them before they're gone for good!!*

The Media Library is moving to a new location soon and we don't want to have take these with us!! We have lots of copies still available for titles whose dubbing license has expired but we have only limited numbers for each title. All titles are available in DVD format for only \$1.41 each (+ tax) except where noted. Be sure to check out our website for lots more <https://medialibrary.ednet.ns.ca/last-chance>

To order, simply use our online ordering forms, available on our website, or email us at [mediadub@ednet.ns.ca](mailto:mediadub@ednet.ns.ca).

### *Killing Us Softly 4*

Grades 10-12

This highly anticipated update of Jean Kilbourne's pioneering film marshals a range of new print and television advertisements to lay bare a stunning pattern of damaging gender stereotypes – images and messages that too often reinforce unrealistic, and unhealthy, perceptions of beauty, perfection, and sexuality. This film stands to challenge a new generation of students to take advertising seriously, and to think critically about popular culture and its relationship to sexism, eating disorders, and gender violence. MATURE CONTENT – TEACHER PREVIEW RECOMMENDED

### *Straightlaced*

Grades 10-12

With a fearless look at a highly charged subject, this film unearths how popular pressures around gender and sexuality are confining American teens. Their stories reflect a diversity of experiences, demonstrating how gender role expectations and homophobia are interwoven, and illustrating the different ways that these expectations connect with culture, race and class. This fascinating array of students opens up with brave, intimate honesty about the toll that deeply held stereotypes and rigid gender policing have on all our lives.

### *Flawed*

Grades 7-12

Flawed is a charming little film about very big ideas. This animated short is about a woman who meets a man who turns out to be a plastic surgeon which, in turn, leads our heroine to question her own imperfections. But, ultimately, Flawed is less about whether girl can get along with boy than whether girl can accept herself, imperfections and all. The brilliance of the film is in the way it's made: a series of storyboards being illustrated one after the other - both an exquisite tribute to the art of animation and a loving homage to storyboarding, a time-honoured way of rendering scenes while pointing the way to the dramatic arc of the tale.

### *Animate Everything*

Grades 1-3

Spaceships soar into space. Dots dance on a page. Rocks and twigs transform into expressive faces. Kids can easily create this kind of magic themselves, and all they require are a few simple tools. Divided into four short, easy-to-understand chapters, Animate Everything introduces basic concepts of animation to a young audience. Explaining visually with colourful images, siblings Lindsay and Will demonstrate how to bring everyday objects to life – and even how to animate people! Animate Everything encourages you to «make your own magic in whatever style you want.»

### *The Great Food Revolution*

Grades 10-12

This series of four programs takes viewers on a gastronomic journey. Explore how food has been transformed – from the stuff that merely gets us through the day to a \$4 trillion industry, a status symbol, and the subject of myriad magazines, TV shows and websites. Titles in this series: The great food revolution ; The battle to get on your plate ; 24 hours, 24 million meals : feeding New York ; and, Food of the future. (4DVDs - \$5.64)

### *The Exchange: Six Faces of Gambia*

Grades 10-12

This short documentary film introduces a Western audience to six compelling people living in The Gambia – people who don't fit the stereotypes we might have about people from Africa. The film doesn't seek to “inspire” us with extreme stories of perseverance or hope in a context of dire circumstances but, instead, focuses on six resilient, passionate, educated people, with strong ideas about changes they'd like to see in their town or in the world.

In addition to our lending and duplication collections, the Media Library also has videos that can be downloaded or streamed. Please log into the EduPortal and click on the link for “Online Video Library/Learn360” to access these digital titles.

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[WWW.MARRIOTT.COM/YHZHF](http://WWW.MARRIOTT.COM/YHZHF)

## executive highlights

### June 2-3, 2017

- Filed the Table Officers Report; MacKinnon and Peter Day
- Appointed all Standing Committees for 2017-2018; Governance & Policy Committee: Darlene Bereta, Damian Hall, Crystal Isert, Colleen Scott, Angela Deagle, Allister Wadden, Ian Kent, Doug Read.
- Approved a recommendation that an advertisement be placed to fill two positions on the Comité de programmation acadienne from the South-West Region; Nominating Committee: Bill Murphy, Colleen Scott, Paul Wozney, Peter Day and Tami Cox Jardine.
- Approved a permanent contract for Nancy Morton, Human Resources Officer; ■ Approved signing officers for 2017-2018;
- Extended the probationary contract for Sandra Murray, Counsellor, for a six month period from June 1, 2017 to November 30, 2017; ■ Selected Laurie Dauphinee to serve on the Community College Negotiating Team;
- Approved a recommendation that Anne Rodrigue's contract be extended to July 31, 2018; ■ Approved Out-of-Province Grants in the amount of \$425 each;
- Elected 2nd Vice-President: Cherie Abriel ■ Approved Full Time Study Grants in the amount of \$2,000 each;
- Elected Secretary-Treasurer: Thérèse Forsythe ■ Approved Travel Fellowships in the amount of \$300 each;
- Personnel Committee: Cherie Abriel, Chair; Turk MacDonald, Lori ■ Approved a recommendation that the Curriculum Committee hold another meeting before the end of the school year.

For advertising information in The Teacher,  
1-800-565-6788 or email [theteacher@nstu.ca](mailto:theteacher@nstu.ca)





update

# Resilience® Employee / Family Assistance Program: Q & A

This school year has been stressful for teachers and their families. The NSTU Group Insurance Trustees want to remind you of the Employee and Family Assistance Program, Resilience®, to help you and your family get through difficult times if additional support is needed.

**Q: What types of counselling services are offered through Resilience?**

**A:** Life is full of challenges. Once in a while, a problem may become overwhelming and you may not know how to tackle it alone. An unresolved problem or ongoing stress can sometimes affect your health – emotionally and physically – and eventually, your quality of life. So where can you turn for support and solutions. The NSTU Group Insurance Trustees make available to active NSTU members an Employee and Family Assistance Program. If you or eligible family members have a problem or need advice and someone to talk to, this service offers expert assistance from caring professionals. Through Resilience® you can reach a team of experienced counsellors who will listen to the issue, offer sound advice and help you create an action plan to address the issue. Resilience® offers counselling services for issues including, but not limited to:

- Stress
- Marital/family/separation/divorce/custody issues
- Alcohol and drug abuse
- Personal adjustment problems
- Psychological disorders
- Anger management
- Retirement planning
- Aging parents/eldercare
- Sexual harassment
- Gambling addiction
- Conflict resolution
- Bereavement
- Weight, smoking and general health issues

Counselling is designed to provide support and understanding, help build coping skills, and teach ways to effectively manage issues and problems. As more and more Canadians are affected by depression, either personally or through someone they know, Resilience® provides additional support such as Depression Care Services. Resilience® can provide assistance for individuals suffering from certain types of depression and provide a counsellor who can deliver personalized sessions using proven counselling techniques to address the symptoms of depression and will coordinate and consult with an individual's treating physician to ensure that all aspects of the treatment program are aligned to deliver the best possible outcomes. You can choose to receive counselling in a way that is most convenient and comfortable for you, whether that is in-person, by phone, or through a secure online service.

**Q: Are there other services in addition to counselling offered through Resilience® for me and my family?**

**A:** In addition to counselling services, Resilience® also offers Plan Smart and Career Smart Services. Plan Smart and Career Smart Services are designed to allow you to take a proactive approach to managing everyday challenges and life transitions, and get the information and support you need to suit your unique situation. Plan Smart and Career Smart Services include:

- Childcare and Parenting Caregiver Support Services
- Elder Care and Family Care Services
- Legal Advisor Services
- Financial Advisor Service
- Nutritional Support
- Career Counselling Service
- Retirement Planning Service
- Smoking Cessation Service
- Shift Worker Support
- Online Courses
- 12 Weeks to Wellness

**Q: Are there any web-based resources available through Resilience®?**

**A:** You can also visit Resilience® online at [www.myresilience.com](http://www.myresilience.com) and register using the NSTU contract number of 39146 to access additional services such as Health eLinks. Health eLinks is an online resource of health care related materials. With Health eLinks, you can take part in an interactive health assessment, access a comprehensive library of medical information written by medical experts and even create a personal health improvement program.

There are also a number of E-courses online at [www.myresilience.com](http://www.myresilience.com). Courses are broken down into three categories:

Courses for Employees or Family members: Health and Well-Being  
Courses for Employees: Career and Workplace Issues  
Courses for Key Persons and Supervisors

Complete course descriptions are available online. Some examples of the courses available are:

- Foundations of Effective Parenting
- Taking control of your Mood
- Taking control of your Money
- Respect in the Workplace
- Leading the human side of change
- .....to name a few.

**Q: What is the best way to access Resilience®?**

**A:** Accessing Resilience® is easy. To access Resilience® directly by phone, simply call 1-877-955-NSTU (6788). This toll-free line is available 24 hours, seven days a week.

You can also access Resilience through the NSTU Member Assistance Program by calling 1-800-565-6788, press 4 to speak to the NSTU nurse.

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# Teaching with Humor, Compassion and Conviction



What started as a blog in 2012 has turned into a writing career for Hammonds Plains Consolidated learning centre teacher Heather Hollis. In her book, *Teaching with Humor, Compassion and Conviction*, published by Pembroke, Hollis shares her joy of teaching and provides her teaching peers with strategies to create classrooms that focus on humor, conviction, and compassion.

Under the [www.suburbanprincessteacher.com](http://www.suburbanprincessteacher.com) banner, Hollis has written 89 blog posts. “The post that seemed to stick the most with people was the one on Snow Days,” she comments. “It has had close to 200,000 views so far.”

With built up audience and readership, Hollis started shopping her idea for a book, based on the ideas put forth in her blog, to publishing companies in the fall of 2015. By January 2016, Pembroke Publishers Ltd was on board, and a brand new book, one which focused on the common thread in her writing—humor, compassion and conviction—was born.

Hollis argues that encouraging kids to learn with joy and laughter is a key to learning. “The humor aspect has always been important, it sets a tone that we are in a light hearted place—an enjoyable place to be.”

With over 20 years experience as an elementary and junior high resource teacher, language arts teacher and learning centre teacher, Hollis comments on a key issue facing classrooms and school environments. “I notice a lack of respect not just for teachers, but between students and for themselves. Having an inner conviction of creating safe, kind, places of learning—even when we may not feel supported, goes a long way in engaging students.”

Compassion is crucial in the work she does. With a large caseload, and physically demanding job with many students acting out, it’s important to maintain compassion. “Every day you walk back in and you reset. You can’t hold a grudge because students are acting out from trauma.”

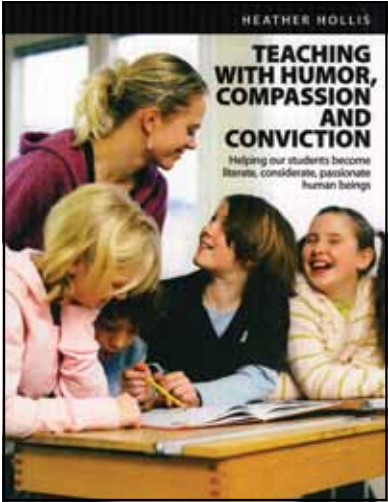
Her book provides strategies that help teachers build classrooms in which students are free to “speak with compassion, write with conviction, and read with joy.”

It also focuses on teacher wellness. Throughout the book the Teacher Talk boxes show how teachers can help themselves and treat themselves with all the same characteristics they are instilling in their students.

“What we are really doing is developing good kind compassionate humans who can stand by their convictions,” she says. “It’s about how children can become the best people—not just the best scholars.”

Hollis has provided The Teacher with a copy of her book for a giveaway. See inset for details.

Email your name, home address, and the name of your school or campus with Hollis Giveaway in the subject line to [theteacher@nstu.ca](mailto:theteacher@nstu.ca) by August 11 to be eligible for the draw.



# CyberTitan is coming to Nova Scotia schools!

CyberTitan, Canada’s Cyber Security Education Initiative, provides opportunities for students to engage in defending and securing hands-on, simulated environments. The program seeks to promote training and awareness in technology education and foster excellence in students pursuing careers in cyber security or other science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) areas. In Canada, this program is offered by the Information and Communications Technology Council (ICTC) in affiliation with the (US) Air Force Association’s CyberPatriot Program. Faculty members from the Nova Scotia Community College Information Technology Program and their students are currently recruiting Nova Scotia high school teams for the CyberTitan 2017-18 Challenge.

The only cost involved in participating in the CyberTitan Challenge is the team registration fee. For the 2017-18 , this fee is waived for all-female teams! Coaches and mentors do not need to have previous cybersecurity knowledge or training. Training materials are provided and NSCC IT faculty and students are available to support teams in their surrounding areas.

Check out this info from ICTC: *CyberTitan is a comprehensive online competition that scores students across North America in real time. This unique and engaging environment will provide students immediate feedback on their level of cyber security comprehension. CyberTitan can be integrated into any technology-related course or delivered as an after-school/lunch program. It’s an opportunity to engage students in critical thinking and create a community of technology learners while representing their school, province and country in cyber security defense competitions. For 2017-18, CyberTitan teams will compete to earn all-expense paid trip to the CyberTitan National Finals in May 2018 in Ottawa, where the best 10 teams across Canada will compete. CyberTitan teams will also compete with teams across North America to earn an all-expense paid trip to Baltimore, Maryland to compete in the CyberPatriot National Finals.*

Teachers and potential mentors are encouraged to review the CyberPatriot training modules, which provides an excellent introduction to this program: <https://www.uscyberpatriot.org/competition/training-materials>. For more information on the program visit <http://www.cybertitan.ca> or contact Mike. [Duggan@nsc.ca](mailto:Duggan@nsc.ca), [Darlene.Redmond@nsc.ca](mailto:Darlene.Redmond@nsc.ca) , or [Catherine.Stokes@nsc.ca](mailto:Catherine.Stokes@nsc.ca).

## coming events

### SEPTEMBER 16

**RTO Provincial Golf Tournament**

The Retired Teachers Organization is hosting its annual provincial golf tournament on Saturday, September 16 at Granite Springs Golf Club, Halifax with a 1PM shotgun start. This will be a scramble format with teams of 2. Teams should be comprised of at least one retired member so team up with a retired friend and join us! More information and a registration form can be found at: <http://www.halifaxcityrto.org/index.html> or by contacting David Cunningham, [dmcunningham@nstu.ca](mailto:dmcunningham@nstu.ca), 902-225-0620.

### Teaching and administrative opportunities in the Nova Scotia International Programs

Experience a new culture while teaching the Nova Scotia curriculum, or bring your school leadership expertise to an exciting new learning environment.

Nova Scotia international programs in the People’s Republic of China (grades 10-12) and the United Arab Emirates (grades P-12) offer competitive pay, annual return flights, apartment or living allowance, and paid holidays.

**Recruitment is underway for positions commencing September 2017.**

**For a list of opportunities see:**  
[www.internationalprograms.ednet.ns.ca](http://www.internationalprograms.ednet.ns.ca)

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#### PRODUCTS & SERVICES

<b>Botox Cosmetic,® Xeomin®</b> (wrinkles & fine lines)	<b>The Perfect Peel® Chemical Peel Rx</b> (slow the aging process, improve acne, remove or reduce sun damage, age spots, acne scars, reduce pore size, soften fine lines & wrinkles, & more)	<b>Sclerotherapy</b> (varicose, spider & facial veins)
<b>Hyperhidrosis</b> (Excessive sweating)		<b>Cryotherapy</b> (skin tags & benign lesions)
<b>Latisse®</b> (eyelash enhancement)	<b>Juvederm®, Belotero® Anteis®, Radiesse®</b> (volume loss & deeper lines)	<b>Ear Syringing</b> (wax removal)
		<b>Belkyra®</b> (treatment for double chins)



## classifieds

Classified rates are \$2.00 for the first 15 words and 25¢ per additional word upon presentation of a professional or NSCC Employee number.

Non-members pay \$6.00 for the first 15 words and 25¢ per additional word.

To book, call Christa Blackmore at 1-800-565-6788 or email [theteacher@nstu.ca](mailto:theteacher@nstu.ca)

**SEASIDE SUMMER RENTAL** – private beach access just steps from your door; a small cabin with a big ocean view and all the amenities. Located near Margaree Harbour, Cape Breton. Available July 15th to August 5th. Weekly minimum. Contact: [helligonian@yahoo.ca](mailto:helligonian@yahoo.ca) for pictures & details.

**LOOKING FOR UP TO 20% JOB SHARE** – Experienced resource / lc teacher to share in the HRSB with permanent teacher. 2017-2018. [agiovannetti@hrsb.ca](mailto:agiovannetti@hrsb.ca)

**JOB SHARE** – Seeking job share opportunity in HRSB or CCRSB for 2017-18. Experienced Secondary English Teacher. Experience also in TESL, Resource, Geo/SS, Tech Ed, Guidance. Very comfortable in Elementary. Reliable, hard working, team player. Please contact me at [kinnex@hotmail.com](mailto:kinnex@hotmail.com)

**JOB SHARE** – Looking to work a 4 day work week? Experienced high school Visual Art Specialist, Global Geo, HHS12, would like to work 1 day/week 2017/18 school year. Contact [morgans@hrsb.ca](mailto:morgans@hrsb.ca)

**SUMMER RENTAL** – Two bdrm apt. in Dartmouth overlooking harbour, walking distance to amenities, bridge and downtown. [agiovannetti@hrsb.ca](mailto:agiovannetti@hrsb.ca)

**HOUSE SITTER AVAILABLE** – Retired French teacher in Halifax, now Executive Business Consultant, currently seeks long term house sitting services. Clean, responsible, professional, non-smoker with a 6 yr old, hypo-allergenic, toy cockapoo. Please contact Kim – [kim@pmconsulting.ca](mailto:kim@pmconsulting.ca)

## myresilience.com



### Resilience®

EFAP/Employee and Family Assistance  
Program offered by the NSTU Group Insurance Trustees

### Counselling Services

Stress  
Marital /Family  
Separation/Divorce/Custody issues  
Alcohol and Drug Abuse  
and more...

### Plan Smart and Career Smart Services

Childcare, Elder, and Family Care Services  
Legal and Financial Advisory Services  
Nutritional Support  
12 Weeks to Wellness  
and more...

### Depression Care Services

Provides assistance for individuals suffering from certain types of depression

### Wellness Sessions

One hour group wellness sessions for 10 to 35 members.  
(Contact NSTU Liaison Officer for Trustees)

### Access is Easy!

**1-877-955-NSTU (6788)**

Call collect if outside of Canada 1-604-689-1717

Pour service en français, appelez à frais virés au 1-514-875-0720

On-line access at: [www.myresilience.com](http://www.myresilience.com)

## The John Huntley Memorial Internship Program

*The deadlines for application for the  
John Huntley Memorial Internship Program  
for the 2017-2018 school year are*

**September 1, November 1, February 1 and April 1.**

*Applications for active NSTU members are available through your  
NSTU rep, on the NSTU website at [www.nstu.ca](http://www.nstu.ca) or  
at Central Office 477-5621 or 1-800-565-6788.*

*The internship provides members with an opportunity  
to learn more about the NSTU.*

**Nova Scotia Teachers Union**

## Bridgewater School Counsellor Honoured with National Counsellor Practitioner Award

The Canadian Counselling and Psychotherapy Association (CCPA) was proud to honour Belinda Josephson, school counsellor at Bridgewater Elementary School, with the CCPA Counsellor Practitioner Award at a ceremony recently held during its annual conference in St. John's, NL.

The CCPA awards program acknowledges unsung heroes and persons worthy of recognition in the counselling and psychotherapy profession. CCPA commends all members far and wide who daily make a positive difference in the lives of people.

"The awards program recognizes and honours outstanding individuals working in counselling and psychotherapy," said John Driscoll, CCPA President. "From students emerging into our profession to those who are practitioners, educators, supervisors, and mentors, CCPA offers its appreciation for their work in growing a strong foundation of caring and action."

Josephson has been an Executive member of the School Counsellors Chapter of CCPA since 2009, including tenure as Chapter President, and currently serves as the President of the Nova Scotia Chapter. She has been actively involved with promoting Canadian School Counselling Week as well as creating professional development opportunities for counsellors in her area. She has sought out specialized training as part of her own professional development such as Race Relations and Cross Cultural Understanding Training and learning to be an International Facilitator for the League of Peaceful Schools.

Josephson is a caring professional whose knowledge, skills, and talents are valued by students and colleagues. She is a hard working practitioner with a professional demeanor who is dedicated to the counselling profession. CCPA is pleased to recognize her as an exceptional counsellor practitioner.

## CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR May Book Winners!

PD — *Jennifer Uhlman* — SSRSB  
EQUITY — *Monette Boudreau* — CSAP  
FRESH — *Joy Brown* — NSCC



Nova Scotia Educational Leadership Consortium

### The Artisan Teacher Conference

August 8 and 9, 2017



Atlantica Oak Island Resort & Conference Centre

(formerly Oak Island Inn)

36 Treasure Drive

Western Shore, Nova Scotia

B0J 3M0

1-800-565-5075

Register at [www.nselc.ca](http://www.nselc.ca)



Educational Leadership Consortium of Nova Scotia

### THE ASPIRING LEADERS PROGRAM

This professional learning opportunity is to support teachers who aspire to become school based administrators. The Aspiring Leaders Program extends over 14 months and **begins August 2017**. The program includes two summer institutes and seven Friday/Saturday seminars. An eight day residency program is integrated throughout the program.

**Applications are now being accepted for the 2017-18 Cohort** of this exciting program being offered by The Educational Leadership Consortium of Nova Scotia (NSEL) in partnership with The Department of Education and Early Childhood Development.

For more information on the program visit the **Aspiring Leaders Program webpage** at [www.nselc.ca](http://www.nselc.ca) or contact Terry Wadden, Executive Director, Educational Leadership Consortium of Nova Scotia (NSEL) at [twadden@nselc.ca](mailto:twadden@nselc.ca) or 902-478-4768

**Application Process:** Applications are made available through participating School Board websites. Selections will be based on identified criteria and an interview by a panel of Board personnel.