

Decisions affecting students require transparency and accountability

With the abolition of elected school boards, Nova Scotia now has the least accountable and transparent education system in Canada, says NSTU President Paul Wozney.

To address this problem, he wants meetings of the Provincial Advisory Council on Education (PACE) to be held in public so parents can observe decisions being made that will impact their children.

"A Liberal majority on the provincial human resources committee rubberstamped a list of names handpicked by the Education Minister that will make decisions on behalf of more than 100,000 students and their families," says Wozney. "While I applaud those who put their name forward to be part of PACE, this is a far cry from the high level of public accountability that existed under elected school boards."

He adds, "When it comes to decisions involving children, parents deserve 100 per cent access to the process. They have every right to be in the room when important conversations are being had. Posting a sanitized version of meeting minutes on a website isn't going to cut it."

The 12-person committee appointed by the Minister consists of the following people:

- Archy Beals
- Michael Drew
- Christopher Gilham
- Suzy Hansen
- Nastasya Kennedy
- Lynn Levatte
- Margaret (Joan) MacDonnell
- Brent Noiles
- Stephen Parsons
- Maura Ryan
- Hendrika (Hetty) van Gurp
- Gin Yee

Members of both opposition parties raised concerns with the lack of transparency surrounding the selection of the committee.

In a CBC story PC MLA Alana Paon was quoted as saying: "They're positions of trust and obviously we need to know a lot of background about these people that take on these positions."

NDP MLA Claudia Chender has also asked that meetings of PACE be open to the public.

"With the elimination of school boards, it is essential that we ensure there are still ways for the public to access decision makers in our education system," said Chender. "By requiring PACE to meet with the public regularly and consult on issues in schools, we can ensure a minimum level of accountability in our public education system."

In recent weeks the McNeil government also announced it would not adopt a key recommendation of the Commission on Inclusive Education to create an independent body to evaluate the government's performance when it comes to improving supports for students with special needs.

"The NSTU and other stakeholders are willing and able to collaborate with Government on finding solutions to the challenges facing our public education system. But to make progress there needs to be trust between all parties, and that can't happen as long as government wants to conduct its business in secret. Ultimately, honest conversations require a transparent process," said Wozney.

At press time Government had not publicly announced when PACE would hold its meetings. "We hope that the NSTU will be kept informed when PACE begins its work."



Auditor General's report on the Nova Scotia Teachers' Pension Plan

On October 2, Auditor General Michael Pickup released his report on the Nova Scotia Teachers' Pension Plan and voiced concerns about the financial condition of the plan.

The following is a statement issued from NSTU president Paul Wozney. "We appreciate the Auditor General's examination and input on this topic.

The current level of unfunded liability in the Teachers' Pension Plan needs to be reduced, and through the Teacher's Pension board we will continue to work with government on finding solutions.

Starting in 2014, teacher contributions increased by 3 per cent overall and the province also provided additional funds. Since then, the plan has experienced some modest improvement and we are hopeful this positive trend continues.

That being said growth of the plan is tied to teacher salaries and the recent pay freeze limited available revenue.

Teachers and administrators work hard and when they retire they deserve a fair and stable retirement fund. As a result, strengthening the plan over the long-term will remain a priority."

New presidents attend first conference

NSTU's Local presidents and RRC Chairs held their first conference of the school year on September 21 at NSTU's Central office in Halifax. This school year there are eight new NSTU members taking on the role of Local president or RRC Chair.

Seated with NSTU president Paul Wozney (l – r) are: Lunenburg County Local president Mai-Ling Storm, and Antigonish Local president Julie McVicar. Standing: Shelburne County Local president Michelle Goreham, Queens Local president Tyler Dorey, Annapolis Local president Jill MacDonald and Cumberland Local president Lindsay Crossman Wheaton. Missing: Guysborough County Local president Dana Jewers and Strait RRC Chair Phil Samson.



people

NSTU president meets Council to Improve Classroom Conditions

New NSTU president Paul Wozney recently had the opportunity to meet the members of the Council to Improve Classrooms Conditions. The Council held its first meetings of the school year at the NSTU building on September 25 and 26, 2018. Wozney is shown with three outgoing members of the Council.



From left to right: Reagan O'Hara, Avon View High School; Mélanie Beliveau, École Acadienne de Pomquet; Paul Wozney; and Sean Barker, Antigonish Education Centre.

NSTU appoints Acting Assistant Executive Director

NSTU executive staff officer Simon Wilkin has been appointed NSTU's Acting Assistant Executive Director until December 31, 2018 to replace Janine Kerr, who is currently serving as NSTU's Executive Director.



He previously served in this capacity for a three-month term in January 2016. Wilkin has been a member of the executive staff since August 3, 2010 and recently returned from a sabbatical leave in which he studied law and labour relations at Queens University.

He has served as NSTU's Coordinator of Technology responsible for coordinating the NSTU's technology initiatives, including the NSTU website and database. He has also coordinated public affairs and communications initiatives and edited the professional magazine, Aviso. He has worked in member services inquiries, including providing support to Community College members. Currently he provides support to members employed by the Annapolis Valley Regional Centre for Education and those working for the Atlantic Provinces Special Education Authority.

Along with his member services function, as acting Assistant Executive Director he will be responsible for coordinating legal services, Annual Council, technology initiatives, regional and provincial executive elections, and the member registry and website.

Wilkin was a teacher with the former Halifax Regional School Board for 13 years, including eight years as an assistive technology specialist. He was a member of the NSTU's provincial executive, from 2004 to 2010. He was also president of the Dartmouth Local from 2002 to 2004.

He holds a BSc in Physical Education from St. Francis Xavier University and a Masters of Education in Curriculum from Mount Saint Vincent University.

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THE teacher

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Communications Conference 2018

Above are delegates new in their role of either vice-presidents of public affairs, public relations and/or communications who attended NSTU's biennial Communications Conference, which took place at the Delta Barrington in Halifax on September 28 and 29. Joanne Deer from NOW Communications Group led a session on persuasive communication and political activism.



From left to right front row: Joanne Deer; NSTU's first vice-president Tami Cox Jardine; Elizabeth Drake, member at large, Dartmouth Local; Catherine Gillis (Richmond) member of NSTU's PA/PR committee; Wanda Rodgeron Fuller, Yarmouth Local's VP PA/PR; Crystal Iser, Halifax County Local's VP Communications; Cheryl Claveau-Corbin, Pictou Local's VP PA/PR; Kathy Evans (Northside-Victoria Local); and Christa Krafve (Shelburne County Local). Back Row: Matthew Moriarity, Dartmouth Local's VP/PR provincial executive liaison to the PA/PR committee.



Member Engagement Draw

When members of the Kings Local attends a social or PD event in the Kings Local throughout the year their names are entered into a Member Engagement Draw. This year the winner was Tammy MacLeod from Aldershot Elementary School. She wins an overnight stay with parking at the Delta Halifax and a prepaid Visa card to cover mileage and supper. Shown is Kings Local president Laura McCulley with Tammy MacLeod. McCulley delivered the news to her at the AVRCE inservice at Acadia.

October is

MI'KMAQ HISTORY MONTH

October is National Principals Month

– Nominate an outstanding principal

As part of National Principals Month, it's time to nominate outstanding principals through The Learning Partnership's 2019 Canada's Outstanding Principals Award. Nominations are being accepted until October 29, 2018. According to The Learning Partnership's website, "Canada's Outstanding Principals recognizes outstanding contributions of principals in publicly funded schools. It honours principals from every province and territory in Canada who demonstrate innovation, entrepreneurial spirit and who have done something truly remarkable in public education."

Not only is Canada's Outstanding Principals (COP) a nationally recognized award, it is also an executive leadership training program. Launched in 2005, COP's executive leadership program was created in partnership with Rotman School of Management. It brings Canada's Outstanding Principals to Toronto at an annual gala awards evening and then experience a five-day executive leadership training program at the Rotman School of Management. Winners of the program also become part of a National Academy of Principals, a pan-Canadian learning community of over 400 Canada's Outstanding Principals alumni. For application information and criteria visit: <https://www.thelearningpartnership.ca/programs/canada's-outstanding-principals>

Richmond Local hosts welcome back member engagement

On September 15, members of the Richmond Local were treated to a welcome back member engagement event on the Amoeba Schooner. The Amoeba Schooner normally sails out of Baddeck, but was in St. Peter's for Pirate Days. The Local booked a two-hour cruise in the afternoon and a glorious day was had by all.



Members of the Richmond Local enjoy a Saturday afternoon cruise on the Amoeba Schooner.



In the back is Richmond Local teacher Stephanie Fitton, who teaches at East Richmond Education Centre. She is shown with Richmond Local president Paula Landry.



Shown is the captain of the boat, John Bryson, whose better half is teacher Stephanie Fitton.

More Transparency required on Class Caps

Not every school in Nova Scotia has overcrowded classrooms, but where they exist, resources often become stretched too thin and students receive less attention and support, says NSTU President Paul Wozney.

To help parents better advocate on behalf of their children, he is calling on government to publicly release more information on class sizes.

"Now that elected school boards are gone, it's imperative that parents are armed with the knowledge they need to advocate on behalf of their children," says Wozney. "They must have the facts so they can hold the government directly accountable and ensure commitments that impact their children are met."

Currently caps are only in place on September 30th of each year, and after that date are often exceeded. Public reporting on class caps is only based on September 30th and classes that exceed the publicly advertised soft cap are not disclosed. Only classes that exceed hard caps are made public.

Wozney says a couple of small changes could drastically increase accountability.

"The Province could begin to report on classes exceeding the soft cap. Compared to the rest of Canada, Nova Scotia's class caps are in the middle of the pack, at best. When soft caps aren't adhered to, a public explanation is required," says Wozney.

He adds, "Another improvement would be for the Regional Centres of Education to release monthly compliance reports on class sizes, instead of just an annual report. Parents and the public would benefit from more frequent updates and should be kept up-to-date."

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from the nstu president

Remembering, reconnecting and recharging in a restorative way

The beginning of any school year comes with a natural sense of possibility and hope. Beyond our individual classrooms and work settings, this one arrived with an infusion of new leadership for the NSTU. As in our classrooms, we realize that the translation of possibilities and hopefulness into meaningful change and impact demands that we embrace needed change and growth.

By this time of the year, each of us is settling into a rhythm with our students and colleagues, negotiating the pace and tone that will enable us to experience mutual success and fulfillment. I want you to know that the leadership of the NSTU is doing the same.

After adopting a resolution at Council in 2015 that the NSTU would use restorative practices in its meetings, we are finally walking out that reality together. Your provincial executive opened our year with a smudging ceremony facilitated by Trevor Sanipass and elder Eileen Brooks from the Sipekne'katik Mi'kmaq band near Shubenacadie, and by sharing the symbolic act of giving our frustrations as NSTU leaders (written privately in a card) to a fire in relinquishing the past in order to fully focus on solutions for our members.

At the first Local presidents' conference of the year on September 21, we interrupted the recent dynamic of the provincial office issuing directives to local executives by practicing organizational listening. In planning a series of town hall meetings intended to provide members with opportunities to meet and share with provincial NSTU leaders, instead of telling, we asked, listened and collected input intended to provide each Local and region with an experience that reflects their needs and priorities. This is one way we are reconnecting and re-engaging with leaders and NSTU members.

In preparation for assembling our asking package, staff and provincial leaders are working to support improved communication to members around how your ideas and suggestions can be shared and influence what we negotiate for. We recognize that widespread participation in the preparation phase builds faith, trust and solidarity in the position we negotiate from once negotiations open. We look forward to working with your Local and regional leadership to empower you to have your say and establish the unity we will need in the coming months to realize a free and fair collective agreement instead of further conflict and turmoil.

Much of my early efforts have been spent building relationships with stakeholders in education. I have had positive meetings with both the Ministers of Education and Early Childhood Development, and Labour Relations, and will conclude meetings with the Regional Executive Directors for all eight regional centres for education by mid October. The leadership of the Black Educators Association has graciously agreed to share their vision for what a working partnership could look like, and key leaders in supporting newcomer students have also done the same. I believe that relationships unlock potential. It is humbling to represent each of you in forging these bonds that will empower us to realize lasting, meaningful growth for our students and colleagues.

With a number of upcoming rep retreats, I am looking forward to spending time with you. Your voices tell the truth of our classrooms that I need to speak with clarity and courage. I cherish the trust and faith you show every time you reach out.

In the spirit of restorative practice and speaking from the heart, I am overwhelmed by the passion each of you has for your students, colleagues and communities. I recognize the challenges we continue to face, and encourage you to speak your truth to your NSTU leadership. In standing together, we have the power to change public education.

Wela'lin! In solidarity,

Paul

Se rappeler, se rapprocher et se ressourcer, selon une perspective réparatrice

Le début de chaque année scolaire s'accompagne d'un sentiment naturel d'espoir et de nouvelles possibilités. Au-delà de nos salles de classe et de nos cadres de travail individuels, cette année a démarré avec l'arrivée de nouveaux dirigeants au NSTU. Comme dans nos salles de classe, nous sommes conscients que la transformation de l'espoir et des possibilités en des changements et des impacts significatifs exige que nous soyons ouverts au changement et à la croissance nécessaires.

En cette période de l'année, chacun d'entre nous a établi un rythme avec ses élèves et ses collègues, en négociant la cadence et le ton qui nous permettront de connaître le succès et la croissance mutuels. Je veux que vous sachiez que les dirigeants du NSTU font de même.

À la suite de l'adoption d'une résolution à l'AGA du Conseil 2015 selon laquelle le NSTU utiliserait une approche réparatrice lors de ses réunions, nous allons enfin vivre cette réalité ensemble. Le Comité exécutif provincial a inauguré l'année par une cérémonie de purification menée par Trevor Sanipass et Eileen Brooks, une aînée de la bande mi'kmaq Sipekne'katik près de Shubenacadie. Nous nous sommes livrés à l'acte symbolique de jeter dans le feu nos frustrations en tant que dirigeants du NSTU (écrites en privé sur une carte) afin de laisser le passé derrière et de nous concentrer pleinement sur des solutions pour nos membres.

Lors de la première conférence de l'année des présidents de section locale, le 21 septembre, nous avons abandonné la dynamique qui consistait à ce que le bureau provincial donne des directives aux dirigeants locaux, en pratiquant l'écoute organisationnelle. Lors d'une série de réunions publiques destinées à fournir aux membres l'occasion de rencontrer les dirigeants provinciaux du NSTU et de dialoguer avec eux, plutôt que de donner des ordres, nous avons posé des questions, écouté les réponses et réuni des informations dans l'intention de fournir à chaque section locale et à chaque région une expérience reflétant leurs besoins et leurs priorités. C'est l'une des façons dont nous allons renouer les liens et reprendre le dialogue avec les dirigeants et les membres du NSTU.

En prévision de la préparation de notre cahier de revendications, le personnel et les dirigeants provinciaux s'efforcent d'améliorer la communication avec les membres pour déterminer comment ils peuvent communiquer leurs idées et leurs suggestions et influencer les résultats de nos négociations. Nous reconnaissons qu'une large participation lors de la phase de préparation renforce la confiance et la solidarité en faveur des positions que nous négocions dès l'ouverture des négociations. Nous avons hâte de travailler avec vos dirigeants locaux et régionaux pour vous permettre de faire valoir votre opinion et pour renforcer l'unité

dont nous aurons besoin au cours des prochains mois en vue d'obtenir une convention collective libre et équitable plutôt que de générer d'autres conflits et problèmes.

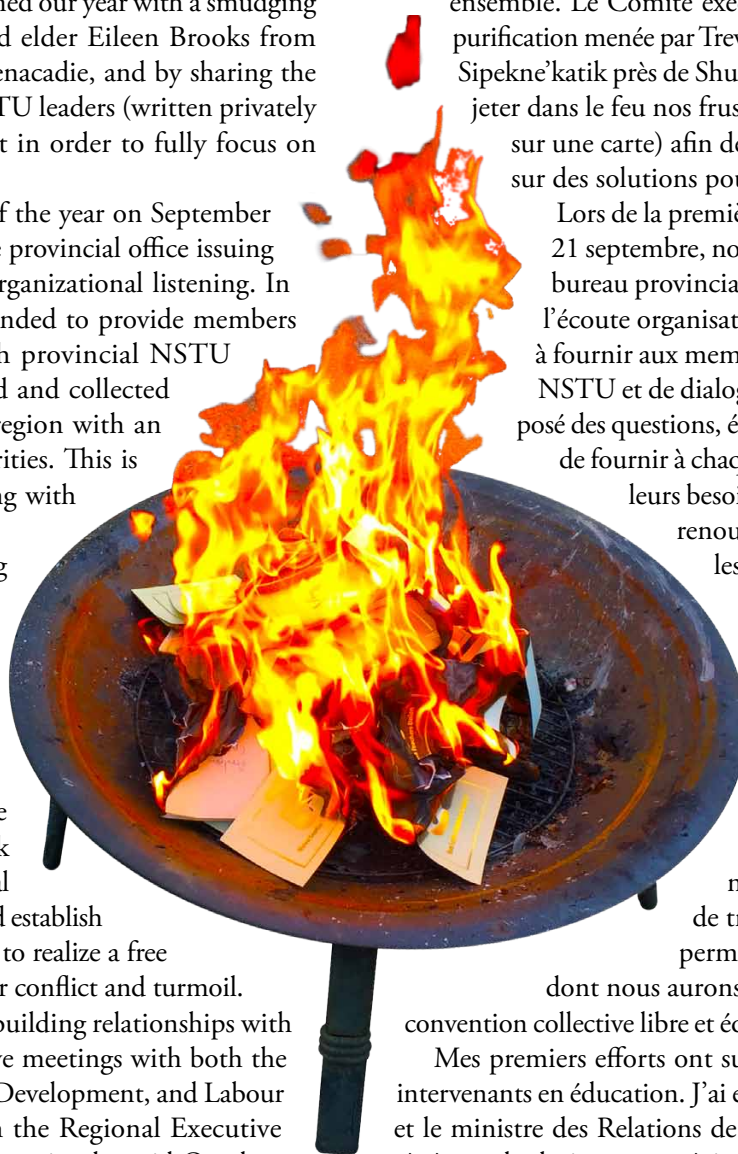
Mes premiers efforts ont surtout été consacrés à l'établissement de relations avec les intervenants en éducation. J'ai eu des entretiens constructifs avec le ministre de l'Éducation et le ministre des Relations de travail et je vais conclure les réunions avec les directeurs généraux des huit centres régionaux pour l'éducation d'ici à la mi-octobre. Les dirigeants de la Black Educators Association ont gracieusement accepté de partager leur vision de ce à quoi pourrait ressembler un partenariat de travail, et les principaux responsables du soutien aux élèves nouveaux arrivants ont fait de même. Je suis convaincu que les relations permettent de libérer beaucoup de potentiel. Je suis profondément touché de représenter chacun d'entre vous pour forger ces liens qui nous permettront de favoriser une croissance durable et constructive pour nos élèves et nos collègues.

Plusieurs retraites de représentants se tiendront sous peu, et je me réjouis à la perspective de passer du temps avec vous. Vos voix expriment la vérité de nos salles de classe et je dois communiquer cette vérité clairement et courageusement. Je me réjouis de la confiance et la loyauté dont vous faites preuve chaque fois que vous vous adressez à moi.

Dans l'esprit de l'approche réparatrice et pour parler du fond du cœur, je suis impressionné par la passion manifestée par chacun d'entre vous à l'égard de vos élèves, de vos collègues et de vos communautés. Je suis conscient des défis auxquels nous restons confrontés et je vous encourage à parler en toute franchise aux dirigeants du NSTU. En unissant nos forces, nous avons le pouvoir de changer le visage de l'enseignement public.

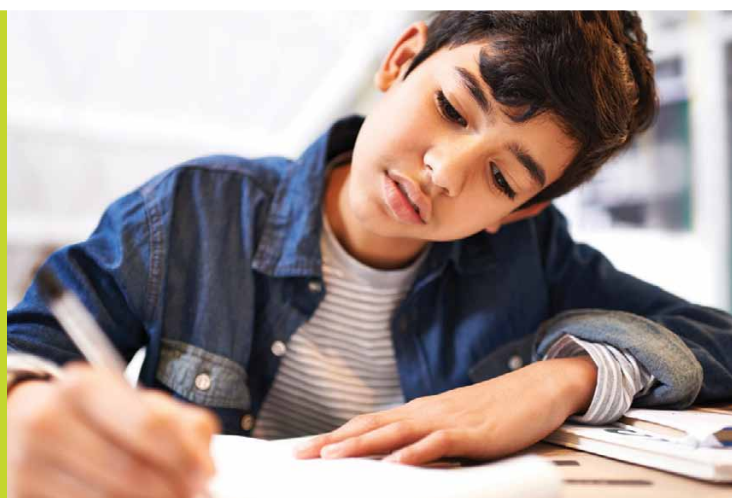
Wela'lin! En toute solidarité,

Paul









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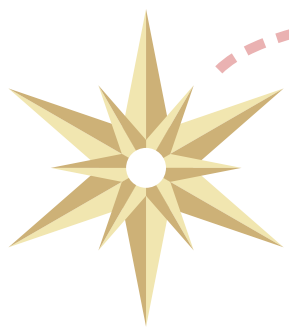
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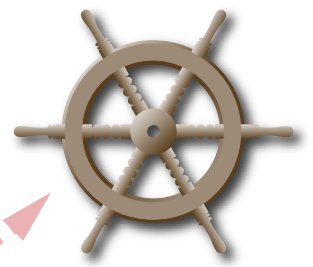


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Contest opens for entries January 7, 2019.



Charting Your Course FOR PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT



We don't need a raft, we have each other

Paul Syme, MA. Art & Design Teacher, Horton High School

In 1816, the French frigate *Méduse* ran aground after being steered one hundred miles off course by a inexperienced politically appointed captain. Of its approximately 400 passengers and crew, half departed on small boats, 17 stayed with the ship, and the 146 remaining men and women boarded a hastily built raft. After 13 days at sea, the 15 remaining on the raft were spotted and rescued by the *Argus*. Theodore Géricault's depiction of "The Raft of the Medusa" (1818-19) is arranged in two overlapping triangles, one of despair, the other of hope. Through despair, many were killed or killed themselves. Géricault's work teaches us that when we lose sight of hope we also lose sight of our noble spirits — turning instead to despair where we are capable of heinous acts. As such, believers in the power of hope gravitate to those who speak in the language of possibilities. Despair has no place in public education as it drives us apart especially when we are most needed to pull together.

As new school years get underway, teachers typically swim in streams of hope that are sometimes tempered by currents of distrust. One of those streams of hope can be found in the restorative approach the NSTU is engaging in, with a focus on relationship building both within the NSTU and, perhaps, also from the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development (DEECD). Teachers can be proud of the report of the Commission on Inclusive Education, the NSTU's efforts to remain firmly affiliated with public school administrators, and our voice in the establishment of relevant and data informed teaching standards. Teachers can also join the DEECD in welcoming Dr. Sharroky Hollie and his promotion of culturally responsive pedagogy as it supports classroom conditions that foster positive administrator-teacher-student relations.

Restorative Approach

At the first meeting of the Provincial Executive, executive members and staff, came together in a smudging ceremony. As part of this, old grievances were privately written down and set ablaze. By retiring some of our pain we are released to remember the good times, reconnect with each other, and to recharge our spirits. The Provincial Executive table was reconfigured into a circle and all worked on focusing on equity and respect. The day was pleasant and jovial, I felt no presence of strife or conflict. This team is determined to work together for teachers and the betterment of our education system.

Inclusion

The Final Report of the Commission on Inclusive Education provides a critical examination of our current school environments and makes specific recommendations towards identifying and tracking the impact of efforts to remove barriers to truly inclusive public schools. Students First would have schools and an education system that "addresses students' academic, social-emotional, and behavioural needs in an integrated way." (p.5) This report, resulting from an arms-length NSTU/Departmental partnership, recommends broad changes and investment to provide appropriate funding, specialized staff, student-centered interagency collaboration, strengthened home and school partnerships, streamlined policies, strong leadership and oversight, and "a plan for phased-in implementation and alignment with other education initiatives" (p.7) The NSTU has endorsed the entire report while Government has committed to adopting parts of it and addressing other areas through their own, to be determined approach.

A new relationship

While it is a reality that our administrators have been removed from the bargaining arm of the NSTU, as affiliates, our teachers with administrative responsibilities remain part of our teaching family. As such, administrators will continue to share access to most of the services, supports, and benefits of the NSTU. The interim board of Public School Association of Administrators in Nova Scotia (PSAANS) have been warm and wish to work closely with the NSTU. Further, our Provincial Executive unanimously agreed to enter an interim agreement with PSAANS. To this, I hope we see continued collegiality and team spirit in our schools.

Teaching Standards

Representing the NSTU to government in the drafting our Teaching Standards and Teacher Evaluation, Dr. Anne Rodrigue, who is working on the NSTU's behalf is driven to ensure that these standards are professional, relevant, and borne out of peer reviewed research. She has suggested that we can expect the standards to reflect the highly educated and effective composition of teachers that we are, often punching above our weight. Dr. Rodrigue suggests the "standards can be used to reflect on individual and collective notions of what good teaching looks like, how to build inclusive classrooms and respond to the emotional and learning needs of our students."

Culturally Responsive Pedagogy

Towards social inclusion and forming positive administrator-teacher-student relations, the Department, through its Regional Centres for Education has invited Dr. Hollie to deliver a one-day inservice on culturally responsive pedagogy. Some centres have made efforts to ensure all office and support staff to be present for Dr. Hollie alongside teachers and administrators, with many of these sessions having already been delivered. Many teachers have found it refreshing to participate in a professional development session that focussed on establishing positive and effective relationships with students rather than another session on software, performance indicators, or outcomes. Dr. Hollie offers useful insights and tools towards welcoming more students to feel valued and included in our classrooms. He reminds us that culture shapes us in ways that are much deeper and more profound than how we might recognize it on the surface. Dr. Hollie contextualizes otherwise disruptive behaviour as potential cultural expression—where we can shift our responses from ones of conflict towards positive change—when we



validate, affirm and build bridges (VABB) to stronger relationships and more normative behaviour. Dr. Hollie urges us all to consider the impact of our actions and language while he directs us to be mindful of diversity and equity, the rings of culture, the iceberg concept of culture. (@validateaffirm or www.culturallyresponsive.org)

Renewal

For the NSTU, this is a year to **remember**, **reconnect**, and **recharge**. While we can remember the strife of the past few years we should also remember what is most important—the resilience found in the positive relationships we form with students and each other. We need to reconnect with our teaching and learning communities, our friends and families and ultimately recharge ourselves. I hope this spirit of renewal and compassion is found, felt, and persists for all every day throughout the year.

Paul Syme is currently on secondment with the NSTU as an executive Staff Officer in Professional Development.



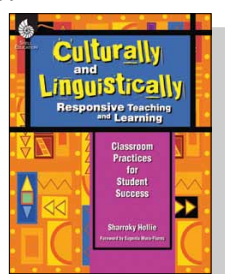
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Culturally and Linguistically Responsive Teaching and Learning by Sharroky Hollie

Culturally and Linguistically Responsive Teaching and Learning, published by Shell Education/Teacher Created Materials is for all grade levels. Sharroky Hollie provides teachers with strategies and suggestions in support of culturally and linguistically diverse students that include improving classroom management, use of text, academic vocabulary, and situational appropriateness.



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Putting new members in the KNOW!

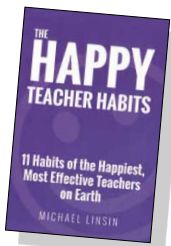
Email your name, home address, and the name of your school or campus with **FRESH** in the subject line to theteacher@nstu.ca by **November 19, 2018** to be eligible for the draw.

The Happy Teacher Habits

11 Habits of the Happiest, Most Effective Teachers on Earth

by Michael Linsin

The Happy Teacher Habits: 11 Habits of the Happiest, Most effective Teachers on Earth draws on experts from the worlds of business, sports, entertainment, music and medicine to develop actionable strategies that will help to eliminate teaching stress by guiding you through 11 little-known habits of the happiest, most effective teachers on Earth. This self-published book focuses on supercharging your ability to motivate and inspire your students.



Congratulations to our September Book Winners!

FRESH — Peter Myatt — HRCE
EQUITY — Heather MacLean — AVRCE
PD — Danielle AuCoin-Coleman — CBVRCE

EQUITY COMMITTEE BOOK REVIEW

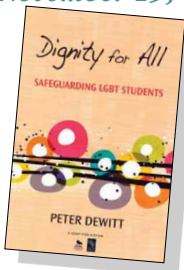
Email your name, home address, and the name of your school or campus with **EQUITY** in the subject line to theteacher@nstu.ca by **November 19, 2018** to be eligible for the draw.

Dignity for All

Safeguarding LGBT Students

by Peter DeWitt

Published by Corwin, a SAGE company and NASP, *Dignity for All, Safeguarding LGBT Students*, provides cases and examples in the form of a practical and compassionate guide. Teachers will find strategies and templates for codes of conduct, references and online resources to help inform about the issues and methods for guiding acceptance in a diverse classroom and world. Some strategies for school leaders included in this book focus on pd guidelines to equip staff for intervention, including appropriate LGBT topics in the curriculum and supporting GSAs in middle and high school settings.



CTRI

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Halifax: October 4, 2018

COGNITIVE BEHAVIOURAL THERAPY—Tools for Thinking Differently

Halifax: October 17, 2018

NARRATIVE THERAPY—Tools for Exploring Stories

Halifax: October 18, 2018

SELF-INJURY BEHAVIOUR IN YOUTH—Issues and Strategies

Halifax: November 5-6, 2018

DE-ESCALATING POTENTIALLY VIOLENT SITUATIONS™

Halifax: November 16, 2018

CRITICAL INCIDENT GROUP DEBRIEFING

Halifax: November 20, 2018

ADDICTIONS AND MENTAL ILLNESS

—Working with Co-occurring Disorders

Halifax: December 5, 2018

HARM REDUCTION—A Framework for Change, Choice and Control

Halifax: December 6, 2018

THE ETHICS OF HELPING—Boundaries and Relationships

Halifax: December 13, 2018

CLINICAL SUPERVISION—Working with Co-occurring Disorders

Halifax: January 30, 2019

WALKING THROUGH GRIEF—Boundaries and Relationships

Halifax: February 12-13, 2019

AUTISM—Boundaries and Relationships

Halifax: February 26-27, 2019

MINDFULNESS COUNSELLING STRATEGIES—A Framework for Change, Choice and

Halifax: March 12-13, 2019

BORDERLINE PERSONALITY DISORDER—Understanding and Supporting

Halifax: March 28, 2019

Please visit our website
for information on
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Many of our Public Workshops are also available live, from any location. The workshops are streamed over the Internet and viewed on your computer. Even though you are not on location, as a participant you are still able to ask questions. For those unable to attend a live event, this fall we will be offering some of our workshops on-demand, recorded during a previous live stream workshop. To register or for more information, please visit our website.

www.ctrinstitute.com 877.353.3205 info@ctrinstitute.com

2018 Normal College/NSTC Reunion

A grand time was had by one and all, as former grads of the Normal College and Nova Scotia Teachers' College gathered in Truro, August 17 to 19 for its annual reunion. Reunion 2018 marked 30 to 80 years of graduation from the alma mater celebrating grad years ending in '8'. In attendance this year, was Alice (Shaw) Bond, a proud 1938 graduate, as well as Mary (Robertson) MacLean, '41 and Helen (Roulston) Miller '44. "It was wonderful to have had the opportunity to share memories of Normal College days," says Alumni president Margie MacIntyre.

Seventy-year graduates, Mary (Horne) Fowler, Kathryn (MacIntosh) Keddy, Hazel (Cunningham) McKay, Thomas Rissesco and Lavonne (Adamson) Thompson, also participated in Reunion.

"At the opening evening, we were delighted to have 1968 music graduates and other music grads perform in a tribute to the late Vivian Brand, former professor of music at NSTC," continues MacIntyre. "Her daughter, Sheila, also a 1968 music graduate, offered a few words in memory of her mother."

Mary K. Connolly, class of 1968 Home Economics graduate provided a keynote address recalling her years at NSTC and the impact her teacher training had on her impressive teaching career.

The Alumni Association is now accepting memberships for 2019. *Alice Bond '38* Please visit www.nsteacherscollege.ca for updates and contact information.

Reunion 2019 will take place August 16 to 18. "It will be a great celebration of fun and fellowship, as we gather to welcome all years ending in '9' and of course, all grads are welcome to attend," says MacIntyre. Hundreds of 1949-89 grads have been contacted by phone over the past several months and reunion packages will be forwarded in November. If you were a '9' graduate, but were not contacted, please contact info@nsteacherscollege.ca.

"We hope to see you in Truro for Reunion 2019," adds MacIntyre "This is your reunion, your time to reacquire with former classmates and rekindle your memories of your college years at Normal College and NSTC." *Former Faculty*



Nova Scotia Teachers College Reunion

The Alumni Association of the Nova Scotia Teachers College is calling all grads, spouses and friends of the Normal College and NSTC, to celebrate ALL grad years and years ending in '9'

August 16th-18th, 2019

Best Western Glengarry Hotel, Truro

Keynote Speaker, Charles 'Chuck' Boudreau '89

Banquet Speaker, Gary Naugler '59

Be sure to bring your musical instruments to participate in opening activities! Musical entertainment, tours of the former Normal College and former NSTC Campus and much more!

Special Draw to win a free registration and other Draws

To update your \$25 membership and to register, contact alumni-nstc@uniserve.com. Individuals may also e-transfer membership dues to the same address. Please continually update your contact information, so we know where you are for your decade celebration reunion!

More info at www.nsteacherscollege.ca and info@nsteacherscollege.ca

We hope to see you in Truro in August!

Rekindle your memories with former classmates and as one grad stated, 'let's count the wrinkles!'

coming events

OCTOBER

Mi'kmaq History month

Each October in an effort to assist all Nova Scotians in increasing their knowledge and awareness of Mi'kmaq culture, history and heritage, the Mi'kmaq History Month committee encourages educational and cultural activities.

To that end, teachers, students and schools across the province focus on the history, culture and achievements of the Mi'kmaq community. It also provides a time to reflect on our own understanding of the contributions and traditions of the Mi'kmaq community.

This year's Mi'kmaq History Month 2018 theme is World War I Mi'kmaq Veterans.

In the spirit of reconciliation, we encourage school communities across the province to share in the celebration of Mi'kmaq History Month 2018.

For further information visit: <http://mikmaqhistorymonth.ca/>

OCTOBER 15 DEADLINE

Bullying Awareness Week Family Channel Rally contest

An integral part of the Bullying Awareness Week campaign, Family Channel is taking the message of bullying prevention directly to students, bringing Stand UP! rallies to selected schools across Canada. The events will be hosted by The Next Step's Alexandra Chaves (Piper) and Backstage's Josh Bogert (Miles), and will include: a collaborative activity led by Family's research partner PREVNet about promoting positivity by spreading kindness; and a special presentation on leadership by Recess Guardians, who are joining the rally tour for the first time. Recess Guardians is a non-profit organization dedicated to bringing play back into recess by building kids' leadership abilities while encouraging

healthy lifestyles. Kids can enter to win one of three rallies by visiting Family.ca and explaining how their school stands up to bullying. The contest runs until 5 p.m. ET on Monday, October 15.

NOVEMBER 2

Annual Holocaust Education Week Conference

The Annual Holocaust Education Week Conference will take place at Victoria Park in Sydney from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. featuring Erica Fagen from the Montreal Holocaust Museum. He will conduct a seminar on the Holocaust on-site at the Holocaust exhibit at Victoria Park.

To Register: <https://sites.google.com/gnspes.ca/holocausteducationawareness/home>

For more information contact Diane Lewis, Riverview High School, Sydney at educationholocaust@gmail.com.

NOVEMBER 5 TO 9

Media Literacy Week

Young Canadians learn to tell fact from fake for Media Literacy Week 2018

MediaSmarts, Canada's centre for digital and media literacy, and the Canadian Teachers' Federation (CTF) are gearing up for this year's Media Literacy Week, which will focus on helping students decipher truth from fiction online.

The week, to be held Nov. 5 to 9, has as its theme "Fact or Fake: Help the World Stop Misinformation in Its Tracks" to highlight the importance of verifying that online information is true, unbiased and relevant.

Media Literacy Week, an annual event co-hosted by MediaSmarts and CTF since 2006, highlights the importance of teaching children and teens digital and media literacy skills. Over 90 collaborating organizations – including the National Film Board, the Prime Minister's Awards for Teaching Excellence, the Office

of the Privacy Commissioner of Canada, libraries and teacher organizations – participate each year by organizing activities across Canada and internationally. Media Literacy Week was officially adopted in the U.S. in 2015, where it is led by the National Association for Media Literacy Education.

The Nova Scotia Teachers Union continues to be a proud sponsor of this Week. For regular updates about Media Literacy Week and all things media literacy visit mediasmarts.ca and medialiteracyweek.ca. Announcements of events, programs, partners and more will continue leading up to Media Literacy Week in November. For updates, visit medialiteracyweek.ca or sign up for the e-bulletin.

NOVEMBER 18 TO 24

Bullying Awareness Week

PREVNet and Family Channel have free, bilingual, evidenced-based resources and activities for you, your students, and parents to use for Bullying Awareness Week November 18 to 24 at <http://promo.family.ca/stand-up/>. This campaign promotes the message to Stand UP!, not stand by when you see bullying happen.

Promoting Relationships and Eliminating Violence Network (PREVNet) is a national network comprised of 130 leading Canadian research scientists and their students from 27 universities, and 61 national youth-serving organizations. Launched in 2006 with the Networks of Centres of Excellence, PREVNet's mission is to stop bullying in Canada and to promote safe and healthy relationships for all Canadian children and youth. Led by Scientific Co-Directors, Dr. Debra Pepler of York University and Dr. Wendy Craig of Queen's University, this national knowledge mobilization network is the first of its kind in Canada, providing an unprecedented opportunity for social-cultural change. For more information, please visit www.prevnet.ca.

Continued on next page

We need you to share your expertise on NSTU Standing/Other Committees

The NSTU requires replacements for vacancies on the following committees:

Comité de programmation acadienne

One (1) member from the North-East

Curriculum Committee

One (1) member

Equity Committee

One (1) member

Insurance Trustees

One (1) member from the Annapolis Valley Region

Member Services Committee

One (1) member

Pension Committee

One (1) member from the Strait Region

Political Action Committee

Five (5) members

Provincial Economic Welfare Committee

Eight (8) members (October 16 deadline)

Public Relations Committee

Sheonoroil Board of Directors

One (1) member

Technology Committee

One (1) member

The Nominating Committee will be accepting applications for Standing Committees until 4:30 p.m. on Friday, October 12, 2018. Applications can be faxed to 902-477-3517 or email to committees@nstu.ca.

NOTE: When committee application forms are received electronically an email is sent confirming receipt. If you submit an application and do not receive an email confirmation please contact Lisa Farmer (committees@nstu.ca).

Forms are available on the NSTU website at www.nstu.ca

Continued from previous page

NOVEMBER 30 DEADLINE

Third Annual Canadian Happy Hands Contest

Registration is now open for SC Johnson Professional’s annual Happy Hands dispenser design contest. This program promotes the importance of hand washing at school by encouraging students to use their creative skills and imagination to design a custom Deb dispenser. Schools can enter the contest online at www.debgroup.com/ca/happy-hands now through November 30, 2018.

The Happy Hands dispenser design contest is open to all Canadian students, excluding Quebec, in kindergarten through Grade 8. Last year Grade 8 St. Agnes Junior High student Genevieve C. won the Grade 6 to 8 category.

Submissions will be evaluated for visual appeal, overall hand hygiene design, creativity and unique design elements.

Finalists in the elementary and middle school categories will be announced on February 15, 2019 and the public can then vote for their favorite designs. The design with the most votes in each category will receive the top prize a \$200 gift card, a \$500 donation to the school and up to 500 manual Deb soap/sanitizer dispensers featuring the winning design.

After registering for the contest, schools will receive all the necessary rules, coloring templates and free hand washing educational materials for their students. Schools can register at www.debgroup.com/ca/happy-hands.

For more information on the Happy Hands contest, please contact Christina Alvarez at calvarez@mulberrymc.com

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- RESULTS BASED TRAINING
- IT’S MOTIVATING, FUN AND REWARDING

3RD DEGREE TRAINING

Classes START Tuesday, September 4th, 2018

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EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

Educational Leadership Consortium of Nova Scotia (NSELc)

Executive Director (part-time)

Effective 01 January, 2019 (negotiable)



The Educational Leadership Consortium of Nova Scotia (NSELc) is a unique organization comprised of the Nova Scotia Department of Education and Early Childhood Development, the Nova Scotia Teachers Union, local regional centres for education, Mi’kmaq Kina’matnewey, the Black Educators Association, and university faculties of education. The partners work collegially to develop and enhance leadership in the Nova Scotia school system.

Reporting to the Board of Directors, the Executive Director is responsible for administering the day to day operation and financial affairs of the organization. Under the direction of the Board of Directors and with the assistance of the Program Committee, the Executive Director assumes responsibility for designing, implementing and evaluating a range of professional learning opportunities that address identified partner needs.

Executive Director Roles and Responsibilities:

- Act as the chief executive office for the consortium, administering all operations and finances of the organization
- Foster the vision of collaboration and shared purpose that is at the heart of the consortium model for educational leadership
- Chair the Program Committee
- Liaise with the Program Committee, the Executive and the Board
- Assume responsibilities related to program development, planning, delivery and evaluation
- Plan programs that address NSELc identified needs
- Gather information from the field regarding professional learning gaps that NSELc can address
- Maintain knowledge of current issues, evolving practice, respected researchers and excellent facilitators in the field.
- Ensure the work of the organization is rooted in current research in leadership, education, and professional learning
- Oversee financial matters including partnership fees, grants, financial statements, investments, audits and insurance matters
- Promote the NSELc and the mandate of the organization through regular communication with the partners and the public
- Remain current in the use of technology in the educational environment, through the development of distance learning and the maintenance of the NSELc website

Suggested Qualifications and Experience

- Masters degree in education or equivalent
- Has or is eligible to hold a Nova Scotia teacher’s certificate
- Knowledge of the Nova Scotia school system
- Knowledge of current issues in educational leadership
- Minimum of five years experience in an educational leadership role preferred
- Excellent oral and written communication skills
- Excellent leadership, management, team-building, organizational, and interpersonal skills.
- Technological literacy in an educational environment

Terms and conditions:

- 0.5 FTE position (based on NSTU Coordinator scale, ATC3,11+ years of teaching,30 teachers supervised)
- Two-year contract with the possibility of renewal
- Office may be located anywhere in Nova Scotia
- Start date January 1, 2019 or as agreed

Closing Date: November 14, 2018

Please submit: A concise letter of application and curriculum vitae outlining your education, work experience, and names of three work-related references with telephone numbers.

Submit application to: Lori Ferraina, EA to the Regional Executive Director of Education, SSRCE lferraina@ssrce.ca

NSTU Project Overseas participants share their overseas intercultural professional development experience

Each summer the Canadian Teachers' Federation (CTF) sends teachers to countries across the Caribbean and Africa to work with resident teacher colleagues. The endeavour is part of CTF's annual Project Overseas (PO), which celebrated its 57th anniversary this summer.

A joint initiative between the CTF and its Member organizations, including the NSTU, PO sends teams of teachers to various countries with the aim of strengthening publicly funded education. The program is designed to assist teacher organizations abroad in providing professional services to their members, and in addressing topics including gender equality and special education.

"PO is a fantastic program that enables teachers to collaborate with fellow public educators across international borders," said CTF President H. Mark Ramsankar.

Juanita Romard

Juanita Romard, was a team member to Guyana. She shares highlights of her experience and her project.

"Project Overseas was an amazing experience," she says. "I wish to thank the NSTU for selecting me as a representative of the NSTU for this PD opportunity."

She says that prior to training in Ottawa, Guyana team leader Hylin McLaren (Manitoba) arranged Google Hangouts so the team of four could meet and plan prior to the training in Ottawa. The other members of the team, (Michelle Power and Filomena Yamashita) were from Ontario.

"In addition to connecting with other team members prior to the project starting, I gave a presentation to the local Kiwanis Club about Project Overseas. They invited me to return in the fall with a follow up of the project."

At the training in Ottawa Romard was able to meet all of the other PO participants and administration. "The 50+ of us PO participants came together like a family. It was wonderful." Romard says it was a year with more than the usual challenges for

"The opportunity to exchange information and resources allows teachers to learn from one another, and practice integrating these skills into classrooms around the world."

Participants gather in Ottawa for orientation sessions prior to their excursions in early July. The three days of preparations cover a number of subjects including health and safety, intercultural competence, positive team dynamics, social media guidelines, project financing, and partner organization goals. Participants also learn historical, political, cultural, and societal details pertaining to their country of assignment. Teams of teachers remain overseas for a three-to-four-week period during the month of July.

Two teachers from Nova Scotia were part of the 53 Canadian teachers for Project Overseas 2018; Juanita Romard, Coxheath Elementary School, team member to Guyana; and Julie Mireault-Wiseman, Sir John A. MacDonald High School, team member to Togo.

Project Overseas. "Before our project even got off the ground, there was a chance it would be cancelled due to severe flooding in Lethem, where our project was to be. However, Lance Baptiste (Guyanese Teachers' Union) and his team were able to pull together another project for us in New Amsterdam." Unfortunately, it was only a one-week project before Team Guyana headed back to Canada. Teams from Haiti were pulled out due to local demonstrations.

"Even though it was a short project, it was a success. The participants gave very positive feedback on evaluations and told us personally that our lessons were valued and made a difference. The participants were pumped to return to their school and implement new knowledge and strategies shared."

We enjoyed the exchange of knowledge and learning about a different culture. The Guyanese teachers were kind, welcoming, knowledgeable, sharing and had a great sense of humor. We left Guyana with many stories, happy memories, and new experiences to share with our own students. I thoroughly enjoyed the experience."



Professional growth and global awareness through Project Overseas

By Julie Mireault-Wiseman

I have had the immense privilege of taking part in five Project Overseas: Guyana, Guinée twice, Haïti and Togo. Each one has been unique and has taught me something different, changing me in the process. Canadian teachers travel to various countries to offer professional development in partnership with local unions. It is about collaborative work and improving education. My reasons for being part of Project Overseas (PO) are the feelings of sharing with others, learning, getting to know amazing educators across the globe, pushing my comfort zone and therefore challenging my perspectives.



This July I took part in PO Togo. It was a one of a kind experience as it is an on-going professional development opportunity and I will cherish the memories I made for the rest of my life. Our Canadian team consisted of, Pierre Bibeau from the Syndicat des enseignantes et enseignants du programme francophone de la ColombieBritannique (SEPF) in British Columbia, Sarah Robinson from the Ontario English Catholic Teachers' Association, Reed Thomas from the Elementary Teachers' Federation of Ontario, Gabrielle Lemieux from Association des enseignantes et des enseignants franco-ontariens, and me from the NSTU. I am grateful the NSTU sees the value and responsibility we have in supporting all teachers and that we all gain a great deal from it.

The excitement of meeting our co-tutors and the teachers we were going to be working with was incredible. Professional bonds were quickly created as we realized how much we shared and how much we could learn from each other. I co-facilitated workshops on long and short-term planning, multiple intelligences, Bloom's taxonomy, student centered approaches, evaluation and assessments, scientific method, problem solving, and empowerment of young girls and women. The dialogues we had were enriching. I always find that I learn so much when I prepare for and give workshops. It gives me a chance to reflect on my own practice. Growth is possible with the sharing with others and an open mind set.

We also had the exceptional opportunity of visiting a school and the experience was unreal; the joy we felt and the happiness the students and teachers demonstrated was obvious. I was finally able to see their reality. At the surface there were very large

classes (60 to 100 students), one textbook, a blackboard, and chalk. And then my heart saw deep passion for teaching, love of learning, respect, pride, and a bright future.

The Togolese are one of the most hospitable people I have ever met. I love the colours and all the beautiful details of their clothes. They are proud of their rich culture and love to share it. Music is in their blood; not only for celebration but at school too. We learned many energetic songs to get students engaged and excited to learn. Togolese teachers believe in quality education and have gone on a long strike this past year to fight for a better education for their students. Their strength is commendable, and I hope that by sharing my experience with you I have been able to honor their educational values.

As always, it was not easy to say goodbye. We were proud and grateful for what we had accomplished together. We wanted to continue the exchange and the learning. We simply knew that our paths will probably not cross again. Fortunately, the internet will also us to keep in touch and to continue to share.

Project Overseas has taught me so much. I will continue to advocate for quality publicly funded education for all, and equality. It is for those reasons that I highly recommend Project Overseas.

The deadline for Project Overseas is November 9. More information is found in the ad on page 11 and on the NSTU website, nstu.ca.



Project Overseas Togo 2018

PROJECT OVERSEAS 2018

Teachers' Action for Teaching

Volunteer for Project Overseas with the Canadian Teachers' Federation!

Are you ready for something more in your professional life?
Are you looking for a larger, more global view of education?
As a teacher, do you feel you have more to offer, and more to learn?
Are you ready for a personal and professional adventure?

If yes, Project Overseas (PO) might be for you!

CTF seeks English and French-speaking Canadian teachers at the primary, elementary, and secondary levels who are interested in volunteering to offer in-services in a wide-range of subjects in countries throughout Africa and the Caribbean. Many current projects include literacy acquisition, gender equality, special education and peace education as well as the core subject areas of English, Math, Science and Social Studies, within a child-centred methodology

Application criteria include:

- be a Canadian citizen;
- hold a Canadian passport valid until at least July 2020, at the time of application (Proof that a passport application has been made will be accepted.);
- be a member of a provincial or territorial teacher organization that supports PO;
- hold a valid teachers' certificate;
- have completed at least five years of teaching in Canada by July 2019;
- be in excellent health and able to work in developing country conditions;
- have high standards of professionalism and personal conduct;
- show evidence of flexibility and mature judgment;
- be willing to put the team and project needs above personal needs.

PO is a volunteer experience. Administrative, travel, and living expenses are borne by CTF and provincial and territorial teachers' organizations that are CTF members. No salaries or honoraria are paid to participants in PO, sponsors do not cover costs associated with substitute teachers or release time, and no family or friends are permitted during pre-departure orientation or overseas programs.

Application forms and further information are available at <http://www.nstu.ca/nstu-members/professional-development/grants-opportunities/project-overseas/>

APPLICATION DEADLINE: NOVEMBER 9, 2018

CTF's International Program: Teachers' Action for Learning



HAVE A GOOD IDEA FOR SUPPORTING PEACEFUL SCHOOLS, CAMPUSES AND COMMUNITIES?



PROJECT APPLICATION MAILING ADDRESS

Sheonorail Foundation
Project Review Committee
3106 Joseph Howe Drive,
Halifax, NS B3L 4L7

DEADLINE

November 9, 2018

We can help you turn your idea into a useful practical program!

If you, your class, or your colleagues have ideas to share with other teachers, classrooms and campuses in Nova Scotia, get a Sheonorail Project Application From sheonorail.nstu.ca.

Our Mandate

is simple. The Sheonorail Foundation will extend financial resources to any active or retired member of the Nova Scotia Teachers Union, to any group of active or retired NSTU members, or to any group of public school or Community College students working in cooperation with a teacher advisor(s) faculty member.

Our purpose

is to support research, inquiry, reflection, writing, distribution of information and interventions which focus on all forms of peaceful schools/campus initiatives.

Our Pledge

is to award funding grants for peaceful school/campus programs that have a direct and immediate impact on public school and Community College classrooms, students, administration and community.

SHEONORAIL
FOUNDATION

The Teachers' Provincial Collective Agreement



expires July 31, 2019

It's time to prepare NSTU's Asking Package

NSTU Members:

Have your say!

what changes do you want to see to the Collective Agreement?

askingpackage@nstu.ca

Have your say in the next Asking Package

The Teachers' Provincial Agreement expires on July 31, 2019. NSTU members have an opportunity to submit items that could potentially be included in NSTU's next Asking Package submitted to Government during negotiations. The Asking Package is the proposed changes to the Collective Agreement that each side wants to bargain.

NSTU's Provincial Economic Welfare Committee (PEWC) is tasked with reviewing, considering, and discussing all submissions, plus relevant research, and develops an Asking Package for Provincial Executive approval.

To get involved in this process you can email your submission to askingpackage@nstu.ca, or contact your Local president and submit through them on behalf of your NSTU Local. You can also fill out a submission form, found on the NSTU website. The deadline to submit your item to the NSTU is November 13, 2018.

The NSTU is also seeking nominations for the Provincial Economic Welfare Committee. The deadline for applications is October 16, 2018. The provincial executive will be appointing members to PEWC at its October 19 meeting. PEWC is expected to meet in late November. For more info contact Executive Staff Officer Wally Fiander at wfiander@staff.nstu.ca.

Annual Holocaust Education Week Conference

**November 2, 2018
9am-3pm**



Remember the Past, Work for Peace.

educationholocaust@gmail.com



Victoria Park
Sydney, N.S.

Erica Fagen from the Montreal Holocaust Museum will conduct a seminar on the Holocaust on site at the Holocaust exhibit at Victoria Park.

To Register:

<https://sites.google.com/gnspes.ca/holocausteducationawareness/home>

PLAYSAFE: Don't Let It Happen to You

I teach other kids to stay away from dangers. **PLAYSAFE!**



Ernie

In The War Amps new "kids-to-kids" safety video, young amputees share their stories about how they lost limbs in accidents and teach other children to spot the dangers in their neighbourhoods. Together, they deliver the hard-hitting but positive PLAYSAFE message and provide helpful tips about how to choose safe places to play.

This valuable resource for educators can be viewed at **waramps.ca/playsafe**



The War Amps

resources

media LIBRARY Digital Resources for @LRTS 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.

We have a subscription to Learn360! You'll find the link to it on your Google Apps page... No passwords or usernames to remember – just click the link and you're in! For everything else, please visit our website at <http://medialibrary.ednet.ns.ca!>

Videos to help support Substance Abuse Education from the Media Library!!

The following videos are available in DVD format for \$1.62. Click [HERE](#) to order or email us at mediadub@ednet.ns.ca.

Effects of Weed on Your Body and Brain

Grades 6-12

<https://learn360.infobase.com/PortalPlaylists.aspx?wID=114538&xtid=122756>

Using vintage footage, the program opens with a discussion of how peoples' attitudes about marijuana have changed dramatically over the years, but the one thing is certain; marijuana changes the way the brain functions. Students will learn how the THC in marijuana enters the lungs, is absorbed into the bloodstream, and enters the brain almost immediately. The program discusses the effects of marijuana on attention, memory and learning and sites the evidence from scientific studies on the long-term, harmful changes in the brain. In addition, the program explores the use of medical marijuana and its legalization as a recreational drug in different states. (14 min.; 2016)

Blowing Smoke, Vaping Teens & Smoking Addiction

Grades 6-12

<https://learn360.infobase.com/PortalPlaylists.aspx?wID=114538&xtid=129533>

E-cigarettes have been called the next generation cigarette and vaping the newest way for teens to start smoking. Student discussion includes: What is vaping? What is the vapor made from and how does it work? Is vaping dangerous? Do e-cigarettes contain toxins? Are e-cigarettes dangerous? Do e-cigarettes contain nicotine? Is nicotine harmful? Is nicotine addictive? What are the short and long term side effects? Are teens who vape or use e-cigarettes more likely to start smoking? (20 min.; 2016)

Start Smart: Cigarettes, E-Cigarettes, and Vaping: What You Need to Know

Grades 3-8

<https://learn360.infobase.com/PortalPlaylists.aspx?wID=114538&xtid=144023>

This program gives the straight facts about cigarettes, e-cigarettes, and other sources of tobacco used by teens. After watching, viewers will understand the marketing strategies used to entice young people into smoking and learn how to avoid becoming a smoking statistic. Detailed graphics, diagrams, and exciting video, as well as on-screen multiple-choice reviews at the end of each segment, reinforce important concepts. (16 min.; 2017)

Underage Drinking, Dangers and Consequences

Grades 6-12

<https://learn360.infobase.com/PortalPlaylists.aspx?wID=114538&xtid=122754>

The program starts off with an explanation of what alcohol is, how it's produced, and its role as a celebratory beverage in our society. Students will come to understand the reasons alcohol is illegal to consume for persons under the age of twenty-one. The video delves into the immediate effects of alcohol consumption on blood circulation and breathing. Viewers will learn alcohol sedates the central nervous system and how it impacts parts of the brain responsible for emotion and behavior. The program explores the negative effects of alcohol abuse and addiction on a person, family and the community. In the end, students will come to understand that the decisions they make about alcohol will influence their health, grades, relationship, career and their freedom. (13 min.; 2016)

Let's Talk About: Alcohol

Grades 3-5

<https://learn360.infobase.com/PortalPlaylists.aspx?wID=114538&xtid=122760>

This program presents information about the use and abuse of alcohol and how it affects a person's body and brain. Designed specifically for young learners, the program provides students with simple illustrations of how alcohol can negatively affect normal body functions. After viewing this program, children will come to understand that alcohol is a drug that can be very addictive. They will also come to understand that even though alcohol is legal for adults, it is not legal for younger people because of its harmful effects on a developing body and brain. (8 min.; 2016)

Let's Talk About: Tobacco

Grades 3-5

<https://learn360.infobase.com/PortalPlaylists.aspx?wID=114538&xtid=122759>

The video program is designed to present the serious, harmful effects of smoking

and nicotine to elementary-aged children. The program provides students with a realistic picture of how cigarettes and the harmful substances found in tobacco can damage their bodies. After viewing this program, children will come to understand that nicotine is an addictive drug and recognize the many ways in which smoking damages different organs and leads to life-threatening illnesses. (9 min.; 2016)

Let's Talk About: Marijuana

Grades 3-5

<https://learn360.infobase.com/PortalPlaylists.aspx?wID=114538&xtid=122761>

Some people use marijuana for medical reasons. Many more use it for recreational purposes. It's legal in some states and illegal in others. This program is designed for young learners and presents information about what marijuana is and how it effects the normal functioning of your body, especially your heart, lungs and brain. Students will come to understand that people who use marijuana have difficulty with their memory, find it hard to concentrate, and have problems learning. (8 min.; 2016)

The Dark Side of Adderall and Other "Study Drugs"

Grades 6-12

<https://learn360.infobase.com/PortalPlaylists.aspx?wID=114538&xtid=53278>

When used under a doctor's guidance, Adderall, Ritalin, and similar medications can be effective in controlling ADHD. But "pressure over grades and competition for college admissions are encouraging students to abuse prescription stimulants," says The New York Times. Employees—white collar and blue collar alike—abuse them too, for the energy and focus they can provide. And yet the cost of such abuse is high, leading to ever-increasing addiction that produces serious physical and psychological problems. This video follows Randy, a young man with no history of ADHD who began abusing Adderall in high school to improve his performance and, having later dropped out of college, relies on it to enable him to work for days at a time as a handyman for his grandmother. Commentary is provided by Jeffrey Strawn, a child and adolescent psychiatrist and faculty member at the University of Cincinnati, and Richard L. Baum, a psychologist with A.S.A.P., the Adolescent Substance Abuse Program. (15 min.; 2014)



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The deadline for the November/December issue of The Teacher is November 16

Contact Nancy at 902-477-5621 or theteacher@nstu.ca

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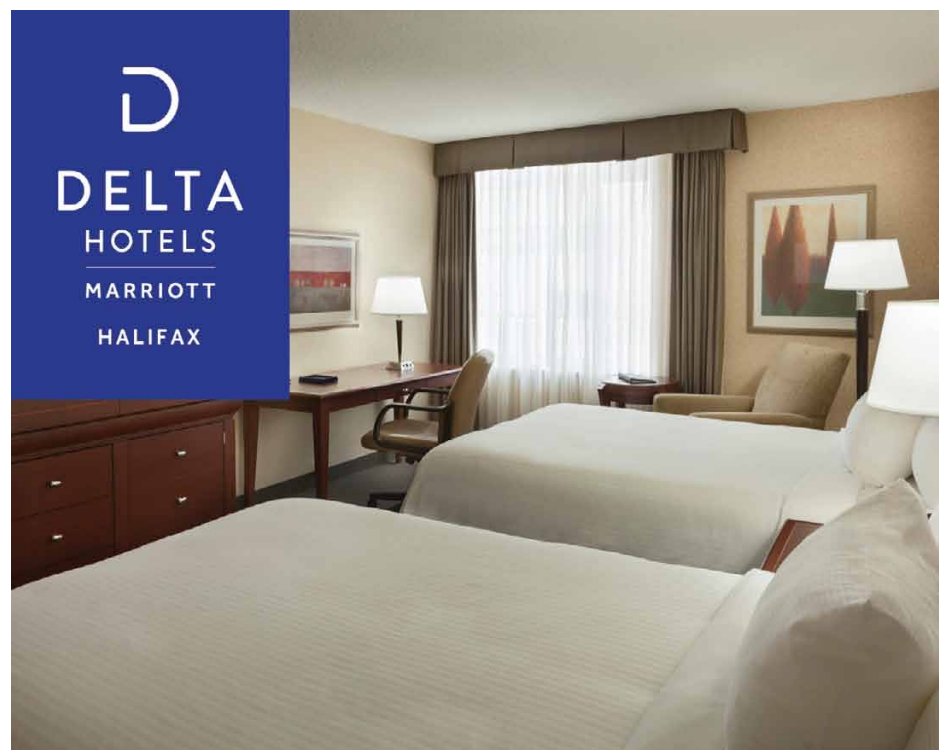
The Top Three
Acupuncture clinic
for 2017 and 2018.
The Consumer's
Choice Awards
for 2019.



executive highlights

September 14-15, 2018

- Filed the Table Officers Report;
- Selected four candidates to the John Huntley Memorial Internship Program; Gale Doyle, Halifax County; Vanessa Turner, Halifax County; Theresa Pelley, Kings; Sarah Tutty, Queens.
- Approved a recommendation that new Provincial Executive members attend a one day orientation session on October 25, 2018;
- Approved a recommendation that Steve Mahoney be appointed for second 3-year term on the NS Teachers' Pension Plan Trustee Inc. with a term ending December 31, 2021;
- Approved a recommendation that Simon Wilkin be named NSTU Acting Assistant Executive Director from September 4, 2018 until December 31, 2018;
- Approved a recommendation that Paul Syme be seconded as NSTU Executive Staff Officer in Professional Development from September 4, 2018 to December 31, 2018;
- Approved a recommendation that a term position be posted for an Executive Staff Officer in Member Services starting as soon as possible until January 31, 2019;
- Approved a recommendation that Janine Kerr be offered a personal services contract for the position of Executive Director for the term of August 1, 2018 to December 31, 2018;
- Approved the Interim Affiliation Agreement between Public School Administrators Association of NS and the NSTU for the period of August 1, 2018 – December 31, 2018;
- Approved amendments to Operational Procedures 22. Negotiations (A) Procedures for Provincial Negotiations (i) the Provincial Economic Welfare Committee (removal of Administrator from bargaining process);
- Postponed the consideration of Tri-Partite Agreements for HRCE, TCRCE & CCRCE until the October 2018 Provincial Executive meeting;
- Approved the Tri-Partite Agreement between the NSTU, CSAP and the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development for the 2018-2019 school year;
- Approved a recommendation that the ad hoc Committee on Nova Scotia Federation of Labour matters shall continue until July 31, 2019, unless extended by Provincial Executive;
- Approved the mandate for the Ad Hoc Committee on Nova Scotia Federation of Labour matters;
- Approved a recommendation that effective August 1, 2018 Liette Doucet replace Damian Hall as NSTU representative on the NSFL Board of Directors;
- Approved a recommendation that effective August 1, 2018 Paul Wozney serve as NSTU representative on the NSFL Board of Directors;
- Approved a recommendation that effective August 1, 2018 Liette Doucet replace Ron MacIntosh on the NSTU ad hoc Committee on NSFL Matters;
- Approved a recommendation that NSTU nominees to Nova Scotia Federation of Labour committees and delegates to Nova Scotia Federation of Labour and Canadian Labour Congress shall be selected by the Nominating Committee;
- Approved amendments to Operational Procedure 10. NSTU Locals (to be compliant with new Local Model Constitution);
- Approved the adoption of Resolution NB-1 (BE IT RESOLVED THAT the NSTU negotiate terms with the Public Schools Association of Administrators of Nova Scotia that give administrators rights as near as active members as possible);
- Approved the adoption of Resolution NB-3 (BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Professional Associations Coordination Committee explore a plan for a single conference in place of Professional Development Day 2019 to address the growing complexities of student needs in our diverse classrooms);
- Forwarded a motion from the Resolutions Committee regarding the Resolution and Policy Review process to the Governance & Policy Committee;
- Adopted the Local Operational Procedures model;
- Approved Operational Procedures for the Political Action Committee and the Public Relations Committee;
- Referred three motions to the Professional Associations Coordination Committee regarding Professional Association Conferences;
- Approved a recommendation that any Public Relations/ Communications campaign be articulated in writing to the general membership and local leadership prior to such a campaign being released including rationale and intent when applicable;
- Referred the following motion to staff for study and recommendation at the October Provincial Executive meeting: That the NSTU Provincial Executive begin each meeting with an acknowledgement of Mi'kmaw traditional and unceded territory.



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WWW.MARRIOTT.COM/YHZHF

NSTU celebrates Labour Day 2018



NSTU president Paul Wozney participated in the HRM Labour Day celebration in Halifax on September 3. The rally, march and parade is organized by the Halifax-Dartmouth District Labour Council. Participation in these events helps show the provincial government teachers are united with working brothers and sisters in celebrating the social and economic achievements of working people. As in past years, the NSTU displayed a strong presence at this event, and the NSTU was there as an official member of the Nova Scotia Federation of Labour. Members of the HRRC (Halifax Regional Representative Council), which includes the Dartmouth, Halifax City and Halifax County Locals helped to promote NSTU involvement in the event which saw close to 150 NSTU members and their family and friends at Victoria Park in downtown Halifax for the beginning rally. Wozney addressed the crowd thanking union brothers and sisters for their support over the last couple of years as teachers were legislated against through Bill 148, Bill 75 and Bill 72. He pledged to continue to fight for social justice for all workers in Nova Scotia.



NSTU Group Insurance Trustees

What Voluntary Benefits are Available for Eligible NSTU Members?

There are a number of voluntary or optional group insurance benefits available to both active and retired members of the NSTU. Voluntary coverages can be purchased by you through payroll or pension deductions. Over the years, the NSTU Group Insurance Trustees have expanded the voluntary benefits available to plan members.

Below you will find an overview of the voluntary benefits available to NSTU members:

Optional Life / Spousal Life Insurance (equal to or less than your amount)

- Initial amount: \$30,000
- As a new member, the initial amount of \$30,000 is not subject to medical evidence of insurability if application is received within 31 days from the date of your Johnson Inc. new member confirmation letter)
- Additional coverage available in units of \$5,000 to a maximum amount of up to \$300,000 for both member and spouse (Medical evidence of insurability required)
- Dependent Life coverage of \$10,000 spouse / \$5,000 dependent child
- NSTU group rates are very competitive
- Retirees under age 65 can now increase coverage or apply for the first time

Voluntary Accidental Death & Dismemberment (AD&D)

- Coverage available in units of \$5,000 to maximum amount of \$300,000 (reduces to \$100,000 at age 70)
- Coverage for accidental loss of life, loss of limbs or loss of use of limbs per the loss schedule
- Family coverage is automatic if you have dependents
- Includes many “living benefits” such as Family Transportation and Home Alteration and/or Vehicle Modification

MEDOC® Group Travel Plan

- Emergency Out-of-Province and Out-of-Canada Medical Insurance Plan

- Base Plan allows unlimited trips up to 35 consecutive days per trip during the policy year
- Supplementary plans available to 210 days
- Annual plan allows flexibility of travel
- Pre-existing conditions apply
- Members are encouraged not to travel out-of-country without emergency medical insurance

MEDOC® Group Trip Cancellation / Trip Interruption Plan

- Protects members against unforeseen circumstances that may prevent or discontinue a trip and is meant to complement your MEDOC® coverage
- Trip Cancellation up to a maximum of \$5,000 per insured per annual coverage period
- Trip Interruption – maximum \$5,000 per insured for each covered trip
- Annual plan
- Pre-existing conditions apply

Voluntary Critical Illness Insurance

- Provides up to \$300,000 coverage for 29 conditions
- Spousal and dependent coverage available
- Pays a lump sum tax-free benefit
- \$50,000 of coverage available without medical evidence for both the member and spouse
- Pre-existing conditions apply

If you are interested in applying or receiving information regarding the premium rates for any of the voluntary coverages, please contact Johnson Inc. at 453-9543 (local) or 1-800-453-9543 (toll-free)

Summary

This information provides a brief overview of the voluntary benefits available through the NSTU Group Insurance Program. Although every effort has been made to ensure that the information presented in this article is accurate, if there are variations between the information and the provisions of the policy or insurance contract, the policy/contract will prevail.

resources

Veterans' Week Resources

It's time again for Veterans Affairs Canada to offer its very popular Veterans' Week learning products to help engage young people in remembrance.

All-new 2018 editions of the *Take Time to Remember* activity booklet (ages 5-7), as well as youth newspapers *Tales of Animals in War* (ages 5-11) and the *Canada Remembers Times* (ages 12-18) are now available. The popular Postcards for Peace, bookmarks and posters are also back, as is the on-line Veterans' Week teacher's guide. Explore these resources on our website and order your bilingual copies today at absolutely no charge.

www.veterans.gc.ca/eng/remembrance/get-involved/remembrance-day/learning-resources

Please note: Veterans Affairs is making arrangements to ensure orders will still be delivered in the event of a possible disruption to Canada Post service, so order as soon as possible to ensure you receive your resources in plenty of time for Veterans' Week.

This year marks the 100th anniversary of “Canada's Hundred Days” – the string of great battlefield successes by our soldiers in the closing three months of the First World War – and the end of that bloody conflict on November 11, 1918. There is a wealth of historical information and new lesson plans on this important subject... check them out today!

www.veterans.gc.ca/eng/remembrance/history/first-world-war/last-hundred-days/100-anniversary

In support of Veterans' Week, members of the Canadian Armed Forces are available to give presentations at schools and community organizations across Canada as part of the Department of National Defence's National Veterans' Week Speakers Program. To invite a CAF member to your event or ceremony, visit their website.

<http://dgpaapp.forces.gc.ca/en/vet/index.asp>

New digital literacy resources for teachers from MediaSmarts

The intent of these resources is to support teachers in implementing digital literacy into their teaching practice and to help them to develop digital literacy lessons and activities that suit their students' needs.

Digital Literacy Training Workshops

The Digital Literacy Training Program for Canadian Educators workshop provides an overview of essential digital literacy skills and key concepts of media and digital literacy, familiarizes participants with the digital experiences of Canadian youth, and introduces the resources and tools that are available through MediaSmarts' USE, UNDERSTAND & CREATE digital literacy framework. Each workshop is available as a self-directed tutorial or as a downloadable PowerPoint presentation ideal for presenting to a group. The workshop is timed to take three hours if all of the activities are included. If the activities are abridged or conducted by the facilitator it can be reduced to roughly two hours. These workshops are found on the MediaSmarts website at: <http://mediasmarts.ca/search/digital-literacy-training-workshops>

Implementing Digital Literacy in the Classroom Guide

This Classroom Guide provides practical tools to help K-12 teachers make digital literacy a part of their classroom practice. While the training workshops focus on the five key concepts of digital literacy, this implementation guide looks at the specific skill areas that MediaSmarts has identified as being essential for students to learn by the end of their secondary education: ethics and empathy, privacy and security, community engagement, digital health, consumer awareness, finding and verifying and making and remixing.

Digital Literacy Key Concept Videos and Posters. They are all available on the MediaSmarts website at: <http://mediasmarts.ca/search/Digital%20literacy%20classroom%20guide>

These resources were developed with financial support from CIRA's Community Investment Program and Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada's CanCode Program.



PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS PROFESSIONNELLES

**NO ON-SITE
REGISTRATION**

Register Early!

1	AAE	NSCC, MARCONI CAMPUS
2	AEA	École du Carrefour, DARTMOUTH
3	AST	Halifax West High, HALIFAX
4	ATA	SYDNEY, TRURO, HALIFAX & CANNING
5	ATEC	Cineplex Theatre, DARTMOUTH CROSSING
6	ATENS	Prince Andrew High School, DARTMOUTH
7	ATYA	Riverside Education Centre, MILFORD
8	BETA	HALIFAX
9	EDANS	DARTMOUTH High School
10	FSTA	St. Matthew's United Church, HALIFAX
11	MTA	Charles P. Allen High School, BEDFORD
12	NSMEA	Dartmouth South Academy, DARTMOUTH
13	NSSCA	Citadel High School, HALIFAX
14	NSTALL	Cobequid Educational Centre, TRURO
15	NSTEA	Park View Education Centre, BRIDGEWATER
16	PETA	Cineplex Cinemas Bayers Lake, HALIFAX
17	PISA	Mount Saint Vincent University, HALIFAX
18	SPAA	Best Western Plus, DARTMOUTH
19	SSTA	Saint Mary's University, HALIFAX
20	TAPHE	Sackville High, LOWER SACKVILLE

As per NSTU Operational Procedure 14(e)(iii): **RECEIPTS OF PAYMENT** and attendance will not be distributed until the conference has concluded.

2018 NSTU Professional Associations Conferences

Friday, October 26, 2018

Online Registration

Opens – September 7

Closes – October 12

(no refunds after October 12)

2018 Provincial Conference Sites



**For Conference details &
Registration go to www.nstu.ca**

While we encourage members to have a NSTU web account, one is **NOT REQUIRED** to register for a conference. You may register utilizing any email account. The advantage to accessing the form with a NSTU username and password, plus confirmation of your identity with either your professional or NSCC employee number, is that your personal information will be automatically entered into the registration form.

NSTU web account activation is automated. You may activate an account from the NSTU website. Simply follow this link (<http://www.nstu.ca/the-nstu/communications/nstu-web-account/>) to the page containing activation information. Please read the information on the page carefully before activating your account.

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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 Nancy Day at 1-800-565-6788 or email theteacher@nstu.ca

"Frantastic" Wedding Officiant – Recently appointed as Administrative Justice of the Peace, I'm excited to officiate weddings in Nova Scotia. Customized services that reflect the partners are my interest. After decades as a couple therapist, I still believe that marriage is a great decision. Contact Fran Reddy Chisholm: mfranrc1@gmail.com, 902-237-1423, 902-462-5889.

Fully furnished apartment in quiet spot in Hubbards available from September 2018 until June 2019. Close to Barn Farm Market, Shore Club, restaurants, beaches, library, rails to trails, grocery, pharmacy and cafes. Rent includes high speed internet, cable television, heat, lights and parking. Rent is \$700 per month. Phone retired teacher Pat at 902-789-7689 or email editpat@hotmail.com to view.

HRCE junior high social studies/English teacher looking for a permanent exchange with a teacher in the CBVRCE. Please contact: aadeveaux@nstu.ca.

Permanent secondary teacher in the HRCE interested in exchange with permanent teacher in the CBVRCE for 2019-2020. Permanent exchange desired. If interested contact davidmaceachern@nstu.ca.

CBVRCE Permanent French/French Immersion/Resource teacher looking to do an exchange with a teacher in either the AVRCE or l'École Rose-des-Vents for the 2019-2020 school year. Permanent exchange possible. Contact: bgbugden@nstu.ca.

The John Huntley Memorial Internship Program

The deadlines for application for the John Huntley Memorial Internship Program for the 2018-2019 school year are

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 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



2018 – 2019 Pre-Retirement Seminars SCHEDULE



DATES:

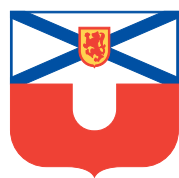
LOCATIONS:

October	16 & 17 (Tuesday & Wednesday)	CCRCE (Truro) – Glengarry Best Western
November	6 & 7 (Tuesday & Wednesday) 20 & 21 (Tuesday & Wednesday) 27 & 28 (Tuesday & Wednesday)	SRCE – Port Hawkesbury Civic Centre CCRCE (Amherst) – Wandlyn Amherst CBVRCE – Holiday Inn Sydney
December	5 & 6 (Wednesday & Thursday) 11 & 12 (Tuesday & Wednesday)	AVRCE – Old Orchard Inn HRCE – Comfort Hotel Bayers Lake
January	8 & 9 (Tuesday & Wednesday) 15 & 16 (Tuesday & Wednesday)	SSRCE – Days Inn Bridgewater HRSB – Comfort Hotel Bayers Lake
February	5 & 6 (Tuesday & Wednesday) 12 & 13 (Tuesday & Wednesday) 20 & 21 (Wednesday & Thursday)	CCRCE (Stellarton) – Pictou Co. Wellness Ctr. TCRCE – Rodd Grand Yarmouth HRCE – Comfort Hotel Bayers Lake

Deals & Discounts

for NSTU members
(including retired members),
please visit the website at www.nstu.ca

FEEL LIKE A CHANGE?



Secondments at the Nova Scotia Teachers Union

The Nova Scotia Teachers Union is updating its resource file of active members interested in short-term secondment to NSTU staff.

Seconded staff supplement the work of permanent Union staff, and increase staff available when the demand exceeds the capacity of the organization.


Individuals may be seconded to provide a service or program over a period of weeks, to serve as a resource person or liaison with a Union committee or group or to initiate and/or implement a specific program, project or task.

Secondments may be in member services, professional services, public relations, public affairs or organizational support.

Active members interested in being listed in the resource file are requested to print and fill out an application form available on-line by:

- ENTERING THE NSTU WEBSITE
- SELECT "STAFF"
- SELECTING "SECONDMENTS" FROM THE MENU ON THE LEFT-HAND SIDE

Information forms will be retained in the resource file for a period of one year.




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