

New PD resource for teachers supports newcomer students

The NSTU partnered with the YMCA Youth Outreach program to learn about newcomer students' school experiences in providing teachers help in supporting these students' particular needs. Simply having youth think about: "What I Wish My Teacher Knew" has resulted in a new resource in English and French for teachers in Nova Scotia which includes a video, and supporting discussion documents for professional learning.

"I have had the privilege of working with newcomer students during my teaching career," says NSTU president Paul Wozney. "Helping them learn has been one of the highlights."

Bringing student voice and experience to the forefront in an accessible, teacher-friendly, easy-to-use, authentic resource is the philosophy behind this project.

"Teachers of newcomer students in Nova Scotia including myself, have struggled with understanding the needs of those students, and how to support them," continues Wozney. "There are few resources available, and I often wished there was a book, article or video that could help us figure out what we needed to succeed together."



NSTU president Paul Wozney is shown with students Mwamini Bifakubaho, Aya Ali, Ayah Alelaiwi, Fawaz Salawu, and Sayed Amin, executive staff officer Miguëlle L  g  re, YMCA's Outreach Coordinator Youth Amy Belanger, and youth outreach staff Ayesha Naqvi and Ahmed Esmat. Student missing from the photo: Hana Alsaaid.

This new resource, developed by NSTU's executive staff officer Migu  lle L  g  re, helps to shed light on what newcomer students need to succeed through a *What I Wish My Teacher Knew* video, featuring six students' powerful stories and incorporating feedback from other newcomer students through YMCA's Youth Outreach program. The featured students are members of the YMCA's Youth Action Leadership Team, led by Amy Belanger, Youth Outreach Program Coordinator, YMCA Centre for Immigrant Programs and Fadi Hamdan, Youth Outreach Supervisor.

"I was overjoyed that the NSTU had the opportunity to work with youth to develop this resource for teachers," he adds. "Because of the generosity and leadership of newcomer students, teachers in Nova Scotia now have a resource to lean on to develop the understanding and empathy needed to thrive in the classroom with newcomer students and their families."

Some of the "things" newcomer students "wish their teacher knew" include: Give us time, explain things and speak slowly; Try to pronounce our names; Education systems are very different in other countries, we're dealing with a lot of culture shock; I have a lot of skills and interests outside of school; Parents don't know English and we don't get help with our homework; and We have a lot going on.

"The courage these youth have shown in talking about their experiences will open many eyes and hearts and help teachers and newcomers experience greater success at school," says L  g  re.

The NSTU hopes this project will continue and grow by incorporating the perspectives of younger students. "Teachers have said this resource is amazing and they can't wait to use it with their peers. Elementary school teachers are hoping they can hear the views of younger students as well," concludes Wozney.

The video premiered on YouTube on April 16, and a celebration including the featured students and other youth from the YMCA's Youth Outreach program took place at the YMCA in Halifax on April 9.

The google site for the full resource is available here: <https://sites.google.com/view/what-i-wish-my-teacher-knew/home>. The video is also found on YouTube here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zGsnQaOT3AA>



people

NSTU and Tri-County Regional Centre for Education sign regional Agreement

On April 14 NSTU president Paul Wozney and Tri-County Regional Centre for Education Regional Executive Director Dr. Chris Boulter signed a new regional collective agreement. Tri County's approximately 500 public school members endorsed the tentative agreement reached between the NSTU and TCRCE on January 26, 2021. In an online vote, held on February 23, 45.6 per cent of members of the Digby, Shelburne County and Yarmouth Locals voted 94 per cent in favour of the new regional agreement.

The term of this agreement runs from the official signing date of April 14, 2021 until July 31, 2024. The agreement was reached over two days of



Shown are members from both negotiating teams with Paul Wozney and Dr. Chris Boulter. Seated: Elizabeth Thomas, Digby Local president; Glynnis Stephenson, Yarmouth Local president; and Michelle Goreham, Shelburne County Local president. Standing: TCRCE Director of Programs and Student Services Jared Purdy; TCRCE Director of Human Resources Christie Macdonald; NSTU executive staff officer Tim MacLeod; Paul Wozney and Dr. Chris Boulter. Missing from the photo: TCRCE Coordinator of Labour Relations Scott Surette.



NSTU president Paul Wozney and Dr. Chris Boulter, Tri-County Regional Centre for Education Regional Executive Director, hold a copy of the new regional agreement.

bargaining. "This agreement is great for the regional centre and members and was achieved through a positive and constructive process," says NSTU president Paul Wozney. "Congratulations to all."

"It's always a pleasure to work towards achieving a new regional agreement. We have a great working relationship with three very collaborative Local presidents that help greatly during the process," says TCRCE regional executive director Dr. Chris Boulter.

The parties gained agreement on clauses pertaining to sick leave, special leave, teacher transfers and early hiring to address employment equity. Both the NSTU and TCRCE thank all parties, especially the negotiating teams, for their work.



Managing Editor: Angela Murray
Assistant Editor: Mark Laventure
Advertising & Circulation: Nancy Day



Published eight times a year
(September-June)
by the **Nova Scotia Teachers Union**
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
Website: www.nstu.ca

Submission deadlines for 2020-2021:

ISSUE DEADLINE
May May 5
June June 9

The opinions expressed in stories or articles do not necessarily reflect opinions or policy of the Nova Scotia Teachers Union, its staff or elected provincial representatives. We assume no responsibility for loss or damage to unsolicited articles or photographs. We welcome your comments and suggestions: [1-800-565-6788](tel:1-800-565-6788) or email theteacher@nstu.ca.

© Nova Scotia Teachers Union 2021

Term position in Member Services

The NSTU congratulates Tim MacLeod, who will be continuing on as a staff officer in member services to replace a position that will be available due to Jack MacLeod's sabbatical leave from August 1, 2021 until July 31, 2022. MacLeod has been in a term position in Member Services since November 5, 2018 and recently had his term extended until July 31, 2021. MacLeod currently serves members in Lunenburg County and Queens Locals, the Digby, Shelburne County, and Yarmouth Locals, along with members employed by the Halifax Regional Centre for Education in School Learning Communities 4 and 7.

He serves as the staff liaison to the member services committee and is the NSTU representative for the Provincial and Regional Job Security Committees.

A teacher for over 25 years, MacLeod is a high school science teacher with HRCE, on leave from Lockview High School in Fall River. He has also taught at Millwood High, Leslie Thomas Junior High, Sir Robert Borden Junior High and Oyster Pond Academy among others. He was the Halifax County Local president from 2008 to 2012, and a Halifax County representative on the provincial executive from 2013 to 2017. He holds a BSc from Dalhousie University, an Associate in Education from Nova Scotia Teachers' College, a Graduate Diploma in Education (Counselling) from MSVU, and a Certificate in Leadership Development from Saint Mary's University. He also completed the Queen's University Industrial Relations Centre Labour Relations Foundations program.



Equity Committee plans conference

Members of NSTU's Equity committee held their most recent conference planning committee meeting on April 6. The virtual conference, titled: Systemic Racism and White Privilege: A Conversation for Educators is open to all NSTU members and will take place on April 24 from 9 am to 12 pm. Registration is open until April 21 at the following link: <https://conf.nstu.ca/ConferenceRegistrations/Index/59>. More information about this conference can be found on page 6.



Top row: Viviane Abdallah-Khalil (Halifax County), NSTU staff liaison Miguelle Légère, and Kelly Cooper (Kings). Middle row: Committee Chair Drew Fournier (Halifax County), Virginia King-Tower (Cumberland), and Juanita Romard (Northside-Victoria). Bottom row: provincial executive liaison Natalie MacIsaac (Kings).

What is your Financial Fitness plan?

We have a Financial Fitness plan for you! Meet with an advisor and start to see results! Special rates apply for new deposits.

1-800-565-3103
teachersplus.ca



Education Week 2021



Caroline Arsenault

La Fédération des parents acadiens de la Nouvelle-Écosse, Présidente

La Fédération des parents acadiens de la Nouvelle-Écosse tient à remercier tous ceux et celles qui travaillent chaque jour à assurer un environnement d'apprentissage qui priorise le bien-être de tous les jeunes dans le réseau scolaire en Nouvelle-Écosse. « Bien-être des élèves = réussite » est une thématique particulièrement pertinente en 2021, cette année bouleversée par la pandémie. Le bien-être de chaque enfant doit être au premier plan pour que chacun puisse réaliser son plein potentiel. Les parents acadiens et francophones reconnaissent la grande contribution de tous les intervenants dévoués en milieu scolaire : les enseignants, les spécialistes, les aides-enseignants, les agents scolaires-communautaires. Ils contribuent grandement au développement académique, social et culturel de tous nos enfants. *“Le cœur, comme l'intelligence, a besoin d'enseignements.” Marie Fontenay de Grandfort*



Lisa Doucet

Atlantic Provinces Special Education Authority, Superintendent

APSEA (Atlantic Provinces Special Education Authority) congratulates all the 2021 Nova Scotia Education Week Awards recipients. The theme *Student Well-Being = Success* is at the heart of APSEA's guiding principles. Over the past year, during a time of unprecedented challenge, you strove to ensure students had access to, and were engaged with, learning experiences and support.

All educators, administrators, and school staff play a vital role in student achievement; your hard work directly contributes to their success. Thank you for motivating and inspiring students every day while fostering safe and inclusive learning environments.

To the award recipients, it is your commitment to the philosophy that student well-being is tied directly to their success that we are proud to celebrate. The everyday effort, care, and pride you take in your role makes the difference in many students' lives. We thank you and applaud the positive impact you have on students, your colleagues, and the education system.



Catherine Hartling

CACE, Regional Representative, Antigonish-Guysborough Region.

On behalf of the Council on *African Canadian Education* and our provincial partners which include the Black Educators Association and the *Delmore Buddy Day Learning Institute* I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate those teachers and support staff who play a crucial role in supporting students' mental health and well-

being in our schools. *Student Well-Being = Success* which is this year's theme underscores the importance that well-being plays in education and overall student success.

The challenge for teachers and support staff is to identify where individual students are on the trajectory and address their social and emotional needs, passions and interests all while being culturally relevant in 'real time' is indeed a tall order and no small feat. Today's pandemic has taken a toll on our emotional, psychological, and physical well being. School closures, online learning, and self isolation in particular has had a significant impact on our students. Teachers, administrators and support staff now face another pressing issue – how to help students cope and stay on track throughout the year even as their lives continue to be disrupted.

Efforts that continue to foster the holistic development of all students can and does have a positive impact on students' academic achievement, social interactions as well as their short-term and long-term goals. Continue to communicate that ALL students are valued members of our learning community which means meeting each student where they are with an uncompromising vision for high achievement to ensure all learners have equitable access to learning opportunities that foster agency and prepare them for life in the world.

All of the teachers, administrators and support staff recognized with an Education Week award have demonstrated their commitment to our students' well-being. Thank you for your continued commitment in providing a safe and inclusive environment and allowing your students to thrive and grow in celebration of who they are.



April Hiltz

Education Director, Native Council of Nova Scotia, Member of Council on Mi'kmaq Education

On behalf of the Council on Mi'kmaq Education (CME), I extend sincere congratulations to the Education Week 2021 Award Recipients. The 2021 Education Week theme: *Student Wellbeing=Success*: makes for one to be mindful and reflective as the world moves through this pandemic. Supporting students during a time of great uncertainty requires ALL to take time for self-care. Helping each other in areas of social, emotional, physical, and mental development takes courage, patience, resiliency, and strength. As the education system moves forward and positive changes happen throughout the land of Mi'kma'ki, let's take time to build positive relationships for the betterment of all students. Student wellbeing= success will happen when barriers are identified and removed. True inclusion is when all students receive an equitable education. Wela'liq (thank-you) to all the recipients of the 2021 Education Week Awards. I thank you for your efforts in going above and beyond for the wellbeing and success of all students. Your sincere efforts are making a difference in the lives of the students that you support everyday. **“Together”**: student wellbeing=success. Congrats, once again!

Student Well-Being = Success

Semaine de l'éducation 2021



Honourable Derek Mombourquette

Minister of Education and Early Childhood Development

I want to thank each and everyone of you for your ongoing support of students during the COVID-19 pandemic. The pandemic has changed the way we interact with one another but it hasn't changed the fundamental commitment

to support and teach our children with care and compassion. I want to thank you – our educators, administrators, early childhood educators, and school and student support staff – for your efforts this year.

This year's theme for Education Week is *Student Well-Being = Success*. This is an appropriate theme given the importance of student well-being during a pandemic. Thanks to your efforts, students feel welcomed and supported each time they enter our schools, and as a result they are better equipped to learn and succeed.

Our Inclusive Education Policy reflects the importance of student well-being and the impact it has on student achievement. The policy helps ensure that every student has access to an equitable and high-quality education that is culturally and linguistically responsive, accepting, and respectful in supporting and valuing their learning and diverse abilities.

Thanks to your work, students can have an education that responds to their individual needs, and thanks to your efforts, students will feel welcomed and supported.

In closing, I would like to thank our provincial Education Week partners for their efforts to organize the 2021 awards. It is an important recognition of the work of our staff across all occupations.



Diane Power

Nova Scotia Federation of Home and School Associations, President

On behalf of Nova Scotia Federation of Home and School Associations I would like to extend my sincere congratulations to the Education Week 2021 Award Recipients. Education Week is a time to celebrate the successes and accomplishments of those who play a role in

educating children in Nova Scotia, especially those related to this year's theme *Student Well-Being = Success*. Our organization's founding principles are that every child needs and deserves support during their school years and as educators and parents we ought to support them with whatever resources and tools we have.

To the Award Recipients, be proud of the work you do every day helping students learn and adopt healthy lifestyles that support their

physical and mental growth and development ensuring their success. As parents we appreciate your dedication and the supportive impact you have on our child's well-being. Please accept our thanks for the positive influence you have on the lives you touch. You are making a difference.



Tim Simony

Public School Administrators Association of Nova Scotia, Chair

I would like to extend congratulations, on behalf of the Public School Administrators Association of Nova Scotia, to all of this year's Education Week award recipients. The theme *Student Well-Being = Success* resonates with all of us as we have witnessed early childhood

educators, support staff, teachers, school-based leaders and system leaders rally to support student mental health and physical health in the midst of these challenging times. The people being recognized this year have championed student well-being through their individual actions and their leadership of others. They serve as examples and are a reminder to us all about how we have the capacity to make a meaningful difference in the lives of students. Congratulations to all of the award recipients and thank you for your commitment to students in Nova Scotia.



Paul Wozney

President, Nova Scotia Teachers Union

On behalf of the Nova Scotia Teachers Union and our public school and APSEA members, I congratulate the teachers, educators, administrators, support staff and education partners who support students, schools, and communities through their commitment the theme, *Student Well-Being = Success/Bien-être*

des élèves = réussite.

Helping students in their cognitive, socio-emotional and physical development are key to well-being, which supports success and achievement in school, and helps students be active members of their communities. Classroom teachers, specialist teachers, school guidance counsellors, school psychologists and speech-language pathologists work together with their teaching, administrative, and support colleagues to promote well-being and help students flourish in their education journey. I also acknowledge Teachers Plus Credit Union, a long-time corporate sponsor of Nova Scotia's Education Week.

Please join me in celebrating the achievements and commitment of this year's Education Week award recipients.

Congratulations, Felicitations, ag Welluguti'og

Proudly sponsored by:



Nova Scotia
Federation of Home
and School Associations Inc.



Fédération des parents académiques de la Nouvelle-Écosse



PUBLIC SCHOOL ADMINISTRATORS
ASSOCIATION OF NOVA SCOTIA



Council on
Mi'kmaq Education



Nova Scotia
Teachers Union

bien être des élèves = réussite

Checking Our Privilege

by *Miguelle Légère, Executive Staff Officer, Professional Learning*

Are any of these statements true for you?

- I can go shopping alone most of the time, assured that I will not be followed or harassed.
- When I am told about our national history, I am shown that people of my colour made it what it is.
- I can arrange to protect my children most of the time from people who might not like them.
- I am never asked to speak for all the people of my racial group.
- I can do well in a challenging situation without being called a credit to my race.
- I can participate in most meetings of organizations I belong to feeling included and valued, rather than isolated, out-of-place, outnumbered, unheard, held at a distance, or feared.
- I can take a job with an affirmative action employer without having co-workers on the job suspect that I got it because of race.
- I can be pretty sure that if I ask to talk to "the person in charge," I will be facing a person of my ethnicity.
- I can be sure that if I need legal or medical help, my ethnicity will not work against me.

The above questions are taken from Peggy McIntosh's 1989 seminal work titled, *White Privilege: Unpacking the Invisible Knapsack*. The statements in her article are a good starting point to begin thinking about the unearned privilege white people often do not know they have. Over 30 years later, the question of white privilege is still relevant and has become a more common topic in mainstream society, politics, and education.

As conversations around systemic racism and white privilege become more common in education circles, the NSTU continues to create opportunities for these discussions. This year, the NSTU Equity Committee is proud to host its biennial conference. Although building relationships face-to-face is a clear benefit of committee conferences, there are some unanticipated advantages to COVID-19 making us go virtual: There are fewer costs to a virtual conference. **As a result, for this year only, it will be offered to the entire NSTU membership.** The title of the conference is *Systemic Racism and White Privilege: A Conversation for Educators*.

The guest presenters for this NSTU Equity Conference are Megan Neaves and DeRico Symonds, well known advocates based in Halifax. The content of the conference will touch on the historical context of racism locally and nationally, how we got to where we

are now, how race has been socially constructed, systemic racism, white privilege, and finally, tangible ways we can all support the work of anti-racism.

In October 2020, I concluded the Pathways to Learning article with these words:

"This article, these resources, these collaborations and these conversations are small but tangible steps towards the elimination of systemic racism in the education system. What steps will you take and what steps can we take together to address systemic racism in our communities?"

As we start winding down our school year, it is a good time to reflect on the steps we have taken individually and as a collective. What tangible actions have we taken, how have we educated ourselves on systemic racism and white privilege, and what will be our actions moving forward?

<https://conf.nstu.ca/ConferenceRegistrations/Index/59>

Peggy McIntosh reference: <https://nationalseedproject.org/Key-SEED-Texts/white-privilege-unpacking-the-invisible-knapsack>

NSTU Equity Committee Conference 2021

Systemic Racism and White Privilege: A Conversation for Educators

April 24th from 9-12 via Zoom
Register at: <https://conf.nstu.ca/ConferenceRegistrations/Index/59>

Megan Neaves

Megan is involved in the Halifax community and actively engaged in initiatives, events, and discussions pertaining to anti-racism, poverty, and solutions for marginalized communities. Megan is a jr. high school teacher with the HRICE. She also teaches the Advocacy and Social Justice course for the second year Social Work Program at NSCC.

In 2018 Megan developed a unit called "Empowering Changes" that aims to teach students how to recognize white privilege and how to use their privilege to create change. An experiential learning component of this unit was to bring leaders from the racialized communities into the school to share with students about their experiences with systemic racism.

@meganneaves

DeRico Symonds

DeRico Symonds, currently employed full time with Nova Scotia Art and Design School (NSCAD) as their first Director of Opportunity and Belonging. DeRico Symonds is a founding member and Executive of Partnerships with ACCE. ACCE is an organization designed for the growth and development of people of African Descent in the Province of Nova Scotia. DeRico has an immense amount of work in marginalized communities. DeRico is a board member of the Nova Scotia Criminal Justice Association, Community Land Trust 802 and an Impact Race and Cultural Assessor with the African Nova Scotian Justice Institute.

@dericosymonds
dericosymonds.ca

The Impoverished Concept

We spell "impoverished" with an "I" because our objective is for individuals to feel empowered when participating in conversations about race and to further their learning beyond our presentation. Also we strive to empower individuals from marginalized communities by amplifying their voices.

IMPOWERED

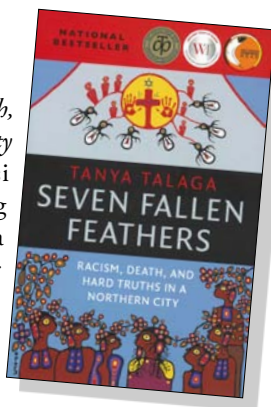
Nova Scotia Teachers Union

Email your name, home address, and the name of your school with **PL Giveaway** in the subject line to theteacher@nstu.ca by **May 7, 2021** to be eligible for the draw.

Seven Fallen Feathers

written by Tanya Talaga

Seven Fallen Feathers: Racism, Death, And Hard Truths in a Northern City published by House of Anansi Press written by award-winning investigative journalist Tanya Talaga delves into the history of Thunder Bay, in which over the course of 11 years, seven Indigenous high school students died. They were hundreds of miles away from their families, forced to leave home and live in a foreign and unwelcoming city. Talaga's narrative focuses on the lives of the students this small northern city that has come to manifest Canada's long struggle with human rights violations against Indigenous communities.



CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR MARCH BOOK WINNERS!

EQUITY — Diane Lewis — CBVRCE

FRESH — Dana Peters — HRCE

PL GIVEAWAY — Kerry Doucette — CCRCE

The John Huntley Memorial Internship Program

The deadlines for application for the John Huntley Memorial Internship Program are

October 1, 2021.

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

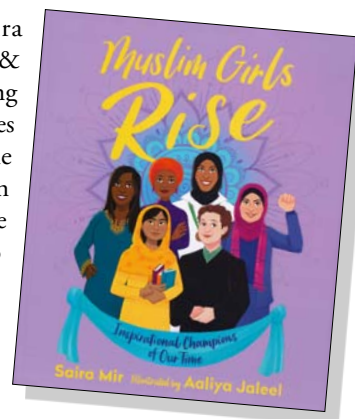
The March John Huntley session will take place in May, 2021. New delegates chosen will be for the session following the October 1, 2021 deadline.

Email your name, home address, and the name of your school with **EQUITY** in the subject line to theteacher@nstu.ca by **May 7, 2021** to be eligible for the draw.

Muslim Girls Rise

written by Saira Mir, illustrated by Aaliya Jaleel

Muslim Girls Rise by Saira Mir, and published Simon & Schuster Children's Publishing Division, reveals the true stories of 19 Muslim women of the 21st century who have risen above challenges, and in some cases outright hostility to blaze trails in a wide range of fields. In the culinary arts, fashion, sports, government, science, entertainment, education, or activism, these women worked to rise above and not only achieve their dreams, but become influential leaders. *Muslim Girls Rise* introduces young readers to the diverse and important contributions Muslim women have made.



fresh

Putting new members in the **KNOW!**

Email your name, home address, and the name of your school with **FRESH** in the subject line to theteacher@nstu.ca by **May 7, 2021** to be eligible for the draw.

Under My Hijab

by Hena Khan, illustrated by Aaliya Jaleel

Published by Lee & Low Books, *Under My Hijab*, provides a friendly introduction to hijabs for all readers, and celebrates the many Muslim women and girls who choose to wear them.

Grandma's hijab clasps under her chin. The story focuses on a young girl observing six very different women in her life who wear their hijab in a unique way. She dreams about how she will express her own personality through her hijab. With cheerful rhyming text by the author of *Golden Domes and Silver Lanterns*, and charming illustrations from a talented newcomer, *Under My Hijab*.



Spring Into Physical Activity

by Justin Oliver, President, Teachers Association for Physical and Health Education

Now that Spring is upon us, many of us have started getting outside a bit more. Being more physically active has been on our minds, either because of our winter hibernation indoors or because of the warmer temperatures. One common physical activity that I see in my neighborhood (and that I participate in as well) is walking. Getting outside on a sidewalk or on a trail for a walk does wonders for us physically, mentally, emotionally, spiritually, and socially, if we bring someone with us. The walk does not need to be long but I do encourage you to walk at a good pace. As a Physical Education specialist, I tell my students to move at a moderate to vigorous pace. Incorporating hills will definitely increase the intensity for you. If you want to add more of a total body workout, grab a pair of walking poles, or in my case, ski poles, on your walk and you should notice an increase in your heart rate.

If you want to increase your distance or time I suggest heading into the woods for a hike. Living in Digby County, we are blessed with a number of incredible hikes, many of which have great scenic views and varied terrain. It is not difficult for me to find a trail for my young family or one that is wheelchair accessible. Nova Scotia has four great seasons for hiking but there is something about the Spring where we can notice new growth of plants, flowers, and trees coupled with the sounds of birds singing as we meander and explore. If you are looking for a hike that is challenging at times, in the woods and then finishes with an outstanding view to have a lunch, Cape Split is a must but it should only be done once you have built up some endurance. Fall would be a good time to try it. I encourage you to check out Hike Nova Scotia's website for more information about trails in your area, walking groups to join, and courses to take.

If you are looking for more of a longer distance and cardiovascular workout, cycling has gained more popularity because of the pandemic and because of

the advocacy done to increase the number of bike lanes for cyclists. If you do not currently have a bike, it may be tricky to get one from a local bike shop because it seems production slowed during the lockdown a year ago while demand has gone up. Again, Nova Scotia has many cycling options available wherever you live in the province. We have the highest proportion of paved roads in the country and rural areas have a lot less traffic on them for you to explore and cycle at a comfortable pace. Waverley Road is my favourite road to cycle on in the province because of the smoothness of the pavement, the scenic lake views, and the respectful motorist who shares the road with you. You are bound to see

these are just a few suggestions for you to consider this Spring. They can be done individually or in small groups according to Public Health Guidelines. You can go for short distances or longer excursions depending on time, level of difficulty, and accessibility. Getting outside for physical activity will not only lower our stress levels (which all of us need), but also help us improve our quality of life because of the added benefits of being outside. I encourage you to get started if you haven't already because as Albert Einstein said, "a body in motion stays in motion."

Actively yours,
Justin Oliver
TAPHE President



other cyclists enjoying this road. Wherever you choose to ride, there is usually a place to stop to refuel with a coffee, pastry, or another snack of your choice. If you want to explore off the pavement on a mountain bike, The Gorge in Kentville or Victoria Park in Truro may be of interest to you. I have not been to Keppoch Mountain in Antigonish myself but it does come highly recommended from colleagues. Visit the Bicycle Nova Scotia's website for more of what cycling in Nova Scotia has to offer.

Although this is not an exhaustive list

<https://www.thekeppoch.ca/>

<https://www.hikenovascotia.ca/>

<https://bicycle.ns.ca/>

<https://digbymun.ca/digby-trails.html>

<https://sites.google.com/view/taphe>

FUNNY PAGES



Celebrating Books that Makes Kids Laugh

Coming this Spring

Virtual presentations by Canada's funniest authors

Register now at www.FunnyPages.ca

Participating Authors:

WHO: Kevin and Basil Sylvester Grades 4-6

WHEN: May 19th at 1:30 PM



Authors of:

The Fabulous Zed Watson!



WHO: James Leck Grade 5 - 7

WHEN: May 12th at 1:30 PM



Author of:

**The Adventures of Jack Lime,
and After Dark**



Funny Pages is Canada's only festival devoted to books that make kids laugh.

executive highlights

March 29, 2021

- Approved a recommendation that the recommended candidate be offered the Executive Staff Officer position in Member Services effective August 1, 2021.

April 8, 2021

- Approved the Table Officers' Report;
- Approved amendments to Operational Procedure 29 Benevolent Fund;
- Approved a recommendation that the 2021 Council Steering Committee be comprised of the Table Officers and selected Russell Comeau as the Chair;
- Approved a recommendation that the NSTU send a letter of protest in solidarity with the Kenya National Union of Teachers;
- Approved a recommendation that Paul Wozney be nominated by the NSTU for CTF Vice-President;
- Approved a recommendation that the recommended candidate for the position of Executive Staff Officer, Professional Learning be offered the permanent position subject to the successful completion of the probationary period;
- Approved a recommendation that the Nova Scotia Teachers Union Employee Pension Plan be amended as recommended in amendment #4 by the Employee Pension Plan Advisory Committee;
- Approved the granting of eleven (11) Local Service Awards;
- Approved Full Time Study Grants in the amount of \$2,000;
- Appointed the 2021 Council Elections Committee;
- Approved a recommendation that the Executive Director, on behalf of the NSTU Provincial Executive, initiate a Strategic Planning process, engaging NSTU members, leaders and external stakeholders, to develop an NSTU Strategic Plan to be presented to Provincial Executive in June 2022;
- Approved a recommendation that the NSTU collect demographic information on our membership, giving members who self identify as BIPOC or other equity seeking communities an opportunity to share that information, in order that the NSTU may better serve all members;
- Ratified the Halifax City Local Constitution;
- Ratified the Antigonish Local Constitution;
- Approved amendments to the Professional Association Model Constitution;
- Approved amendments to the Professional Association Model Operational Procedures;
- Approved amendments to Operational Procedure 13 Professional Associations;
- Approved amendments to Operational Procedure 9 Expense Guidelines;
- Approved amendments to Operational Procedure 24 Awards, Fellowships and Grants;
- Approved a recommendation that Operational Procedure 25 In-Service Education be rescinded;
- Approved amendments to Operational Procedure 26 John Huntley Memorial Internship Program;
- Approved amendments to Operational Procedure 27 Professional Development Support Services;
- Approved a recommendation that October Conference Day 2021 be held virtually for all Professional Associations;
- Approved a recommendation that, for October Conference Day 2021, teachers may attend October Conference Day from their school sites, in order to improve access to the internet, and promote collaboration between teachers;
- Approved a recommendation that, for October Conference Day 2021, Professional Associations have the autonomy to choose their own virtual platform, with the ability to access release time to learn about the platform; costs to be paid by the individual Professional Associations;
- Approved a recommendation that, for October Conference Day 2021, Professional Associations have the autonomy to determine their own conference fees, as set by motion by individual Professional Associations' Executive;
- Approved a recommendation that, for October Conference Day 2021, registration be allowed with the use of any, non-employer, email account; Members to be encouraged to use an NSTU email account.

notices

Lives That Make a Difference Essay Digital Writing challenge

A&E's 2020-2021 Lives That Make a Difference Essay Contest invites Canadian students in Grades 5 to 12 to write an essay on who they think made an important impact on Canadian society in the past year.

The contest, which has run in Canada for more than 20 years, has drawn the active interest of tens of thousands of middle and high school students and hundreds of teachers from coast to coast over the past two decades. A&E representatives, along with a national panel of education experts, judge the submissions on the basis of following criteria: persuasiveness (33 per cent), creativity (33 per cent) and relevancy (33 per cent).

Prizes are awarded in each of the two categories (Grades 5-8 and Grades 9-12) as follows: Grand Prize – \$1,500; First Prize – \$1,000; Teacher of winning student – \$500 for use in teacher's classroom.

Submissions for the 2020-2021 Lives that Make a Difference Essay Contest will be accepted now through May 1, 2021. Contest details are available at www.livesthatmakeadifference.com.

EDUCATIONAL LEADERSHIP CONSORTIUM
OF NOVA SCOTIA



CONSORTIUM DE LEADERSHIP EN ÉDUCATION
DE LA NOUVELLE-ÉCOSSE

395-Spectacle Lake Dr., Dartmouth, NS B3B 1W8

Telephone: (902) 422-3270 • Email: info@elcns



Aspiring Leaders
Program

The Aspiring Leaders Program 2021-2022

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 2021**. 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 2021-22 Cohort of this exciting program being offered by the Educational Leadership Consortium of Nova Scotia (ELCNS) in partnership with the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development.

For more information on the program visit the **ELCNS website** at www.elcns.ca or contact Stephanie Isenor-Ryan, Executive Director, Educational Leadership Consortium of Nova Scotia (ELCNS) at sisenorryan@elcns.ca or 902-890-4367, or Debbie McIsaac, ALP Coordinator at dmcisaac@elcns.ca

Application Process: Applications are made available through participating regional centre/board websites. Selections will be based on identified criteria and an interview by a panel of regional centre/board personnel.

Candidate 1st Vice President

Thérèse Forsythe



*Working together for a stronger union /
Travailler ensemble pour un syndicat plus fort*

Professional Experience

High School Math and science teacher
Instructor for math and education programs
at Acadia
Lead numerous math and science professional
development sessions/in-services for the
AVRCE and EECED
Masters of Education – Curriculum (Acadia)
Masters of Education – Technology (Acadia)
Masters of Education – Leadership (Acadia)

Provincial NSTU Experience

Secretary Treasurer
Table Officer
Provincial Executive member
Member of Pension committee
Chair – Finance and Property
Member and then Chair – Insurance Trustees
Steering Committee – Annual Council
John Huntley Intern
Ad Hoc Committee for SSP (Resolution 2018-9)
Member Services Chair
Negotiating Team Member
Board Member For CTF/FCE
1st Vice President

Regional NSTU Experience

AVRRC
Treasurer – AVRRC
Grievance Committee
REWC

Kings Local Experience

Treasurer – Kings Local
Rep Planning
Chair – Finance Committee
PD Committee
Communications Committee

Dear NSTU siblings,

Two years ago I asked for your support so I could support you as First Vice President as we faced uncertainty and further opposition from a relentless government. You put your faith in me then to help reclaim our voice, reestablish our solidarity and reposition our union as a trusted public education leader.

Since that time, I have devoted myself to that work and to you. I come to you once more to ask for your continued support as First Vice President so I can carry on the good, strong work we have begun together.

As First Vice President, I have proudly served over 9300 public school teachers, school counsellors and school-based specialists who teach in every corner of our province as well as students with visual and auditory impairments across Atlantic Canada. Je suis également fier de nos 650 membres qui ont le mandat unique de promouvoir et de préserver la langue et la culture acadiennes, le riche patrimoine des plus anciens francophones du Canada.

Throughout COVID-19, the space I have supported for your Provincial Executive has helped ensure our voices have been the strongest, the loudest and most trusted when it comes to the absence of protections in our schools and need for improvements to support our students, ourselves and staff siblings and communities.

I served as your voice on the board of the Canadian Teachers' Federation during 2019-2020 as the pandemic unfolded, where I shared your concerns and priorities and brought back critical information from other teacher unions that have helped the NSTU advocate effectively for you here at home.

I served on your negotiating team which achieved a fairly negotiated contract for us all. That agreement honoured your priority to improve working conditions and recognize the fundamental changes in our jobs that we wrestle with daily. I look forward to further efforts to realize improvements that address systemic needs like full implementation of the inclusive education report, addressing nationally worst child poverty and the crisis in mental health students and staff alike are facing in schools.

Your support two years ago made it clear you expected the First Vice President to work collegially with the president and Provincial Executive. Since then I have forged a strong, positive partnership with our president and with those at the PE table. Together we have created a space that values differing opinions as a key part of what it takes to put members first in all we do.

I ask for your vote and continued support as your First Vice President. Thank you! Merci!

Candidate 1st Vice President

Sue Larivière-Jenkins

Dedication Leadership Voile/Dévoier Leadership Voix

Professional Background

Master of Education – Educational
Administration and Leadership (St. F.X. U.)
Diploma – Educational Technology (CBU)
CSAP Teacher (20 years); bilingual educator
– Elem, JH, HS

CSANE Local Committees

Economic Welfare	Nominations
Local Asking Package	Resolutions
Local Bargaining Teams	Finance
Teacher-Management	Professional Development
Article 60	Local Constitution/OP Review
Grievance	PA/PR/Communications

Regional Committees and Offices

CSANE Local has no regional committees nor
offices as a province-wide Local.

Time to Teach, Time to Learn Initiative
Participant (2007)

Provincial Committees

CSANE Electoral Officer	Nominating
Professional	Political Action/Public Relations
Personnel	Political Action
Comité de Programmation Académique	
Teachers with Administrative Responsibilities	

National Committees

CTF/FCE Advisory Committee on French as a
First Language



CSANE Local Offices

Local President	Local Treasurer
Member-At-Large	Local Table Officer
NSTU School Rep	
VP of Political Action/PR/Communications	

Provincial Offices

Provincial Executive Member
NSTU Annual Council Voting Delegate (20 years)
Grievance Chair

Other

NSTU Professional Leadership Certificate

Greetings NSTU Annual Council Delegates – Salutations délégués du conseil annuel 2021

What a year it has been! Over one year ago we were presented with an unimaginable and unprecedented reality – teaching in a pandemic. Being the consummate professionals we are, we rose to the challenge, pivoting to online teaching and learning last spring and back to the classroom in September 2021. En tant que professionnels accomplis que nous sommes, nous avons relevé le défi en nous orientant vers l'enseignement et l'apprentissage en ligne au printemps dernier et en présentiel en septembre 2021.

Throughout this crisis teachers have stepped up for their students and school communities, but the provincial government has failed to do the same. They ignored the NSTU's input for the back to school plan, ignored the needs of students, and ignored the necessities required for the teachers in their employ. Teachers are exhausted and our mental health and well-being has suffered.

My involvement with the NSTU spans over 20 years. I started as a school rep and have remained as a volunteer locally, provincially and nationally. As a member, and the President of the only provincial Local in our union, I have raised concerns for members through various means, finding solutions and supporting members in crisis. As an activist and mentor, I am driven to empower members to advocate for themselves and support each other. I have been vocal for the membership speaking twice at Provincial Government Law Amendments (February 2017 – Bill 75; March 2018 – Bill 72). My experience also includes radio and television interviews – Radio Canada, CJLS, ICI Nouvelle-Écosse, when I spoke on behalf of the NSTU regarding Bill 75 and Bill 72.

My commitment to the NSTU runs deep, in 2018, I resigned from my position of Vice-principal due to Bill 72 to remain in the union. My professional background also includes: Board Consultant; Technology Mentor; Literacy Mentor; Math Intervention Teacher; B.Ed. French Instructor; Faculty Advisor – French Practicums, and French interviewer/evaluator for French Applicants to St. F.X.U.

Due to budget constraints and the chronic underfunding of our education system, teachers' working conditions were not ideal pre-pandemic, and have only deteriorated with the constant changes and increased demands on teachers' time. As NSTU members, we need our working conditions addressed now, inclusive of proper health and safety standards and practices for pandemic teaching, air quality assurances, our collective agreement to be followed in terms of supervision and duties, meaningful solutions to alleviate violence in the classroom and we need support.

Je vous offre mes connaissances syndicales, mon cœur de justice sociale, ma persévérance et mon intégrité. Je demande votre vote au Conseil annuel 2021. Merci. McGannon says "leadership is not a position or title, it is action and example"; the motto I live by every day. If elected, I will bring the voice of members, and the needs of the membership to the table for consultation, creative solutions, and action. I offer you my union knowledge, social justice heart, persistence, and integrity. I ask for your vote at Annual Council 2021. Thank you.

On May 1, 2021 elect SUE for 1st VP / Le 1e mai 2021 élevez SUE pour 1e VP



@VoteSue1stVP



<https://www.facebook.com/SUECSANENSTU/>



slarivierejenkins@nstu.ca



902-870-1958



I'm Thinking of Retiring...

What Happens to My Benefits When I Retire?

It is that time of year when many teachers will begin to consider or may have already decided to retire from the teaching profession at the end of this school year.

The NSTU Group Insurance Trustees want to ensure that you are aware of exactly what occurs at retirement with respect to your NSTU Group Insurance Program coverages.

Listed below is a summary of the coverages that are available to plan members under the age of 65 and any cost sharing that may be available. In addition, we have listed a few important items to remember as you consider the coverage you will have at retirement.

There is a considerable amount of information listed below. Once you have reviewed the information, you will be able to answer the question, **"What Happens to My Benefits When I Retire?"**

	PLAN	RETIRING UNDER AGE 65
1.	Total Care Medical	Total Care Medical continues. Premium is paid 100% by the Province of Nova Scotia for a Single or Family Plan for members in receipt of a N.S. Teacher's Pension payment. You must apply for coverage within 60 days of receipt of your first pension payment. A form is included in the package from the Nova Scotia Pension Services Corporation.
2.	Total Care Dental	Total Care Dental continues if enrolled at the date of your retirement. Premium is paid 100% by you and is deducted monthly from your N.S. Teacher's Pension payment.
3.	Provincial Master Life & Accidental Death & Dismemberment	\$50,000 Life \$50,000 AD&D \$2,000 Critical Illness for member \$3,000 Dependent Life – Spouse \$1,500 Dependent Life – Children Coverage may be continued. Premium is paid 100% by you and is deducted from your N.S. Teacher's Pension payment.
4.	Optional Life Insurance/ Spousal Life Insurance	\$100,000 to \$300,000 (New) Premium is paid 100% by you and is deducted from your N.S. Teacher's Pension payment. As an active member you can apply at any time up to age 65 for \$100,000 (\$50,000 for spouse) of coverage without the requirement of medical evidence. A 24-month pre-existing condition clause applies. Any amount above the non-evidence maximums require medical evidence of good health. You or your eligible spouse can apply for or increase coverage as a retiree up to age 65 by submitting medical evidence of insurability.
5.	Voluntary Accidental Death & Dismemberment	\$5,000 to \$300,000 Premium is paid 100% by you and is deducted from your N.S. Teacher's Pension payment. You can only continue the coverage in effect prior to retirement.
6.	NSTU NSED Group Travel Plan	Available to all Members. Premium is based on age and is deducted from your N.S. Teacher's Pension payment. Pre-existing conditions apply.
7.	NSTU NSED Trip Cancellation / Interruption Plan	Available to all Members. Premium is based on age and is deducted from your N.S. Teacher's Pension payment. Pre-existing conditions apply.
8.	Voluntary Critical Illness	Available to all members under age 75 up to \$300,000 of coverage. Coverage is also available for your spouse and eligible dependent children. Premium is paid 100% by you and is based on age. You may apply at any time. Pre-existing conditions apply.
9.	Manulife Employee/Family Assistance Program (EFAP)	Available to all active members and is sponsored by the NSTU Group Insurance Trust Fund. This program is not available to retired members.
10.	CAREpath – Cancer Assistance Program	Available to all active and retired members and is sponsored by the NSTU Group Insurance Trust Fund. This coverage continues after retirement with no termination age.
11.	CAREpath – Seniors' Care Assistance Program	Available to all active and retired members and is sponsored by the NSTU Group Insurance Trust Fund. This coverage continues after retirement with no termination age.

	PLAN	RETIRING UNDER AGE 65
12.	CAREpath – HealthCareAssist Program	Available to all active and retired members and is sponsored by the NSTU Group Insurance Trust Fund. This coverage continues after retirement with no termination age.
13.	CAREpath – Your Wellness Partner	Available to all active and retired members and is sponsored by the NSTU Group Insurance Trust Fund. This coverage continues after retirement with no termination age.
14.	MHCSI Supplemental Prescription Drug Benefit	Available to all active and retired members enrolled in the Total Care Medical plan. This program provides a benefit of \$2 per prescription filled at an eligible Lawtons / Sobeys pharmacy. For active members and retirees under age 65, the Total Care Medical \$5.00 co-pay per prescription is reduced to \$3.00 per prescription. This benefit provides a reduction to the prescription drug co-pay. Members also receive a Lawtons Discount Card.
15.	Home / Car	Coverage continues. Premium is deducted from your N.S. Teacher's Pension payment.
16.	Nova Scotia Teachers Plus Credit Union	The requested amount will be deducted from your N.S. Teacher's Pension payment.

IMPORTANT THINGS TO REMEMBER

Provincial Master Life:

Coverage reduces to \$10,000 at age 65; however, you can convert the terminated coverage to an individual policy of insurance.

Optional Life:

Members can apply for up to \$100,000 (\$50,000 for spouse) of Optional Life Insurance without the requirement of providing medical evidence. A 24-month re-existing condition clause applies. All amounts above the non-evidence maximum up to \$300,000 will require medical evidence of good health.

Retirees under the age of 65 and their eligible spouse under 65 may apply for Optional Life / Spousal Life Insurance by submitting medical evidence of insurability. At age 70, the benefit will reduce to a maximum of \$50,000. Anyone who has less than \$50,000 of coverage will continue with the lesser amount. Coverage cancels at the end of the month of your 85th birthday.

Voluntary Accidental Death & Dismemberment:

Members can enroll or increase coverage only while you are actively teaching. Coverage ceases at age 75. **If you wish to enroll or increase coverage before retirement, make sure you start the process before the end of May, as you must be actively at work on the effective date. Coverage decreases at age 70 to \$100,000 and there is no Permanent Total Disability, Home-Maker Weekly Indemnity or Hospital Indemnity coverage.**

Total Care Medical:

Members must remember to enroll within 60 days of the receipt of your first pension cheque if you are currently enrolled. Prescription drug coverage under the Total Care Medical program ceases the end of the month prior to you turning age 65. Coverage under the Nova Scotia Seniors' Pharmacare program commences the first of the month that you become age 65. Therefore, there will be no lapse in prescription drug coverage.

Total Care Dental:

Total Care Dental coverage may be continued into retirement and there is no termination age. **Members must be enrolled in the Total Care Dental program prior to retiring.**

For members who have deferred their pension and have not continued their Group Insurance coverage, these members **have**

60 days from receipt of their first N.S. Teacher's Pension cheque or Public Service Superannuation Pension cheque to enroll in the Total Care Medical and Dental Plans.

CAREpath – Cancer Assistance Program:

This program is sponsored by the NSTU Group Insurance Trust Fund for all active and retired members permanently residing in Canada. CAREpath provides assistance and support to active and retired members, spouses, and dependent children who suspect having cancer or have a diagnosis of cancer.

CAREpath – Seniors' Care Assistance Program:

This program is sponsored by the NSTU Group Insurance Trust Fund for all active and retired members. This program is the only service in Canada that connects members, immediate family, and parents to a Registered Nurse who specializes in senior care assistance.

CAREpath – HealthCareAssist:

This program is sponsored by the NSTU Group Insurance Trustees and provides individualized case management for all types of medical conditions. A Nurse Case Manager provides a single point of contact, creates continuity of care and ensures patients receive the right treatment, at the right time, in the right place.

CAREpath – Your Wellness Partner:

This program was introduced in January 2020 and is sponsored by the NSTU Group Insurance Trust Fund for all active and retired members. The program offers multiple levels of mental health support to provide the right guidance at the right time.

Summary:

There are many factors to consider as you move toward retirement. As well, there are many benefits available to you to continue through retirement to make your life a bit easier.

The Trustees encourage members to ensure that you consider your insurance needs prior to retirement to avoid any surprises after having finished your teaching career.

If you have any questions with respect to your NSTU Group Insurance coverage at retirement, please do not hesitate to contact the Administrator, Johnson Inc. at (902) 453-9543 or 1-800-453-9543 (toll-free).

EDUCATORS SAVE IN SMART WAYS.

Save up to \$465 on car insurance.*



CALL FOR A QUOTE
& BE ENTERED
FOR A CHANCE TO

WIN

A \$20,000
CASH PRIZE!†

When it comes to saving money, NSTU members enjoy savings of up to \$465* a year in car insurance and access to extra perks, like:

- In-classroom coverage for personal belongings
- Payroll deduction
- 24/7 emergency claims service
- AIR MILES® Reward Miles‡

Call today to find out how Johnson can help you save.

1.855.616.6708

Johnson.ca/educator

Mention group code **62** for your preferred rates.

JOHNSON 
INSURANCE
HOME • CAR

Johnson Insurance is a tradename of Johnson Inc. ("JI"), a licensed insurance intermediary. Home and car policies primarily underwritten, and claims handled, by Unifund Assurance Company ("UAC"). Described coverage and benefits applicable only to policies underwritten by UAC in NL/NS/NB/PEI. JI and UAC share common ownership. Eligibility requirements, limitations, exclusions, additional costs and/or restrictions may apply, and/or vary by province/territory. *As of December 1, 2020, \$465 savings available on car insurance if the following discounts are applicable: NB/NL: conviction free, multi-line, multi-vehicle, winter tire, long-term and qualifying group membership; NS: conviction free, multi-line, multi-vehicle, winter tire, long-term and select; PEI: long term, conviction free, select and qualifying group membership. Dollar savings may vary otherwise. ‡AIR MILES® Reward Miles awarded only on regular home and car insurance policies underwritten by UAC. At the time the premium is paid, one (1) Mile is awarded for each \$20 in premium (including taxes). Miles are not available in SK or MB. ®™Trademarks of AIR MILES Royalties Limited Partnership used under license by LoyaltyOne, Co. and JI (for UAC). †NO PURCHASE NECESSARY. Open May 1, 2020 – April 30, 2021 to legal residents of Canada (excluding NU) who have reached the age of majority in their jurisdiction of residence and are a member of a recognized group of JI (excluding members of any group in the health care sector) with whom JI has an insurance agreement. One (1) available prize consisting of CAD \$20,000. Conditions and/or restrictions may be imposed. Odds of winning depend on the number of eligible entries received. Math skill test required. Rules: Johnson.ca/cash2020



NSTU STANDING & OTHER COMMITTEES

Would you like to serve the NSTU at the Provincial Level?

The NSTU needs input from the widest-possible cross section of its members to make the most effective contribution to education. Members serve on most provincial standing committees for a maximum of two years,* so we are constantly in search of skilled and interested persons to make our committee structure operate successfully. Committee membership is open to Active and Active Reserve Members.

**NSTU Operational Procedures state: Appointment to a committee will be for one defined term of two years. In extraordinary circumstances, an extension of one year is permissible.*

- ☐ **Ad Hoc Committee on Inclusion of Equity Seeking Members** – investigate barriers to participation of equity-seeking Members in the governance structure and make recommendations to the Provincial Executive.
- ☐ **Comité de programmation acadienne** – studies the curriculum of Acadian public schools (those schools under the authority of the Conseil scolaire acadien provincial) and reports its findings to the Provincial Executive.
- ☐ **Curriculum Committee** – studies the curriculum of public schools and reports its findings to the Provincial Executive.
- ☐ **Distributed Learning Committee** – addresses distance education issues and is comprised of representatives from the NSTU, the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development and Regional Centres of Education (RCEs).
- ☐ **Equity Committee** – studies matters pertaining to the current practices, attitudes, and research regarding diversity, equity, and social justice and reports its findings to the Provincial Executive.
- ☐ **Finance and Property Committee** – is concerned with the overall financial plans of the Union; presents regular financial statements to the Provincial Executive; costs resolutions to Council and prepares an annual budget for presentation to Council; makes appropriate recommendations regarding costed resolutions to Council; is responsible for the general oversight of properties held or leased by the Union; and considers requests respecting major purchases.
- ☐ **Group Insurance Trustees** – oversees the operation of the NSTU Group Insurance Plan, which offers Life, Optional Life, Accidental Death and Dismemberment, Total Care/Medical, Total Care/Dental, LTD, NSED Travel and Trip Cancellation, Critical Illness, EFAP, CAREpath, Senior Care Assistance Program, and Automobile and Home Insurance. NSTU members and PSAANS members are eligible to be appointed to this Committee. **One appointment will be made from the Strait Region.**
- ☐ **Health and Safety Committee** – studies matters related to occupational health and safety as it pertains to teachers and educational sites and reports its findings to the Provincial Executive.
- ☐ **Member Services Committee** – identifies bargainable items; prepares background information related to merits of negotiable items; identifies trends and developments in teacher bargaining across Canada; reviews economic forecasts; considers Council resolutions; and reviews results of most recent Provincial and Regional contract bargaining.
- ☐ **Pension Committee** – keeps the Provincial Executive informed on trends and changes affecting teachers' pensions and facilitates sessions on the pension plan in geographic regions. **Three appointments will be made: one from the Cape Breton Region, one from the Chignecto-Central Region and one from the Strait Region.**
- ☐ **Political Action Committee** – recommends to the Provincial Executive opportunities for involvement in political action for NSTU members (and others) regarding government positions pertaining to public education.
- ☐ **Professional Development Committee** – makes recommendations to the Provincial Executive regarding recipients of Educational Research Awards, Travel Fellowship, Out-of-Province Conference Grants and Full Time Study Grants; and reviews and develops programs intended to improve the effectiveness of teachers as professionals.
- ☐ **Program Development Assistance Fund Committee** – reviews applications for financial assistance to support innovative curriculum projects and awards grants to successful applicants.
- ☐ **Public Relations Committee** – reviews NSTU public relations and communications programs and makes recommendations to the Provincial Executive regarding same.
- ☐ **Sheonorail Foundation** – Board of Directors (Trustees): is an arms-length charitable agency created to fund school-based projects and research directed at reducing violence in schools; as the governing body of the Foundation, the Board develops policy, mandates initiatives, and approves project funding. **Two appointments will be made, one of which will be a retired member.**
- ☐ **Status of Women Committee** – studies matters pertaining to the current practices, attitudes, and research regarding the status of women in the teaching profession and in society in general and reports its findings to the Provincial Executive.
- ☐ **Substitute Teacher Committee** – advises the Provincial Executive on issues affecting and of concern to substitute teachers.
- ☐ **I would be willing to serve on any committee.**

Applications must be received in Central Office by

Friday, May 21, 2021

You may download the NSTU Standing/Other Committees application form from the NSTU website or apply online by going to the following link (you do not require an NSTU webmail account to apply online):

<http://www.nstu.ca/the-nstu/structure/provincial-executive/committees/>

The NSTU reserves the right to re-advertise any position if a sufficient number of applications are not received by the deadline.

“I’ve been teaching for 30 years and I’ve never seen a project work so effectively that **empowers youth** to gain **skills for their future**, and at the same time promotes empathy and caring.”

– Marilyn Nunn,
YPI Lead Teacher

Inspire your Citizenship 9 students with YPI’s **free**, hands-on civic engagement project. Learn how:
goypi.org/enrol-my-school

ypi[®]
YOUTH AND
PHILANTHROPY
INITIATIVE
CANADA

Student well-being



Education Week
2021



May 9-15



Success

We want to recognize educators, school support staff and education partners for their outstanding work in helping students learn and adopt healthy lifestyles that support their physical and mental growth and development.

Proudly sponsored by:



Partners:



resources

media LIBRARY @LRTS

Digital Resources for Teachers

DID YOU KNOW? We now have a YouTube channel! We are “EECD NS” and you’ll find lots of professional development videos by clicking here <https://goo.gl/cePvXV> or search for us under our channel name. Subscribe and don’t forget to hit the notification bell so you’ll be notified when we upload new videos!

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.

Everything is accessible from your gnspes landing page or visit our website directly at <http://medialibrary.ednet.ns.ca> to access these and other digital classroom resources!

Focus on Fun Facts for Elementary Grades!

This month, we are highlighting videos from the Now You Know Series! Each 7-minute adventure finds our main puppet characters Howie and Baboo in the midst of an exciting make-believe scenario linked to the question of the episode. Stream or download these videos from Learn360 by clicking on the link from your gnspes landing page. Once you have accessed Learn360, simply click on the links below to access these videos and many more.

How is Chocolate Made? (grades P-5)

<https://learn360.infobase.com/PortalPlaylists.aspx?wID=114538&xtid=115364>

Howie and Baboo visit expert Phyllis at her chocolate shop, who shows them the different ingredients to make chocolate and then they make and eat chocolate! (2014)

How Does a Hot Air Balloon Go Up? (grades P-5)

<https://learn360.infobase.com/PortalPlaylists.aspx?wID=114538&xtid=115365>

Howie and Baboo visit hot air balloonist Ken at a field, help him inflate his hot air balloon, learn about how hot air rises, and they go up in his balloon! (2014)

Why are Flowers so Colorful? (grades P-5)

<https://learn360.infobase.com/PortalPlaylists.aspx?wID=114538&xtid=115366>

Howie and Baboo visit botanist Diana at the Allan Gardens observatory, and learn about different parts of the flower, how birds and insects help spread flower pollen, and why flowers have different colors. (2014)

Why do Dogs Sniff Everything? (grades P-5)

<https://learn360.infobase.com/PortalPlaylists.aspx?wID=114538&xtid=115367>

Howie and Baboo visit dog trainer Gillian, bring Noah the dog for a walk on his leash, and get the scoop on dog behavior. (2014)

Why do We Sweat? (grades P-5)

<https://learn360.infobase.com/PortalPlaylists.aspx?wID=114538&xtid=115368>

Soccer player Howie kicks the ball, and goaltender Baboo makes the save! They wonder, “Why do we sweat?” and visit fitness expert Tim at the boys and girls club gymnasium, to learn about how people’s bodies heat up when they exercise, and how they sweat to cool off. They hydrate with water, play ball and have fun! (2014)

How is Pasta Made? (grades P-5)

<https://learn360.infobase.com/PortalPlaylists.aspx?wID=114538&xtid=115371>

Howie and Baboo visit Domenic at a pasta shop, who shows them the ingredients needed to make pasta. They use a pasta-making machine to make fresh noodles, and then have a pasta feast! (2014)

How Do Some Doors Open by Themselves? (grades P-5)

<https://learn360.infobase.com/PortalPlaylists.aspx?wID=114538&xtid=115373>

Magician game show host Howie brings Baboo onstage to win what’s behind door number 3! When the door doesn’t open, they wonder, “How do some doors open by themselves?” They visit sales director Tim at an automatic door-making company, where they see how automatic doors use remote sensors to open doors. (2014)

Why Do I Have to Go to Sleep at Night? (grades P-5)

<https://learn360.infobase.com/PortalPlaylists.aspx?wID=114538&xtid=115359>

Superhero Baboo the Spider monkey must save his precious Choo Choo from Howie the Puzzler! In mid-rescue, Mom interrupts their make-believe to remind them it’s bedtime. They wonder, “Why do I have to go to sleep at night?” They visit Dr. Colleen at her sleep lab. She explains why we need our sleep, and shows them tools and computers to study the brain to help people sleep better. (2014)

HOTEL HALIFAX

www.hotelhalifax.ca • 833.357.8155



THE BARRINGTON HOTEL

www.thebarringtonhotel.ca • 833.357.8155

SPECIAL NSTU LEISURE RATE

Hotel Halifax and The Barrington Hotel are pleased to extend a special leisure rate to Nova Scotia Teachers Union until April 30, 2021. This package includes a Standard Guest Room with Complimentary Parking for a special rate starting at \$85/night plus 2% levy and 15% tax (based on availability).

In order to book this special limited rate please call 902-425-6700 (Hotel Halifax), 902-429-7410 (The Barrington Hotel) or 1 833-357-8155 and quote "NSTU Leisure Rate" rate or use the link below;

NSTU Halifax direct link: <https://reservations.travelclick.com/108084?RatePlanId=3532963> – no access code required

NSTU Barrington direct link: <https://reservations.travelclick.com/108025?RatePlanId=3546305> – no access code required

NSTU Preferred Pricing

30% OFF

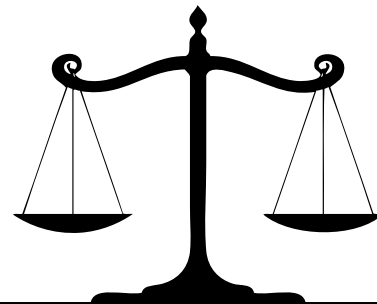
YOUR Will and
Enduring Power of Attorney



ANDERSON SINCLAIR NS DIVISION

Law Offices: 1-877-343-9894

Email: bbalcom@andsinc.com



YOGA

in schools

For more information or to register
for programs, call (902) 444-9642
or email: info@BreathingSpaceYogaStudio.ca
YogainSchools.ca

*"This program is one of
the top two things I've
done in my life."*

- April Wallace
school teacher



Mindfulness for Mental Health Conference and Yoga Teacher Training

- online or in-person

This summer's conference

In the face of the difficulties 2020 has brought Canadians, these two training opportunities are the perfect solution for repairing mental health and fostering emotional stability and stress management. Whether you attend the full 3-week training or the four-day conference, both of these experiences will help you to heal and best serve your students' mental and emotional wellbeing.

The workshops are suitable for all levels of ability and include both theoretical and movement-based practices, designed to relieve stress and promote calmness in yourself and students.

- Body-based approaches for mental health
- Trauma-informed mindfulness
- Mindfulness for addiction
- Mindful practices for anxiety and depression
- Addiction treatment using First Nations Teachings

Full 200hr Yoga in Schools and Studio Certification, with manuals and training in Yoga Grade 11, Yoga for Autism, Yoga for Specials Needs and Level 1 mindfulness. Certification training runs from July 5-24th, with the 4 day conference included.

Conference hosts: Jenny Kierstead and Blair Abbass, authors of the NEW Mindfulness in Schools Manual and founders of Yoga in Schools.

Who can attend: Ideal for teachers, support staff and therapists

When: July 19th-22nd, 2021

Where: Chocolate Lake Hotel, Halifax, NS

Fee: \$550.00 + hst

NOTE: The full YTT is certified by Yoga Alliance, online or in-person


BreathingSpace
YOGA STUDIO



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), the United Arab Emirates (grades P-12) and Bangladesh (grades 9-12) offer competitive pay, annual return flights, apartment or living allowance, and paid holidays.



For a list of opportunities see:
www.internationalprograms.ednet.ns.ca

Halifax 2022 Outreach Program Ideas from Science Educators & Committee Opportunities

The 2022 Annual National meeting of Earth Science professionals will be held 15th to 18th May in the Halifax Convention Centre. We're excited to be offering an Outreach Program aimed at Earth Science educators and enthusiasts, with workshops, field trips and lectures facilitated by scientists and other experts. With so many diverse topics and resources, we are inviting educators of all grade levels to submit their ideas on what would help them teach earth sciences so we can incorporate these into our Outreach Program.

We are also seeking interested educators to join our committee to assist with conference planning.

To submit your ideas or to inquire about joining our committee please contact Louise Leslie (Committee Chair) at 902-728-3602 or louise.leslie@hotmail.ca

GAC- MAC- IAH-CNC- CSPG	AGC- AMC- AIH-SNC- SCGP	 <p>HALIFAX 2022</p>
May 15-18	15-18 mai	

CTF/FCE WOMEN'S SYMPOSIUM SUR LES QUESTIONS FÉMININES DE LA CTF/FCE

May 3 - 4 mai, 2021 | Virtual / En mode virtuel

100+ From struggle to
strength: Toujours plus
fortes ensemble!

Nourish Nova Scotia, Devour! The Food Film Fest and CBC invite all school-aged children and youth to make a short film about food as part of the **2021 Nourish Food and Film Challenge**.



Film should follow the theme *Food for a Brighter Future* and be 3 minutes or under in length.

The winning film receives a \$500 camera package from CBC, \$500 to support a healthy food program in their school or community from Nourish Nova Scotia, and will be screened at Devour! The Food Film Fest and on CBC.

Deadline is October 12, 2021. For more information visit
nourishns.ca/film-challenge



classifieds

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

Permanent Grade 6 Teacher in CCRCE
looking to do a permanent exchange with a teacher in the SRCE for 2020-2021. Please contact Angela: angela_macd3@hotmail.com OR 902.209.9807