

NSTU and Province of Nova Scotia Open Negotiations

The Nova Scotia Teachers Union, representing public school teachers and education specialists opened negotiations with the Province on a new Collective Agreement on June 28.

The NSTU is committed to free and fair negotiations to produce an agreement in the best interests of the public education system.

As in past negotiations, the parties have agreed to keep their discussions confidential.

Members serving on the NSTU team are: lead negotiator, NSTU executive staff officer Wally Fiander, NSTU president Ryan Lutes, NSTU's first vice-president Thérèse Forsythe and incoming first vice-president Jo Leigh MacPhee, NSTU's executive director Steve

Brooks, NSTU executive staff officer Simon Wilkin, Lynnette Babin (Antigonish), and Mike Jamieson (Dartmouth).

Members of the Province's negotiating team are: Jessi Taggart, HR Director, Chignecto Central Regional Centre for Education; Sherman England, Regional Education Officer, EECD; Chris Boulter, Executive Director, Education Innovation, Programs and Services, EECD; Lynn Crawford-Carter, Director of Programs and Student Services, Cape Breton-Victoria Regional Centre for Education; Milica Kunovac, Director, Education Funding and Partnerships, EECD; Katie Conrad, Labour Relations & Compensation Consultant,



Shown in the photo is NSTU's negotiating team: Wally Fiander, Jo-Leigh MacPhee, Ryan Lutes, Lynnette Babin, Mike Jamieson, Thérèse Forsythe, Simon Wilkin and Steve Brooks.

FTB; and Shirley Nevo, Director, Education Sector Labour Relations, FTB/EECD. The Province's lead negotiator is Ian Pickard.

The current provincial agreement expires on July 31, 2023.



End-of-school-year Campaign

NSTU's 2023 end-of-school-year campaign — Our Kids Can't Wait runs on television until June 30.

The 30-second commercial is filmed from the perspective of parents and highlights the chronic lack of resources teachers experience each and every day in their classroom and the profound impact this is having on your students and their families. Quite simply put: "it's time to fix our schools—our kids can't wait."

You may have noticed the advertisement on television or on-line, but in case you haven't

seen it yet, here is the link: <https://youtu.be/io0qRw9VSCs>.

There is also a digital component of this campaign, that you can share on your Facebook, Twitter and Instagram feeds. Shareables are found on www.actforeducation.ca

Facilitated by NSTU's public relations department, NSTU's Public Relations Committee helped to bring this campaign to fruition, and members of the Political Action committee were also involved in providing feedback throughout the development of the campaign.

2023 NSTU Summer Hours

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

These hours will be in effect from Tuesday, July 4 through to and including Friday, September 1. The NSTU office summer shutdown will be July 17 to July 28 inclusive.

people

Discipline Committee



NSTU's Discipline Committee met on May 26 at the NSTU building. This committee is borne out of the Teaching Profession Act and is a quasi-statutory committee of the Union. Its role is to adjudicate conduct of Union members which is inimical to the interests of the Union. Members of this committee are elected at Annual Council. *Shown seated (left to right): Tara Arsenault (Dartmouth), Jiselle LeBlanc (Antigonish), Vivianne Abdallah (Dartmouth) and Ben Drew (Yarmouth). Standing Michelle Goreham (Shelburne County), and NSTU Executive Staff liaison Janine Kerr.*

Deals & Discounts

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

Health & Safety Committee

Show are members of the NSTU's Health and Safety Committee standing committee. This committee was formed during the 2021-2022 school year. It was created in part due to the many health and safety challenges that erupted during the COVID-19 pandemic. Members on this committee study matters related to occupational health and safety as pertaining to teachers and educational sites and reports their findings to the Provincial Executive. The committee advises the Provincial Executive on methods to promote member participation on Regional Joint Occupational Health and Safety Committees and makes recommendations regarding professional development workshops to assist members with health and safety issues as defined by the Nova Scotia Occupational Health and Safety Act.



Shown seated (left to right): Randy Lucas (Northside-Victoria Local), provincial executive liaison Angela Gillis, and Committee Chair Crystal Isert (Halifax County Local). Standing: Chris Cadegan (Cape Breton District Local), Wanda Rogerson Fuller (Yarmouth Local) and NSTU staff liaison Simon Wilkin.



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

CEPA
ACPÉ



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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 2023-2024:

ISSUE	DEADLINE
September	September 1
October	October 6
Nov/Dec	November 23
Jan/Feb	January 19
March	March 1
April	April 5
May	May 10
June	June 14

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 welcome your comments and suggestions:
1-800-565-6788 or email theteacher@nstu.ca.

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Education Research Award presentations

Lunenburg County president Denise Burgess presented Mai Ling Storm (Lunenburg County Local) with her NSTU Education Research Award certificate during a Local meeting on June 1. She is shown (centre) with Burgess (right) and Lunenburg-Queens provincial executive representative Sarah Tutty. Storm received her Education Research Award for her research: *Teaching Elementary Mathematics: What Works?* She's a Grade 3 teacher at Aspotogan Consolidated Elementary School in Hubbards. Storm currently serves as the South Shore RRC chair. Missing from the photo is Sarah Umlah, who also received an Education Research Award for her project: *Social Justice Education in the Classroom: A Conversation with Practicing Teachers*. Umlah is a teacher at Forest Heights Community School in Chester Grant.

Elizabeth Thomas, (left) president of the Digby Local and incoming Digby Local president John MacKenzie (right), presented Sarah Nielsen (centre) with her NSTU Education Research Award certificate during an end-of-school year celebration on June 28. She received her award for her research: *An Interpretative Phenomenological Analysis Exploring Rural Nova Scotia Novel Physics Problem Solving*. Nielsen is a Biology, Chemistry and Mathematics teacher at St. Mary's Bay Academy in Weymouth.

Since 2003 the NSTU has recognized teachers for completed education research. An annual fund of \$3,500 encourages and assists education research, with an award up to \$500. The deadline for next year's applications is December 6, 2023. More info: <https://nstu.ca/nstu-members/professional-development/grants-opportunities/study-and-research-grants>.



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from the nstu president



Wishing all a safe and fulfilling summer

Colleagues and Friends,

As the school year comes to an end, we are undoubtedly experiencing a range of emotions. It's a time of excitement for both students and teachers, a much-needed break from the emotional demands of school, and a time to reflect on the year it has been.

This school year, like so many in our recent memory, presented numerous challenges. Schools are complicated places at the best of times, but the challenges of the teacher shortage have increased those complexities. Our schools quite simply cannot support our teachers and kids if they struggle to have enough staff on a day-to-day basis. The NSTU continues to push government to provide a teacher recruitment and retention plan, one that also makes some meaningful improvements in the working and learning conditions of our teachers and students. Teachers are not superheroes, and we cannot continue to hold our schools together with will and determination alone. We need Government to support our schools with the proper resources so our teachers and kids can thrive and succeed.

Unfortunately, this year, we've seen the devastating impacts that natural disasters can have on our communities, from hurricanes to wildfires. These disasters touch our classrooms, our students and our families. Despite these unfortunate events, our communities have come together. The generosity of Nova Scotians, and the resilience of our communities have shone through the darkness of the events.

I've had the opportunity to visit some of the most affected schools by the wildfires in both Shelburne County and in HRM. While the emotions of staff and students were many and varied, what struck me is the degree to which our educators came together for our colleagues and our students. Our schools are a microcosm of our communities and experience the same ups and downs, but the hearts of our teachers and schools offer a unique opportunity to support those that need it most.

There is a lot of healing that our communities will undergo in the near future, and while I wish no person or community would have to go through it, I'm heartened to know that the response of Nova Scotians to adversity is to come together. This is an important lesson for all of us. It doesn't matter the challenges—let's not forget, we are better off together. Together, we can accomplish much more than we can by ourselves.

The NSTU has continued our journey towards an organization where all members can find their place. In March, the Provincial Executive received the final report from the ad hoc Committee on the Inclusion of Equity-deserving members. This critical initiative and committee presented seven broad recommendations to the

Bon été en toute sécurité

Chers collègues et amis,

La fin de l'année scolaire s'accompagne assurément de beaucoup d'émotions. C'est une période fébrile pour les élèves et les enseignants, une pause bien méritée loin de la charge émotionnelle de l'école, et un moment pour réfléchir à l'année qui se termine.

Cette année scolaire, comme tant d'autres dans notre mémoire récente, a présenté de nombreux défis. Les écoles sont au mieux des endroits complexes, mais les défis liés à la pénurie d'enseignants ont aggravé la chose. Nos écoles ne peuvent tout simplement pas soutenir nos enseignants et enfants si elles ont du mal à avoir suffisamment de personnel au quotidien. Le NSTU continue de faire pression sur le gouvernement pour qu'il propose un plan de recrutement et de rétention des enseignants, qui améliore aussi sérieusement les conditions de travail et d'apprentissage de nos enseignants et de nos élèves. Les enseignants ne sont pas des superhéros, et nous ne pouvons pas continuer à assurer le fonctionnement de nos écoles à la seule force de notre volonté et de notre détermination. Le gouvernement doit doter nos écoles des ressources nécessaires pour que nos enseignants et élèves puissent réussir et s'épanouir.

Malheureusement, cette année, nous avons vu les effets dévastateurs que les catastrophes naturelles peuvent avoir sur nos collectivités, que ce soient les ouragans ou les feux de forêt. Ces catastrophes touchent nos classes, nos élèves et nos familles. Malgré ces événements malheureux, nos collectivités se sont unies. Les Néo-Écossais se sont montrés généreux et les collectivités ont fait preuve de résilience face à ces sombres événements.

J'ai eu l'occasion de visiter certaines des écoles les plus touchées par les feux de forêt à Shelburne et à Halifax. Le personnel et les élèves éprouvaient toutes sortes d'émotions, mais ce qui m'a frappé, c'est la solidarité dont ont fait preuve nos éducateurs à l'égard de nos collègues et élèves. Nos écoles sont un microcosme de nos collectivités et connaissent les mêmes hauts et bas, et les enseignants et les écoles ont l'occasion unique de venir en aide à ceux qui en ont le plus besoin.

Nos collectivités ont un long processus de guérison devant elles et, bien que je souhaite qu'aucune personne ou collectivité n'ait à vivre cela, je trouve rassurant de voir que, dans l'adversité, les Néo-Écossais s'unissent pour faire face à la situation. Voilà une leçon importante pour chacun d'entre nous. Peu importe les défis, il ne faut pas oublier que nous sommes plus forts ensemble. En unissant nos forces, nous pouvons accomplir beaucoup plus de choses que nous ne pouvons le faire seuls.

Le NSTU continue sur sa lancée pour devenir une organisation où tous les membres peuvent trouver leur place. En mars, le Comité exécutif provincial a reçu le rapport final du Comité spécial sur l'inclusion des membres méritant l'équité. Cette initiative et ce

Executive. Some of the recommendations include collecting data regarding our diverse membership and deepening our connections with community groups and education partners that represent our equity deserving members. I'm proud to say that your Provincial Executive unanimously approved all the committee's recommendations. The approval of these recommendations is not the end, but rather the continuation of a journey that we are all on together. It's incumbent upon all of us to work together to ensure that the NSTU reduces barriers to participation for our equity-deserving members. I look forward to working with our Provincial Executive to continue this important work.

June, along with being an end to the school year, is also Pride month in Canada. NSTU members do an amazing job of ensuring that our classrooms and schools are places where all students feel loved and accepted. However, with the recent rise of hate and discrimination against the 2SLGBTQIA+ community, it's never been more important for Pride to be front and centre in our schools. It's never been more important for all students to know that they are celebrated for who they are, and that they are safe to express themselves. Teachers and the NSTU are unapologetic in our support for the 2SLGBTQIA+ community and firmly believe that 2SLGBTQIA+ are human rights.

I would like to take this opportunity to wish you a safe and fulfilling summer break. My wish for all educators is that your summer brings rest, relaxation, adventures, and cherished memories. Have a great summer!

All the best,
Ryan



comité qui sont essentiels ont présenté sept recommandations générales au Comité exécutif. Il a notamment été recommandé de recueillir des données sur la diversité de nos membres et de resserrer nos liens avec les groupes communautaires et les partenaires en éducation qui représentent nos membres méritant l'équité. Je suis fier d'annoncer que votre Comité exécutif provincial a approuvé à l'unanimité toutes les recommandations du comité. Cette approbation n'est pas une fin, mais plutôt la continuation des efforts que nous déployons tous ensemble. Nous devons tous travailler ensemble pour faire en sorte que le NSTU réduise les obstacles à la participation de nos membres méritant l'équité. Je me réjouis à l'idée de collaborer avec notre Comité exécutif provincial pour poursuivre ce travail important.

Le mois de juin, qui marque la fin de l'année scolaire, est également le mois de la Fierté au Canada. Les membres du NSTU font un travail remarquable en veillant à ce que nos classes et écoles soient des endroits où tous les élèves se sentent aimés et acceptés. Toutefois, vu la récente montée de la haine et de la discrimination à l'encontre de la communauté 2ELGBTQIA+, il n'a jamais été aussi important de célébrer la Fierté dans nos écoles. Il n'a jamais été aussi important que tous les élèves sachent qu'ils sont célébrés pour ce qu'ils sont et qu'ils se sentent libres de s'exprimer. Les enseignants et le NSTU soutiennent sans réserve la communauté 2ELGBTQIA+ et croient fermement que les droits des personnes 2ELGBTQIA+ font partie des droits de la personne.

Je profite de l'occasion pour vous souhaiter de bonnes vacances d'été en toute sécurité. Je souhaite à tous les éducateurs que votre été rime avec repos, détente, aventures et souvenirs inoubliables. Passez un merveilleux été!

Cordialement,
Ryan



Wildfire support available through NSTU

On Friday, June 2, the NSTU Provincial Executive created a fund to support members whose homes have been rendered uninhabitable due to the wildfires that took place in HRM and Shelburne County in late May. A grant of \$750 per impacted member is available and the application form can be found here: <https://bit.ly/3qqGD9e>.

All victims of the wildfires are eligible for a \$500 provincial grant administered through the Canadian Red Cross Wildfire Response Website.

Members can access urgent mental health support by calling the Manulife Employee and Family Assistance program (EFAP). Manulife EFAP is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week by calling 1-877-955- NSTU (6788). The Carepath Mental Health Program is also available for individualized trauma care at 1-888-393-8267. Additional programs are available for both active and retired members, visit <https://nstuinsurance.ca>.

NSTU continues to monitor the situation and is in close contact with HRCE and TCRCE leadership to ensure members who have been displaced due to the wildfires have access to necessary paid leave.

To date, HRCE has confirmed that until further notice it continues to provide paid leave for members who have been displaced due to the wildfires. HRCE teachers in this situation do not need to use sick days.

If you have questions or require support, please do not hesitate to contact your NSTU staff officer or call 1-800-565-6788/902-477-5621.



Looking back and reaching forward with PRIDE

By Amanda O'Regan-Marchand, Executive Staff Officer, Professional Learning

Happy June, dear colleagues.

As you are preparing to conclude your year, your PL team would like to offer you some ideas for reflection and also some potential seeds to plant for next year, for those that take comfort in planning for the next school year.

Reflecting on your year can be an important part of your transition to summer mode. When I was a classroom teacher, I would invite students to complete a learning reflection during each reporting period and at the end of the year. I found it to be a great tool to inform my practice moving forward from that point in the year. In the Well Teacher article in this issue, there are a few ideas for looking back as you close your year. Here are a few questions you can use to guide your reflection.

- How has your practice grown this year?
- What actions did you take that strongly aligned with your beliefs and values? (Steve Barkley)
- Finish the sentence – The students really responded to ...
- How has your thinking grown or changed this school year?
- What is something you accomplished this school year that you are proud of?
- What have been some of your challenges this year, and how were you able to overcome them?
- What did you learn from your students this year?
- What did you learn about yourself this year? (Steve Barkley)
- What do our students need us to learn?
- Which coaching practices were most useful / least useful to you?
- What is something that makes you feel hopeful right now?
- What are you most curious about in your practice?
- If you could remind yourself of one important thing at the beginning of next year, what would it be?

These questions were borrowed from <https://blog.esc13.net/25-end-of-year-reflection-questions-for-teachers/>. You can visit the site to see the rest of the questions and feel free to engage with them as you look back on your year.

June is PRIDE month, and during the summer communities throughout Nova Scotia will be celebrating PRIDE. We want to share some resources to add to your toolbox for supporting youth who are members of the 2SLGBTQAI+ community and their allies and families. There are a lot of decisions being made around us that can make us question our role as teachers and what we can or should be sharing. In conducting research for this article, I came across the following information from the federal government and other organizations:

The government of Canada has launched its first Federal 2SLGBTQI+ [Action Plan](#): Building our future with pride, which

outlines six actions that the government plans to put into place to support its citizens who identify as 2SLGBTQI+ community.

The Public Service Alliance of Canada has launched a gender-inclusive language toolkit, <https://psacunion.ca/psac-kicks-pride-season-launch-gender-inclusive>, which explains different terms related to gender orientation and sexual identity in a very accessible way.

[TeachingTransgender.org](https://teachingtransgender.org) has developed an educational toolkit that is downloadable and designed to build skills for supporting our youth who identify as transgender and to cultivate safe spaces for those youth who silently identify to possibly find a place where they can share this piece of their identity.

Lastly, PHE Canada also has a great number of [resources](#) for incorporating inclusive language and activities into the Physical Education learning space, where activities and the physical space can sometimes be one of the most challenging for our youth. This month's Pathways to PL giveaway is another tool that can be added to your Transgender Toolbox if you are the lucky winner!

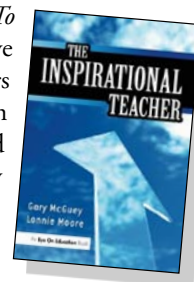
Thank you for reading and your PL team wishes you a fulfilling yearly reflection and a much-deserved opportunity for rest and a recharge this summer. We will meet again in September where we will have some new ways additions and changes to our offerings. Stay tuned!



The Teacher has one English and one French copy for giveaway. Email your name, home address, and the name of your school with **PL English or **PL French** in the subject line to theteacher@nstu.ca by **August 25, 2023** to be eligible for the draw.**

The Inspirational Leader
by Gary McGuey and Lonnie Moore

The Inspirational Leader: Inspire Your Team To Believe In The Impossible, published by Eye on Education was written to help all leaders successfully navigate all the disruptions in today fiercely competitive world. We need a generation of leaders who care deeply for the well-being of their team and who understand that their people are the heart of their leadership. This book was written to help you inspire your team to believe in the impossible.



fresh

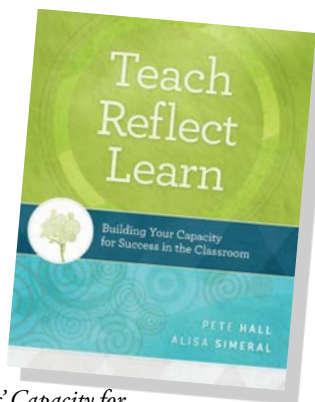
Putting new members in the KNOW!

Email your name, home address, and the name of your school with **FRESH** in the subject line to theteacher@nstu.ca by August 25, 2023 to be eligible for the draw.

Teach Reflect Learn

By Pete Hall and Alisa Simeral

Teach Reflect Learn: Building Your Capacity for Success in the Classroom, published by ASCD (Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development), helps to deepen your thinking and reflect on your capacity as an educator. Pete Hall and Alisa Simeral return to the Continuum of Self-Reflection, which they introduced to coaches and administrators in their best-selling *Building Teachers' Capacity for Success*, and redesign its implementation so you can take charge of your own professional growth.



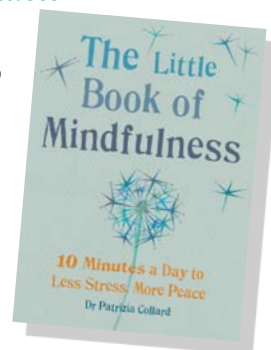
the well teacher

Email your name, home address, and the name of your school with **WELL TEACHER** in the subject line to theteacher@nstu.ca by August 25, 2023 to be eligible for the draw.

The Little Book of Mindfulness

By Dr. Patrizia Collard

Little Book of Mindfulness: 10 minutes a day to less stress, more peace published by Gaia Books, a division of Octopus Publishing Group Ltd. includes simple five and 10-minute mindfulness practices to bring into your day to find freedom from stress and create more peace in your life.



the well teacher

Email your name, home address, and the name of your school with **WELL TEACHER** in the subject line to theteacher@nstu.ca by August 25, 2023 to be eligible for the draw.

Aujourd'hui sera Une Belle Journée

Publié par Erika Rossi 2020

Journal de Gratitude – Développez la Pensée Positive en 5 minutes par jour
A l'aide de ce journal, apprenez à semer les graines de la gratitude pour cultiver votre joie de vivre. Conçu pour les adultes et adolescents, ce journal vous guidera dans votre pratique personnelle en vous permettant de consigner vos réflexions quotidiennes.



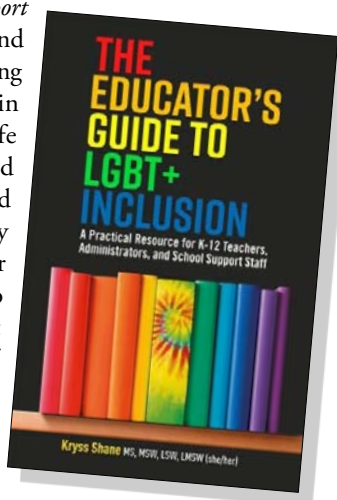
EQUITY COMMITTEE BOOK REVIEW

Email your name, home address, and the name of your school with **EQUITY** in the subject line to theteacher@nstu.ca by August 25, 2023 to be eligible for the draw.

The Educator's Guide to LGBT+ Inclusion

by Kryss Shane (shelher)

Published by Jessica Kingsley Publishers, *The Educator's Guide to LGBT+ Inclusion: A Practical Resource for K-12 Teachers, Administrators, and School Support Staff* sets out best practices and professional guidance for creating LGBT+ inclusive learning in schools, this featuring real-life situations and scenarios, and further resources. Its foreword and afterword is written by James Lecesne, co-founder of The Trevor Project. Also included is the very first interview by the leaders of *Parents of Transgender Children*.



CONGRATULATIONS To Our May Book Winners!

EQUITY — Pascale Landry — CSAP

FRESH — Denise Beaulieu — HRCE

THE WELL TEACHER — Jyl Boyle — SRCE

PATHWAYS 4 PL English — Laura McCulley — AVRCE

PATHWAYS 4 PL French — Line Murphy — CSAP

Becoming a resilient educator

By Amanda O'Regan-Marchand, Executive Staff Officer,
Professional Learning

As you get ready to turn the page on another chapter of your teaching time, amidst all of the end-of-the-year tasks and the anticipation of summer and time away from your workspace, I wanted to share some resources from the [Resilient Educator](#) and how important summer is for teacher wellness. The headings below are taken from the website's piece on teacher wellness during the summer but I'm incorporating my own ideas I hope you will find helpful.

Before you go: Even though your end of the year checklist is considerable, you may be packing to stay or packing to move to a new workspace. While ensuring your records and student information is updated, there are also the emotional pieces that are easy to push aside—the goodbyes to students and their families, the see you later/goodbyes to members of your work team. Try to make time for the positive highlights of the school year. This could be an activity that students really enjoyed, the a-ha moments for students who overcame challenges to show what they know, or those days where you wondered if you had enough energy to really show up in your learning space. Try to take time to sit with how those memories make you feel. It is easy to get bogged down in the busy stuff. Share a favourite memory with a colleague and allow yourself to re-experience the joy.

Take care of you: In those first days after grading day, when our minds are suggesting that we have, “all sorts of time,” we know that when the end of August rolls around, it's going to seem like a blur. When you're attending to tasks that normally had to wait during the school year, try to make a conscious effort to actively turn your attention away from the fact that school supplies for September are already filling the shelves so you can focus on where you are in the moment. Try to take summer in in small pieces of time and savour the moments. Making those intentional decisions to choose you is so important—sometimes it feels like we are forcing ourselves to choose us. However, like any healthy habit, practice makes possible.

Fill the well: When we make the time to take care

of ourselves, our needs and doing what fills us up, it is energizing. Teachers' time can look different during the summer months. Even if you are spending part of your time taking courses towards a degree or pursuing other

Professional Learning opportunities, these activities can also *fill your well* in helping you to feel successful. The *Resilient Educator* calls this “getting ahead.” What activities do you want to do this summer that you can't always make time and space for during the school year? What is one thing you will do to *fill your well* this July and August?

Finally, the *Resilient Educator* talks about, “shutting down, recharging and rebooting.” Our lives are surrounded so much by technology that sometimes we can take the opportunity to embrace the lingo and make meaning for ourselves.

What does shutting down look like for you? Does it mean a rest, a nap in a hammock? Or does it mean tenting/camping and enjoying a rest in nature.

Recharging: There may be some overlap here with the concept of *filling your well*. It's about getting out in nature, however that looks for you. Overall, this is about making the time for yourself to connect with the activities and the people that fill your well.

Rebooting: Rebooting can be read in different ways, like any of the concepts in this article, and there is an inherent connection to why teachers are rebooting. Rebooting can mean getting ready for September. But, what if you looked at rebooting in a different way? What if rebooting was actually when you closed the door

to your workspace, walked out the doors of your building into the air and rebooted for your time away? Rebooting could also mean that you make an intention to reboot your routine to see more self-care during your work time. Whatever rebooting means for you, I invite you to present to the process so that you feel better in every way that matters.

Your Professional Learning and MAP team would like to express our most sincere wishes for a restful, relaxing and rejuvenating summer.



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Le Comité de programmation acadienne

Ci-dessus sont les membres du Comité de programmation acadienne du NSTU. Ce comité permanent examine la programmation et les modifications proposées à celle-ci en ce qui concerne les écoles acadiennes sous la direction du CSAP (Conseil scolaire acadien provincial), informe les enseignants acadiens des tendances et des nouveautés relatives à la programmation, étudie des résolutions qui peuvent être soumises par l'assemblée générale annuelle du Conseil et participe au processus d'examen de la politique du NSTU. Ce comité représente les trois régions acadiennes de la province : Sud-Ouest, Centre et Nord-Est.

Le Comité de Programmation Acadienne

Above are members of NSTU's Comité de Programmation Acadienne. This NSTU standing committee studies the curriculum and proposed changes in it as it relates to Acadian schools under the direction of the CSAP (Conseil Scolaire Acadienne Provincial), informs Acadian teachers of trends and developments in curriculum, considers resolutions that may be referred by Annual Council and participates in the NSTU policy review process. This committee represents the three Acadian regions of the province: Southwest, Central and Northeast.



De gauche à droite (left to right) : Amanda O'Regan-Marchand, agente de liaison du NSTU (NSTU staff liaison); Marc-André Fournier; Phil Meuse, président du comité (committee chair); Georgette Samson, agente de liaison du Comité exécutif provincial (à l'écran) (provincial executive liaison, on screen); Ian LeBlanc; Anne d'Entremont et Mindy Boudreau.



NS Teachers



celebrating PRIDE/Célébrons la fierté!

Halifax Pride Festival

July 20 -30

PRIDE PARADE

Saturday, July 23

Cape Breton Pride Festival

PRIDE PARADE

Saturday, August 5th

Annapolis Pride Parade

Saturday, July 8 @ 1pm

The NSTU is continuing its participation in the Halifax and Cape Breton Pride parades. For the Halifax parade on Saturday, July 23rd, 2023, Southland has generously donated a yellow school bus and will be marching in our finest PRIDE fashion, including our PRIDE shirts, lanyards and will also have pride pencils for distribution.

Details will be sent to all members via email re-

garding this event. We can have a maximum of 100 people in our entry so interested members will be asked to confirm their attendance no later than July 14th, 2023 by emailing amarchand@staff.nstu.ca.

The Cape Breton PRIDE is scheduled for Saturday, August 5th, 2023 and the NSTU and interested NSTU members are welcome to attend to march with us. The parade is scheduled to begin around noon.

2023 NSTU Professional Associations Conferences

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 27



Online Registration

Opens – Thursday, Sept 7

Closes – Friday, October 13

(no refunds after October 13)

For registration and conference details go to **www.nstu.ca**

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

Association des enseignantes et enseignants acadiens (AEA)

Theme *Revenons à la base!*
Location Virtual
Fees NSTU Members: \$90.00;
 Substitutes: \$50.00
 Pre-Service: \$50.00
 Retirees: \$50.00
 Other: \$50.00
Contact Stephanie MacLean: stephaniemaclean@nstu.ca

Association of Science Teachers (AST)

Theme *Time for Science*
Location Halifax West High School
Fees NSTU Members: \$100.00
 Substitutes: \$40.00
 Pre-Service: \$40.00
Contact Jessica Gora: jmaddg902@gmail.com

Art Teachers Association (ATA)

Theme *Art, Community, and Wellness*
Location Sackville High School and Cape Breton Centre for Craft and Design
Fees NSTU Members: \$100.00
 Substitutes: \$60.00
 Pre-Service: \$60.00
 Retirees: \$60.00
 Other: \$60.00
Contact Jonathan Church: jchurchnstu@nstu.ca

Association of Teachers of Exceptional Children (ATEC)

Theme *Reforming our Classroom Perspective*
Location Cineplex Cinemas - Dartmouth Crossing
Keynote Dr. Shelley Moore
Fees NSTU Members: \$100.00
 Substitutes: \$80.00
 Pre-Service: \$65.00
 Retirees: \$80.00
 Other: \$100.00
Contact Amy Barron: barronamym@nstu.ca

Association of Teachers of English of Nova Scotia (ATENS)

Theme *Micro Mentor Texts: Using Short Passages from Great Books to Teach Writer's Craft*
Location Lighthouse Arts Centre, Halifax
Keynote Penny Little
Fees NSTU Members: \$100.00
 Substitutes: \$75.00
 Pre-Service: \$75.00
 Retirees: \$100.00
 Other: \$100.00
Contact Liam Timmons: ltimmons@nstu.ca

Association of Teachers of Young Adolescents (ATYA)

Theme *Celebrating Our Differences*
Location Riverside Educational Center, Milford
Keynote Dr. Cynthia Bruce
Fees NSTU Members: \$95.00
 Substitutes/Pre-Service: \$85.00
 Retirees: \$95.00
 Other: \$95.00
Contact Dawn Chapman: adchapman@nstu.ca

Business Education Teachers Association (BETA)

Theme *Business on a Big Scale*
Location Hotel Halifax
Fees NSTU Members: \$85.00
 Substitutes: \$75.00
 Pre-Service: \$75.00
 Retirees: \$75.00
Contact Danielle LeBlanc: danleblanc@nstu.ca

Education Drama Association of Nova Scotia (EDANS)

Theme *Brave Spaces*
Location Woodlawn High School
Keynote Bill Wood
Fees NSTU Members: \$90.00
 Substitutes: \$45.00

Pre-Service: \$45.00
 Retirees: \$45.00
Contact Jonathan Grady: jkgrady@nstu.ca

Family Studies Teachers Association (FSTA)

Theme *Knowing Your Roots*
Location Dr. John Hugh Gillis High School, Antigonish
Fees NSTU Members: \$85.00
 Substitutes: \$50.00
 Pre-Service: \$50.00
 Retirees: \$50.00
 Other: \$50.00
Contact Stacey Purdy: slgbain@nstu.ca

Mathematics Teachers Association (MTA)

Theme *Mathematics E2 – Engagement and Equity*
Location Charles P. Allen High, Bedford
Fees NSTU Members: \$90.00
 Substitutes: \$50.00
 Pre-Service: \$50.00
 Retirees: \$50.00
 Others: \$90.00
Contact Erick Lee: eplee@nstu.ca

Nova Scotia Association of Teachers for Equity in Education (NSATEE)

Theme *Safe Schools, Not Safe Spaces: from Performative to Authentic 2SLGBTQ Allyship*
Location Kings County Academy, Kentville
Keynote Chris Cochrane ("Elle Noire")
Fees NSTU Members: \$85.00
 Substitutes: \$45.00
 Pre-Service: \$45.00
 Retirees: \$45.00
 Others: \$85.00
Contact Quinn Kloppenburg: gkloppenburg@nstu.ca

NO ONSITE REGISTRATION
Register Early!

2023 NSTU Professional Associations Conferences

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Nova Scotia Language Teachers Association (NSLTA)

Theme *Smiling is THE Universal Language!*

Location Evangeline Middle School, 9387 Commercial St New Minas

Keynote Hughie Batherson

Fees NSTU Members: \$70.00

Substitutes: \$50.00

Pre-Service: \$50.00

Retirees: \$50.00

Others: \$70.00

Contact Leijsa Squires: leijsaschiasson@nstu.ca

Nova Scotia Music Educators Association (NSMEA)

Theme *Building Joyful Musicians*

Location Avon View High School, Windsor

Fees NSTU Members: \$100.00

Substitutes: \$60.00

Pre-Service: \$15.00

Retirees: \$60.00

Contact Tammy Landry: tammylandry@nstu.ca

Nova Scotia School Counsellors Association (NSSCA)

Theme *Bridging the Gaps*

Location Citadel High School, Halifax

Keynote Tyler Simmonds and Sheryl Boswell

Fees NSTU Members: \$95.00

Outside participants: \$95.00

Substitutes: \$55.00

Pre-Service: \$55.00

Retirees: \$55.00

Other: \$55.00

Contact Andrew Gosney: wagosney@nstu.ca

Nova Scotia Teachers Association for Literacy and Language (NSTALL)

Theme *Living Literacies: Beyond Reading*

Location Cobequid Educational Centre, Truro

Fees NSTU Members: \$85.00

Substitutes: \$45.00

Pre-Service: \$45.00

Retirees: \$45.00

Other: \$45.00

Contact Mikel Legere: nstall@nstu.ca

Nova Scotia Technology Education Association (NSTEA)

Theme *Careers and Opportunities*

Location Best Western Glengarry, Truro

Fees NSTU Members: \$110.00

Substitutes: \$40.00

Pre-Service: \$40.00

Retirees: \$40.00

Contact Andrew Seymour: agseymour@nstu.ca

Primary Elementary Teachers Association (PETA)

Theme *Building Foundational Skills with Shared Reading and Laughing Through Hilarious Tales of the Classroom*

Location Cedar Event Centre, 111 Clayton Park Drive

Keynote Maria Walther and Steve Brinder

Fees NSTU Members: \$100.00

Substitutes: \$80.00

Pre-Service: \$80.00

Retirees: \$80.00

Other: \$80.00

Contact Jennifer Eisener: petaconference@nstu.ca

Psychologists in Schools Association (PISA)

Theme *Early Prevention and Intervention of Reading Difficulties*

Location Mount Saint Vincent University

Keynote Dr. George Georgiou

Fees NSTU Members: \$100.00

Substitutes: \$80.00

Pre-Service: \$80.00

Retirees: \$80.00

Others: \$100.00

Contact Chantal LeBlanc: lebchantal@nstu.ca

Speech-Language Pathologists and Audiologists Association (SPAA)

Theme *Developmental Language Disorder*

Location Best Western Plus, Dartmouth

Keynote Lisa Archibald

Fees NSTU Members: \$100.00

Substitutes: \$80.00

Pre-Service: \$80.00

Retirees: \$80.00

Other: \$80.00

Contact Jenny Slauenwhite:

jennyslauenwhite@nstu.ca

Social Studies Teachers Association (SSTA)

Theme *A Place for Social Studies*

Location Saint Mary's University

Keynote Connie Wyatt Anderson

Fees NSTU Members: \$100.00

Substitutes: \$50.00

Pre-Service: \$50.00

Retirees: \$50.00

Other: \$50.00

Contact John MacKenzie: jcmackenzie@nstu.ca

Teachers Association for Physical and Health Education (TAPHE)

Theme *Cultural Connections: Culturally Responsive Physical & Health Education in Cape Breton*

Location Shipyard Elementary, Sydney

Fees NSTU Members: \$85.00

Substitutes: \$35.00

Pre-Service: \$35.00

Retirees: \$35.00

Other: \$35.00

Contact David Macnutt: da.macnutt@gmail.com

NO ONSITE REGISTRATION
Register Early!



Front row (left to right): Executive Staff Officer Pamela Langille; Jan Mills (Cape Breton District Local) a Grade 5 teacher at Brookland Elementary; Cindy Ng-Ivanoff (Halifax County), a Grade Primary teacher at Basinview Elementary in Bedford; and Josée Haché (Cumberland), a CCRCE Math Mentor. Standing: Heather Van Wagner (Annapolis) a Grade 7& 8 integrated French and English Language Arts teacher at Bridgetown Regional Community School; François Gagné (CSANE) a Grade Primary teacher at École Bois Joli in Dartmouth; Sheila Hawley (Inverness) a learning support teacher at Bayview Education Centre in Port Hood; Christine Emberley (Dartmouth) a drama, social studies and English teacher at Woodlawn High School; and NSTU president Ryan Lutes.

Huntley internship finishes for school year

The last installment of the John Huntley Memorial Internship for the 2022-23 school year took place on May 25 and 26. This Internship, established in 2001, to honour the contribution of active Local leader and executive staff officer John Huntley, provides active and reserve members with an opportunity to learn more about the NSTU. The internship experience helps fulfill Huntley's desire that all members develop a thorough understanding of their Union. It is offered three times a year and sees NSTU members spend two days at Nova Scotia Teachers Union's Central office learning more about NSTU's programs and services. Selected participating members engage in sessions with NSTU staff, including the executive director, and the NSTU president. Staff from member services, professional development, public relations, the Member Assistance program, and NSTU administration including the financial officer participate in the program. This program, facilitated by the Professional Learning department and executive staff officer Pamela Langille is a very worthwhile and rewarding experience for those members who have participated in the Internship.

HOTEL HALIFAX

www.hotelhalifax.ca • 833.357.8155



THE BARRINGTON HOTEL

www.thebarringtonhotel.ca • 833.357.8155

NSTU LEISURE RATE

\$104.00 Leisure rate to include a \$12.00 discounted self-parking rate (when forecasting less than 95% occupancy) Between November- April.

\$129.00 Leisure rate to include a \$12.00 discounted self-parking rate (when forecasting less than 95% occupancy) Between May- October.

\$144.00 Leisure rate to include a \$12.00 discounted self-parking rate (when forecasting over 95% occupancy) Between November- April.

\$169.00 Leisure rate to include a \$12.00 discounted self-parking rate (when forecasting over 95% occupancy) Between May-October.

*Please note that the rates quoted above are net non-commissionable and do not include the current 2% Halifax Regional Municipality Marketing Levy nor 15% HST.

*Please note that only one room per NSTU member can be booked per night which includes one NSTU parking pass.

Hotel Halifax <https://reservations.travelclick.com/108084?RatePlanId=6674807>

The Barrington Hotel <https://reservations.travelclick.com/108025?RatePlanId=3546305>

"NSTU23" – Rate code under 'Rate Access/Corporate Code'

notices

FREE Summer Webinar: Financial literacy resources / Webinaire d'été GRATUIT: Ressources en littératie financière

This August, join the Bank of Canada Museum for a FREE live webinar on financial literacy resources.

This event will be an in-depth overview of the programs, activities and lesson plans available to you for free through our education team. We'll explain how to use them and how they can be customized for your needs.

We know you are always looking for educational resources in math and financial literacy.

We've got programming and activities that make both subjects fun and engaging—and they are all linked to provincial and territorial curricula for grades 1–5 and elementary cycles 1–3.

English: August 15, 2023, 2:00 p.m. to 2:45 p.m. ET

French: August 17, 2023, 2:00 p.m. to 2:45 p.m. ET

For more information, or to register, visit our website.

Looking forward to seeing you in August.

executive highlights

June 2, 2023

- Filed the Table Officers Report;
- Nominated members to CTF/FCE Advisory Committees;
- Approved the recommended candidate for a Probationary Executive Staff Officer contract effective August 1, 2023;
- Elected 2nd Vice-President: *Natalie MacIsaac*
Elected Secretary-Treasurer: *Peter Day*
Governance & Policy Committee: *Melissa Deveau, Kim Dunning, Taunya Pynn Crowe, Line Murphy, Sarah Tutty, Phil Samson, John MacKinnon, Andrew McCara, and Jeff Morse;*
Nominating Committee: *Taunya Pynn Crowe, Myla Borden, Duncan Cameron, Phil Samson, and Vera Ryan;*
Personnel Committee: *Duncan Cameron, Peter Day, and Sarah Tutty;*
- Appointed Provincial Executive Members to NSTU Standing Committees;
- Appointed Standing/Other Committees for 2023-2024;
- Approved a recommendation that an advertisement be placed to fill two (2) vacancies on the Comité programmation acadienne;
- Approved a recommendation that an advertisement be placed to fill one (1) vacancy on the Professional Associations Coordination Committee;
- Approved Conference Grants in the amount of \$600.00 each;
- Approved Full-Time Study Grants in the amount of \$2,000.00;
- Approved the granting of seventeen Local Service Awards;
- Approved amendments to Operational Procedure 25 – Awards, Fellowships and Grants;
- Approved amendments to Operational Procedure 10 – Expense Guidelines, B. Guidelines and Rates for Travel Expense Reimbursement, IV. Metrage Rate;
- Approved unanimously all seven recommendations from the Final Report – Ad Hoc Committee on Inclusion of Equity-Seeking Members and approved the release of the Report;
- Approved Signing Officers for 2023-24;
- Ratified the Primary Elementary Teachers Association (PETA) Constitution;
- Approved unanimously, in principle, the development of a two-year Leadership Development and Mentorship Programme;
- Approved a motion that the NSTU investigate the internal organizing strategies and tactics used by CUPE education workers in Ontario leading up to and during their 2022 strike, along with those of other successful strikes in the education sector in recent years, and report back to the September 2023 Provincial Executive meeting;
- Approved amendments to Operational Procedure 27 – Professional Learning Support:
 - F. NSTU Leadership Skills Development Institute;
 - D. Local Presidents and RRC Chairs Conference;
- Approved a motion that Summer Leadership 2023 deliver role-specific sessions for the Local Executive roles of Treasurer, Professional Development and Public Affairs/Public Relations. These sessions shall include role-specific training and skill development, as well as time to network and liaise;
- Approved a motion that the NSTU establish a relief fund of \$30,000 dedicated to support of members who are unable to return to residences which are uninhabitable due to the 2023 wildfires. The fund will disburse grants of \$750 to members so affected;
- Approved a recommendation for the Terms of Reference for the Ad Hoc Committee on Union/Rep Engagement;
- Approved a recommendation that the NSTU donate \$2,461 to the Sheonorail Foundation;
- Approved a motion that the NSTU survey members regarding how often NSTU members, who are not required to directly supervise students and their substitute teachers, are pulled from their duties to cover classroom teachers;

LG Awards focus on creating safe, inclusive spaces

On Wednesday, May 24, nine individual students and five teams were recognized at the Lieutenant Governor's Respectful Citizenship Award Ceremony. All recipients were nominated for creating safe and inclusive spaces in schools and communities.

The ceremony took place at Paul O'Regan Hall, Halifax Central Library and was followed by a reception. Guests and students spoke with Their Honours about initiatives taking place in their communities.

Their Honours, The Honourable Arthur J. LeBlanc, ONS, KC and Patricia LeBlanc thank Deputy Minister Elwin LeRoux for representing the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development at the award ceremony.

Each year, the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development administers the Respectful Citizenship Award. A Selection Committee representing the education system, in Nova Scotia reviews all nomination packages submitted by schools across the province. The NSTU's representative on the Committee is Amanda O'Regan-Marchand, Executive Staff Officer, Professional Learning.

Administered by the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development, these awards recognize young people who show outstanding leadership and commitment to fostering inclusive environments in their schools and communities. The award is open to students in Grades Primary to 12 who attend public and private schools, are home schooled and registered with the Nova Scotia Department of Education and Early Childhood Development.

To view and download event photos, please visit: <https://www.flickr.com/photos/lieutenantgovernor/albums>



Above are Holly and Skylar from the Indigenous Youth Group from North Queens Community School with His Honour and Elwin LeRoux.



Above are members of the Mi'kmaq Student Council from Halifax West High School, one of the team recipients.



Shown are members of Charles P. Allen High School's Cheetahs for Change, another team recipient reward winner.



Ayo Aladejebi, Director, Race Relations, Equity, and Inclusion with the Nova Scotia Human Rights Commission provided a libation ceremony at the conference. He is shown with NSTU's Wendie Wilson who presented a workshop entitled: The Idea of Inclusion, Diversity, Equity and Accessibility.

CEPA-ACPÉ Conference

The NSTU was proud host of the 2023 Canadian Educational Press Association (CEPA- ACPÉ) annual conference, June 18 to 21 in Halifax-Kjipuktuk under the theme: *The IDEA of Communication*. CEPA-ACPÉ is a network of communications staff from organizations that represent public education workers across Canada. These communications specialists (such as writers, editors, graphic designers, social media specialists, public relations specialists and others) work on behalf of their organizations to promote the value of public education and the rights of their members as workers and professionals. This year's conference was organized by NSTU's public relations coordinator Angela Murray, past president of CEPA-ACPÉ.



New Brunswick Teachers' Association Deputy Executive Director Dr. Kimberley McKay presented a workshop on the Understandings and Experiences of Member Engagement in the New Brunswick Teachers' Association at the annual CEPA-ACPÉ Annual Conference.

resources

History Comes Alive: #1792Project Invitation

Awareness of political and social issues outside of the classroom is just one of the many pedagogical super powers expected of today's teachers. Because education is the path to change, building awareness for all of our students has never been more urgent. African Nova Scotian history that has been overlooked and erased is brought to life in the #1792 letter writing activity right here in Nova Scotia. Please participate and be part of this exciting project!

In 1792, 15 Ships left Halifax Harbour bound for Freetown, Sierra Leone – the single, largest exodus of peoples of African descent returning to Africa throughout history. Students across the province have submitted 800 letters, poems and artworks in this ongoing project begun in 2021. Our goal is to reach 1,196 submissions, one for each Black Loyalist that left on January 15, 1792 all of which are included in the “Book of Letters” that is kept at the Maritime Museum of the Atlantic.

Participation in your classroom begins with a look at the Auburn Drive H.S. website [#1792Project](https://abn.hrce.ca/abn/general-information/1792-project) (<https://abn.hrce.ca/abn/general-information/1792-project>)

with links to the Black Loyalist Heritage Centre resources. What has changed and what still needs to be changed in our communities? What broken promises still impact communities today? For example, secure housing and land was promised to these early settlers and very few received what was owed. None received the promised 100 acres of land for each head of household despite petitions (by Thomas Peters). For many Black Loyalists, shared Mi'kmaq knowledge was key to survival in the first winters. To this day land is an issue for African Nova Scotian communities. Soaring real estate prices (Hammonds Plains), location of communities (Shelburne), land titles (North Preston), selling potential heritage buildings (Truro) and locating historical sites, can be linked to Nova Scotia's history. To date there has been no public monument on this land for the 15 ships to Sierra Leone.

Your students may not know that this historic 2 month voyage included 385 children under 10 years of age and 70

HISTORY
COMES ALIVE!



between the ages of 10 to 16. What were their hopes for this journey? What would reparations look like for the descendants of those who remained?

The timeless urgency for justice in education continues and we hope that the #1792Project will be a part of your classroom journey. Our goal is to reach a total of 1,196 submissions during the final year of the UN Decade of Peoples of African Descent, which is coming up in 2024. Please send student letters to Principal Karen Hudson, 300 Auburn Dr, Dartmouth, NS B2W 6E9. Digital submissions accepted.

Atlantic Jewish Council's

20th Annual Holocaust Education Week

STUDENT PROGRAM:

Thursday, November 2 | 10:00am (AT)
Junior High and High School (Elementary School TBD)
Holocaust Survivor, speaker TBA
In-person (Venue TBA) and Livestreamed in Nova Scotia

- Each student to receive a copy of the survivor's memoirs.
- Educators to receive educator resources.

Mailed directly to each school compliments of the Azrieli Foundation.



REGISTRATION REQUIRED:

Edna LeVine, Director of Community Engagement, Atlantic Jewish Council:
engagement@theajc.ca

Best practices in Holocaust education: a workshop for educators – is your school/association interested in participating or hosting a workshop?

For additional information please contact:

Edna LeVine, Director of Community Engagement, Atlantic Jewish Council:
engagement@theajc.ca



notices

Canada's Ultimate Challenge

Canada's Ultimate Challenge is hitting the road again this fall and they're looking for a new group of players who love competition, travel and fun to join them on a once-in-a-lifetime adventure across the country.

This season will have new obstacles in new epic locations and you'll get to attempt feats that no one has done before. This journey will test you, surprise you and excite you! So who's ready for an adventure of a lifetime?

Deadline to apply: Friday July 23, 2023 @ 11:59 pst
You must be available from mid-september to mid-october 2023
You must be at least 18 years of age
You must be a Canadian citizen or a permanent resident
Link to application:

<https://www.cbc.ca/television/canadasultimatechallenge/join-us-on-the-adventure-of-a-lifetime-apply-for-season-2-of-canada-s-ultimate-challenge-1.6859596>

Any questions please contact: casting@insighttv.com



coming events

OCTOBER

Save the Date for French Cuisine & Culture at Devour! this October!

Attention Teachers: Devour! The Food Film Fest will return with two days of films and hands-on culinary workshops for youth in both French and English on Monday, October 23 and Tuesday, October 24. This year's festival theme will explore French Cuisine et Culture—how the roots of Acadian, Cajun, Creole & French cuisine, culture, and cinema intersect globally. Poignantly set in the ancestral homeland of the Acadians, a place that has shaped a vibrant culture worldwide. We look forward to welcoming students in our newly renovated Devour! Studios in downtown Wolfville. The festival program will be released in early September and will be accepting class bookings at that time. Sign up for our newsletter at www.devourfest.com.



A Special Meeting was held at the NSTU building on May 5 with Local Presidents and Treasurers. This meeting continued the conversation that started at last meeting of its kind in December of 2021. Local presidents also discussed aspects of NSTU's Strategic Plan that required Local consultation, VIII-1 (a) and (b).

National Indigenous History Month

June is National Indigenous History Month in which we celebrate First Nations, Inuit, and Métis.

National Indigenous History Month draws attention to the unique heritage and diversity of Indigenous peoples in Canada and recognizes the strength of Indigenous communities across the country.

Listening and learning from Indigenous voices is an integral part of working toward reconciliation.

For more info in including Indigenous voices year round:

<https://sttpcanada.ctf-fce.ca/>

<https://www.rcaanc-cirnac.gc.ca/eng/1660751662272/1660751681455>

<https://www.rcaanc-cirnac.gc.ca/eng/1621447127773/1621447157184>

<https://nctr.ca/education/teaching-resources/education-resources/>





NSTU TOTAL CARE MEDICAL PLAN

THERAPEUTIC MEDICAL EQUIPMENT RENTAL / PURCHASE

Are you in need of some therapeutic medical equipment but worried about the cost? Well, fear not! The NSTU Group Insurance Trustees would like to let you know that charges for the rental or purchase of medically necessary therapeutic equipment are covered under your Total Care Medical Plan. From wheelchairs to hospital beds, they've got you covered. Let's take a closer look at what exactly is covered.

The Total Care Medical Plan offers coverage for a range of equipment, including:

- Wheelchairs
- Cervical collars
- Hospital beds
- Walkers
- TENS Units
- Glucometers - up to a maximum of \$200 if recommended by the attending physician.
- Two (2) emergency anaphylactic shock kits (anakit/s/epipens) covered per 12 consecutive month period per insured; based on 80% of the manufacturer's suggested retail price.

Charges for rental or purchase are at the option of the insurer, and coverage is limited to the standard level required. The Total Care Medical Plan reimburses you for 80% of the usual and customary charges, subject to the limits stated and when ordered by your attending physician. The maximum benefit for a lifetime per insured person is \$20,000.

Before considering the purchase of any medical equipment, you must provide evidence of a physician's referral and two independent price quotations for the equipment. All charges must also be pre-approved by Medavie Blue Cross (the insurer for the Total Care Medical Plan) and subject to periodic reassessment.

What if I need a hospital bed specifically? The plan's decision to rent or purchase a hospital bed will be based on the patient's diagnosis and daily confinement to a bed. A written prescription from the physician or a letter from the occupational therapist, co-signed by the physician, is required, along with information on the amount of time the patient is confined to a bed on a daily basis, the length of time the bed is required, the type of bed required, and the cost of the bed (two estimates and any literature).

Overall, therapeutic medical equipment is a great option for those in need. With a wide range of covered equipment and a lifetime maximum benefit of \$20,000 per insured person, this benefit can provide the necessary support for those undergoing medical treatment. Just be sure to follow the guidelines and requirements outlined by the plan to ensure coverage.

For more information on the benefits and programs available under the NSTU Group Insurance Program, please visit the NSTU Group Insurance Trust website at <https://nstuinsurance.ca/>.

NSTU Group Insurance Plan – Therapeutic Medical Equipment Rental / Purchase

Frequently Asked Questions

Q: *Is there a maximum benefit amount for the rental / purchase of therapeutic medical equipment?*

A: Yes, there is a limit of \$20,000 lifetime per insured person.

Q: *What do I need to do before I purchase or rent any therapeutic medical equipment?*

A: All charges must be pre-approved by Medavie Blue Cross with such approval being subject to periodic reassessment. Equipment may be purchased at the option of the plan. Prior to considering the purchase of any medical equipment, Medavie Blue Cross must receive evidence of a Physician's referral and two independent price quotations for the medical equipment.

Q: *The therapeutic medical equipment that I'm considering purchasing or renting is available in different levels or ranges, how do I know which one will be covered under the plan?*

A: When more than one level or range of equipment is available, coverage under the plan will be limited to the standard level as medically required.

Q: *Are charges for equipment maintenance covered?*

A: Charges for maintenance of any medical equipment rented or purchased are not covered under the plan.

Q: *Are there any exclusions I should be aware of?*

A: Yes, equipment used on a trial or experimental basis or equipment required primarily for comfort or convenience is not covered under the plan.



Johnson Insurance has worked closely with the NSTU to provide access to helpful services and products that take care of your home and car insurance needs.

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Students at Centre scolaire de la Rive-Sud in Cookville win national space competition

Students from Centre scolaire de la Rive-Sud were among four schools across Canada who won the second season of the Lunar Rover Research Challenge, a national space competition offered by Let's Talk Science, Canadensys Aerospace Corporation and Avalon Space, with support from the Canadian Space Agency. Over 9,000 youth across Canada participated in the national competition during the 2022/2023 school year.

Winners of the competition had the opportunity to remotely control a Canadensys lunar rover in a Moon-like environment, which allowed them to interact with technology that will be part of the upcoming Artemis space missions. On June 21, Alicia Blanchard's Grade 9 class completed a mission simulation by working as a team to drive the rover and seek out ice deposits in a mock lunar landscape. The event in Nova Scotia was delayed due to wildfires.

Canadensys designed the rovers controlled by the winning teams. They received a contract in November 2022 from the Canadian Space Agency to build Canada's first lunar rover to be sent to the moon as early as 2026.

The Lunar Rover Research Challenge allowed students to collaborate and develop a mission for lunar exploration. A panel of expert judges evaluated the submissions and determined the winners.

The Lunar Rover Research Challenge will run for a third time in September 2023. This competition is free to enter and is geared toward youth aged 11-14. It also fits within each of the provincial curriculum standards. Interested parties are encouraged to subscribe to the insider mailing list.

The lunar rover driven by students was not be the exact model sent to the moon.

This project is made possible through funding provided by the Canadian Space Agency (CSA).

This experience was designed around five lessons, with youth



learning about Canada's role in space, planning their rover mission and exploring careers in the space sector.

Over 9,000 youth across Canada participated in the project in the 2022/2023 school year.

Participants this season are from all ten provinces plus the Northwest Territories and Nunavut.

For more information contact: Michael Marti, Marketing Officer, Let's Talk Science at mmarti@letstalkscience.ca



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The John Huntley Memorial Internship Program

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

October 1, 2023.

*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.*



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www.internationalprograms.ednet.ns.ca



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