

# Upcoming professional learning opportunities

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Hello again, colleagues

How are you? We hope March Break is allowing you the opportunity to pause and spend time with family and friends and hopefully recharge from these very busy past few weeks. In this installment of the Pathways for Professional Learning, we would like to share some information about opportunities we will be bringing you in the coming months.

First is the 2022 Women's Symposium, co-hosted by the Canadian Teachers' Federation and the Nova Scotia Teachers Union. It will take place at the Westin Nova Scotian Hotel from May 15 to 17, 2022. The theme of this year's symposium is *We Rise Again: Toujours Plus Fortes*. The symposium will see many strong, inspirational women gathering to share their experiences and perspectives as leaders in their respective fields and the challenges they have faced and overcome in the face of adversity. Through a blend of discussion panels, workshops and social events, participants will have the opportunity to hear, share and create plans for action in how we can work to cultivate important change and further our impact in education and beyond. This conference is open to all individuals who identify as women. If you are interested in registering for this conference, you can apply through your Article 60 committee within your region. Please contact your Local President and/or Vice President of Professional Development for further details.

Our workshop offerings continue from your Professional Learning team. Sessions on topics such as *The Well Teacher*, *Welcoming Gender Diversity*, and *Dispelling the Myths and Misconceptions of 2SLGBTQ+ Youth*, are currently very much in demand. These workshops can be facilitated either virtually, or in person, respecting current

Public Health guidelines. We are also reviewing our offerings to ensure they are the most current and responsive in meeting the professional needs of members. Your feedback is always welcome so please connect with us to offer any insight you might have. Ces présentations sont aussi disponibles en Français. Our University Liaison program is also going strong through our Ethical Case Studies program and workshop offerings.

Our Team of Enthusiasts is also growing steadily! If you are interested in making yourself available to collaborate on possible projects, reviews of curriculum and/or other work with the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development, please email your name and a brief description of your subject area 'enthusiasm' and experience to [team@nstu.ca](mailto:team@nstu.ca) and your name will be added to our list.

Finally, the annual Conference on New Techniques and Classroom Teaching—CONTACT—is returning to Nova Scotia and from our pandemic-related hiatus! This regional conference is organized by the Nova Scotia Teachers Union, the New Brunswick Teachers' Association, association des enseignantes et des enseignants francophones du Nouveau-Brunswick, Prince Edward Island Teachers' Federation and the Newfoundland and Labrador Teachers' Association. It provides teachers with the opportunity to remain current in their profession and make contact with colleagues from the Atlantic region and NSTU is host to the 2022 edition.

This year's conference theme is *Take 2: Teachers Reflecting for Learning and Growth*. Conference information and posters will arrive in your Locals in the coming weeks and online registration will open on May 9. The conference will take place at St.

Francis Xavier University from August 2 to 5 and include workshop facilitators from our four Atlantic provinces and possibly a panel of teachers from Nunavut to share their experience of teaching in Northern communities. The program will include a blend of workshops, wellness and social events organized to support your learning and provide balance to support your whole self in preparing for the upcoming school year.

If you are interested in applying to attend this conference, there are 22 spaces (one from each Local) as well as a waiting list of up to five seats province-wide to have the opportunity to attend this conference. Your inter-provincial/territorial and local CONTACT planning committees are working to organize a meaningful time for connection and learning. If you are interested in attending, please contact your Local President.

Thank you for all you do to support your students and their families each and every day. Please be sure to support yourselves as well in making time each day to check-in with yourselves and do something (even seemingly small) for yourselves.

*Your PL Team*

