

## **Upcoming Professional Learning opportunities**

We hope that this year has gotten off to an encouraging start. Your PL team just wanted to highlight some new offerings and upcoming opportunities to help support your Professional Learning goals.

The next two deadlines for PDAF (Program Assistance Development Fund) are February 1st and April 1st (every two months). If you have an innovative idea for your learning space, you can consult the successful PDAF project examples and submit an application! The committee looks forward to reading your ideas!

The first Wednesday is January (January 3rd) is also the next deadline to apply for the NSTU conference grants. Please note that there is a new application and new format for this round of applications. If you have already submitted your application, you need not submit again. However, if you have not yet begun the application, please use the newest form. Forms are available in English and in French.

The John Huntley Internship program is a two-day visit to

the NSTU office where participants learn about the roles and responsibilities of the NSTU staff as well as the history of the NSTU structure, services and benefits that members receive. Named for a passionate educator and former staff officer, John Huntley, who believed strongly that NSTU members should understand their rights and what how their union supports them. The next deadline to apply for the John Huntley Internship is February 1st, 2024 and again on April 1, 2024.

The next deadline for the Sheonoroil Foundation by 4:30 pm on April 12. The Foundation, an arms-length entity of the NSTU provides grants to anti-violence programs that have a direct and immediate impact on classrooms, students, teachers, staff, and community. It extends financial resources to any active or retired member of the Nova Scotia Teachers Union, to any group of active or retired NSTU members, or to any group of public school students working in cooperation with a teacher advisor. Apply here: http://sheonoroil.nstu.ca/grants/applications



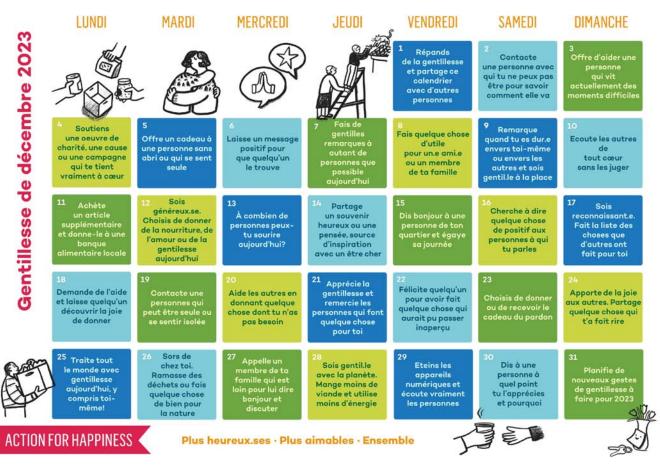
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## Tips for writing a comprehensive application:

- □ Review the criteria for the opportunity to ensure that your idea/proposal qualifies
- □ Use the criteria as a checklist to ensure that your application is complete;
- □ Provide the committee with as much detail as possible, balanced within a succinct description-make your word choices count!
- □ Find a friend who can review your application prior to submitting it. A second set of eyes can always be helpful to ensure that your application is as strong as it can be;
- □ Make sure you submit the application on or before the deadline. Late applications will not be considered but can be held for the next round of applications.
- □ Waiting for an answer can be challenging! Remember that there are procedures and timelines in place to ensure that the process is as equitable as possible and the NSTU has a provincial scope. The Teachers who volunteer their time on the committees who make recommendations or decisions on the various grants and opportunities strive to ensure that the evaluation and vetting process is as fair as possible. Our NSTU staff work as quickly as possible to inform applicants of the decisions made.
- □ Seek feedback for your application. NSTU staff act as advisors to the committees and can be available to respond to questions about your application.
- □ Feedback is always welcome.

Stay tuned to future editions of the Teacher for more updates and information about upcoming opportunities! Be sure to consult your Member Diary for a calendar of opportunities and deadlines. Yours in Education, Your Professional Learning team Amanda O'Regan-Marchand (amarchand@staff.nstu.ca) Wendie Wilson (wwilson@staff.nstu.ca) Meg Ferguson (mferguson@staff.nstu.ca) Janice MacKenzie (appl@nstu.ca)



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