



Up to \$10,000 available to support Inclusive Education

The NSTU and Department of Education are inviting NSTU members to apply for a Professional Growth Grant, designed to support their professional development in implementing the Inclusive Education Policy <https://www.ednet.ns.ca/docs/inclusiveeducationpolicyen.pdf>.

“This fund, supported by the EECD through the NSTU provides professional learning to help grow the visibility and inclusion of equity-deserving students within their learning environment,” says NSTU president Ryan Lutes. “This opportunity gives NSTU members time and resources to support inclusive education.”

Grants for the 2023-24 school year are up to \$10,000 each, with approximately \$150,000 available.

This fund is for teacher-directed professional learning opportunities for groups of two or more teachers and/or specialists wishing to pursue professional learning focused on equity, diversity, and inclusion.

Inclusive education is a commitment to ensuring a high-quality, culturally, and linguistically responsive and equitable education to support the well-being and success of every student. Funding is awarded based on the merits of each application and the available funding. Regional representation will also be a consideration if there is limited funding.

“It’s great to see the innovation and creativity of teachers in coordinating professional learning experiences for their school or school community through this fund,” continues Lutes. “I look forward to seeing more examples of the amazing work teachers and specialists are embarking on in their learning spaces.”

More information and application form available on the NSTU website: <https://nstu.ca/nstu-members/professional-development/grants-opportunities/study-and-research-grants>

The deadline for application is by midnight

Thursday, November 30, 2023. Send completed applications to: GrowthGrants@NSTU.ca.

Please ensure the concept meets the criteria of the grant including linking to the Inclusive Education Policy and complete each section fully, providing all details needed to understand the vision

If you have any questions about the grant criteria or the application process, please contact executive staff officer Meg Ferguson at mferguson@staff.nstu.ca

Here are some successful project applicants:

Project Coordinator: Lesley Ann Andrews
For: P-6, Sydney River Elementary, Cape Breton-Victoria Regional Centre for Education

Grades Primary to 6 music teachers in CBVRCE took part in professional learning with a lens on diversity for appropriate song choices. Teachers were given a year subscription to the MusicPlay Online resource, which includes many diverse units, including a listing of songs no longer culturally appropriate. Teachers added to a spreadsheet of questionable songs, and had conversations around songs traditionally used. Denise Gagne from MusicPlay joined participants virtually to explore the program, highlighting songs that are culturally responsive and provided input in teaching the songs.

Continued on page 3

NSTU Growth Grants

For teachers advancing inclusive education in Nova Scotia Public Schools

NOVA SCOTIA

Nova Scotia Teachers Union



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<http://twitter.com/NSTeachersUnion>



[NSTeachersUnion](https://www.instagram.com/NSTeachersUnion)



<http://www.youtube.com/nstuwebcast>

people

Mi'kma'ki Strong's #EveryChildMatters Campaign

On September 13, Jonathan Beadle, Mi'kma'ki Strong Founder delivered this year's newly designed #EveryChildMatters Orange Shirts. He is shown with professional learning staff Amanda O'Regan-Marchand (left) and Wendie Wilson (right). NSTU's ongoing partnership with Mi'kma'ki Strong helps to elevate awareness of the impact of residential schools in Nova Scotia. This is third year in which shirts have been distributed to NSTU Locals around the province and available for order at Mi'kma'ki Strong's online store. This year's new design includes statistics about Indian Residential Schools. A portion of shirt sales go to support programs benefitting residential school survivors delivered by Mi'kmaq providers.



Alexa McDonough Lecture Series

The NSTU was a proud sponsor of the Douglas Coldwell Layton Foundation's inaugural Alexa McDonough Lecture Series with guest speaker Peggy Nash. The event took place September 20, at Mount Saint Vincent University in collaboration with the Alexa McDonough Institute for Women, Gender, and Social Justice at MSVU.

This lecture by author and former Member of Parliament Peggy Nash, focused on Women in Leadership. NSTU president Ryan Lutes attended the lecture with some of NSTU's women leaders, first vice-president Jo-Leigh MacPhee and second vice-president Natalie MacIsaac. *Shown (l – r): Debbie Richardson, Halifax-Dartmouth District Labour Council president, Natalie MacIsaac, Ryan Lutes, NSFL vice-president Mary Otto, NSGEU president Sandra Mullen, Jo-Leigh MacPhee and Peggy Nash.*

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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](mailto:theteacher@nstu.ca).

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Stand Up Against Bullying Day

Shown are members of NSTU's provincial executive who wore pink to show their support for safe school communities on *Stand Up Against Bullying Day* in Nova Scotia on September 14. Students, families, staff, volunteers and community partners wear pink on the second Thursday of the school year to promote the importance of positive, safe, inclusive and healthy learning environments and relationships throughout the school year. *Shown (l-r): front row: second vice-president Natalie MacIsaac (Annapolis-West Hants-Kings), and Sarah Tutty (Lunenburg County-Queens). Second Row: Duncan Cameron (Halifax County), NSTU president Ryan Lutes, first vice-president Jo-Leigh MacPhee, and secretary-treasurer Peter Day (Cape Breton District).*



continued from page 1

Project Coordinator: Phillip Prendergast

For: Senior High, North Queens Community School, South Shore Regional Centre for Education

A culturally responsive educator is one who recognizes the importance culture plays in student learning. Since learning requires a transfer of knowledge and context in which to apply the acquired knowledge and understand the importance of culturally relevant pedagogy, opportunities need to be created. Through a PD day for staff at NQCS teachers were exposed to Mi'kmaq ways of knowing and being, through deeper interactions with Mi'kmaq Knowledge Holders. This enhances inclusion in education and allows NQCS teachers to remain mindful and deliberate in how it applies to their practice.

Project Coordinator: Lauren Barrett

For: P to 1, Enfield District School, Chignecto-Central Regional Centre for Education

Primary and Grade 1 teachers at Enfield District School participated in *Lively Letters* training. This multi-sensory, research-based reading program turns plain, abstract letters and sounds into lively characters. The program supports the progression of essential reading skills as part of the curriculum for Grades Primary to 2. It supports students in learning phonics skills and developing alphabetic knowledge. Teachers began using the program then viewed the training to implement the program more effectively. Going forward, the early elementary teachers will use this professional learning opportunity to give all their students regardless of individual needs, a strong foundation in phonics, allowing them to become stronger readers and writers.

Get Plugged in ELECTRIC VEHICLE FINANCING

TEACHER WISH LIST GRANT

Teachers Plus Credit Union wants to support teachers in the purchase of Wish List items for the 2023-2024 school year. The Teachers Plus Credit Union will be awarding 40 Wish List Grants of \$300 to purchase items you need or want for your classroom- what is on your wish list for this school year? Grant applications will open on September 18th—watch our social media accounts for updates, or visit www.teachersplus.ca for more information.

Rates starting at 4.99 fixed.*
For more details visit
www.teachersplus.ca



*On approved credit.

Connect with us on social media for contest updates! #teacherwishlist
Instagram @teacherspluscredit
Facebook @TeachersPlusCU
Twitter @TeachersPlus_CU



from the nstu president



Collectively standing up against intolerance and hatred

I hope you've all had a productive and relatively smooth first month back at school.

Our schools have always been a reflection of the communities they inhabit. It's for this reason the NSTU strives to foster an inclusive and accepting environment both inside and outside of the classroom.

During these increasingly challenging, confrontational and often heartbreaking times, it's critical that as teachers, and as a union, we collectively stand up against intolerance and hatred whenever and wherever it rears its ugly head. We owe it to our students to set the right example by ensuring that they can always feel safe to express their authentic selves.

That's why recently, I was proud to attend a counter rally in Halifax in support of our 2SLGBTQIA+ community and in opposition to those promoting division, transphobia and bigotry.

All students, including those who identify as gender and/

Lutter ensemble contre l'intolérance et la haine

J'espère que le premier mois d'école s'est déroulé de façon productive et relativement harmonieuse pour vous tous.

Nos écoles ont toujours reflété les collectivités dans lesquelles elles se trouvent. C'est pour cette raison que le NSTU s'efforce de promouvoir un environnement inclusif et accueillant, tant à l'intérieur qu'à l'extérieur de la classe.

En ces temps de plus en plus difficiles, propices aux confrontations et souvent déchirants, il est essentiel que nous nous opposions, à titre d'enseignants et de syndicat, contre l'intolérance et la haine, quel que soit le moment et l'endroit où elles se manifestent. Nous nous devons de montrer le bon exemple à nos élèves, en veillant à ce qu'ils aient toujours l'impression de pouvoir exprimer leur véritable personnalité de manière sûre.

C'est pourquoi j'ai été fier de participer récemment à une contre-manifestation, à Halifax, en soutien à notre communauté 2SLGBTQIA+ et en opposition aux personnes faisant la promotion



NSTU president Ryan Lutes is shown with other union leaders on September 20 in downtown Halifax during a counter protest to show solidarity for 2SLGBTQIA+ rights and education policies in schools. Lutes is in the centre and to right of him are: Debbie Richardson, Halifax-Dartmouth District Labour Council, and Hugh Gillis, NSGEU.

or sexually diverse, deserve to feel accepted, safe and welcome, especially at school. The NSTU will continue to unapologetically oppose any efforts that promote intolerance and division in our school communities.

On a similar note, on October 5th, I added my name to a joint statement by The Council of Atlantic Provinces and Territory Teachers' Organizations members calling on Government to ensure schools have adequate resources to help students make sense of this world.

Teachers equip each successive generation with the knowledge and skills to think for themselves, understand the value of collaboration, broaden their understanding and perspectives, and enable them to contribute positively to their communities.

Every classroom in every school should have the resources available to meet the complicated and diverse needs of students. Every child deserves a healthy learning environment where they can thrive and reach their potential. Unfortunately, at the present moment, this just isn't the case. Greater investment and effort is needed to brighten the future of every student.

As we grow deeper into the school year, undoubtedly the challenges we continue to experience will only seem more pronounced. Please know that the NSTU will continue to advocate in a constructive manner for positive reforms that make life better for you and your students.

Have a Happy Halloween

de la ségrégation, de la transphobie et de l'intolérance.

Tous les élèves, y compris ceux s'identifiant comme étant de genre ou de sexe divers, méritent de se sentir en sécurité, bienvenus et acceptés, surtout à l'école. Le NSTU continuera de s'opposer sans réserve contre tout effort visant à promouvoir l'intolérance et la ségrégation dans nos communautés scolaires.

Dans le même ordre d'idées, le 5 octobre, j'ai cosigné une déclaration commune des membres du Council of Atlantic Provinces and Territory Teachers' Organizations, demandant au gouvernement de veiller à doter les écoles des ressources nécessaires pour aider les élèves à comprendre le monde qui les entoure.

Les enseignants outillent chaque génération avec les connaissances et les compétences leur permettant de réfléchir par eux-mêmes, de comprendre la valeur de la collaboration, d'élargir leurs horizons, d'améliorer leur compréhension et de contribuer de façon positive à leurs collectivités.

Chaque classe dans chaque école devrait disposer des ressources nécessaires pour satisfaire aux besoins complexes et diversifiés des élèves. Chaque enfant mérite un milieu d'apprentissage sain, dans lequel il sera en mesure de s'épanouir et de réaliser son potentiel. Malheureusement, ce n'est pas le cas à l'heure actuelle. Des investissements et des efforts plus importants sont nécessaires pour améliorer les perspectives d'avenir de tous les élèves.

À mesure que l'année scolaire progresse, les difficultés auxquelles nous continuerons de nous heurter sembleront assurément de plus en plus considérables. Sachez que le NSTU continuera à demander des réformes positives de manière constructive, pour contribuer à une vie meilleure pour vous et pour vos élèves.

Joyeuse Halloween à vous tous.

NSTU Research Repository

The NSTU is in the process of establishing a repository of academic research in education, comprising the accomplished thesis work of our members.

Have you completed a thesis in educational research? Willing to share your results to inform members' practice and understanding of public education in Nova Scotia? We would like to celebrate and promote your good work through our repository of academic research in education by NSTU members.



Members should contact
our Professional Learning
department via

appl@nstu.ca



What's Behind Your Land Acknowledgement?

by Wendie Wilson, Executive Staff Officer, BIPOC Advocacy and Engagement

Land acknowledgements are something I've been thinking about a lot lately. In particular, the impact they have, if any impact at all. Most land acknowledgements I've observed have been at the top of a meeting or an event and are usually short-lived and read verbatim. Most offer recognition that we are on ancestral and unceded territory, while acknowledging this truth, there is often no acknowledgement of reconciliation. How do we reconcile this obvious truth or create the awareness that there needs to be acknowledgement of both truth and reconciliation?

The most authentic and meaningful land acknowledgements I've observed have positioned the deliverer within the message. In moving forward, I have felt the need to position myself somewhere within my acknowledgement to feel some sense of responsibility to act or at the very least reflect.

My land acknowledgement is as follows:

Respectively, I would like to acknowledge that we are in Mi'kma'ki, the ancestral and unceded territory of the Mi'kmaq (L'nu) People. This territory is covered by the "Treaties of Peace and Friendship" which Mi'kmaq (L'nu) and Wolastoqiyik Peoples first signed with the British Crown in 1725.

This is the truth part of my land acknowledgement, but I would also like to acknowledge the reconciliation piece as well. Now that the obvious truth has been stated and acknowledged, that being that we are on unceded territory—stolen land. What do we do about it? How do we make this right? I do not have a single answer, solution, or remedy to adequately respond to all the harms done to Indigenous Peoples since colonization, but I think that it is important to not just mention the truth about this being stolen land, but to also mention the reality of us (as a collective) not doing enough if anything to remedy this truth. At the very least, we can begin creating awareness about the lack of attention brought to this issue of reconciliation.

As a person of African descent, I would like to offer this land recognition in solidarity with the Indigenous People of Turtle Island in the efforts and deliberate intentions toward true and meaningful reconciliation and actionable decolonization.

Also with respect, I would like to take a moment to acknowledge and thank my ancestors. Many African Nova Scotians came to this province through enslavement or through fleeing enslavement and continue to experience all manner of structural, systematic, and individual discriminations and inequities here on Turtle Island.

We have settled in over 50 Black communities throughout Mi'kma'ki and were fortunate to have had the Indigenous People of this land help us navigate this new place when we first arrived over 400 years ago. African Nova Scotians call this place home. Our last names

are used as a map to connect us to the communities our families are from. Many of our ancestors are buried here and many more rest in places unknown to us. Not knowing the specific place my ancestors were born has given me cause to locate, bring to life, and grow the rich and vibrant culture that my ancestors have practiced from time immemorial. I ask that the ancestors be with us today as we navigate our way through our time together in this place with authenticity.

This acknowledgement is by no means perfect. As I deliver my land acknowledgement, I will always take the opportunity to pause to reflect and offer my sentiments in the moment to the people I am engaging. This is a passage I will strive to improve. It is a passage that I hope will evolve as I gain more knowledge, learn from those who know more than me and most importantly stand to be corrected. I can't help but think of a quote by Maya Angelou: "Do the best you can until you know better. Then, when you know better, do better".

Lastly, as "allies" let us make an effort to be a voice of advocacy in every room where first voices are absent and also make room to amplify those voices that are present.



Email your name, home address, and the name of your school with **PL** in the subject line to theteacher@nstu.ca by **November 30, 2023** to be eligible for the draw.

Treaty Words

by Aimée Craft Illustrations by Luke Swinson

Treaty Words, For as Long as The Rivers Flow published by Annick Press explores the original treaty—made between the earth and the sky, an agreement to work together, in which all treaties are built. On the banks of the river, Mishomis' home his whole life, he teaches his granddaughter to learn her place in Creation. More importantly, he teaches her about treaties—the bonds of reciprocity and renewal that endure for as long as the sun shines, the grass grows, and the rivers flow. Accompanied by Luke Swinson's beautiful illustrations this book affirms the importance of understanding an Indigenous perspective on treaties.



fresh

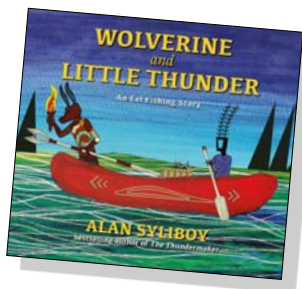
Putting new members in the KNOW!

Email your name, home address, and the name of your school with **FRESH ENGLISH** in the subject line to theteacher@nstu.ca by November 30, 2023 to be eligible for the draw.

Wolverine and Little Thunder

by Alan Syliboy

Published by Nimbus and written by well-known and beloved Mi'kmaq artist Alan Syliboy, *Wolverine and Little Thunder An Eel Fishing Story* carries on the adventures Little Thunder and the trickster, Wolverine. The favourite pastime of these best of friends is eel fishing—whether it's cutting through winter ice or catching in traditional stone weirs. This all changes when they encounter the giant river eel. *Wolverine and Little Thunder* is a contemporary invocation of traditional Mi'kmaq knowledge, which reinforces the importance relationship between the Mi'kmaq and the eel, a food source traditionally offered to Glooscap, the Creator.



fresh

Putting new members in the KNOW!

Email your name, home address, and the name of your school with **FRESH FRENCH** in the subject line to theteacher@nstu.ca by November 30, 2023 to be eligible for the draw.

Ligne de Trappe

par David A. Robertson

Illustrations de Julie Flett

Publié par Scholastic

Un jeune garçon voyage vers le nord à la découverte de la ligne de trappe de son Moshom, son grand-père. Celui-ci explique à son petit-fils que les lignes de trappe sont des territoires où les gens chassent les animaux et vivent de la terre. Puis il l'emmène là où il a grandi, et le jeune garçon apprend bien plus de choses qu'il ne l'avait imaginé. La vie de ses ancêtres était-elle si différente de la sienne aujourd'hui?



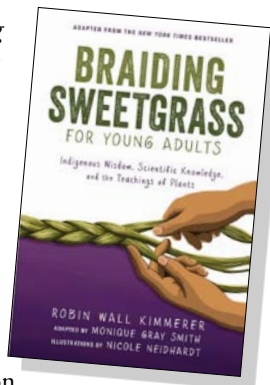
EQUITY BOOK REVIEW

Email your name, home address, and the name of your school with **EQUITY** in the subject line to theteacher@nstu.ca by November 30, 2023 to be eligible for the draw.

Braiding Sweetgrass for Young Adults

by Robin Wall Kimmerer, adapted by Monique Gray Smith, Illustrations by Nicole Neidhardt

Published by Zest Books™, *Braiding Sweetgrass for Young Adults: Indigenous Wisdom, Scientific Knowledge, and the Teachings of Plants* draws on Kimmerer's experiences as an Indigenous scientist and botanist. She demonstrates how all living things—from strawberries and witch hazel to water lilies and lichen—provide us with gifts and lessons every day. Adapted for young adults by Monique Gray Smith, this new edition reinforces how wider ecological understanding stems from listening to the earth's oldest teachers—the plants around us. It brings Indigenous wisdom, scientific knowledge, and the lessons of plant life to a new generation.



CONGRATULATIONS To Our September Book Winners!

EQUITY

Meagan Smith — TCRCE

FRESH English

Rhonda L McLean — CCRCE

FRESH French

Pascale Landry — CSANE

PATHWAYS 4 PL

Sarah Haughn-Fancy — SSRCE

The WELL TEACHER English

Douglas Perry — AVRCE

The WELL TEACHER French

Carrie LeBlanc — HRCE

PROJECT OVERSEAS 2024



Are you ready for something more in your professional life?

Are you looking for a larger, more global view of education?

As a teacher, do you feel you have more to offer and more to learn?

Are you ready for a personal and professional adventure?

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

Volunteer for PO with the Canadian Teachers' Federation (CTF/FCE)

The CTF/FCE is seeking English and French-speaking Canadian teachers at the elementary and secondary levels who are interested in volunteering their time and talents to offer professional development in-service programs in partnership with teacher organizations in developing countries. Each year, over 50 Canadian teachers are chosen to volunteer on CTF/FCE's PO in countries throughout Africa and the Caribbean. The PO in-service projects take place in July.

All candidates must:

- be a Canadian citizen;
- hold a Canadian passport valid until at least July 2025 at the time of application (proof that a passport application has been made will be accepted);
- be a member of a provincial or territorial teacher organization that supports PO;
- hold a valid teaching certificate;
- have completed at least five years of teaching in Canada by July 2024;
- be in excellent health and be able to work in developing country conditions;
- have high standards of professionalism and personal conduct;
- show evidence of flexibility and mature judgment;
- be willing to put the team and project needs above personal needs.

Please note:

PO is a volunteer experience. Administrative, travel, and living expenses are covered by the CTF/FCE and its Member Organizations. No salaries or honoraria are paid to PO participants. No family or friends are permitted to accompany the PO participants during pre-departure orientation or overseas programs.

Please contact your provincial or territorial teacher organization for additional information and an application form.



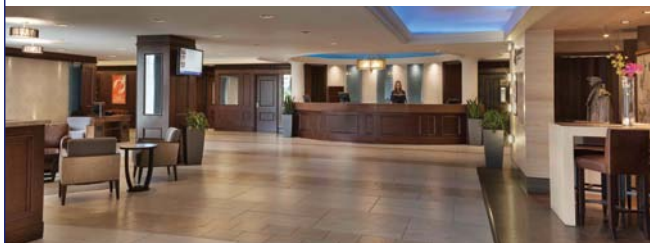
www.ctf-fce.ca



NSTU's provincial executive donned this year's Mi'kma'ki Strong's #EveryChildMatters Orange Shirts in honour of the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation, at its September 15th meeting.

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'



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

coming events

OCTOBER

Mi'kmaw History month

Wikipatmu'k Mi'kmawey – Honouring of the Mi'kmaw Way

Each October, in an effort to assist all Nova Scotians in increasing their knowledge and awareness of Mi'kmaw culture, history and heritage, the Mi'kmaw History Month committee encourages educational and cultural activities. This year marks the 30th Anniversary of the Proclamation recognizing October as Mi'kmaw History Month.

Teachers, students and schools across the province focus on the

history, culture and achievements of the Mi'kmaw community. It also provides a time to reflect on our own understanding of the contributions and traditions of the Mi'kmaw community.

Mi'kmaw History Month 2023 honours **Mi'kmaw Sports, Traditional Games and Pastimes** as the theme for this year's History Month poster. From archery to lacrosse, from waltzes to wapnaqnk, traditional sports and games have connected Mi'kmaw people to each other and to the ancestors who came before. The team at Mi'kmawey Debert, including renowned Mi'kmaw artist Gerald Gloade have carefully crafted the message that sports, games and pastimes have been a tool to develop young minds. These teachings carry us into ways of thinking, moving and being as adults.

Be a part of Mi'kmaw History Month and celebrate the proud history of sports across Mi'kma'ki and beyond! For further information visit: <http://mikmaqhistorymonth.ca>

MI'KMAW
WIKIPATMU'K HISTORY MONTH OCTOBER
2023

Mi'kmaw Sports, Traditional Games, and Pastimes

Sport demands training not only body and mind, but heart and spirit as well. Coaching and teaching in Mi'kmaw culture are holistic and young people learn by doing. Kojus dancing merges movement with sound and spirit in a fun and competitive atmosphere.

"For me, the flight of the arrow is an extension of who I am and who my ancestors were. It is still who we are today."
Clifford Paul
Membertou Mi'kmaw community

With deep roots in Mi'kma'ki, hockey might be the most popular sport within Mi'kmaw communities today. Two large tournaments gather teams from across Mi'kma'ki and beyond each year. The Wallace Bernard Memorial Native Youth Hockey Tournament honours its namesake as a champion of Mi'kmaw sports and one of the first organizers of the Nova Scotia Mi'kmaw Summer Games. The Peter and Mary Agnes Julian Memorial Hockey Tournament celebrates their life-long dedication to sports within Mi'kmaw communities, including starting the Nova Scotia Indian Sports Program.

Lacrosse, known to some as the Creator's Game, grew out of a diverse group of intense and fierce ballcourt games that were known throughout eastern North America. Ballcourt games were played for several thousand years before Europeans and others arrived. Hockey, basketball and even soccer share the same form, with teams vying to move a ball or disc across a field or floor. These games connected hundreds of different nations across territories, creating opportunities to share and to learn from one another.

"We are so lucky to have the whole community behind us. They are the ones that come together and make it possible for us to travel and compete. I definitely wouldn't be where I am today without my community."
Sara-Lynne Knockwood
Sipekne'katik First Nation

Mi'kmaw guides, largely from the district of Kespekwik, were renowned across North America in the early 20th century. With skills like hunting, fishing and canoeing rooted in traditional and generational knowledge, Mi'kmaw dominated sports show circuits. The competitions hosted a wide range of events for both men and women, including log-rolling, chopping, sawing, canoe-racing, shooting, fly-rolling and swimming.

For generations, participation in sports and games have grown Mi'kmaw ways of knowing and being, teaching young ones how to hear, how to see, and how to move. Competition sharpens skills and builds endurance, speed and strength. Sports demand young ones predict what will happen before it has actually occurred. Using this kind of pattern recognition together with all of our senses makes great hunters and skilled warriors. These teachings carry us into ways of thinking, moving and being as adults.

Sports are not only about training and growth, but also about spirit and ceremony. Many athletes show gratitude to the Creator by continually striving for perfection. Traditional activities like archery, waltzes, lacrosse, and wapnaqnk connect people to each other and to ancestors who have come before them.

Sports and games allow generations of spectators, coaches and participants to grow up together through annual events and gatherings. Food, entertainment and socializing involve everyone. Many games have elements of chance that allow spectators to join in the fun. Our value of inclusion encourages all to participate!

Indigenous Services Canada | Services aux Autochtones Canada | @Mikmaq_HM | #MikmaqHistoryMonth | MI'KMAW | NOVA SCOTIA | The Confederacy of Mainland Mi'kmaw | Native Council of Nova Scotia | Union of Nova Scotia Mi'kmaw

NSTU Representatives BE THE CONNECTOR

Communications

Distribute / post NSTU information from provincial, regional, and Local NSTU networks

Share updates, benefits of membership + events with members at staff meetings or electronically

Leadership

Conduct NSTU votes, hold special meetings, liaise with the NSTU, etc

Advise members who to contact with questions or concerns

Connector

Direct members to the appropriate Local, regional, or provincial support personnel

Welcome new members to the responsibilities and benefits of membership

Ensure new members register with the NSTU

Complete the membership registry for your site twice per year (Sept & Feb)

Knowledge

Learn firsthand about your rights, benefits, and opportunities

Attend NSTU meetings including Local meetings, Asking Package or Tentative Agreement sessions

Take part in rep training and workshops to confidently fulfill the role

Networking

Make new friends and connections in our profession



**Nova Scotia
Teachers Union**

Unlock your potential, strengthen our solidarity.

Members recognized for their service to NSTU

At a special evening recognition event on September 22, 32 NSTU members were honoured with Local Service Awards. These Local leaders have a wealth of experience of service to education, their students and colleagues. Whether they have taken on the role as NSTU representatives at their worksites, served as a member of their Local Executives, or been on provincial and/or national committees, these members have left their mark on public education in Nova Scotia.

This is the third time that these deserving members have been recognized during an event early in the school year. This new tradition began after 2020 when COVID restricted large gatherings. Local Service awards used to be presented during NSTU's Annual Council weekend.

Recipients unable to attend last year's event in October were given the opportunity to be honoured at this year's event. NSTU President Ryan Lutes presented the awards along with NSTU's Executive Director Steve Brooks. The event included a dinner and social gathering following the presentation.



Shown in the photo seated (l – r): Lori MacIntosh (Colchester-East Hants), Raylene Nicolson (Cape Breton District), Lori MacKinnon (Yarmouth), Collène Cyr and Caroline Linehan (CSANE), and Deborah Walker, Elizabeth Thomas, and Krista Moore (Digby). Standing 1st row: Michelle Gorham (Shelburne County), Mark Bezanson (Annapolis), Glenys Stephenson (Yarmouth), Paul Boudreau (Halifax County), Hope Lemoine, Tammy Harrison and Chris Weeks (Cumberland), NSTU president Ryan Lutes, Mark Savoury (Dartmouth), Amanda O'Regan-Marchand (Antigonish), Line Murphy (CSANE), Gina White accepting the award for Rob Barrett (Colchester-East Hants) posthumously, Lawrence Rigby (Halifax County), Yolanda Aubrecht (Cape Breton District) and Mary Murrin (Antigonish). 2nd Row: Jason Jennings (Halifax County), Desiree Daniele (Halifax County), Lindsay Crossman Wheaton (Cumberland), Tanya Smith (Halifax County), Paul MacLean (Richmond), Lisa Cameron and Karen MacIsaac (Inverness), and Peter Murphy and Scott Murchison (Cape Breton District). Missing: Grant Frost (Halifax County).

Negotiations Update

The Provincial Negotiating team held a series of negotiation sessions since the beginning of the school year with the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development's negotiating team.

The parties met September 11, 12 and 13, October 3, 4, and 5, and October 11, 12 and 13. Future dates are scheduled for January 10 and 11, 2024.



GRANTS
OF
UP
TO **\$500**
FOR YOUTH-LED
CLIMATE
ACTION PROJECTS.

- Open to grades P-12 and community youth groups.
- Don't have a grant idea? Check out our hands-on Climate Action Workshops!
- Two grant deadlines this school year - apply by **November 30** or **March 28!**

 **APPLY AT:**
cleanfoundation.ca/education

2023-24 Local Presidents and RRC Chairs

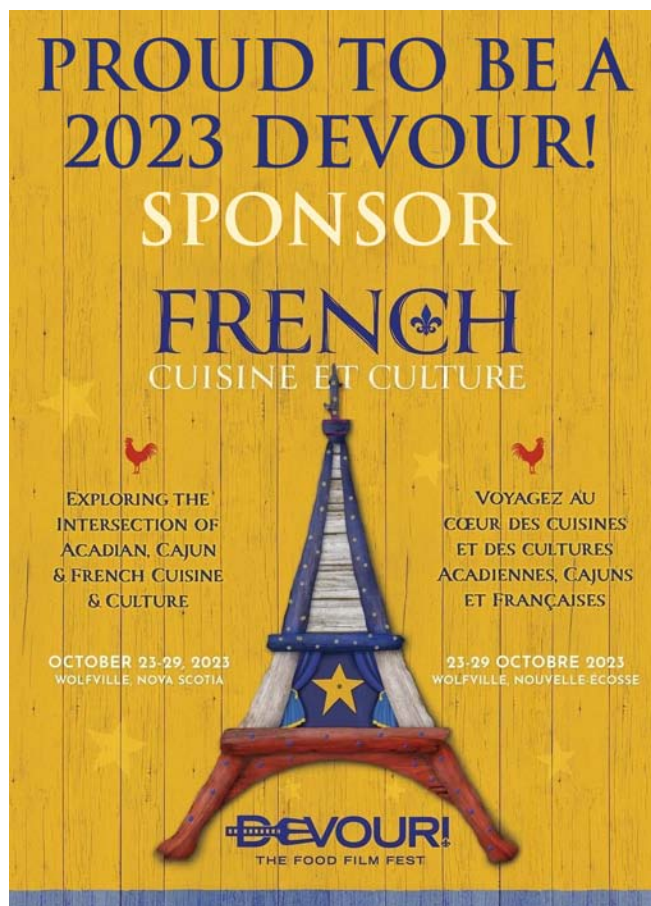


Above are NSTU's Local presidents and RRC Chairs for the 2023-24 school year. Seated: Chris Doiron (Dartmouth Local president and Halifax RRC Chair), Adam Boyd (Annapolis Valley RRC Chair), Paula Landry (Strait RRC Chair), Doug Read (Pictou Local president and Chignecto RRC Chair), Dawn Spracklin (Cape Breton District Local president and Cape Breton-Victoria RRC Chair), Mai Ling Storm (South Shore RRC Chair) and Sarah Acker (Shelburne County Local president and Tri-County RRC Chair). 1st row standing: Dean Marchand (Antigonish), Isabelle Cotnoir (CSANE), Lacey Phinney (Guysborough County), Joanne Richardson-Landry (Kings), Dave Currie (Northside-Victoria), Laura Fryday (Queens), Danielle O'Brien (Richmond), Heather Hiscock (Annapolis), and Liette Doucet (Halifax). 2nd Row standing: Lisa Brett (APSEA), Lee-Anne McKoy (Cumberland), Shane Goucher (Hants West), Shawn Hanifen (Halifax County), Vince Jessome (Inverness), NSTU president Ryan Lutes, Chad Warren (Yarmouth), Nadine Arnold (Colchester-East Hants), and Danielle Quinlan (Digby). Missing: Denise Burgess (Lunenburg County).

executive highlights

September 15, 2023

- Filed the Table Officers Report;
- Selected members as delegates to the NSFL Biennial Convention;
- Selected a member to serve on the Ad Hoc Committee on NSTU Governance;
- Selected members to serve on the Ad Hoc Committee on Union/Rep Engagement;
- Approved a recommendation that an advertisement be placed to fill three (3) vacancies on the Ad Hoc Committee on Union/Rep Engagement;
- Selected members to serve on the Comité de programmation acadienne;
- Selected a member to serve on the Pension Committee;
- Selected a member to serve on the Political Action Committee;
- Approved a recommendation that an advertisement be placed to fill one (1) vacancy on the Political Action Committee from the Tri-County Region;
- Selected a member to serve on the Professional Associations Coordination Committee;
- Elected an Executive Member to serve on the Governance & Policy Committee; and
- Elected an Executive Member to serve on the Resolutions Committee.



Education Research Award presentation

Kings Local president Joanne Richardson Landry presented Lysane Comeau-Sine (left) with her NSTU Education Research Award certificate on September 27. She received her Education Research Award for: *Les Pronoms Neutres* and was one of six teachers to receive awards during the 2022-2023 school year. She's a high school French Immersion teacher at Northeast Kings Education Centre.

During this year's Professional Association Conference Day, she will be presenting her research at the Nova Scotia Language Teachers' Association Conference. Her presentation focuses on evolving language and how more students feel safe and comfortable to be their authentic selves. With that, the French language is just beginning to be more inclusive for these students. Many students and teachers do not know how to use gender neutral pronouns in French. Her workshop was put together with the help of 2SLGBTQIA+ students, many of whom are in French immersion. She has spent time over the last few years researching and learning with students about gender neutral pronouns while speaking French.

Since 2003 the NSTU has recognized teachers for completed education research. An annual fund of \$3,500 encourages and assists education research, with no individual award exceeding \$500. The deadline for next year's applications is December 6, 2023 by 4:00 p.m. For more info: <https://nstu.ca/nstu-members/professional-development/grants-opportunities/study-and-research-grants>



**Calling all
teachers of
grades 4, 5
and 6!**



REGISTER NOW

**Get your students writing for
the Meaning of Home contest!**

JANUARY 8 TO FEBRUARY 23, 2024



SAGEN™

Meaning of Home

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learn more at meaningofhome.ca**

Teachers' Pension Plan Inc.

Board of Directors

Call for applications

The NSTU Provincial Executive is inviting applications from **retired** NSTU members for one (1) Director's position on the Teachers' Pension Plan Inc. Board. Operating under a Trust Agreement, this nine-member corporation oversees the administration of the Plan and the investment of the Plan's assets.

The NSTU is currently seeking:

- **One (1) retired member** – For a three-year term, renewable for a second three-year term. If you are interested in this appointment, please complete this application form and indicate your knowledge or experience with the criteria below and other related information.

Criteria for selecting persons for the above positions include:

- (a) Has considerable knowledge about the Teachers' Pension Plan;
- (b) Has experience in and/or knowledge about investments particularly the investments of pension funds; and
- (c) Has experience as a Trustee or has a working knowledge of trusts.

Name: _____ Prof. Number: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Postal Code

Phone: _____ (Fax) _____ (Email) _____

Have you previously applied for an NSTU standing or *ad hoc* committee? Yes ☐

If so, when? _____ No ☐

OTHER PERTINENT INFORMATION (e.g., skills, interests, relevant courses, professional development, or experiences that relate to this Board. You may attach additional information to this application.)

* Please attach an additional sheet to list the NSTU Committees on which you served at the Local and Provincial Levels as well as the Offices you've held at the Local and Provincial Levels.

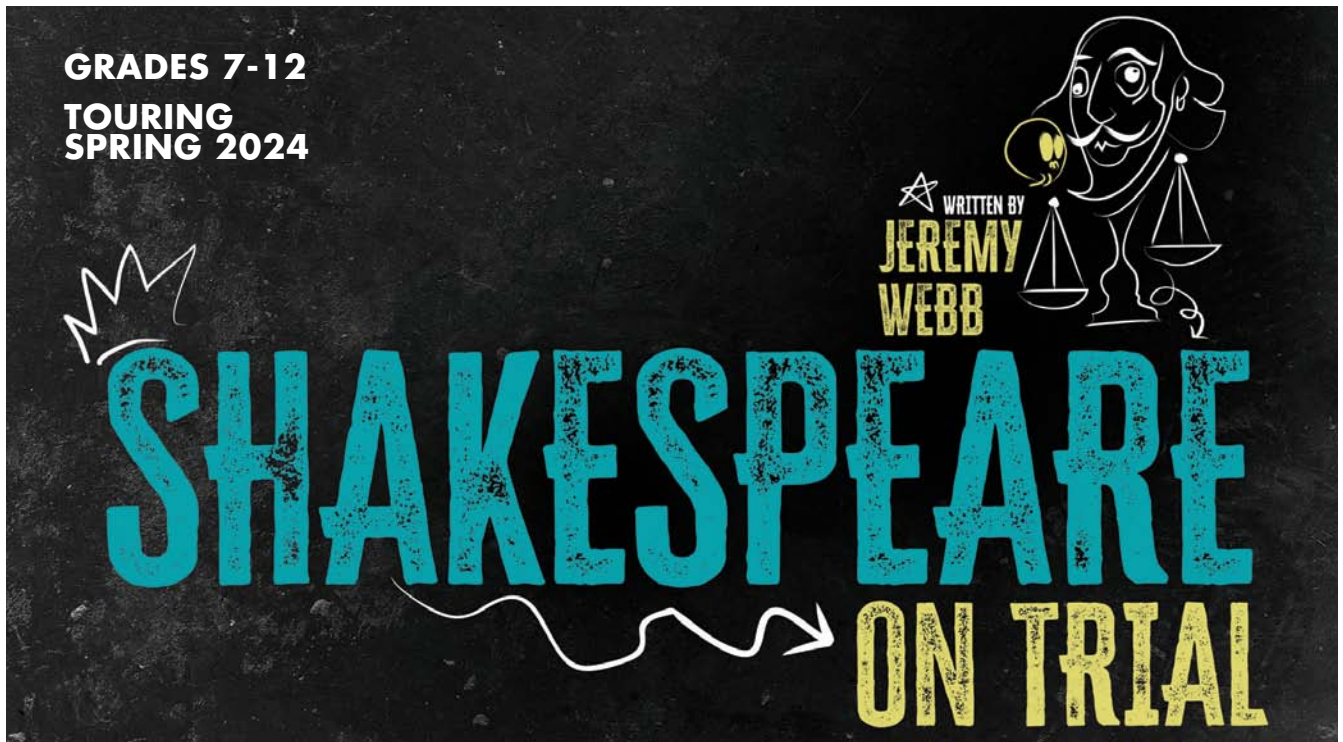
Submit to: executivedirector@nstu.ca

**Applications must be received in Central Office
by 12:00 noon, November 24, 2023**

The NSTU has an affirmative action policy that encourages participation of women, visible minorities, native persons and physically-handicapped persons within the teaching profession. Should you choose to provide any relevant information, please indicate:

This form is also found on the NSTU website. www.nstu.ca/notices

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EARLY BIRD PRICING VALID UNTIL SEPTEMBER 30, 2023 NEPTUNETHEATRE.COM/TOURCO



TOURCO



AVIS

canada **life**

THROUGH THE GENEROUS DONATIONS OF
JASON ROTH AND
CHERYL STEADMAN ROTH

NSTU Local presidents and RRC Chairs gather for biannual conference

This year's first Local President/RRC Chair conference, held on September 22 provided NSTU's Local leaders with valuable information to help ensure they are successful in their roles. This conference included sessions presented from member services, professional learning, and communications and public affairs. A session with one of NSTU's registered counselling therapists, Sandra Murray entitled *Working With Heightened Members* provided the leaders with strategies to use when dealing with difficult members, and colleagues, and how to treat them with dignity and compassion. Another session, facilitated by professional learning staff officers Meg Ferguson and Amanda O'Regan-Marchand shared a new workshop offering for the 2023-24 school year, *NSTU Olympics*. This engaging session helps participants learn all about the NSTU in a fun way using a multiple choice quiz format.

The day-long conference, organized by NSTU executive staff officer Meg Ferguson included sessions about: provincial negotiations; chairing meetings; engaging with MLAs; inclusion, diversity and equity; and engaging volunteers.



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



Représentants du NSTU SOYEZ LE RELAYEUR

Communications

Distribuez ou publiez l'information du NSTU en provenance de ses réseaux locaux, régionaux et provincial

Parlez des dernières nouvelles, des avantages de l'adhésion et des événements avec les membres lors de réunions du personnel ou par voie électronique

Relayeur

Dirigez les membres aux membres appropriés du personnel de soutien au niveau local, régional ou provincial

Présentez les responsabilités et les avantages des membres aux nouveaux membres

Veillez à ce que les nouveaux membres s'inscrivent auprès du NSTU

Remplissez le registre des membres de votre établissement deux fois par année (septembre et février)

Connaissances

Apprenez de première main vos droits, avantages et possibilités

Assistez à des réunions du NSTU, y compris à des réunions locales ainsi qu'à des séances sur les demandes et un accord de principe

Participez à la formation pour les représentants et à des ateliers sur la façon d'assumer son rôle avec confiance

Leadership

Tenez des votes sur les affaires du NSTU, organisez des réunions spéciales, communiquez avec le NSTU, etc.

Indiquez aux membres la personne à qui faire part de leurs questions ou préoccupations

Réseautage

Faites-vous de nouveaux amis et établissez de nouvelles relations au sein de notre profession



**Nova Scotia
Teachers Union**

Réalisez votre potentiel et renforcez notre solidarité



World Teachers' Day Statement – Teachers Helping Students Make Sense of This World

The Council of Atlantic Provinces and Territory Teachers' Organizations (CAPTTO) issued the following joint statement on World Teachers' Day, October 5, 2023. CAPTTO is comprised of the provincial teacher organizations for New Brunswick (NBTA, AEFNB, NBTF), Newfoundland and Labrador (NLTA), Nova Scotia (NSTU), Nunavut (NTA) and Prince Edward Island (PEITF).

On World Teachers' Day, the Canadian Teachers' Federation (CTF/FCE) and other organizations representing teachers across the country are celebrating the work our members do to ensure all children have a brighter future through the theme: *Teachers: making sense of our world*. This year's theme is both a reminder of educators'

great worth and an anchoring thought for those who support them.

In these turbulent and stressful times children and youth, more than ever, are looking for answers about where and how they fit into society. By working to create inclusive and safe spaces where students are free to express themselves in the absence of fear or discrimination, teachers are empowering students to discover their authentic voice.

Teachers equip each successive generation with the knowledge and skills to think for themselves, understand the value of collaboration, broaden their understanding and perspectives, and enable them to contribute positively to their communities.

On World Teachers' Day 2023, we

wish to express our admiration and thanks to teachers across our region and Canada for the amazing work they do each and every day in support of students. We also renew our promise to protect the rights of teachers and to advocate for a strong, publicly funded public education system.

As part of this commitment, we are calling on governments and education entities to fulfill their obligation of ensuring that every classroom in every school is provided with adequate resources to meet the complicated and diverse needs of all students. Every child deserves a healthy learning environment where they can thrive and reach their potential. Unfortunately, at the present moment, this just isn't the case. Greater investment and effort are needed to brighten the future of every student.

Please help us support Canadian teachers by challenging governments to take a hard look at the conditions facing publicly funded education. We can and must do better for our kids and their teachers.

PRIX LITTÉRAIRE - LE CHOIX DES JEUNES **HACKMATAACK** CHILDREN'S CHOICE BOOK AWARD

Readers choose
the winners!

English fiction
& nonfiction

Register now!



Les lecteurs
choisissent
les lauréats !

Documentaire &
roman français

Inscris-toi !

HACKMATAACK.CA

Hackmataack is a literary program that connects readers in grades 4-6 with great Canadian books and authors. 20 shortlisted English books!

Hackmataack est un programme littéraire qui connecte les lecteurs de la 4e à la 6e année avec des bons livres et auteurs canadiens. 20 livres français finalistes !





The NSTU Group Insurance Trustees want to provide you with a detailed guide on your prescription drug coverage, aiming for clarity and ease of use. Here's what you need to know:

Coverage Features

- ❖ Provides you and your family with broad protection against the cost of prescription drugs dispensed on a doctor's prescription.
- ❖ A \$5.00 co-pay is required for each prescription.
- ❖ Your NSTU Total Care Benefit Card must be presented at participating pharmacies for direct billing.
- ❖ Over-the-counter drugs are generally not covered unless they are life-sustaining.
- ❖ Generic drugs will be used in place of brand name drugs when medically appropriate.

Important Provisions

- ❖ All new drugs to market must be approved by a review board before they're covered under the Total Care Medical Plan.
- ❖ If you are prescribed a medication that requires individual approval, you will be asked to provide medical information to Medavie Blue Cross for assessment. Your pharmacist will provide the appropriate form(s) to you when you present your prescription, or you may obtain one from Medavie Blue Cross.

Prescription Quantities

For certain long-term or maintenance medications, you can get a 100-day supply. Some of the categories of medications that may be obtained on this basis are listed below:

Cardiovascular Drugs

Thyroid Preparations

Diuretics

Antiarthritics

Anticonvulsant Drugs

Antitubercular Agents

Therapeutic Vitamins

Potassium Replacement Therapy

Oral Hypoglycemic Agents

Antilipidemic Drugs

Antihypertensives

For Members Over 65

- ❖ Prescription drug coverage ceases at age 65. However, spouses under 65 are covered at 80% after a \$25.00 annual deductible is paid.
- ❖ Residents of Nova Scotia are eligible to enroll in the Nova Scotia Seniors' Pharmacare Program.



Prescription Drugs

Frequently Asked Questions



Q: What is the co-pay amount for each prescription?

A: The co-pay amount for each prescription is \$5.00. Your pharmacist will directly bill Medavie Blue Cross for the covered amount and inform you of any additional payment, including the co-pay, that may be required.

Q: Are over-the-counter medications covered?

A: Generally, over-the-counter medications are not covered unless they are life-sustaining drugs.

Q: How does the plan handle generic vs. brand-name drugs?

A: The plan defaults to providing generic drugs when they are available and medically suitable. However, if a physician indicates “no substitution” on the prescription due to medical reasons, the plan will cover the cost of the brand-name drug.

Q: What happens if I am prescribed a medication not on the approved list?

A: For drugs not on the approved list, or new drugs, a review process is required. You may need to provide additional medical information for individual approval by Medavie Blue Cross.

Q: Is there prescription drug coverage for members over 65?

A: Coverage ceases at age 65. If you have a family plan and your spouse is under 65, they will be covered at 80% after satisfying a \$25.00 annual deductible.

For more information on the benefits and programs available under the NSTU Group Insurance Program, please visit the NSTU Group Insurance Trust website at www.nstuinsurance.ca.

Important Update from Managed Health Care Services Inc. (MHCSI)

This program provides an additional coverage of up to \$2.00 per prescription towards your out-of-pocket expenses when filling a prescription at a Lawtons or Sobeys Pharmacy. Please review the important plan information below regarding your MHCSI benefits.

The MHCSI Member Newsletter

For more information about your MHCSI membership – including health awareness, services available at our preferred pharmacy network stores, and our Scene+ exclusive offers – visit [MHCSI | Member Communications](#) to sign up to receive our newsletter.

Lawtons Drugs Partner Discount Card – Expiry Date Update

The current Lawtons Drug Partner Discount cards in circulation, with an expiry date of December 31, 2023, will continue to be honoured at all Lawtons Drugs locations past the expiry date. Lawtons Drugs will not issue new cards unless a replacement is requested due being lost or damaged.

The MHCSI and Claim Secure Member Website and App

Your personalized MHCSI Benefit Card and Lawtons Partner Discount Card are now available in digital format through our app and website. Visit your eProfile on the MHCSI website and member app to make this update to your account. To find the app, please search for “**MHCSI mobile**” in the app store. Using eProfile is the best way to access your MHCSI Benefit information online. To enjoy the convenience of MHCSI’s secure online services, you’ll need to set up your own personal eProfile account.

Registering for your Online Account

- Sign up for eProfile at <https://eprofile.claimsecure.com>
- Select “**Register**” and follow the prompts to input your information and complete your eProfile registration.
- As part of the registration process, you do not need to enter direct deposit information to access the benefits of this program. Please bypass this section.
- Need help? Visit www.myeprofile.ca/learn-more/ and select “**Registration**” to watch the how-to video on registering.



Not an MHCSI member? Please contact your group administrator or MHCSI at mhcsi.groupadmin@mhcsi.ca for enrollment details.

PROJET OUTRE-MER DE 2024



Voulez-vous
ajouter un peu
de piment à
votre vie

Désirez-vous
acquérir une
perspective
mondiale de

Pensez-vous que
vous avez plus à
offrir et plus à
apprendre?

Souhaitez-vous vivre une
nouvelle aventure
professionnelle et
personnel?

Si oui, le Projet outre-mer est peut-être fait pour vous!

Portez-vous volontaire pour le Projet outre-mer de la Fédération canadienne des enseignantes et des enseignants (CTF/FCE)!

La CTF/FCE est à la recherche d'enseignantes et enseignants francophones et anglophones des paliers élémentaire et secondaire qui souhaitent faire don de leur temps et de leurs talents afin d'offrir des programmes de perfectionnement professionnel en partenariat avec des organisations de l'enseignement dans des pays en développement. Chaque année, plus d'une cinquantaine de membres de la profession enseignante du Canada sont choisis pour participer bénévolement au Projet outre-mer de la CTF/FCE dans des pays d'Afrique et des Caraïbes. La formation en poste à l'étranger se déroule au mois de juillet.

Chaque candidat et candidate doit répondre aux exigences suivantes :

- être de citoyenneté canadienne;
- avoir, au moment de la présentation de la demande, un passeport canadien valide au moins jusqu'en juillet 2025 (une preuve qu'une demande de passeport a été faite est acceptée);
- adhérer à une organisation provinciale ou territoriale de la profession enseignante qui appuie le PO;
- être titulaire d'un certificat d'aptitude pédagogique reconnu;
- au mois de juillet 2024, cumuler au moins cinq années d'expérience de l'enseignement au Canada;
- jouir d'une excellente santé et pouvoir travailler dans des conditions comme celles qu'on retrouve dans les pays en développement;
- faire preuve d'un grand professionnalisme et avoir une conduite personnelle exemplaire;
- faire preuve de souplesse et de jugement;
- être prêt à faire passer les besoins de l'équipe et du programme avant ses besoins personnels.

Remarque

La participation au Projet outre-mer est bénévole. Les dépenses administratives et les frais de voyage et de séjour sont assumés par la CTF/FCE et ses organisations membres. Les personnes participantes ne touchent pas de salaire ou d'honoraires. Les membres de la famille et les amies et amis ne peuvent accompagner les participantes et participants ni pendant le stage d'orientation pré départ ni pendant l'affectation à l'étranger.

Veuillez communiquer avec votre organisation de l'enseignement provinciale ou territoriale pour obtenir plus d'information et un formulaire de demande de participation.



www.ctf-fce.ca

resources

Guardians of the Grasslands Game

Launched by Public and Stakeholder Engagement (PSE), a national Check-Off funded program that aims to build public trust in the way beef cattle are raised in Canada, the Guardians of the Grasslands Game is based on the award-winning short documentary released in 2019.

The game aims to teach students the ecosystem services provided by raising cattle on grasslands and is an online grazing simulation connected to curriculum outcomes for students in Grades 7 through 12 in subjects such as Science. Participants learn how cattle promote carbon sequestration and provide wildlife habitat through rotational grazing on native grasslands. By moving cattle at the right

time, and leaving enough grass behind, players earn carbon points and attract numerous species of wildlife to their land. Other stewardship practices, like using off-stream watering systems, are also featured along with invasive weeds that must be managed through grazing or avoided for toxicity concerns.

This project was made possible through the Youth Literacy in Agriculture funding grant provided by the Canadian Agricultural Partnership (CAP) with the Government of Alberta, as well as financial contributions provided by PSE, the Canadian Cattle Foundation and Ducks Unlimited Canada. In-kind sponsorship of the game was provided by Birds Canada



and the Nature Conservancy of Canada. A French game will also be available soon.

Check out the Guardians of the Grasslands Game at www.gotgame.ca. For more information visit: www.guardiansofthegrasslands.ca.

Canadian Marine Careers Foundation's Education Package

The Canadian Marine Careers Foundation (CMCF) has released educational materials designed to ignite curiosity and inspire career seekers to dive into the diverse opportunities within the marine sector. Developed in consultation with industry stakeholders and educators, this first-of-its-kind package of unbranded materials is available both English and French. Targeting middle and high school students, the materials aim to raise awareness about Canada's vibrant marine sector and showcase the multitude of rewarding career paths it offers. Through these materials, the CMCF aims to engage and inspire the next generation of marine professionals, contributing to the sustained growth and development of Canada's marine sector.

The creation of this package was generously sponsored by the Chamber of Marine Commerce. The package includes personas, digital infographic, poster, animated video, brochures, and an interactive quiz.

For more information about the Canadian Marine Careers Foundation and its educational materials, please visit <https://imagine-marine.ca/>.

Vimy Inspires Tomorrow Program

Vimy Foundation, a Canadian charitable organization dedicated to raising awareness, promoting and preserving Canada's heritage of the First World War has recently launched its revisited leadership program – *Vimy Inspires Tomorrow (VIT)*.

Bring *Vimy Inspires Tomorrow* to your community groups and encourage youth to submit an initial project idea to be eligible for a \$2,500 project grant. *VIT* is a history-based leadership program for youth in Canada, ages 13-17 designed to encourage youth to develop leadership skills that they can use to make a positive impact in their communities.

Through six free modules (available [here](#)) drawing on different aspects of First World War history, participants learn how numerous Canadians took on leadership roles, and the impact of their

decisions, actions, and contributions during and after the war. Whether virtually or in-person, the modules were built and reviewed by educators (download the [Facilitator Guide](#)) and contain all the tools and background information needed to bring these history-based activities to your group of youth.

Then participants apply the skills and knowledge they have gained towards the creation of or contribution to a transformative community project. **Youth who complete the program are eligible for a project grant of \$2,500** to assist them in bringing their project to life.

Individual youth and community groups can now apply [here](#)! **The deadline for applications is December 11, 2023.** Learn more: <https://vimyfoundation.ca/programs/vimy-inspires-tomorrow>.



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 HRCE Elementary Teacher looking for one year job exchange (potentially longer) with teacher in CBVRCE. French qualified. Possible housing swap. Contact: Hrcetocbce@gmail.com

Inexpensive Uncontested Divorce

DIVORCE SOLUTION MEDIATION SERVICE

Helping families since 1995

info@divorcesolution.ca

902-510-0460

divorcesolution.ca

Divorce Solution Mediation Service is offering
a 20% discount to NSTU members.

Provincial Executive Orientation

New members of NSTU's provincial executive spent the day of September 14 in an orientation at NSTU's central office meeting with staff and getting information in the areas of governance, professional learning, finance, public relations and communications and the Member Assistance Program.



Seated: Janet O'Brien (Antigonish-Guysborough), Melissa Deveau (Annapolis-Hants West-Kings), and Very Ryan (Digby-Shelburne-Yarmouth). Standing: Grant Frost (Halifax County), and Nancie de la Chevotière (Halifax City).



2023-2024 NSTU Retirement Seminars SCHEDULE



| DATES | REGION | LOCATION |
|--------------------------------------|--------|--|
| October 18-19, 2023 (Wed. & Thurs.) | CBVRCE | Sydney <i>Holiday Inn Waterfront</i> |
| October 25-26, 2023 (Wed. & Thurs.) | CCRCE | New Glasgow <i>Summer Street Industries</i> |
| November 7-8, 2023 (Tues. & Wed.) | AVRCE | Greenwich <i>Old Orchard Inn</i> |
| November 22-23, 2023 (Wed. & Thurs.) | TCRCE | Yarmouth <i>Tru by Hilton</i> |
| November 29-30, 2023 (Wed. & Thurs.) | HRCE | Halifax <i>Holiday Inn Express Bedford</i> |
| December 6-7, 2023 (Wed. & Thurs.) | SSRCE | Bridgewater <i>Best Western Plus</i> |
| January 9-10, 2024 (Tues. & Wed.) | CCRCE | Truro <i>Hampton Inn</i> |
| February 13-14, 2024 (Tues. & Wed.) | HRCE | Halifax <i>Nova Scotia Teachers Union</i> |
| February 21-22, 2024 (Wed. & Thurs.) | HRCE | Halifax <i>Nova Scotia Teachers Union</i> |
| March 6-7, 2024 (Wed. & Thurs.) | HRCE | Halifax <i>Dartmouth Courtyard Marriott</i> |

CHICAGO

A Drag-Along Spectacular

DIRECTED BY ROUGE FATALE

NOV 18TH, 2023, AT 8:30 PM
LIGHT HOUSE ARTS CENTRE
\$30 PER TICKET, \$400 PER TABLE, FEES APPLY
GET YOUR TICKETS NOW ON EVENTBRITE

The deadline for the
November/December issue of *The
Teacher* is November 18

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