



## Welcome Back

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

Welcome to another new school year! We hope that you have been able to enjoy some quality time for yourselves during this summer making memories with your families and getting back to the activities you enjoy.

Your Professional Learning team of Wendie, Amanda and Pamela are looking forward to (re)connecting with you this year. Whether it is through workshops, rep retreats or conferences, we have some returning and some new offerings planned and we can't wait to share the news!

One of the first new items that you may notice this year is the information booklet for registering for Professional Associations' conferences. This resource outlines the roles of the Professional Associations, processes for online registration, and for refunds and reimbursements. As we transition to in-person professional learning again, we want to ensure that members are feeling informed about the processes.

Our ad-hoc committee for Equity Deserving members will be releasing an online survey to gather information from our members who come from equity-deserving groups to add their voice to our goals and mission moving forward. This is more than just an information gathering tool as the committee will also be hosting the first ever *Encourage, Engage and Evolve Summit* in Halifax on December 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup>. This summit will involve members from across the province, sponsored by their Local or region to participate in Professional Learning designed for their needs and to support their own professional path. The information collected from the survey will help to inform all future events of the NSTU so all levels of our organization can be as accessible and inclusive as possible. Keep your eyes open for how to register for this opportunity in the next edition of *The Teacher*!

Some of our opportunities remain the same in terms of our grants, conferences and learning opportunities and we are very excited to invite you to participate in these offerings: The John Huntley Internship Program (deadlines October 1, February 1 and April 1 of each year), Professional Development Grant applications, PDAF applications (various deadlines throughout the year-consult your handy Member Diary), serving on a provincial committee or attending CONTACT in August 2023 in Charlottetown, PEI (contact your local President/VP of PD for details). Our aim is to support you in furthering your professional goals while also keeping your own wellness at the forefront.

**ATTENTION VPs of PD!!!** There is a conference JUST FOR YOU on November 4 and 5, 2022 at the Hotel Halifax. During our Friday evening and Saturday morning, your Provincial PD committee and I will be offering workshops and opportunities to support you in your roles in your regions. Registration for this will open in October.

Our calendars are quickly filling up so we invite you to contact the Professional Learning department via phone, or email if you would like to arrange workshops for your area!

All the very best for a healthy, safe and successful September!

Your Professional Learning team,

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