

# NSTU urges Government action on public education challenges

As a new school year begins, NSTU president Peter Day welcomed students and educators back to classrooms across the province, while recommending proactive measures to address ongoing challenges in public education.

“Teachers and specialists are eager to welcome their students back and help them succeed, but we cannot ignore the systemic challenges undermining our schools,” he says. “Government must act to retain teachers, reduce violence, and provide the supports needed to ensure every student can learn in a safe, caring environment. Our kids can’t wait.”

Day says he is encouraged by Government’s willingness to engage

with teachers and specialists on system improvements, noting that changes to the cell phone policy and the introduction of a lunch program are positive developments. However, he stresses that reducing school violence and meeting the needs of all students will require stronger action to address the teacher shortage.

“Ultimately, well-intentioned policies don’t create vibrant, healthy classrooms—teachers and school communities do,” says Day. “Right now, too many young teachers are choosing to leave the profession early. The government’s most urgent priority must be improving learning and working conditions and tackling the retention crisis. For our schools to succeed, they must be appropriately staffed.”

## Dear Colleagues,

*Welcome back to another school year!*

*I want to extend a warm welcome to teachers, specialists, students, and families across Nova Scotia. This is always an exciting time, filled with the promise of new opportunities and fresh beginnings as you reconnect with friends and colleagues after the summer break.*

*Every day, you bring extraordinary dedication and professionalism to your work. You give so much of yourselves to help students learn, grow, and succeed, and you should be proud of the impact you make. I encourage you to take pride in your efforts and accomplishments, and to find joy in the year ahead.*

*As your president, I will continue to advocate for the resources and supports that you and your students need. We must address the ongoing teacher shortage, with a strong focus on retaining both new and experienced teachers and specialists who are vital to the strength of our public education system.*

*At the same time, we all have a role to play in*

*ensuring our schools are safe. Addressing school violence and creating safer learning environments requires commitment and cooperation from teachers, government, families, and communities alike.*

*Your Union is Here for You*

*The NSTU is committed to offering you support, guidance, and advocacy. Our dedicated leaders and staff are ready to help. Don’t hesitate to reach out if you have concerns or need assistance. Visit <http://www.nstu.ca> to explore the full range of services available to you as a member. If you haven’t yet registered a preferred non-employer contact email with the NSTU, please visit [www.nstucentral.ca](http://www.nstucentral.ca) and do so today. This ensures you receive timely updates on important NSTU news and information. Stay connected by following us on our social media channels as well.*

*Connect with your school rep, Local President, or Provincial Executive member. They’re here to help you navigate everything the NSTU offers.*

*Together, we can build a stronger, safer, and*

*more supportive public education system, one that reflects the commitment of our teachers and specialists and gives every student the best possible chance to succeed.*

*On behalf of the NSTU, I wish you all a safe, successful, and rewarding school year.*



<https://www.facebook.com/nsteachersunion>



<https://x.com/NSTeachersUnion>



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



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

# people

## Elizabeth Thomas Joins NSTU as Executive Staff Officer

The Nova Scotia Teachers Union is pleased to welcome Elizabeth Thomas as its newest Executive Staff Officer. Bringing more than two decades of teaching experience and a distinguished record of leadership within the NSTU at the local, regional, and provincial levels, Thomas offers both passion and proven expertise to her new role.



A graduate of Saint Mary's University and Mount Saint Vincent University, she has taught a broad range of subjects in both French and English, spanning multiple grade levels. Her career has included teaching at Gaetz Brook Junior High and Five Bridges Junior High in the Halifax Regional Centre for Education, as well as St. Mary's Bay Academy in the Tri-County Regional Centre for Education.

Beyond the classroom, Thomas has been deeply committed to union service. She led the Digby Local as President, held numerous executive roles within the Local, and more recently served as Staff NSTU Rep at Five Bridges and treasurer of the Halifax Regional Representative Council. Her extensive involvement has also included serving on and chairing several NSTU committees and initiatives at all organizational levels.

Recognized for her ability to build strong professional relationships, resolve conflicts constructively, and foster collaborative decision-making, Thomas was honoured with the Digby Local Service Award in 2023.

In her new position, Thomas will continue to support, advocate for, and engage with NSTU members, working to strengthen the profession and champion the voices of educators across Nova Scotia.

## CTF/FCE AGM Delegates

Pictured are NSTU's delegates who attended the CTF/FCE Annual General Meeting held in Ottawa from July 9 to 11 in. In addition to the Executive Director, President and First Vice-President, NSTU members are elected as CTF delegates at NSTU's Annual Council and serve three-year terms. Left to right: Melanie Kennedy-Conrad (Halifax County), Lynnette Babin (Antigonish), NSTU Executive Director Bethany MacLeod, Viviane Abdallah (Dartmouth), First Vice-President Jo-Leigh MacPhee and NSTU President Peter Day.



## Park N'Fly contest winners



**Jennifer Ardley**

Wellington, NS

**Misty Martell-Ferdinand**

West Pugwash



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

**CEPA  
ACPÉ**



Published eight times a year  
(September-June)  
by the **Nova Scotia Teachers Union**  
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](mailto:theteacher@nstu.ca)  
Website: [www.nstu.ca](http://www.nstu.ca)

Submission deadlines for 2025-2026:

ISSUE	DEADLINE
September	September 3
October	October 10
December	December 5
Jan/Feb	January 23
March	March 6
April	April 10
May	May 15
June	June 19

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).**

© Nova Scotia Teachers Union 2025

## NSTU and CSAP sign regional Agreement

On July 16, NSTU president Peter Day and CSAP Board Chair Dianne Racette signed a new regional collective agreement. CSAP's 616 public school members endorsed the tentative agreement reached between the NSTU and CSAP on May 2, 2025. In an online vote, held on June 10, 65 per cent of members of the CSANE Local voted 96 per cent in favour of the new regional agreement.

The term of this agreement runs from the official signing until July 31, 2029. The agreement was reached over 11 days of bargaining. "This agreement reflects a positive and productive process, and I commend both parties for engaging in respectful and cooperative negotiations," says NSTU president Peter Day.

Highlights of the new collective agreement include the enhancement of recall right for term teachers, greater transfer rights for permanent teachers, special leaves improvements and Union release time for the president now enshrined in the agreement. Although both French and English remain official languages in the agreement, in there is a dispute the French language version will be utilized.

The negotiating team for the Union was comprised of NSTU Executive Staff Officer Paul Boudreau as chief negotiator, NSTU Assistant Executive Director Janine Kerr, CSANE President Isabelle Cotnoir, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President Tara McCormick, past-president Sue Larivière-Jenkins, and treasurer Collène Cyr. Members of the employer's team were CSAP's Director of Human Resources Janice Godin as chief negotiator, CSAP's director of learning and inclusive education Marc Deveau, Southern Region director

Krista Luttmer, and principal of École secondaire de Par-en-Bas Marc Émond.



*Shown (left to right) standing: CSANE President Isabelle Cotnoir and CSAP Superintendent Michel Collette. Seated: CSAP Board Chair Dianne Racette and NSTU president Peter Day.*

## 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**







# Teachers Plus

## CREDIT UNION

### Teacher Wish List Grant



**Teachers:**  
What do you  
wish you  
could buy  
for your  
classroom?

#### CONTEST RULES

Open to teachers  
who teach in a Nova  
Scotia school.

Purchases should be items that  
are not normally covered by the  
Department or RCE.

See details on our website  
and information page &  
apply now!

#### **Deadline:**

Friday, October 10, 2025

**Apply on our website:**  
**[www.teachersplus.ca](http://www.teachersplus.ca)**

**Contact us:**  
**1-800-565-3103 or**  
**[info@teachersplus.ca](mailto:info@teachersplus.ca)**

**Connect with us on social media for  
more information:**

**Instagram: @TeachersPlusCredit**

**Facebook: @TeachersPlusCU**

**Twitter: @TeachersPlus\_CU**



## NSTU Stands with Pride

This summer, NSTU members, staff, and their families proudly participated in Pride parades across the province, showing solidarity with 2SLGBTQIA+ communities and continuing the work toward safer, more inclusive schools.

Since 2004, NSTU policy has championed an education system that is safe, welcoming, and affirming for people of all sexual orientations and gender identities.

NSTU Locals and the NSTU president celebrated and showed solidarity at Truro Pride on June 28, Annapolis Pride on July 5, Cumberland Pride and South Shore Pride on July 6, Halifax Pride on July 19, and Cape Breton Pride in Sydney on August 9.

With banners, lanyards, t-shirts, and buses, NSTU made its presence known—while also proudly sponsoring Halifax Pride and Pride Cape Breton.



*The NSTU president joined members of the Colchester-East Hants Local at the Truro Pride Parade.*



*Peter Day is shown with members of the Annapolis Local at the Pride Parade in Annapolis Royal.*



*Pride Cape Breton*



*Halifax Pride*





# Welcome to a New School Year!

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

We hope your summer was filled with rest, renewal, and memorable moments. As we head into a new school year, your Professional Learning team members—Wendie, Amanda, and Pamela—are excited to support you with updated resources and refreshed workshop opportunities for your Locals. We're looking forward to another great year of learning and growth together.

## Important Update – Professional Association Conference Registration

Conference registration will open on Monday, September 15th for NSTU Members ONLY. To register, you will need your NSTU username (the first part of your former NSTU email address) and password. This change ensures that seats are prioritized for NSTU members.

If you need help accessing your account or resetting your credentials, please contact: [webaccounts@nstu.ca](mailto:webaccounts@nstu.ca) as soon as possible.

## New Member Lanyards Are on the Way

Locals will receive our New Member Lanyards this month. As in previous years, each lanyard includes a keychain with a QR code linking to the Early Career Handbook. This digital guide is full of live links and helpful resources for early career teachers and those new to Nova Scotia.

## Professional Learning Opportunities for 2025–2026

We're excited to share several opportunities for professional growth this year:

- Conference Grants (now open to Reserve Members/Substitutes) – Apply by the first Wednesday in October

- John Huntley Internship Program – Deadlines: October 1st, February 1st, and April 1st
- PDAF Applications – Due: August 1st, October 1st, December 1st, February 1st, April 1st, and June 1st (Check your Member Diary)
- Provincial Committees – Get involved in shaping the profession
- CONTACT 2026 Conference – Coming to Wolfville, NS in August 2026 (Reach out to your Local President or VP of PD for more info)

We're here to support your professional growth and make the most of these opportunities—don't hesitate to reach out.

## A Note for VPs of PD

Your shared Google folder has been updated with:

- New deadline graphics for 2025–2026
- The latest NSTU Professional Learning brochure

If you need access to the folder, please contact Executive Staff Officer [Amanda O'Regan-Marchand](mailto:Amanda.O'Regan-Marchand@nstu.ca) for the link.

## Book Your Workshops Early

Our calendars are filling up quickly. To schedule workshops in your area, please reach out to the Professional Learning department by phone or email.

Wishing you a safe, healthy, and successful start to the school year.

## Your Professional Learning team,

Wendie Wilson ([wwilson@staff.nstu.ca](mailto:wwilson@staff.nstu.ca))

Amanda O'Regan-Marchand ([amarchand@staff.nstu.ca](mailto:amarchand@staff.nstu.ca))

Pamela Langille ([plangille@staff.nstu.ca](mailto:plangille@staff.nstu.ca))

Janice MacKenzie ([appl@nstu.ca](mailto:appl@nstu.ca))



PROFESSIONAL LEARNING  
APPRENTISSAGE PROFESSIONNEL



PROFESSIONAL LEARNING  
APPRENTISSAGE PROFESSIONNEL

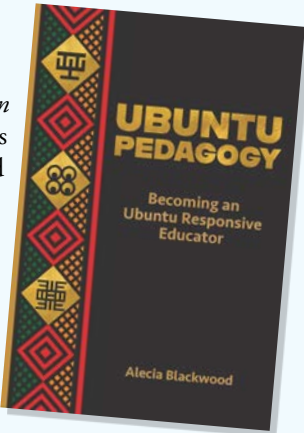


**pathways**  
FOR PROFESSIONAL LEARNING

Email your name, home address, and the name of your school with **PATHWAYS** in the subject line to [theteacher@nstu.ca](mailto:theteacher@nstu.ca) by **October 10, 2025**, to be eligible for the draw.

**Ubuntu Pedagogy**  
by Alecia Blackwood  
Myers Education Press

*Ubuntu Pedagogy: Becoming an Ubuntu Responsive Educator* is a powerful narrative grounded in the author's personal journey and extensive teaching experience in the United States. It traces her travels to Southern Africa in search of a deeper understanding of what it truly means to "teach in the spirit of Ubuntu." Through this exploration, the book reveals the transformative impact of Ubuntu—an ancient African philosophy centered on human connection, compassion, and collective well-being. It illustrates how embracing Ubuntu principles can foster inclusive, engaging, and meaningful learning environments.



## The John Huntley Memorial Internship Program

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

**October 1, February 1  
& April 1.**

*Applications for active NSTU members are available through your NSTU rep, on the NSTU website at [www.nstu.ca](http://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.*



## Asking Package Submission Request

In preparation for the next round of bargaining, the NSTU Provincial Economic Welfare Committee is seeking member input for the creation of our Asking Package.

If you have any ideas which could improve teacher work, or if you think there are things which should be changed in your provincial agreement, please submit your ideas to the Committee through email at [askingpackage@nstu.ca](mailto:askingpackage@nstu.ca).

Submissions do not need to be on a specific form and do not need to be written in contractual language. The email including your submission must come from a non-employer email and should include your name, Regional Centre or Board and your professional number.

For your convenience, you may find a copy of the current Teachers' Collective Agreement in [French](#) or [English](#)

Submissions to be considered in the upcoming round of negotiations should be submitted prior to October 15, 2025. The Committee will consider each submission carefully before deciding which submission will be included in our presentation to the employer.

## Teachers' Pension Act Regulations

In 2019, the Regulations under the *Teachers' Pension Act* were amended in 2019 to increase the number of days that a person in receipt of a Teachers' Pension could work as a substitute teacher (or auxiliary faculty member) to 99.5 days without affecting their pension.

For the 2024-2025 school year, the number of days a person in receipt of a Teachers' Pension could work as a substitute teacher (or auxiliary faculty member) was increased to 119.5 days. The sponsors of the Teachers' Pension Plan have recently agreed to extend this amendment for the 2025-2026 school year.

For the 2025-2026 school year, persons in receipt of a Teachers' Pension can:

1. Work for less than 70 days (up to 69.5 days) in a term position;
2. Work for less than 120 days (up to 119.5) days as a substitute teacher or auxiliary faculty member; and
3. Days in item 1 count towards the days in item 2.

If you have any questions regarding this amendment, please feel free to contact us at [pension@nstu.ca](mailto:pension@nstu.ca).

# Being Proactive with your Wellness

by Hilary Brousseau, OT Reg. (NS), Occupational Therapist/  
Case Coordinator, NSTU Early Intervention Program

At the start of a new school year, it is easy to get caught up in the hustle and bustle that September brings—new students, new assignments, and new routines. After the summer break, you may be feeling ready to throw yourself back into a new school year. However, before you dive in headfirst, it is important to take time to consider one often overlooked factor: your own wellbeing. No matter how you felt by the end of last June, now is the time to take steps to set yourself up for a successful year.

## Reflect

Maybe you finished the last school year feeling pretty good. If that's the case, what did you do that made the school year successful? How did you address challenges when they came up? Are there any areas for improvement?

You may have struggled to make it to the end of June or been left feeling not-so-great at some points throughout the year. Maybe this was a new feeling for you or maybe you've noticed a pattern of difficulties across many school years. Before you get too busy, take time to reflect on how you felt throughout the last school year. In what ways did you feel unwell (physically, mentally, etc.)? At what point did you notice you were having difficulty with your wellness? What were the warning signs? Were there challenges during the school year that you weren't prepared for?

## Plan

Now that you have a better understanding of what went wrong—or right, you can use that knowledge to plan. If things went well for you last school year, how can you implement a similar plan for this year? Did you do something different compared to previous years that led to your success? Maybe you started your report cards earlier rather than leaving them to the last minute, talked to a counsellor, or started going for walks at lunch with a coworker. Whatever it was, how can you keep that in place, and maybe even build on it?

If things didn't go well last school year, what will you do differently this year? Can you predict some of the challenges you may face this school year and plan to address them? Are there resources or supports you could put in place to

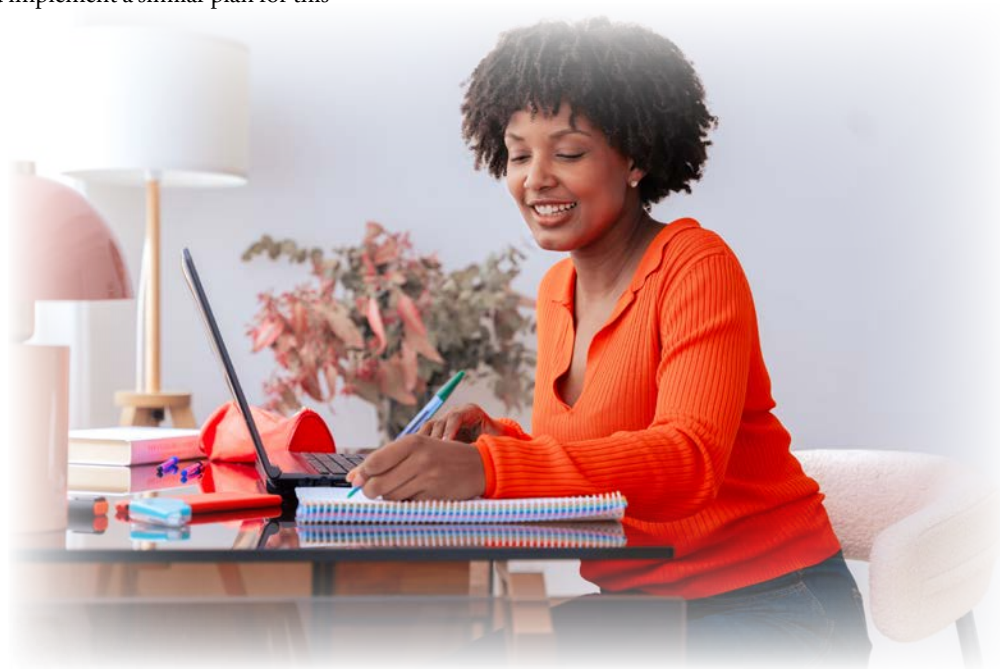
ensure you feel better this year? It can be difficult to implement wide-sweeping changes all at once, so you may find it more manageable to pick one or two small things to focus on. Once you've got the hang of those, you can add more.

## Act

Once you've made your plan for the year, it's time to start putting it into action. Challenge yourself to act before the end of the month, even if you're still feeling good. The further you get into the school year, the busier things become, and the more likely it is that your own wellbeing will be put on the back burner. This can create bigger problems down the road if issues aren't addressed as they arise.

As you're settling into a new routine, now is the time to incorporate habits that will contribute to your wellness, rather than detracting from it. Small actions like making an appointment with a healthcare provider, blocking off time in your calendar regularly for self-care, or adjusting your classroom or workstation can go a long way in improving your wellbeing throughout the school year. You can also take a few minutes to check out the programs that are available to you free of charge through the NSTU's Member Assistance Program at [nstuinsurance.ca](https://nstuinsurance.ca).

The NSTU's Early Intervention Program is available to members who are working or on paid sick leave and are experiencing an illness or injury. For more information on the Early Intervention Program, visit [nstuinsurance.ca](https://nstuinsurance.ca). To self-refer to the program, please email [nurse@nstu.ca](mailto:nurse@nstu.ca) or call 1-800-565-6788.



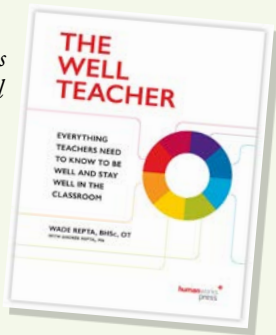


# the well teacher

Email your name, home address, and the name of your school with **WELL TEACHER** in the subject line to [theteacher@nstu.ca](mailto:theteacher@nstu.ca) by **October 10, 2025**, to be eligible for the draw.

**The Well Teacher**  
by Wade Repta, BHSc, OT  
with Andrée Repta, MA  
Humanworks Press

*The Well Teacher, Everything Teachers Need to Know to be Well and Stay Well in the Classroom* provides teachers with valuable tips, tools, and information on how to improve personal well-being and address teacher wellness barriers. It equips teachers with the skills they need to become more resilient, happy, and healthy in and out of the classroom.



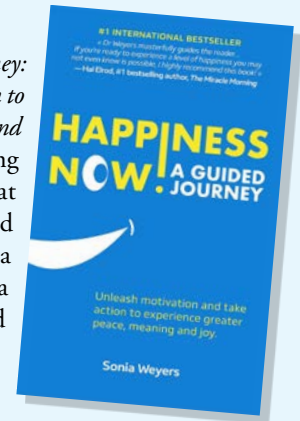
# Bēginnings

Putting new members in the KNOW!

Email your name, home address, and the name of your school with **BEGINNINGS** in the subject line to [theteacher@nstu.ca](mailto:theteacher@nstu.ca) by **October 10, 2025**, to be eligible for the draw.

**Happiness Now!**  
by Sonia Weyers  
Eudokima Editions

*Happiness Now! A Guided Journey: Unleash motivation and take action to experience greater Peace, Meaning and Joy* is an international best-selling personal development book that explores how you live your life and how you could improve it. Sonia Weyers guides you in creating a plan to begin your journey toward your TRUE Happiness.



# EQUITY COMMITTEE

Email your name, home address, and the name of your school with **EQUITY** in the subject line to [theteacher@nstu.ca](mailto:theteacher@nstu.ca) by **October 10, 2025**, to be eligible for the draw.

**Beyond the Orange Shirt Story**  
by Phyllis Webstad  
Medicine Wheel Publishing

*Beyond the Orange Shirt Story: A collection of stories from family and friends of Phyllis Webstad - Before, during, and after their Residential School experiences* is a unique collection of truths, as told by six generations of Phyllis Webstad's family revealing what life was like before, during, and after their Residential School experiences. Survivors and Intergenerational Survivors share their authentic stories making readers more aware of the many challenges faced by many Indigenous peoples in Canada that go Beyond the Orange Shirt Story.



# June Book Winners!



Janie Holden — TCRCE

# Bēginnings

Putting new members in the KNOW!

Stacia Findlay — CCRCE



Adele Pellerin — HRCE



Jan Mills — CBVRCE

# 2025 NSTU Professional Associations Conferences

## FRIDAY, OCTOBER 24



**Online Registration**  
**Opens – Monday, Sept 15 (members)**  
**Friday, October 3 (non-members)**  
**Closes – Friday, October 10**  
**(no refunds after October 10)**

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

Members, you will need to  
 know your login information  
 for the membership registry to  
 register for your conference

### Association des enseignantes et enseignants acadiens (AEA)

**Theme** *Repensons nos pratiques : inclure, innover, inspirer*  
**Location** Virtuel, Dartmouth & St FX  
**Fees** NSTU Members: \$100; Substitutes: \$50; Pre-Service Teachers: \$30; Retirees: \$50; Affiliates/Other: \$75  
**Contact** Stephanie MacLean  
 conferenceaea@nstu.ca

### Association of Science Teachers (AST)

**Theme** *Time for Science*  
**Location** Halifax West  
**Fees** NSTU Members: \$100; Substitutes: \$50; Pre-Service Teachers: \$100; Retirees: \$100; Affiliates/Other: \$100  
**Contact** Shelley Walsh  
 astconference@nstu.ca

### Art Teachers Association (ATA)

**Theme** *Make Your Mark: Handmade in Nova Scotia*  
**Location** Sackville High School, and CB Centre for Craft & Design  
**Fees** NSTU Members: \$100; Substitutes: \$60; Pre-Service Teachers: \$60; Retirees: \$60; Affiliates/Other: \$60  
**Contact** Jessie Tasker  
 ataconference@nstu.ca

### Association of Teachers of Every Child (ATEC)

**Theme** *Voices from the Heart of the Classroom*  
**Location** Scotiabank Theatre Halifax (Bayers Lake, 190 Chain Lake Drive)  
**Fees** NSTU Members: \$100; Substitutes: \$80; Pre-Service Teachers: \$60; Retirees: \$80; Affiliates/Other: \$100  
**Contact** Theresa Jennings  
 atecconference@nstu.ca

### Association of Teachers of English of Nova Scotia (ATENS)

**Theme** *Exploring Inquiry in the English Language Arts Context*  
**Location** Lighthouse Arts Center 1800 Argyle St, Halifax  
**Keynote** Trevor MacKenzie

**Fees** NSTU Members: \$100; Substitutes: \$90; Pre-Service Teachers: \$90; Retirees: \$90; Affiliates/Other: \$125  
**Contact** Liam Timmons  
 atensconference@nstu.ca

### Association of Teachers of Young Adolescents (ATYA)

**Theme** *"ATYA"tude is Everything!*  
**Location** Riverside Education Centre, 6 Riverside Drive, Milford, NS  
**Keynote** Chris Gilham, PhD  
**Fees** NSTU Members: \$100; Substitutes: \$90; Pre-Service Teachers: \$90; Retirees: \$100; Affiliates/Other: \$100  
**Contact** Mary Barrington George  
 atyaconference@nstu.ca

### Business Education Teachers Association (BETA)

**Theme** *Proudly Local : A closer look at some of the businesses that make us proud to be Nova Scotian*  
**Location** Wolfville  
**Fees** NSTU Members: \$100; Substitutes: \$100; Pre-Service Teachers: \$100; Retirees: \$100; Affiliates/Other: \$100  
**Contact** Dionne Reid  
 betaconference@nstu.ca

### Career & Technology Educators Association of NS (CTEANS)

**Theme** *Ed-YOU-cation: Supporting Your Innovation in CTE*  
**Location** West Bedford School  
**Fees** NSTU Members: \$100; Substitutes: \$20; Pre-Service Teachers: \$20; Retirees: \$20  
**Contact** Sarah Barrette  
 cteansconference@gmail.com

### Education Drama Association of Nova Scotia (EDANS)

**Theme** *Every Stage, Every Age*  
**Location** TBA  
**Keynote** Logan Robins  
**Fees** NSTU Members: \$100; Substitutes: \$55; Pre-Service Teachers: \$55; Retirees: \$55; Affiliates/Other: \$55  
**Contact** Kasi Humber  
 edansconference@nstu.ca

### Family Studies Teachers Association (FSTA)

**Theme** *Nurturing Skills, Inspiring Dreams*  
**Location** St. Matthew's Church, Barrington Street, Halifax  
**Keynote** Nova Scotia's Wandering Wilsons, Hope Blooms, and The EYM (Empower Youth Music) Project  
**Fees** NSTU Members: \$100; Substitutes: \$60; Pre-Service Teachers: \$60; Retirees: \$60; Affiliates/Other: \$100  
**Contact** Krista Slmm  
 fstaconference@nstu.ca

### Mathematics Teachers Association (MTA)

**Theme** *Making Connections: Ideas and Innovation*  
**Location** Charles P. Allen High School  
**Keynote** Pam Harris, and Dr. Marian Small  
**Fees** NSTU Members: \$90; Substitutes: \$50; Pre-Service Teachers: \$50; Retirees: \$50; Affiliates/Other: \$90  
**Contact** Erick Lee  
 mtaconference@nstu.ca

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

**Theme** *Supporting Newcomer Students and their Families*  
**Location** Hants North Rural High  
**Virtual**  
**Fees** NSTU Members: \$85; Substitutes: \$45; Pre-Service Teachers: \$45; Retirees: \$45; Affiliates/Other: \$45  
**Contact** Jeff Purchase  
 nsateeconference@nstu.ca

### Nova Scotia Language Teachers Association (NSLTA)

**Theme** *Language Learning in Diverse Classrooms*  
**Location** Dartmouth South Acadamey  
**Keynote** Jeff Ward, Director of Community Culture and Heritage Wagmatcook First Nation  
**Fees** NSTU Members: \$90; Substitutes: \$50; Pre-Service Teachers: \$50; Retirees: \$50; Affiliates/Other: \$90  
**Contact** Caroline Higgins  
 nsltaconference@nstu.ca

**NO ONSITE REGISTRATION**  
**Register Early!**



# 2025 NSTU Professional Associations Conferences

## FRIDAY, OCTOBER 24



**Online Registration**  
*Opens – Monday, Sept 15 (members)*  
*Friday, October 3 (non-members)*  
*Closes – Friday, October 10*  
*(no refunds after October 10)*

Please bookmark this page for reference



### Nova Scotia Music Educators Association (NSMEA)

**Theme** *Inspiring Voices: Cultivating Leadership in Music Education*  
**Location** Lockview High School Fall River  
**Keynote** Dr. Tim Lautzenheiser  
**Fees** NSTU Members: \$100; Substitutes: \$60; Pre-Service Teachers: \$15; Retirees: \$60; Affiliates/Other: \$60  
**Contact** Noelle Wadden  
 nsmeaconference@nstu.ca

### Nova Scotia School Counsellors Association (NSSCA)

**Theme** *Everyday Impact: Pragmatic Practices for School Counsellors*  
**Location** Citadel High School  
**Fees** NSTU Members: \$105; Substitutes: \$65; Pre-Service Teachers: \$65; Retirees: \$65; Affiliates/Other: \$105  
**Contact** Amy Barry  
 nsscaconference@nstu.ca

### Nova Scotia Teachers Association for Literacy and Learning (NSTALL)

**Theme** *Beyond Words*  
**Location** Cobequid Education Centre, Truro  
**Fees** NSTU Members: \$85; Substitutes: \$45; Pre-Service Teachers: \$45; Retirees: \$45; Affiliates/Other: \$45  
**Contact** Stephanie Deagle  
 nstallconference@nstu.ca

### Primary Elementary Teachers Association (PETA)

**Theme** *Mentor Texts Matter: Inspiring Stronger Writers*  
**Location** Cedar Event Centre  
**Keynote** Carl Anderson  
**Fees** NSTU Members: \$120; Substitutes: \$120; Pre-Service Teachers: \$100; Retirees: \$100; Affiliates/Other: \$100  
**Contact** Beth Lamb-Hamilton  
 petaconference@nstu.ca

### Psychologists in Schools Association (PISA)

**Theme** *Our Journey Through the Developing Nervous System as We Rewire Our Perceptions of Discipline*  
**Location** MSVU  
**Keynote** Dr. Lori Desautels

**Fees** NSTU Members: \$100; Substitutes: \$100; Pre-Service Teachers: \$80; Retirees: \$80; Affiliates/Other: \$100  
**Contact** Chantal LeBlanc  
 pisaconference@nstu.ca

### Speech-Language Pathologists and Audiologists Association (SPAAs)

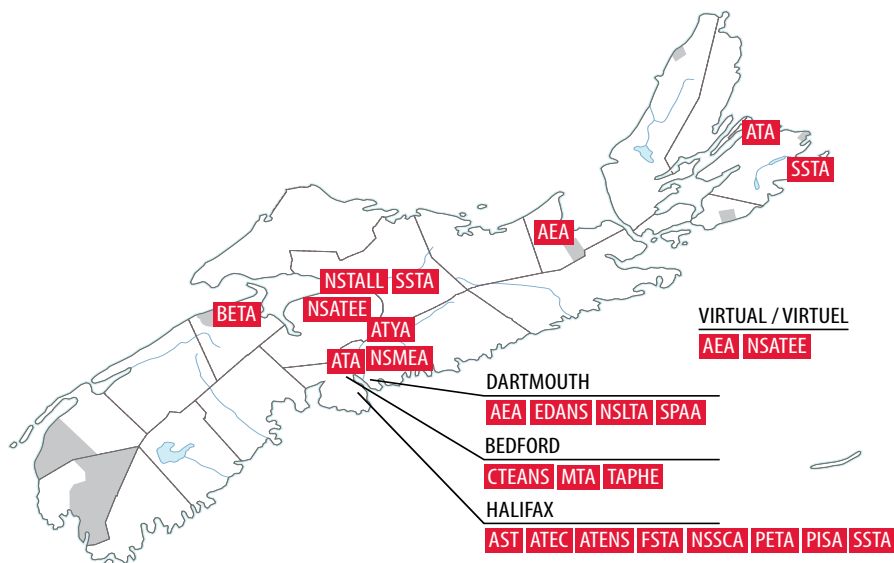
**Theme** *Comprehensive Literacy for All: Supporting Diverse Learners*  
**Location** Best Western Plus Dartmouth  
**Fees** NSTU Members: \$100; Substitutes: \$75; Pre-Service Teachers: \$75; Retirees: \$75; Affiliates/Other: \$75  
**Contact** Meghan MacNeil  
 spaaconference@nstu.ca

### Social Studies Teachers Association (SSTA)

**Theme** *Cultivating Creative Connections*  
**Location** Saint Mary's University, Louisbourg, and Millbrook Centre  
**Fees** NSTU Members: \$110; Substitutes: \$50; Pre-Service Teachers: \$50; Retirees: \$50; Affiliates/Other: \$50  
**Contact** Holly Schaller  
 sstaconference@nstu.ca

### Teachers Association for Physical and Health Education (TAPHE)

**Theme** *Strive to Thrive in 2025: Le bien-être et la santé est notre priorité!*  
**Location** École secondaire du Sommet  
**Keynote** Dr. Tina Atkinson  
**Fees** NSTU Members: \$90; Substitutes: \$35; Pre-Service Teachers: \$35; Retirees: \$35; Affiliates/Other: \$35  
**Contact** Kaelin Tingley  
 tapheconference@nstu.ca



Information Current as of the Printing of this Document

**NO ONSITE REGISTRATION**  
*Register Early!*

Register to  
become a  
certified  
**NOVA  
SCOTIAN  
ECOSCHOOL**



## JOIN A NATIONAL MOVEMENT

Empower your learners to become environmental leaders and earn certification for your school's sustainability efforts.



**REGISTER AT:  
ECOSCHOOLS.CA**

## EcoSchools Canada is:

- **Free** to all publicly funded and Indigenous schools.
- **Flexible and teacher-friendly:** Choose from a wide range of curriculum-aligned actions and Nova Scotia focused resources to fit your classroom goals.
  - Register as an entire school, class or club.
  - Start anytime!



## Stay Connected: Update Your Email with the NSTU

The NSTU's email system was officially decommissioned on July 18, 2025, resulting in the loss of @nstu.ca webmail addresses and associated content.

"If you haven't updated your email with us, please take a moment to do so—it's the best way to stay informed about important NSTU news and updates," says NSTU President Peter Day. "Simply sign in to the NSTU membership registry and add your personal email address."

To encourage members to provide a personal email, the NSTU ran an email update contest, offering members the chance to win one of 100 Sobeys gift cards valued at \$50 each. Members who submitted their personal email addresses by the end of June were entered into draws held on March 28, April 28, May 30, and June 26, all broadcast via Facebook Live.

"Direct communication with our members is essential, especially during crises, contract negotiations, and NSTU elections," says Day. "We're here to support you through the process, but your immediate action is needed."

To update your contact information, visit: <http://nstucentral.ca> and log in to your account.



*NSTU president Peter Day and NSTU's financial officer Melanie Waye are shown during the final draw of NSTU's Email Contest.*

## Labour Day 2025

Shown are members of the Cape Breton District Local with NSTU president Peter Day at this year's Labour Day Picnic in the Park in Sydney on September 1, hosted by the Cape Breton District Labour Council Labour Day. Activities took place around the province, in the Annapolis Valley, on the South Shore, and at the annual Labour Day march to the Peace and Friendship Park in HRM, hosted by the Halifax-Dartmouth and District Labour Council.



*NSTU members from the Dartmouth, Halifax City and Halifax County Locals participated in the annual Labour Day March in Halifax.*





**milk**  
**SPORT FAIR**

So many sports, so little time!

**OCTOBER 15 - 17**  
**BMO SOCCER CENTRE**

VISIT: **sport** nova scotia.ca



DAIRY FARMERS OF CANADA  
QUALITY MILK  
LES PRODUCTEURS LAITIERS DU CANADA  
LAIT DE QUALITÉ



TeachNutrition.ca  
By Dairy Farmers of Canada's Registered Dietitians



NOVA SCOTIA



TODAY'S BEST VARIETY  
100-1



RADIO 101.3



GLOBAL  
NOVA SCOTIA  
www.globalconnection.ca



Proxi



NOVA SCOTIA

• Teach Nutrition •  
**FREE RESOURCES**

**Ready-to-use food and nutrition resources for teachers.**

You will find books, games, videos, posters and more. All resources are created by Registered Dietitians and available in English and French.



Visit [TeachNutrition.ca](https://TeachNutrition.ca) to order or download free resources.

Follow us!



@TeachNutritionMaritimes

**TeachNutrition.ca**

By Dairy Farmers of Canada's Registered Dietitians



## NSTU Stands in Solidarity with DFA Members

On August 21, NSTU President Peter Day and members of the Provincial Executive joined Dalhousie Faculty Association (DFA) members on the picket line to show their support for fair bargaining. Representing nearly 1,000 professors, instructors, librarians, and professional counsellors, DFA members have been locked out by Dalhousie University since August 20. This follows an overwhelming rejection (82.7 per cent) of the university's final offer on August 11. As of August 28, DFA also declined a proposed interest arbitration process from the Board of Governors, which focused solely on wages and required the union to drop all other proposals. DFA has since filed a bargaining complaint with the Labour Board, citing the employer's direct communication with members outside the bargaining table. The DFA's contract expired on June 30, and negotiations, including conciliation, have not led to a new agreement.



*Shown with DFA members (second from left) are provincial executive members Doug Read (Pictou), Andrew McCara (APSEA), Vera Ryan (Digby-Shelburne-Yarmouth), and Lindsay Crossman Wheaton (Cumberland), and NSTU president Peter Day.*

## OUR POTENTIAL OUR PURPOSE\*

OUR POTENTIAL. OUR PURPOSE.  
is an interactive traveling exhibition  
designed for grade 6 to 12 classrooms.  
It showcases inspiring stories of people  
taking on big challenges like inequality,  
education access, and climate change to  
build stronger communities.  
Coming soon to a location near you!



Learn  
more





# coming events

**SEPTEMBER 18**

*TRW event in Halifax September 18*

*Calling all Atlantic Canada Educators!*

Truth and Reconciliation Week 2025 is coming to Halifax on September 18<sup>th</sup>! Bring your students to a transformative learning experience! This is a unique opportunity for students to engage directly with the truths of residential schools, learn about Indigenous history, and explore pathways to reconciliation. Witness powerful Survivor stories and participate in a vital conversation

about our shared future. Empower your students with essential knowledge and a deeper understanding of reconciliation.

The NSTU is a proud sponsor of this event. Don't miss this chance to be part of Truth and Reconciliation Week 2025. Register your class for "The Gifts We Carry Youth Empowerment Gathering" TODAY! <https://trw-svr.nctr.ca/youth-empowerment/secure-your-spot/>



**"The Gifts We Carry"**  
Youth Empowerment Gathering

« Les dons que nous portons »  
Rassemblement pour l'autonomisation des jeunes

**SEPT  
18  
2025**

**ATTEND IN PERSON**  
Scotiabank Centre, Halifax, NS  
**PARTICIPER EN PERSONNE**

**grades  
7-12  
année**

Register Your School to Attend!

Inscrivez votre école pour participer !

# NSTU's Ongoing Partnership with Mi'kma'ki Strong

In recognition of National Truth and Reconciliation Day on September 30, and as part of its ongoing commitment to reconciliation, the Nova Scotia Teachers Union continues its partnership with Mi'kma'ki Strong to co-create an #EveryChildMatters Orange Shirt. This initiative raises awareness of the legacy and impact of residential schools in Nova Scotia.

Now in its fifth year, the shirt campaign provides Orange Shirts to NSTU Locals across the province, while available, through Mi'kma'ki Strong's online store: <https://mikmakistrong.com>

This year's shirt design highlights the enduring collaboration between NSTU and Mi'kma'ki Strong. Jonathan Beadle, founder of Mi'kma'ki Strong and member of Pictou Landing First Nation, explains the inspiration behind the design:

"We wanted to publicly recognize the continued partnership between NSTU and Mi'kma'ki Strong in building awareness around Orange Shirt Day. This year, it felt especially important to

include the NSTU logo. The feather with a pen tip symbolizes the vital role of education in ensuring students learn the truth and history of Orange Shirt Day. It also represents the power teachers hold—to not only share the story, but to empower children to write their own path forward, creating their own recommendations for reconciliation with a feathered pen of their own."

A portion of proceeds from shirt sales supports programs for residential school survivors, delivered by Mi'kmaq-led organizations. Don't forget to tag #OrangeShirtDay and #Mi'kma'kiStrong in your social media posts on September 30 to show your support and solidarity.

## MI'KMA'KI STRONG & NSTU

**Mi'kma'ki Strong and NSTU:** Since 2021, the Nova Scotia Teachers Union has partnered with Mi'kma'ki Strong through a meaningful Orange Shirt Day campaign. This collaboration aims to raise awareness about the lasting impact of residential schools in Nova Scotia. By working together, the NSTU supports the Truth and Reconciliation process and helps engage both teachers and students in the broader journey of healing. The initiative aligns with Mi'kma'ki Strong's mission to honour survivors and their descendants by promoting education, awareness, peace, and friendship.

**Shirt Design:** This year's Orange Shirt Day design was created by Jonathan Beadle, founder of Mi'kma'ki Strong and a member of Pictou Landing First Nation. The shirts are printed locally at Pro Design Cresting in Truro.



**Jonathan Beadle shared the inspiration behind the 2025 design:** "We wanted to publicly recognize the continued partnership between NSTU and Mi'kma'ki Strong in building awareness around Orange Shirt Day. Including the NSTU logo in the design felt important. It features a feather with a pen tip, symbolizing the role of education in teaching children the history and significance of Orange Shirt Day. It also represents the power teachers hold—to not only share the story, but to empower children to write their own path forward, creating their own recommendations for reconciliation with a feathered pen of their own."

**Where to order:**

[HTTPS://MIKMAKISTRONG.COM/](https://mikmakistrong.com/)

A portion of shirt sales goes to support Sipekne'katik School survivors.

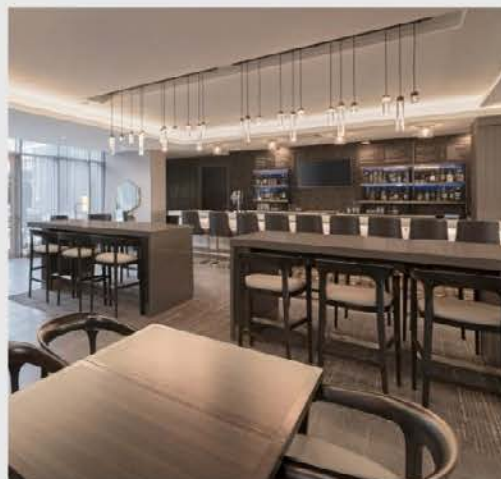
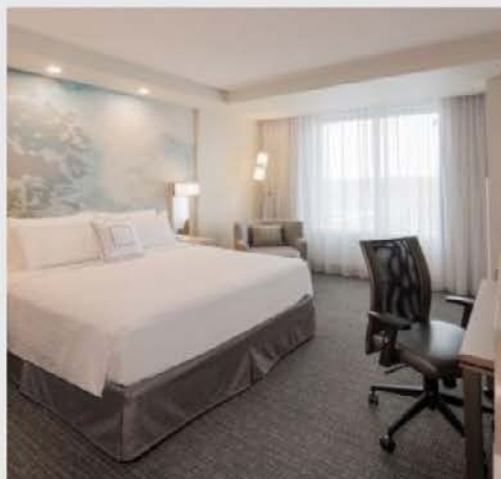
**Pewatm'g wantaqo'ti**





# COURTYARD<sup>®</sup>

BY MARRIOTT



## NSTU LEISURE RATE

Available for **Last Room Availability** for the remainder of 2025 until end of June 2027 (excluding predetermined blackout dates)

Choose from a room with 2 Queen Beds or 1 King Bed and enjoy:

- Complimentary Breakfast
- Free Onsite Parking
- High-Speed Wi-Fi

Rate: **\$119.00 per night**

Rates are net, non-commissionable, and do not include the 3% Marketing Levy or 14% HST.

How to Book:

Visit [Marriott.com](https://www.marriott.com) and enter **YTY** under the Corp/Promo Code



Standard King or  
Double Queen



Complimentary  
Breakfast



Complimentary  
Onsite Parking

## CONTACT US

902.406.3000

35 Shubie Drive, Dartmouth  
NS, B3B 0N4

[www.marriott.com/yhzc](https://www.marriott.com/yhzc)

# notices

## Join the Words Matter Campaign: Lead the Change Toward Inclusive School Communities

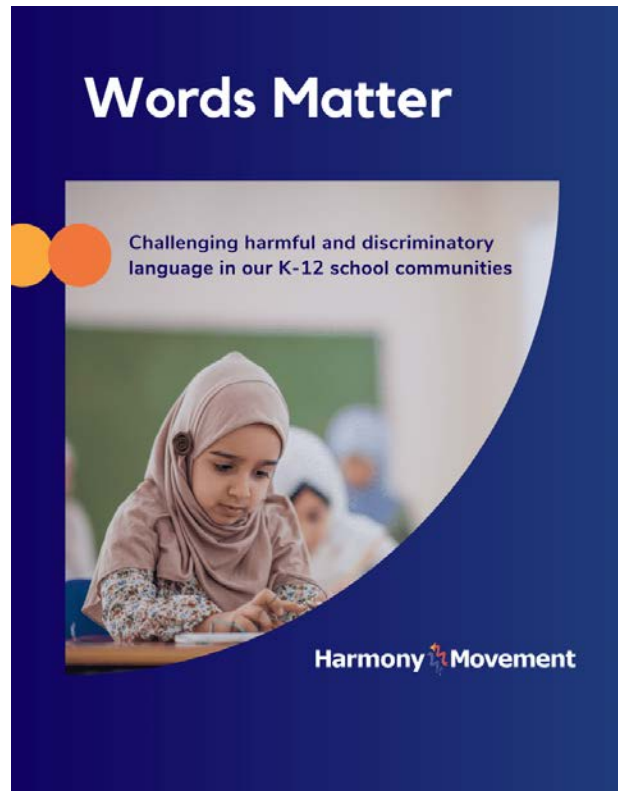
The *Words Matter Campaign* invites your school to be at the forefront of meaningful change by empowering your entire school community to address discriminatory language with confidence and care.

This initiative, created by the [Harmony Movement](#) goes beyond challenging harmful words. It's about building lasting, inclusive environments where every student and educator feels respected, valued, and safe. Through practical tools and actionable strategies, the campaign equips educators to respond effectively to discriminatory language and to cultivate a culture rooted in respect, equity, and belonging.

You're not alone in this. Schools across the country are facing this. As part of this campaign, your school will gain access to essential resources, interactive workshop materials, and a national network of peer support led by Harmony Movement and other dedicated partners.

Together, we can address the harm caused by exclusionary language and rebuild a stronger sense of community in our classrooms—one where every word matters.

Harmony Movement delivers interactive diversity and equity education programs that empower youth, educators, and social service professionals to lead social change through an equity lens, empathy, respect, and inclusive leadership.



## Nourish Nova Scotia Youth Food and Film Challenge

Nourish Nova Scotia is proud to be the youth programming partner for Devour! The Food Film Fest. Each year, as part of the festival, we host the Nourish Youth Food and Film Challenge – inviting school-aged children and youth from across Nova Scotia to submit a short film all about food.

This year's theme is "Celebrating Local", and Nourish Nova Scotia is looking forward to your students' creative take on what local food, farms, traditions, or community means to them. Whether it's a documentary, animation, or something totally unique – if it's about food and celebrates local, it belongs in the spotlight. This year they're offering even more support to help young creators bring their stories to life!

Together with [Wonder'neath Art Society](#) and [MacPhee Centre for Creative Learning](#), they're hosting two interactive film workshops with Art by Prince, designed for school aged youth (ages 18 and under).

Whether thinking about submitting a film or interested in learning more about the filmmaking process these workshops will help.

**Register for the Wonder'neath Workshop** – Sept 11<sup>th</sup> 4:00 – 6:30pm: <https://forms.gle/uSy6ibfer7xP7TzT8>

**Register for the MacPhee Workshop** – Sept 18<sup>th</sup> 4:00-6:30 pm: [https://macphee-centre.jumbula.com/InHouseSeptember2025/NourishYouthFoodandFilmWorkshop?fbclid=IwY2xjawMj1VBleHRuA2FlbQIxMABicmlkETFsZzN1NzVJU29LclE4b2VoAR64yU3U3JlA4PNJ5ibaFoF71CVzZpZ1RGURvxHvUEqP8-cjJZAP28oHLVRYsQ\\_aem\\_D3G8Fm2TBtLQkT71-dWZRA](https://macphee-centre.jumbula.com/InHouseSeptember2025/NourishYouthFoodandFilmWorkshop?fbclid=IwY2xjawMj1VBleHRuA2FlbQIxMABicmlkETFsZzN1NzVJU29LclE4b2VoAR64yU3U3JlA4PNJ5ibaFoF71CVzZpZ1RGURvxHvUEqP8-cjJZAP28oHLVRYsQ_aem_D3G8Fm2TBtLQkT71-dWZRA)

Learn more about the Youth Food and Film Challenge at <https://nourishns.ca/food-and-film-challenge/>

**Nourish**  
Nova Scotia





# Youth Food & Film Challenge

Devour! The Food Film Fest is back! As part of the festival, Nourish Nova Scotia is the Youth Programming Partner leading the 2025 Food & Film Challenge.

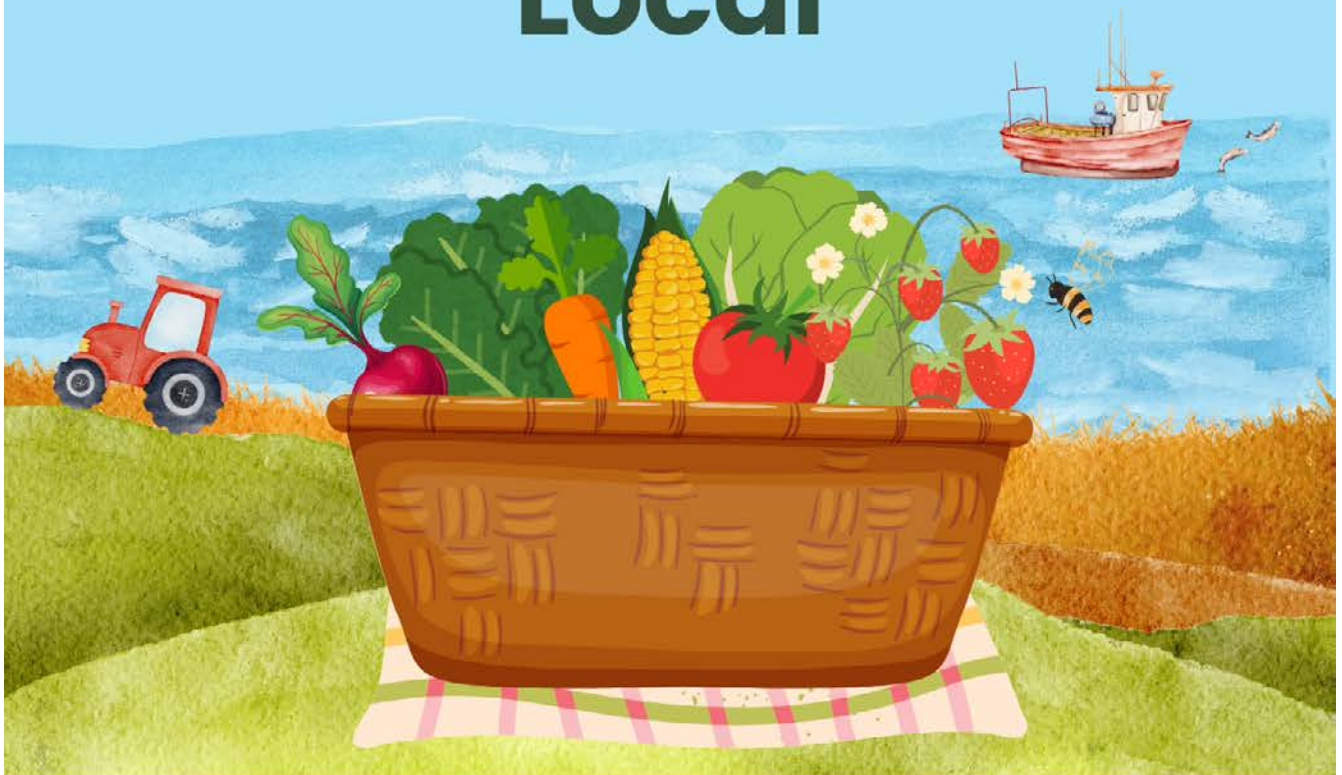
The winning film will be screened at Devour! The Food Film Fest

Youth, show us what you've got in a short video that shares your food story!

**PRIZE** \$500  
valued at

2025 Theme

## Celebrating Local



For more information, including resources and workshop dates, visit [nourishns.ca/food-and-film-challenge](https://nourishns.ca/food-and-film-challenge)





# coming events

## SEPTEMBER 30

### *National Day for Truth & Reconciliation*

Orange Shirt Day is an annual event held each September 30<sup>th</sup> in remembrance of the Canadian Residential School system and the impact of this government policy on First Nations. As we mark this day, we reflect on the genocide of Indigenous children through the residential school system in Canada and remember and honour those who survived and those who did not.

Some resources are found here: [www.orangeshirtday.org](http://www.orangeshirtday.org)

## OCTOBER 1

### *Treaty Day*

Treaty Day, held every year on October 1, marks the beginning of Mi'kmaq History Month in Nova Scotia. Proclaimed in 1993 by Premier John Savage and Mi'kmaq Grand Chief Ben Sylliboy, the day recognizes the rich history, culture, and contributions of the Mi'kmaq people.

The date stems from the Treaty of 1752, which promised annual gifts from the Crown to the Mi'kmaq to renew peace and friendship.

Each year, people gather in Halifax to celebrate through cultural events, ceremonies, and exchanges between Mi'kmaq leaders and government officials. It's both a homecoming for many Mi'kmaq and a learning opportunity for all Nova Scotians.

Learn more: [unsm.org/treaty-day](http://unsm.org/treaty-day)

## OCTOBER 27-31

### *Media Literacy Week 2025: Learn, Engage, Connect*

Has anything online ever made you think, "Wait... what?" Canada's 20<sup>th</sup> annual [Media Literacy Week](#), is here to answer your questions about being online in changing times. This year's 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary edition takes place from October 27 to 31.

Hosted nationwide by [MediaSmarts](#), the week features free resources, accessible webinars and engaging [events](#) for all ages. It also includes [Digital Citizen Day](#) on October 29, which encourages Canadians to use online tools responsibly.

Educators can now sign up to become Media Literacy Week Collaborators. Please [fill out the form](#) and indicate that you're a P-12 teacher. For more on getting your classroom involved, visit the [Teacher's hub](#). The NSTU has been a proud sponsor of MLW since it began 20 years ago.



## NSTU supports future educators through bursary program for Mi'kmaq, Indigenous and African Nova Scotian students

Beginning in the 2023–24 school year, the Nova Scotia Teachers Union (NSTU) introduced bursaries to support pre-service teachers who identify as Mi'kmaq/Indigenous or African Nova Scotian/of African Ancestry.

"We hope this bursary offers meaningful encouragement and support to future educators who identify as Mi'kmaq, Indigenous, African Nova Scotian, or of African ancestry," says NSTU President Peter Day. "The NSTU is committed to fostering a diverse and representative teaching profession—one that reflects the students we serve. Our goal is to help build a more inclusive, equitable, and supportive public education system for all."

Each Bachelor of Education granting institution in the province is eligible to award one \$2,000 bursary to a Mi'kmaq/Indigenous student and one \$2,000 bursary to a student of African Nova Scotian or African ancestry.

During the 2023-24 school year, Acadia, Université Sainte-Anne and St FX University awarded NSTU bursaries. For the 2024-25 school year, Acadia, Cape Breton, Mount Saint Vincent and St. F.X. Universities awarded NSTU bursaries.

Congratulations to the following students who received NSTU bursaries this year:

**Amelia Abbott**, (MSVU)

**Isaac Bonitto**, (MSVU)

**Jolene Clair**, (CBU)

**Stacey Desmond**, (St. F.X)

**Kaia Knockwood**, (St. F.X)

**Ashely Olmstead**, (Acadia)

**Candace Pierro**, (CBU)

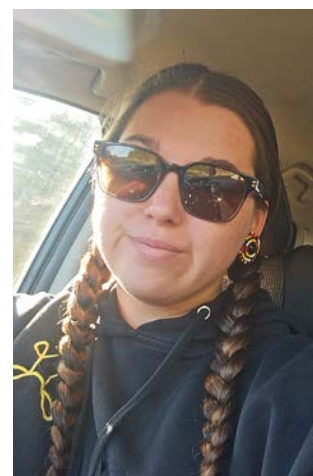
**Taylor Tolliver**, (Acadia)



*Jolene Clair*

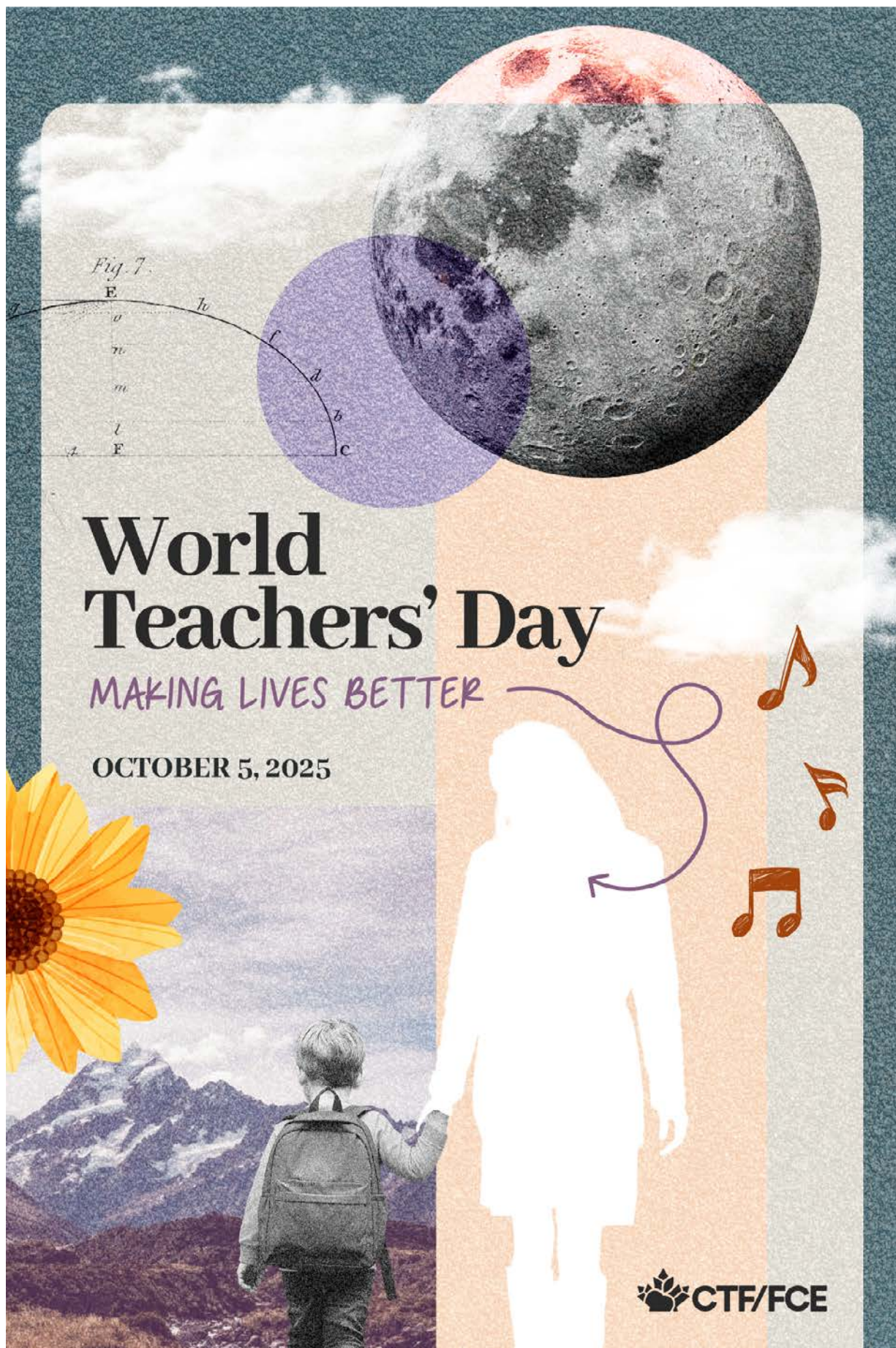


*Stacey Desmond*



*Candace Pierro*









## THE BIG PICTURE PROGRAM

**Devour! The Food Film Fest, October 21-23, 2024**

For the past decade, *Devour!* and *Nourish Nova Scotia* have proudly presented a captivating series of films designed for youth, focusing on important topics such as sugar, farming, food waste, and climate change. This initiative has reached over 4,500 schoolchildren across Nova Scotia, providing enriching screenings and workshops.

This two-hour experience blends films with interactive post-screening discussions facilitated by the Nourish Nova Scotia team and hands-on cooking classes led by chefs Peter Dewar (in English) and Paul Thimot (in French), along with students from the Nova Scotia Community College's culinary program. By teaching cooking skills to young people, we aim to highlight the significance of food in family life, enhance societal and physical health, and deepen their understanding of local food sourcing and its vital role in our regional economy. Join us for this wonderful opportunity to learn and grow through the lens of food and film!

THE BIG PICTURE PROGRAM is sponsored by Nova Scotia Teachers Union, Nourish Nova Scotia, and NSCC.

**The Big Picture Program: Youth Screenings & Culinary Master Classes** run from October 20 to 22.

Monday, Oct. 20 & Tuesday, Oct. 21, Devour! Studios at 360 Main Street, 9:30 a.m. & 12:00 p.m. each day

Wednesday, Oct. 22, Al Whittle Theatre at 450 Main Street, 9:30 a.m.



*Session One: Seaweed Stories- Recommended for Grades 6+*



*Session Two: Priced to Thrill - Recommended for Grades 7+*

Here are this year's offerings:

**Session One: *Seaweed Stories***- Recommended for Grades 6+  
Oct. 20, 9:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

Oct. 21, 12:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Narrated by Forest Whitaker, *Seaweed Stories* is a vibrant, global look at the wonders of seaweed.

**Session Two: *Priced to Thrill*** - Recommended for Grades 7+  
Oct. 20, 12:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Oct. 21, 9:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

This film documents the energetic team behind Gateway Meat Market in Dartmouth, in making groceries affordable amidst rising costs, and showcasing the community's commitment to quality and food accessibility.

**Session Three: *Future Council*** - Recommended for Grades 4+  
Oct. 22, 9:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

In this inspiring documentary, director Damon Gameau (*That Sugar Film*) follows eight children on a thrilling adventure across Europe in a biofuel-powered school bus.

### TO BOOK:

**Ticket Price for the Film & Workshop Bundle: \$5.00 per student**

Teachers, please email our Box Office at [tickets@devourfest.com](mailto:tickets@devourfest.com) to book.

Sponsored by the Nova Scotia Teachers Union, Nourish Nova Scotia, and the Nova Scotia Community College.

For further information about these offerings visit: <https://devourfest.com>



*Session Three: Future Council - Recommended for Grades 4+*



# Join Forum for Young Canadians in Ottawa!

FORUM  
FOR YOUNG  
CANADIANS



FORUM  
POUR JEUNES  
CANADIENS

The Forum for Young Canadians National Summit is your opportunity to step into the heart of Canada's democracy and see how national decisions are made – up close.

## Forum activities include:

- **Meeting Senators, Members of Parliament,** and other influential leaders;
- **Real-world simulations** to understand how policies are shaped;
- **Skills-building workshops** on topics like media literacy, Indigenous governance, and ethical leadership;
- **Cultural and social activities:** form lifelong friendships and network with peers who share your passion for change.

Forum is open to Canadian youth aged 15 to 18. You don't need prior experience in politics—just an open mind, a willingness to learn, and a drive to contribute to your community.

### SESSION 1:

**February 8-13,  
2026**

### SESSION 2:

**February 22-27,  
2026**

### SESSION 3:

**March 22-27,  
2026**

\*Dates are subject to change

Deadline to apply: **October 26, 2025.**

Visit **[forum.ca](https://forum.ca)** to apply!



Fondation  
Rideau Hall  
Foundation

# resources

## Recognizing Africa and Honouring Canadians of African Descent

Dialogue is integral to promoting social justice, empathy, and collective action within our schools and communities, and creating change within ourselves.

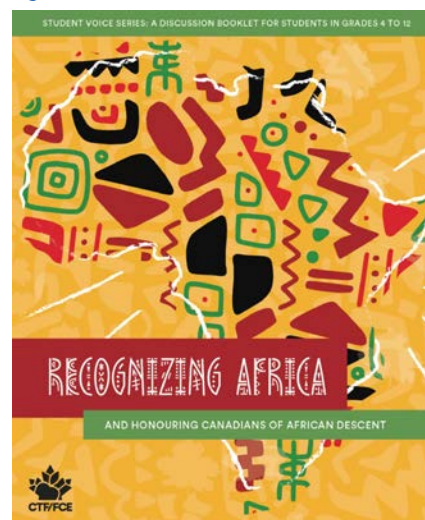
The Canadian Teachers' Federation (CTF/FCE) is proud to share our latest Student Voice booklet, *Recognizing Africa and Honouring Canadians of African Descent*. As part of the CTF/FCE's ongoing commitment to social justice, quality inclusive public education, and the teaching profession, this booklet offers insightful ways to engage in conversations about anti-Black racism and stereotypes through an asset-framing lens.

Available for free download in our Publications Catalogue, this resource provides educators and their students with

the voices of other Canadian students, who have explored and discussed the importance of promoting inclusivity and social justice by combatting negative stereotypes of Africa and people of African descent.

The booklet is intended for grades 4 to 12. It encourages discussions in classrooms while fostering co-learning and supporting educators to facilitate student inquiry and reflection on the omitted histories of countries in Africa, African identities, and the contributions by people of African descent, particularly in Canada. This resource's themes and activities will broaden educators' and students' understanding of Africa's rich diversity and the contributions of Africans to social and economic growth worldwide.

Complementary resource: [Student Inquiry Questions](#)



## Food Allergy Canada Resources

Food Allergy Canada, a non-profit organization dedicated to helping Canadians with food allergy live with confidence, has resources for teachers/staff on managing food allergy in schools.

1. **All About Food Allergy** — curriculum-linked and medically reviewed program for students  
<https://foodallergycanada.ca/professional-resources/educators/school-k-to-12/registration-all-about-food-allergy-student-program/>
2. **Allergy Aware** — free training modules  
<https://foodallergycanada.ca/tools-and-downloads/key-resources/allergyaware-ca-training/>
3. **Back to school** — <https://foodallergycanada.ca/campaign/back-to-school-2025/>

## Media Literacy Week Resources

Media Literacy Week 2025 takes place October 27 to 31 and [Digital Citizen Day](#) (October 29). This annual national event hosted by MediaSmarts promotes digital media literacy, with activities and events taking place in classrooms, libraries, museums and community groups from coast to coast to coast.

The [Teacher's Hub](#) is home to five days of free, curated lesson plans recommended for P-12 classrooms during MLW, including a selection of plug-and-play video lessons. Additionally, MediaSmarts' website offers [hundreds of free resources](#) for teachers to use at any time.

Here is a sample:

### October 27 Algorithms and AI Literacy

NEW Plug-and-play video lesson: [Grades 9-12: Unpacking the Black Box: Explaining Algorithms and AI](#)

### October 28 Break the Fake: Verifying online information

Plug-and-play video lesson: [Break the Fake: What's real online? \(Grades 3-5\)](#)

### October 29 Digital Citizen Day: Teaching digital citizenship

Plug-and-play video lesson: [Grades 7-9: Impact! How to Make a Difference When You Witness Bullying Online](#)



# Counsellor in the Classroom



## What is Counsellor in the Classroom?

Kids Help Phone's Counsellor in the Classroom program promotes the discussion of mental health and well-being among young people. The program offers two modules:

- 1) Mental Health and Help-Seeking, available to students in Grades 4-12
- 2) Stress and Anxiety, available to students in Grade 9-12

Each module is divided into two parts. The first part includes classroom activities led by the educator. The second part includes a 45-minute phone or video call conversation between the class and one of Kids Help Phone's professional counsellors.



## What are the objectives?

The program will help students:

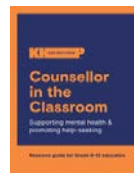
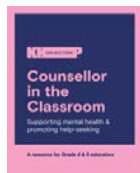
- gain a better understanding of mental health and well-being
- identify how they can seek support
- feel more confident in seeking support
- foster a space that feels supportive and destigmatizing



## What is provided to educators?

Once registered, teachers receive a virtual resource package including:

- educational resource booklet with lesson plans
- workbook for high school students
- illustrated story for grades 4-5
- Kids Help Phone digital promotional materials with phone number, texting number and website



## How does the counsellor call work?

The counsellor will begin the call by sharing about themselves, Kids Help Phone, our services and the youth we support. The counsellor will prompt a conversation about the topic of the session, and they may speak to common questions and concerns that young people have shared. The class will also have the opportunity to ask any questions they may have.



## Contact Information

For additional information or to register for a session, please visit our website: [kidshelpphone.ca/citc](https://kidshelpphone.ca/citc)

For any questions, please contact our team at [CITC@kidshelpphone.ca](mailto:CITC@kidshelpphone.ca)







**We need your help to find the next cohort of Loran Scholars.** Do you know any Grade 12s with strong character who are committed to serving others and demonstrate exceptional leadership potential?

**Encourage them to apply by Oct. 16, noon ET.**

Learn more at [loranscholar.ca](https://loranscholar.ca)

## Delaney Clarke Building Leaders Award recipient

Congratulations to Delaney Clarke, who has been awarded the Loran Scholars Foundation's 2025 *Teachers Building Leaders Award*. Clarke, a teacher at École acadienne de Truro was nominated by former student and 2021 Loran Scholar Averí Winn for having a lasting impact on them while attending École acadienne de Truro.

"Ms. Clarke encouraged me to understand the importance of not only the work I was doing, but of planning for the future by giving others opportunities to learn the same skills," said Winn. "She created a vision of the young leader I could become before I knew it myself. There is no way to express the depth of her effect on my development. She has also impacted the paths of all the students fortunate enough to work with her during her tenure."

This award, now in its tenth year, is presented by Loran and sponsored by the McCall MacBain Foundation to recognize teachers who have significantly impacted a scholar's growth as a leader. To receive it, a teacher must be nominated by a former student who has become a Loran Scholar — a young person selected for Canada's most comprehensive undergraduate award from a pool of over 5,000 applicants based on character, service, and leadership. For more information about the Loran Scholar program visit: <https://loranscholar.ca>



## Steve Brooks receives CTF/FCE Special Recognition Award

During the Canadian Teachers' Federation's AGM in July, former NSTU executive director Steve Brooks, was honoured with a Special Recognition Award.

This award is presented to individuals who have given meritorious service to education and/or the teaching profession at the provincial/territorial, national or international level. Nominated by the Nova Scotia Teachers Union, Brooks' career in education and union leadership spans decades of dedication, advocacy, and achievements.

A proud graduate of Memorial University with a Bachelor of Arts, Bachelor of Education, and Master of Education, he has continuously pursued professional growth through further studies at Queen's University and the University of Windsor. Brooks' teaching career began in Newfoundland and Labrador before advancing to roles as principal, Senior Education Officer, and Associate Assistant Director of Education. His commitment to supporting educators led him to the Newfoundland and Labrador Teachers' Association, where he served as Administrative Staff Officer, Assistant Executive Director, and Executive Director. Following his career with NLTA, he was appointed Executive Director of the NSTU in 2021.

Brooks' leadership tenure has been characterized by a strategic vision and unwavering dedication to public education, member advocacy, and organizational growth. Under his guidance, the NSTU developed a comprehensive mobilization and strategic plan. He was also involved in negotiating landmark agreements in both provinces, resulting in improved working conditions, better school counsellor allocations, additional non-contact days, and the highest salary increases in Atlantic Canada. His unwavering dedication have strengthened teacher pensions and reinforced the collective strength of educators.



*NSTU president Peter Day is shown with Brooks receiving his award on July 10<sup>th</sup>.*



# First-Ever Province-Wide Day for Nova Scotia Educators: Best Practices in Holocaust Education

The Atlantic Jewish Council, in partnership  
with the Azrieli Foundation's  
Holocaust Survivor Memoirs Program,  
presents a province-wide professional  
development day.

Open to Nova Scotia educators of Grades 6–12, the day of learning  
includes workshops on practical, age-appropriate resources for  
students and modelling of classroom activities.

**Monday, November 3, 2025**  
**10am – 3pm**

Nova Scotia Archives (meeting room)  
6016 University Avenue  
Halifax, NS, B3H 1W4

50% of the cost of release time will be covered.  
Lunch will be provided.

Please email Edna LeVine, Director of Community Engagement,  
Atlantic Jewish Council, at [engagement@theajc.ca](mailto:engagement@theajc.ca) to register.



Holocaust Survivor Memoirs Program  
Programme des mémoires de  
survivants de l'Holocauste



**Atlantic Jewish Council**



# TEACHERS' PENSION PLAN INC.

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

### Call for applications

The NSTU Provincial Executive is inviting applications from **Active** 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) Active 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: \_\_\_\_\_ (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.)

---

---

---

---

**Submit to: [executivedirector@nstu.ca](mailto:executivedirector@nstu.ca)**

**Applications must be received in Central Office  
by 12:00 Noon, November 28, 2025**

NSTU Equity and Affirmative Action: The NSTU is committed to the promotion of equity and affirmative action. The NSTU welcomes applications from Indigenous People, African Nova Scotians and Other Racially Visible Persons, Persons with Disabilities and Women in occupations or positions where they are under-represented. If you are a member of one of these equity groups, you are encouraged to self-identify on your application.

*This form is also found on the NSTU website. [www.nstu.ca](http://www.nstu.ca)*



Welcome back everyone. We hope that you had a great summer and had a chance to spend some quality time with your friends and families.

With the 2025-2026 school year upon us, your NSTU Group Insurance Trustees would like to take this opportunity to remind all new NSTU members that you need to apply for your Total Care Medical and Total Care Dental Benefits as they are not automatic. Below you will find some important information and deadlines regarding the Medical and Dental plans.

## Total Care Medical

The Total Care Medical plan is a comprehensive supplementary health care plan available to all active contract Public School Members, PSAANS and APSEA Members. This plan provides prescription drug coverage under age 65, a semi-private hospital room, vision care, paramedical services, including physiotherapy and massage therapy, and many other benefits as outlined in the Group Insurance Profile.

- To enroll, you must complete the application form that is provided on the belairdirect "My Insurance" website or you can contact belairdirect at (902) 453-9543 or 1-800-453-9543 (toll-free).
- The premium is paid 100% by the employer.
- You may apply for this benefit plan at any time provided you are under contract, actively at work, and it will become effective the first of the month following receipt of your application at belairdirect.

## Total Care Dental

The Total Care Dental plan provides comprehensive dental care coverage to all active contract Public School Members, PSAANS and APSEA Members. Total Care Dental includes basic preventative services, major restorative services, prosthodontic and orthodontic services.

- To enroll, you must complete the application form that is provided on the belairdirect "My Insurance" website or you can contact belairdirect at (902) 453-9543 or 1-800-453-9543 (toll-free).
- The employer cost shares 65% of the basic and major restorative premiums of the Total Care Dental plan while the member pays 35% for basic preventative and major restorative premiums, plus 100% for prosthodontic and orthodontic premiums.

## Total Care Dental – Important Deadlines and Premiums

- New members who commence work prior to October 1<sup>st</sup> must contact belairdirect and enroll no later than **October 15th**.
- New members who commence work after October 1<sup>st</sup> must enroll within 31 days of commencing work.
- Coverage to take effect the first of the month following receipt of application.
- If you do not enroll before the applicable above deadline, coverage will not be processed until the following September.

	MONTHLY DENTAL PREMIUM	MEMBER MONTHLY DENTAL COST
Single	\$56.63	<b>\$24.44</b>
Family	\$119.79	<b>\$51.72</b>

For information on the above, or for any questions with respect to your NSTU Group Insurance coverage, please do not hesitate to contact the Administrator, belairdirect at (902) 453-9543 or 1-800-453-9543 (toll-free).



# Student Mental Health and Wellness Grant

## Frequently Asked Questions



The NSTU Group Insurance Trustees, with support from belairdirect, have established a grant for members to support innovative initiatives that promote the mental health and well-being of students in the schools across Nova Scotia.

**Q: What is the purpose of the Student Mental Health and Wellness Grant?**

A: The NSTU Group Insurance Trustees will fund projects that support and promote the mental health and well-being of children and youth in the schools across the province. This could consist of programs in classrooms, schools, or communities. The ultimate goal is to help our students in coping with the pressures of growing up in today's world.

**Q: Who is eligible to apply for the Student Mental Health and Wellness Grant?**

A: To be eligible, the individual must have a permanent, probationary, or term contract and be a member of the NSTU or PSAANS at the time of application.

**Q: How do I apply for the grant?**

A: You can apply for the grant by going to the NSTU Group Insurance Trust website at <https://nstuinsurance.ca/grants/student-mental-health-and-wellness-grant/> and clicking the application link. The NSTU Group Insurance Trustees will be awarding up to six (6) grants valued at up to \$600 once per year. The criteria will include the purpose addressed, project description, number of students benefiting, and evaluation of impact on students. **Please be advised that not all applications will be awarded grants and incomplete applications will not be considered.**

**Q: What is the deadline to apply for the Student Mental Health and Wellness Grant?**

A: Applications must be submitted on/or before **11:59pm on October 15<sup>th</sup>**. Completed projects are due no later than May 31<sup>st</sup>.

For more information on the Student Mental Health and Wellness Grant or any of the benefits and programs available under the NSTU Group Insurance Program, please visit the NSTU Group Insurance Trust website at <https://nstuinsurance.ca/>.

**Student Mental Health & Wellness**

**Purpose**  
The NSTU Group Insurance Trustees, with support from Johnson Incorporated, will fund innovative projects that support the mental health and well-being of students in the schools across Nova Scotia.

**Deadline**  
October 15

**Grant Amount**  
Up to \$600 each.

**Eligibility**  
Open to term, probationary and permanent members of the NSTU or PSAANS.

For more information:  
<https://nstuinsurance.ca/grants/student-mental-health-and-wellness-grant/>

NSTU GROUP INSURANCE TRUST

**Grant**

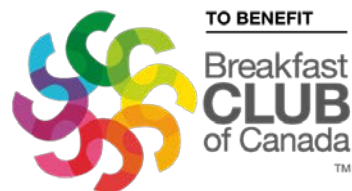
# No student should go to school hungry

That's why we've partnered with Breakfast Club of Canada since 2018.



Scan this code to learn more  
or visit us at: [belairdirect.com/breakfastclubcanada](https://belairdirect.com/breakfastclubcanada)

**belairdirect.**







# NOVA SCOTIA TEACHERS UNION

## 2025 – 2026 COMMITTEES



The NSTU Nominating Committee would like to thank the members who applied for NSTU Provincial Committees. The positions were filled based on a number of criteria including: regional representation; experience in Union activities; curriculum/grade level representation; and gender representation. The Committee encourages members to continue to apply for NSTU committees.

With the exception of the Resolutions Committee, the following list does not contain committees appointed at Annual Council or those members serving on external committees. **This list is current as of September 3, 2025.**

## STANDING COMMITTEES

### ADMINISTRATIVE

#### FINANCE & PROPERTY COMMITTEE

**Taunya Pynn-Crowe**, Chair, Secretary-Treasurer; **Crystal Patterson**, Halifax County, 2026; **Phil Samson**, Richmond, 2026; **Sharon Midwinter**, Cumberland, 2027; **Vera Ryan**, Executive Member; **Bethany MacLeod**, Executive Director; **Melanie Waye**, Financial Officer; **Peter Day**, President

#### GOVERNANCE & POLICY COMMITTEE

**Peter Day**, President; **Jemita Buchanan**, Annapolis Region; **Sue Larivière-Jenkins**, CSANE; **Rachelle MacIsaac**, Cape Breton-Victoria Region; **Andrew McCara**, APSEA; **Janet O'Brien**, Strait Region; **Doug Read**, Chignecto-Central Region; **Vera Ryan**, Tri-County Region; **Ben Sichel**, Halifax Region; **Sarah Tutty**, South Shore Region; **Bethany MacLeod**, Executive Director; **Louis Robitaille**, NSTU Staff Liaison

#### NOMINATING COMMITTEE

**Jemita Buchanan**, Annapolis-Hants West-Kings; **Melissa Deveau**, Annapolis-Hants West-Kings; **Kim Dunning**, Northside-Victoria; **Janet O'Brien**, Antigonish-Guysborough; **Chad Warren**, Digby-Shelburne Co.-Yarmouth; **Bethany MacLeod**, Executive Director; **Peter Day**, President

#### PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

**Sarah Tutty**, Chair, 2nd Vice-President; **Kim Dunning**, Northside-Victoria; **Andrew McCara**, APSEA; **Taunya Pynn-Crowe**, Secretary-Treasurer; **Bethany MacLeod**, Executive Director; **Peter Day**, President

### PROGRAM

#### COMITÉ DE PROGRAMMATION ACADIENNE

**Janika Moser**, Chair, Central; TBD; **Sue Larivière-Jenkins**, Executive Member; **Kent Fraser**, NSTU Staff Liaison

#### CURRICULUM COMMITTEE

**Kasi Humber**, Chair, Colchester-East Hants, 2026; **Erica Ans**, Halifax County, 2026; **Melissa Gordon**, CSANE, 2026; **Darlene Bereta**, 2027, Northside-Victoria; **Kenna MacLean**, Cape Breton District, 2027; **Lindsay Crossman Wheaton**, Executive Member; **Pam Langille**, NSTU Staff Liaison

#### EQUITY COMMITTEE

**Holly Schaller**, Chair, Cape Breton District, 2026; **Quinn Kloppenburg**, Halifax City, 2026; **Nadia Lamrani-Darwish**, Kings, 2026; **Malik Adams**, Halifax City, 2027; **Suzanne Handley**, Annapolis, 2027; **Linda MacPhee**, Lunenburg Co., 2027; **Ben Sichel**, Executive Member; **Wendie Wilson**, NSTU Staff Liaison

#### MEMBER ECONOMIC WELFARE, HEALTH & SAFETY & WORKING CONDITIONS COMMITTEE

**Jo-Leigh MacPhee**, Chair, First Vice-President; **Heather Campbell**, Inverness, 2026; **Heather Hiscock**, Annapolis, 2026; **Ryan Locke**, Halifax City, 2026; **Mike Jamieson**, Halifax County, 2027; **Denise Stone**, Yarmouth, 2027; **Chad Warren**, Executive Member; **Elisabeth Thomas**, NSTU Staff Liaison

#### POLITICAL ACTION & PUBLIC RELATIONS COMMITTEE

**Lynnette Babin**, Chair, Antigonish, 2026; **Mai-Ling Storm**, Lunenburg County, 2026; **Nigel Tinker**, Annapolis, 2026; **Meg Ferguson**, Halifax County, 2027; **Chad Hanrahan**, Northside-Victoria, 2027; **Katrina Murphy**, Colchester-East Hants, 2027; **Line Murphy**, Executive Member; **Chad Warren**, Executive Member; **Angela Murphy**, NSTU Staff Liaison; **Mark Laventure**, NSTU Staff Liaison

#### PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

**Sarah Baldwin-Penny**, Chair, Queens, 2026; **Lauren Slaunwhite**, Kings, 2026; **Bernice Stewart**, Pictou, 2026; **Jason Jennings**, Halifax County, 2027; **Pauline Seymour**, Richmond, 2027; **Sarah Slaunwhite**, Digby, 2027; **Janet O'Brien**, Executive Member; **Amanda O'Regan-Marchand**, NSTU Staff Liaison

### STATUS OF WOMEN

**Leigh-Anne Rizzo-Baker**, Chair, Cape Breton District, 2026; **Danielle LeBlanc**, Kings, 2026; **Bernice MacNeil**, Cape Breton District, 2026; **Vivian Abdallah**, Dartmouth, 2027; **Jen Bradley**, Digby, 2027; **Cindy Ng-Ivanoff**, Halifax County, 2027; **Jemita Buchanan**, Executive Member; **Wendie Wilson**, NSTU Staff Liaison

#### SUBSTITUTE COMMITTEE

**Desi Trott**, Chair, Dartmouth, 2026; **Dan Bunbury**, Northside-Victoria, 2026; **Christina Grant**, Cape Breton District, 2026; **Liam Timmons**, Colchester-East Hants, 2027; **Jess Wells**, Halifax County, 2027; **Angela Ewing**, Executive Member; **TBD**, NSTU Staff Liaison

### OTHER COMMITTEES

#### DISCIPLINE COMMITTEE

**Sarah Acker**, Shelburne, 2026; **Ben Drew**, Yarmouth, 2026; **Sheila Hawley**, Inverness, 2027; **Yvonne Lapierre**, Halifax County, 2027; **Daniel Doroshenko**, Colchester-East Hants, 2028; **Janine Kerr**, NSTU Staff Liaison

#### DISTRIBUTED LEARNING COMMITTEE

**Claire Patrice Neville-Martin**, Chair, Cape Breton District, 2026; **Eliza Abbass**, Pictou, 2027; **Laura Fryday**, Queens, 2028; **Amanda O'Regan Marchand**, NSTU Staff Liaison

#### INSURANCE TRUSTEES

**Joel Chaisson**, Chair, CSANE, 2027; **Karen Nottage**, Annapolis Valley Region, 2026; **Wade VanSnick**, Chignecto-Central Region, 2029; **Krissy Brewer**, Halifax Region, 2030; **Shari McGillivray**, Strait Region, 2032; **Paula Landry**, Executive Member; **Bruce Spares**, NSCC; **Sherman England**, EEC; **Andrew Coates**, EEC; **Kyle Marryatt**, NSTU Staff Liaison; **Wally Fiander**, NSTU Staff Liaison

#### PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS COORDINATING COMMITTEE

**Scott McKinnon**, Chair, ATYA, 2026; **Dionne Reid**, BETA, 2026; **Steven Corbett**, SSTA, 2027; **Meghan MacNeil**, SPAA, 2027; **Theresa Jennings**, ATEC, 2028; **Peter Murphy**, Executive Member; **Amanda O'Regan-Marchand**, NSTU Staff Liaison

#### PROFESSIONAL COMMITTEE

**Jason Ralph**, Dartmouth, 2026; **Colleen Scott**, Colchester-East Hants, 2026; **Tim Cress**, Antigonish, 2027; **Max Taylor**, Yarmouth, 2027; **Laura Fryday**, Queens, 2028; **Jill Vallis**, Cape Breton District, 2028; **Janine Kerr**, NSTU Staff Liaison

#### PDAP

**Jyl Boyle**, Antigonish, 2026; **Laura Lambie**, Halifax City, 2027; **Lael Radkey**, Dept. of Education; **Eric Therrien**, CSAP; **Amanda O'Regan-Marchand**, NSTU Staff Liaison

#### PROVINCIAL ECONOMIC WELFARE COMMITTEE

**Nadine Arnold**, Chignecto-Central Region; **Duncan Cameron**, Halifax County Region; **Heather Campbell**, Strait Region; **Sarah Hillier**, South Shore Region; **Carol Ann MacMaster**, Cape Breton-Victoria Region; **Krista Moore**, Tri-County Region; **Joanne Richardson-Landry**, Annapolis Valley Region; **Georgette Samson**, CSANE; **Line Murphy**, Executive Member; **Mark Savoury**, Executive Member; **Peter Day**, NSTU President; **Jo-Leigh MacPhee**, 1st Vice-President; **Wally Fiander**, NSTU Staff Liaison; **Simon Wilkin**, NSTU Staff Liaison

#### RESOLUTIONS

**Line Murphy**, Chair, Executive Member; **Stephen Bradford**, Cumberland, 2026; **Tracy MacIsaac**, Inverness, 2026; **Tamara Borden**, Guysborough Co., 2027; **Melanie Conrad-Kennedy**, Halifax County, 2027; **Louis Robitaille**, NSTU Staff Liaison

#### SHEONORAIL BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**Bethany MacLeod**, Chair; **Stacy Barrie**, Northside-Victoria, 2027; **Randy Lucas**, Retired, 2027; **Paul Murphy**, Halifax County, 2027; **Shelly Bembridge**, Halifax County, 2028; **Michael Carrigan**, Cape Breton District, 2028; **Tim Cress**, Antigonish, 2028; **Melissa Deveau**, Executive Member; **Peter Day**, NSTU President; **Wendie Wilson**, NSTU Staff Liaison

## St. Louis: Ship of Fate

Chase Gallery, Nova Scotia Archives, 6016 University Ave., Halifax, NS.

*This exhibit was developed as a partnership project of the Atlantic Jewish Council and the Maritime Museum of the Atlantic.*

This exhibit features large bilingual panels and artifacts appropriate for students in Grades 6 to 12. Educator resources are provided, and schools can book student visits to the exhibit from November 6 to 26.

### About the St. Louis fateful voyage:

On May 13, 1939, over 900 German Jews fled the rising violence of Nazi Germany aboard St. Louis ship. Bound for Havana, they had Cuban tourism visas, but just as the liner left, Cuban officials changed the rules.

The plight of the St. Louis passengers made headlines around the world. After the United States and Canada refused entry to the ship carrying the Jewish passengers, it was forced to return to Europe. Shortly afterwards the Nazis began their program of genocide, rounding up and murdering the Jews of Europe.



**Atlantic Jewish Council**

To pre-book, or for additional information, please contact: Edna LeVine, Director of Community Engagement, Atlantic Jewish Council, [engagement@theajc.ca](mailto:engagement@theajc.ca)

## Holocaust Education Conference

### *Legacy of Strength-Holocaust & Resilience*

**Tuesday, October 21, 2025.**

**9am - 3pm**



### **Temple Sons of Israel Synagogue**

55 Whitney Avenue, Sydney, N.S.

Guest Speaker: *Marc-Olivier Cloutier*

Manager of Education Initiatives

**Azrieli Foundation**

Marc-Olivier Cloutier has been working at The Azrieli Foundation's Holocaust Survivor Memoirs Program since 2015. In his current position as manager of Education Initiatives, Marc-Olivier creates resources and connects teachers and students across Canada with this material. He also organizes conferences in Canada to support scholarly engagement with survivor testimony and teacher development workshops to help educators feel comfortable teaching about this sensitive topic.

<https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100064866363558>

[educationholocaust@gmail.com](mailto:educationholocaust@gmail.com)



## Retirement Seminars

The schedule for the 2025-2026 series of Retirement Seminars has been finalized.

NSTU members do not register with the Union for the Retirement Seminars. Members should contact their principal/supervisor on how and when they can submit their names to attend a Retirement Seminar this school year. Registration and approval to attend a Retirement Seminar takes place through your employer (Regional Centre for Education, CSAP, or APSEA). The employer is responsible for advising teachers and specialists of their approval to attend a Retirement Seminar, which seminar they have been approved to attend, and the appropriate absence code to use.

The Teachers' Provincial and APSEA Agreements allow a teacher within five years of retirement to register with their employer to attend a Retirement Seminar sponsored by the NSTU.

Retirement Seminar topics include:

- Pension Structure;
- NSTU Group Insurance;
- Wills and Estate Planning;
- Retire on Purpose (Teachers' Plus Credit Union);
- Retirement Income;
- Transitioning into Retirement; and
- Retired Teachers Organization (RTO).

Retirement seminars are offered in English although materials for many sessions are provided to CSANE members in French as well as in English.

## 2025-2026 NSTU RETIREMENT SEMINARS SCHEDULE

DATE	REGION	LOCATION
October 7-8, 2025	HRCE	Nova Scotia Teachers Union – Halifax
October 15-16, 2025	TCRCE	Tru by Hilton – Yarmouth
October 21-22, 2025	CCRCE	Wandlyn Convention Centre (Travelodge) – Amherst
October 28-29, 2025	AVRCE	Old Orchard Inn – Greenwich
November 4-5, 2025	SRCE	Port Hawkesbury Civic Centre – Port Hawkesbury
November 18-19, 2025	CBVRCE	Holiday Inn Harbourfront – Sydney
December 2-3, 2025	SSRCE	Best Western Plus – Bridgewater
December 9-10, 2025	HRCE	Nova Scotia Teachers Union – Halifax
January 6-7, 2026	CCRCE	Pictou County Wellness Centre – Stellarton
February 11-12, 2026	HRCE	Nova Scotia Teachers Union – Halifax
February 18-19, 2026	HRCE	Nova Scotia Teachers Union – Halifax
February 24-25, 2026	CCRCE	Inn on Prince – Truro

Information from the



Nova Scotia Teachers Union

## FEEL LIKE A CHANGE?



### Secondments at the Nova Scotia Teachers Union

The Nova Scotia Teachers Union is updating its resource file of active members interested in short-term secondment to NSTU staff.

Seconded staff supplement the work of permanent Union staff, and increase staff available when the demand exceeds the capacity of the organization.

Individuals may be seconded to provide a service or program over a period of weeks, to serve as a resource person or liaison with a Union committee or group or to initiate and/or implement a specific program, project or task.

Secondments may be in member services, professional services, public relations, public affairs or organizational support.

**Active** members interested in being listed in the resource file are requested to print and fill out an application form available on-line by:

- ENTERING THE NSTU WEBSITE
- SELECT "STAFF"
- SELECTING "SECONDMENTS" FROM THE MENU ON THE LEFT-HAND SIDE

Information forms will be retained in the resource file for a period of one year.

## 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](mailto: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](mailto:Hrcetocbce@gmail.com)

## The deadline for the October issue of The Teacher is October 10

Contact Nancy at 902-477-5621 or [theteacher@nstu.ca](mailto:theteacher@nstu.ca)

## Deals & Discounts

for NSTU members  
(including retired members),  
please visit the website at [www.nstu.ca](http://www.nstu.ca)