

Comité de programmation acadienne Year-End Report 2006-2007

Mandate

The mandate of the Comité de programmation acadienne is to examine the curriculum and any proposed changes in so far as they affect Acadian schools, to submit recommendations to the Provincial Executive, to inform Acadian teachers on program trends and innovations, to make appropriate recommendations on resolutions referred to the Annual Council, and to participate as required in NSTU policy review by providing recommendations intended for the Provincial Executive's consideration.

Members / Meetings

Rachel Deveau (president), Lynne Surette-Rhyno, Melissa Whelton, Gisèle Belliveau, Sonia Parisé, Provincial Executive member Marc Poirier, Linda Samson, and Gérard Cormier, Staff Officer, have all served on this committee which met three times in 2006-2007: November 10, January 26 and May 14.

Activities

At the first committee meeting, a French-language portal on the NSTU Website was launched by NSTU President Mary-Lou Donnelly. This portal contains all of NSTU's information that is available in French and pertains to French speaking members. A survey on the portal was created to collect feedback from users.

Visits

Mr. Gilles LeBlanc, Executive Director of Acadian and French Language Services Branch of the Nova Scotia Department of Education, and Mr. Michel Comeau, Director of Services and Programs for the CSAP, were invited by the Committee to explain their respective roles and responsibilities within the CSAP. Mr. LeBlanc responded to Committee members' questions concerning: the English first-language program, the budget for new initiatives, such as nutrition, co-op courses, active living, liaison officers between the CSAP and the Department of Education, speech therapy and assessment. Mr. Leblanc attended a second meeting of the Committee to follow-up on these issues. Mr. Comeau attended the Committee's last meeting to discuss members' concerns with regard to literacy and francization, curriculum, funding, and the Daigle Report. Mr. Comeau also spoke of curriculum development task forces and, with the Committee, reviewed each of the Daigle Report's recommendations to identify what the CSAP had achieved in this respect.

Recommendations

At its first meeting, the Committee put forward the recommendation that the CSANE representative who serves on the Curriculum Committee inform Ms. Ann Blackwood about the need for teaching resources and professional development for CSAP teachers of English first language. It appears that there is no liaison officer between the CSAP and the Department concerning English courses. This prompted a recommendation to the Provincial Executive Committee that a motion be adopted requesting that the NSTU President contact the Department about the problem that exists for the CSAP's English teachers. In her reply to Ms. Donnelly's letter dated May 14, 2007, the Honourable Karen Casey has committed to facilitating a meeting between Dr. Alan Lowe (Senior Executive Director for Public Schools) and Mr. Gilles LeBlanc, to find a means to provide professional development for CSAP's English Language Arts teachers.

At its last meeting, the Committee recommended to the Nominations Committee that Melissa Whelton assume the role of Committee president for 2007-2008.

Budget

The annual allocated budget was \$7,203.00 with expenditures of \$6,782.00.

Rachel L. Deveau, President
Comité de programmation acadienne
2006-2007