

MEMBER SERVICES COMMITTEE

YEAR END REPORT

2007-2008

Mandate

The mandate of the Committee is to:

- *Identify bargainable items;*
- *Prepare background information related to the merits of negotiable items;*
- *Identify trends and developments in teacher bargaining across Canada with special emphasis on the Atlantic Provinces;*
- *Review economic forecasts;*
- *Forward recommendations to appropriate Union Committees;*
- *Plan appropriate workshops for local negotiators;*
- *Review the results of the most recent provincial and local contract bargaining;*
- *Consider such resolutions as may be referred by Annual Council and make appropriate recommendations;*
- *Participate as required in the NSTU Policy Review Process by providing recommendations for the Provincial Executive's consideration.*

Members

Members of the Member Services Committee include the following:

Jack Toomey, First Vice-President, Chair
Scott McKellar, Provincial Executive, Community College
Mary Currie, APSEA
Jackie Rankin, Inverness Local
Keri Butler, Halifax City Local
Kevin Farrell, Colchester-East Hants Local
Linda MacNeil, Annapolis Local
Louis Robitaille, Community College Local
Janine Kerr, Staff Liaison

Dates of Meetings

The Committee held meetings on November 2, 2007, January 11, 2008 and April 4, 2008. At the first meeting the Committee reviewed its mandate and was provided with updates on teacher affiliate negotiations in the Atlantic Provinces and across Canada.

Activities

Throughout the year the Committee received updates and discussed the following issues:

- Status of Single Tier Bargaining
- Resolutions approved at Council 2007 were reviewed for processing to the respective Provincial Economic Welfare, Community College Economic Welfare or Regional Economic Welfare Committees
- Letter of Understanding
- Time to Teach/Time to Learn

- Assigned speakers for economic welfare and working conditions resolutions for Council 2007
- Teachers' Provincial Agreement negotiation commenced May 2008
- Regional agreements being negotiated during the 2007-08 school year
- Negotiations with the Minister of Education
- Grievances under the Teachers' Provincial Agreement
- Workplace Violence Regulations – Occupational Health and Safety Act

Conference

The Member Services Committee organized the Member Services Conference held on April 4 & 5, 2008 at the Chocolate Lake Hotel. The keynote address on the topic of School Safety was delivered by Constable Mark Young. Sessions were held on Atlantic Canadian Teacher Negotiations, the status of NSTU Negotiations with the Province, the Boards, and the Community College and a session to raise awareness among the membership of issues pertaining to the Community College. The next Member Services conference will occur in Spring 2010.

Budget

\$8,280 was budgeted for the Committee's ordinary activities for the 2007-08 school year. \$4,843.58 was the actual amount spent.

\$9,174 was budgeted for the 2008 Member Services Conference. \$16,190.50 was the actual cost of the conference. The overage represents Committee members expenses for the April meeting (which coincided with the conference) being attributed to the Member Services Conference instead of the ordinary budget, and higher-than-normal hotel costs due to lack of room availability at the NSTU contract hotel.

Submitted on behalf of Jack Toomey, Chair, Member Services Committee