

Comité de programmation acadienne du NSTU
Year-End Report 2007-2008

The members of this committee met three times in 2007-2008: October 12, February 15 and May 2nd. Melissa Whelton (Chair), Gisèle Belliveau, Sonia Parisé, Marc Poirier, Ian Comeau, Angèle d'Entremont, and NSTU staff member, Gérard Cormier, all served on the Comité de programmation acadienne. Provincial Executive member Clifford Maillet was also expected to serve, but his Board, the CSAP, did not agree to relieve him from his daily duties, so for this reason, Mr. Maillet was unable to attend the meetings.

The Comité de programmation acadienne mandate is to examine the curriculum and any proposed changes insofar as they affect the Acadian schools, to submit recommendations to the Provincial Executive, to inform Acadian school teachers of any 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 for consideration by the Provincial Executive.

Janine Saulnier, the CSAP's director of Finance, presented several key points concerning the CSAP's annual budget for 2007-2008, such as the financial report, the profile sheet and the staffing guidelines. She also explained how the budgetary process works and answered questions from the members.

Lynne Surette-Rhyno, curriculum consultant for the CSAP's southwest region, was also invited by the committee to clarify her role and responsibilities within the Board. As well as her duties as curriculum consultant, Mrs. Surette-Rhyno is temporarily in charge of the CSAP's English curriculum file. She participates in training sessions offered by the Nova Scotia Department of Education (NSDE), distributes relevant information to English teachers, and is responsible for obtaining resources for them within the budget of \$100,000. The members of the Comité de programmation acadienne believe that attributing to the CSAP a responsibility dedicated to the teaching of English, is an improvement in this issue that concerns them greatly. However, they all agree that this matter should continue to be followed closely.

Gérard Allain, the CSANE representative on the Curriculum Committee, presented a summary of the committee's achievements during 2007-2008. The members of the Comité recognize the importance of this exchange and believe that a Curriculum Committee's representative must continue to attend one meeting of the Comité de programmation acadienne per year.

The Committee members also reviewed the document entitled "Planning For Primary 2008-2009" published by the Nova Scotia Department of Education, and highlighted some concerns and questions about the change of the age of entry in primary school, due to take effect in September, 2009. Gilles Leblanc, Executive Director of

Acadian and French-Language Services Branch of the Department of Education, was supposed to attend a meeting to address these concerns, but was prevented from doing so due to inclement weather.

The Committee members also reviewed some documents published in 2007-2008 connected to Acadian school programming, such as: “Voir grand petit à petit – guide de construction identitaire au foyer”, published by the CTF, the ACELF (Association canadienne d’éducation de langue française) and the CNPF (Commission nationale des parents francophones inc.), “Vie et apprentissage II – Bâtir des avenir meilleurs ensemble – 2006-2007 Rapport annuel et le plan d’action pour 2007-2008” published by the NSDE, “Food and Nutrition Policy for Nova Scotia Public Schools”, published by the NSDE and the “Services aux francophones” pamphlet published by the NSTU.

Finally, at their last meeting, members of the Comité made a recommendation to the Nominations Committee that Angèle d’Entremont be nominated Chair of the Committee for 2008-2009.

Melissa Whelton, Chair
Comité de programmation acadienne
2007-2008