

## **MEMBER SERVICES COMMITTEE**

### **YEAR END REPORT 2013-2014**

#### **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:

Alison MacPherson, First Vice-President, Chair  
Pam Langille, Kings Local  
Donalda Westcott, Cape Breton District Local  
Sarah Watts, APSEA  
Phillip Samson, Richmond Local  
Ryan Lutes, Halifax City Local  
Joe Salah, Provincial Executive, Community College Local  
Peggy Joiner, Community College Local  
Mark MacPhee, NSTU Staff Liaison

#### **Dates of Meetings**

The Committee held meetings on November 1, 2013, February 7 and 21, 2013 (conference call) and April 11, 2014. 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:

- Member Services Committee – Mandate and Composition
- Release Time – Article 31 – Teachers' Provincial Agreement (code NSTU Provincial Business)
- The Committee completed the NSTU Policy Review
- Ongoing Provincial negotiations

- Status of Single Tier Bargaining
- Resolutions approved at Council 2013 were reviewed for processing to the respective Provincial Economic Welfare, Community College Economic Welfare or Regional Economic Welfare Committees
- Considered resolutions for Council 2014
- Regional agreements being negotiated during the 2013-14 school year, asking package preparation and recently concluded agreements
- Upcoming Community College negotiations with the Minister of Education
- Labour market conditions/public sector collective bargaining across Canada
- Planning of Member Services Conference
- Review of various CTF studies, documents

### **Conference**

The next Member Services conference was held on April 11 – 12, 2014 at the Delta Halifax Hotel. There were 35 delegates in attendance.

Sessions included: The New Attack on Unions – The Challenges and the Way Forward (Gail Gatchalian); The Deprofessionalization of Teachers (Betty Jean Aucoin); Education Act Changes (Bruce Kelloway); CyberSCAN Unit – a Complaint from Start to Finish (Sonia Ferrara & Lisa Greenough).

### **Budget**

\$6,600 was budgeted for the Committee's ordinary activities for the 2013-14 school year. \$7,449.00 was the actual amount spent.

Submitted by Alison MacPherson, Chair, Member Services Committee.