



Schools, community celebrates human rights

Voice it Change It was the Nova Scotian theme for the December 10 International Human Rights Day celebration organized by the Partners for Human Rights (Partners).

This annual event took place at Millwood High School in Sackville and featured guest speakers, student presentations of song, dance, poetry and art and included presentations of the Nova Scotia Human Rights Commission's 2012 Human Rights Awards.

"Gathering today and learning about these human rights is significant to all of us," says the Lieutenant Governor of Nova Scotia, His Honour Brigadier-General J.J. Grant, CMM, ONS, CD (Ret'd). "Human rights go well beyond diplomacy and the UN. It's how you interact with your friends and peers. It's a collective responsibility."

Yarmouth Memorial Consolidated High School was recognized for its work in promoting human rights and was presented with a 2012 Human Rights Award for a video that represented a powerful, courageous and honest message about racism and marginalization. The video, produced under the banner, *No Glory Productions*, involved the work of students in the school with help from teacher Rebecca Fraser and student support worker Steve Berry.

The video was produced to address the issue of racism within the school community and was presented March 21, 2012 to mark International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination. In accepting the 2012 Human Rights award on behalf of students and her colleague Steve Berry, Fraser explained the importance of the project. "We knew the students had powerful stories to tell and students needed a safe and trusting place to tell them. The result was a life-changing event.



Rebecca Fraser



Special guests and organizers of Human Rights Day Millwood High music teacher Stephanie Ford; principal Joe Morrison, His Honour Brigadier-General J.J. Grant, Lieutenant Governor of Nova Scotia; NSTU Partners for Human Rights liaison Gérard Cormier; NSTU president Shelley Morse and Cathy Burton, vice-principal.

Whenever we feel we can't fight the fight anymore, we watch the video and it gives us hope to continue to fight. Our greatest desire for these courageous young people is that they have the power to make positive change." Fraser says the "no glory" name was chosen because there is no glory in making a video about racism in 2012. "We will make a video every year, until there are no more stories to tell about racism."

The non-profit Partners for Human Rights committee, made up of organizations including the NSTU and the Human Rights Commission, and community groups, is dedicated to working towards respectful and inclusive communities. Partners organizes events to promote racial harmony and awareness of human rights issues in the community. The group, which hosts an annual event for International Human Rights Day on December 10, encourages recognition of International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination on March 21. The Nova Scotia Teachers Union has been a long time sponsor of the December 10 event.

Holiday Hours

Nova Scotia Teachers Union - closed at noon on December 21 and reopens on January 2, 2012

Johnson Inc. - closed at noon on December 24; closed December 27 & 28; closed at 3:30 p.m. on December 31; and reopens January 2, 2012

"Our hearts go out to the teachers, families and community members affected by the tragic events of December 14 at Sandy Hook Elementary School in Newtown, Connecticut. The NSTU honours the memories of teaching colleagues who gave up their lives for their students."

— Shelley Morse, NSTU president.

people

Sheonorail Board

The Sheonorail Foundation's Board of Directors met on Friday, November 23 to vet grant applications and oversee the operations of the Sheonorail Foundation. Directors meet twice a year. They awarded a total of \$8,932.89 for five projects: *The Husky Spirit Program* (Bible Hill Junior High), *Mini "We Day" Project* (West Richmond Education Centre), *AEC Caring, Peaceful, Community Project* (Antigonish Education Centre), *Following the Compass Project* (Breton Education Centre) and *Peace Begins with Me* (Elmsdale District Elementary School).

Sheonorail is a registered charity supporting research, inquiry, reflection, writing, distribution of information and interventions that focus on all forms of violence in the public school and community college systems, including anti-violence and peaceful schools initiatives. The deadline for the next round of applications for this school year is April 12, 2013.



l to r: Cathy Townsend-Fuller (Kings); Betty-Jean Aucoin, coordinator; Mary-Claire MacMillan (Halifax City); Kathy Kerr (provincial executive member); Darren Cummings (Yarmouth). Seated: Liam Timmons (Cumberland); Bill Redden, chair; NSTU president Shelley Morse and Gail Walsh (retired member). Missing: Mary MacPherson (Cape Breton District) and Thérèse Forsythe (Insurance Trustees).

NSTU Holiday Commercial

The NSTU was pleased to film the annual holiday commercial on November 27 at Maple Ridge Elementary School in Lantz, Colchester County. This year's message encourages Nova Scotians to donate time and/or resources to breakfast programs, food banks and other community programs. The annual holiday message will air on CBC, CTV and Global Television from December 14 to January 4. From left to right: Cathy Doucet, literacy mentor for the Chignecto-Central Regional School Board; Janice McGrath, Grade 1 - 2 teacher and Maple Ridge's NSTU rep; principal Heather MacKeil; NSTU president Shelley Morse; and Kylie Moulund, Grade 3 - 4 teacher.



Resolutions Committee

The resolutions committee met on November 23 to review submissions from NSTU standing committees on government policy review. This committee of NSTU's Annual Council, whose members are elected during Annual Council, exclusive of the chair of the committee, administers the resolutions process for Council, which includes managing the policy review. The deadline for resolutions submissions to Annual Council 2013 is January 18, 2013.



From left to right: Clockwise from the left: committee chair Angela Gillis (provincial executive); Shelley Luddington (Halifax County); Leon Swinkels (Dartmouth); Lillian Pottie (NSTU support staff); Debbie McIsaac, staff liaison; and Dean Marchand (Antigonish). Missing: Jed Corbett (Cape Breton District).



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CTF's director of international programs addresses NSLTA Conference

The theme for this year's L'association des enseignant(e)s de langues de la Nouvelle-Écosse/ Nova Scotia Language Teachers Association (NSLTA)'s conference during Professional Development Day on October 26 was *Talking Technology*.

In addition to 19 workshops the conference featured a keynote address from Barbara MacDonald Moore, Director of International Programs for the Canadian Teachers' Federation (CTF).

Moore discussed how elements of culture and language are affected by technology. "The technology that surrounds us now influences our identity through our language," she comments. Moore also outlined the positives and negatives of the impact of the Internet on culture.

"The Internet allows for more diversity of cultures, because diverse individuals, communities, and groups can connect around the world. But technology and the Internet have also changed the spaces around us. "With cyber changes come shifts in our personal reading,

writing and arithmetic, which permeate our lives with Google and other information systems. Our sense of time, our sense of personal space, our sense of relationships are affected."

ESL teachers and all teachers working with culturally diverse classrooms have a role in the great Canadian cultural challenge says Moore. "Comprehension starts from within, and can help students use communication technology to share their cultural perspective and build bridges to a new language which is clothed in new concepts and value laden."

In speaking about the growing use of technology as a teaching tool Moore adds that, "teachers must increase child-centred awareness. Differentiated learning does not mean standardized learning in different contexts, and it should not sideline teachers. It requires awareness, vigilance, guidance and ongoing professional development of differentiated teaching techniques. It also requires teacher voices to maintain educational relevance and values that enrich all students."



Shown are some of the NSLTA conference delegates and NSLTA executive members with keynote speaker Barbara MacDonald Moore. Seated (l-r): Susan MacDonald, Rima Majaess, Robert Moore, Barbara MacDonald Moore (keynote speaker), Paul Boudreau (provincial executive member, Halifax County) and Gerald Felix. Standing (l-r): Steven Gaudet, Mukuna Lunda, and Colin Landry.



www.teachersplus.ca

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The difference teachers make in the lives of their students

This fall the NSTU ran a hugely successful campaign to promote the tremendous work members do in their schools and campuses.

Parents and students from across the province were asked to nominate a member who had made a difference in their lives. The stories that were submitted were heartwarming and reflected the positive impact teachers have made in many students' lives.

This edition contains the names of everyone nominated in order of their respective school boards, including le Conseil scolaire acadien provincial (CSAP), the Atlantic Provinces Special Education Authority (APSEA), and Community College campuses. Ten members were awarded certificates and \$300 was donated to the member's school or campus for their breakfast program, library, or food bank. Two hundred and fifty-three members, including some retired teachers, received letters of congratulation to ensure they were aware that someone had recognized them for the daily work we do.

Public school and Community College members across the province contribute to their school and campus communities in many positive ways and these sentiments were echoed in the comments we received about the nominees. Each member of the NSTU volunteers their time to students, above the academic day, to ensure activities and school/campus events are successful, including: breakfast clubs, band trips, camps, chaperones for dances, graduation committees, open gym nights, concerts, book clubs, drama, running clubs, elementary art clubs, and coaching, to name a few.

The adjectives used to commend teachers included: amazing, empowering, helpful, awesome, understanding, kind, compassionate, artistic; sense of humour; unique; knowledgeable; caring; inspirational; enthusiastic; patient; honest; generous; energetic; considerate; dedicated; incredible; and encouraging.

Some parents and students described their teachers as someone who instills confidence; inspires us to do our best; goes above and beyond; gives us extra help at lunch; challenges us to think outside the box; teaches us strategies for learning; teaches with the heart; makes us feel special; treats us with respect; uses excellent teaching methods; puts students above everything else; has a passion for teaching; motivates us; has the power to inspire you to reach your full potential; creates a safe learning environment; makes us want to better ourselves; tells us to be proud of who we are and to express our individuality; makes us laugh; cares about our progress; understands a student's point of view; builds my self-esteem; goes the extra mile; instills a drive to succeed; makes all of us feel we can do anything; makes us feel special; and makes us feel accepted.

They go on further to say – my teacher is a great communicator; taught me how to control my anger; gave me hope; and makes me want to go to school each day; and is a beautiful person who never doubts! One parent told us their child was having chemotherapy treatments and would not have gotten through the school year without the support of their teacher.

These are just a small number of the ways members of the NSTU make a difference in the lives of their students. Congratulations to each member, remember – you touch the lives of students in this province each day!

I wish you all a happy, safe holiday season. Enjoy your well deserved break.

L'impact des enseignants sur la vie de leurs élèves

Cet automne, le NSTU a mené une campagne très réussie pour promouvoir le travail extraordinaire accompli par ses membres dans leurs écoles et leurs campus.

On a demandé aux parents et aux élèves de l'ensemble de la province de nommer un membre du NSTU qui avait eu un impact positif sur leur vie. Les récits qui ont été soumis sont très émouvants et reflètent l'impact positif qu'ont les enseignants sur la vie de nombreux élèves.

Ce numéro de *The Teacher* cite le nom de toutes les personnes nommées, sous leur conseil scolaire respectif, y compris le Conseil scolaire acadien provincial (CSAP), la Commission de l'enseignement spécial des provinces de l'Atlantique (CESPA) et les campus du Collège communautaire. Dix membres se sont vus décerner un certificat et un don de 300 \$ a été fait à leur école ou à leur campus pour soutenir le programme de petit déjeuner, la bibliothèque ou la banque alimentaire. Deux cent cinquante-trois membres, y compris certains membres retraités, ont reçu une lettre de félicitations destinée à leur faire savoir que quelqu'un leur a rendu hommage pour le travail qu'ils accomplissent quotidiennement.

Les membres des écoles publiques et du Collège communautaire de l'ensemble de la province contribuent à la communauté de leur école et de leur campus de multiples manières et les commentaires que nous avons reçus au sujet des personnes nommées reflètent clairement ces sentiments. Tous les membres du NSTU consacrent bénévolement du temps aux élèves, en plus de la journée scolaire, pour assurer la réussite des activités et des rencontres de leur école ou de leur campus comme : les clubs de petit déjeuner, les tournées de l'orchestre, les camps, les soirées dansantes, les comités de remise des diplômes, les soirées portes ouvertes au gymnase, les concerts, les clubs de lecture, les pièces de théâtre, les clubs de course, les clubs artistiques et l'entraînement sportif, pour n'en nommer que quelques-uns.

Les adjectifs utilisés pour faire les éloges des enseignants étaient les suivants : fabuleux, galvanisant, serviable, génial, compréhensif, gentil, compatissant, artistique, humoristique, unique, bien informé, bienveillant, stimulant, enthousiaste, patient, honnête, généreux, énergique, attentionné, dévoué, extraordinaire et encourageant.

Des parents et des élèves ont décrit leur professeur comme quelqu'un qui : insufflé la confiance; nous encourage à donner le meilleur de nous-mêmes; va bien au-delà de son devoir; apporte une aide supplémentaire au moment du déjeuner; nous incite à sortir des sentiers battus; nous donne des stratégies d'apprentissage; enseigne avec le cœur; nous fait sentir exceptionnels; nous traite avec respect; utilise d'excellentes méthodes d'enseignement; met toujours ses élèves au premier plan; est passionné par l'enseignement; sait nous motiver; est capable de nous aider à réaliser notre plein potentiel; crée un environnement d'apprentissage sécuritaire; nous incite à vouloir nous améliorer; nous pousse à être fiers de nous-mêmes et à exprimer notre individualité; nous fait rire; est soucieux de nos progrès; comprend le point de vue des élèves; renforce notre estime de soi; ne

(continued on page 8)

Teachers Make a Difference



Congratulations to all of the NSTU members nominated for the Teachers Make a Difference Campaign!!

Annapolis Valley Regional School Board

Matthew Arsenault
Glen Belliveau
Tammy Blue
Charlotte Bower
Tina Dale
Sheri Deutsch
Shawn Kelley
Lalia Kerr
Robyne MacKenzie
Reagan O'Hara
Theresa Pelley
Shelley Petten
Cathy Reimer
Heather Rhodenizer
Jen Rice
Doug Rutt
Karuna Singh
Renda Vandertoorn
Steve Wohlmuth

APSEA

Kate Hodd-McCara
Heather Churchill

Cape Breton- Victoria Regional School Board

Darlene Bereta
Bill Burns
Kathleen Butler
Tammy Daigle
Roy Dawson
Deloris Dilny
Muriel Hill-Latimer
Kevin Kearney
Mike Kelly
Charlie Lane
Brian Lavery
Debbie MacDonald
Josita MacKenzie
Mike MacPhee
Darlene Oliver
Lisa Roach
Nancy Robinson
Danyelle Smith

Chignecto-Central Regional School Board

Valma Boudreau
Nancy Coleman
Corinne Cox
Jocelyn Devine
Robin Ferguson
Darrell Fitzgerald
Belinda Fraser

Robert Gogan
Tammy Harrison
Norman Langille
Irene Legere
Holly MacDonald
Tom MacDowell
Pam MacGillivray
Beth MacMichael
Misty Martell
Jayne Peters
Joan Porter
Robert Scott
Kathy Wells
Laura Wilson
Melanie Wolfe
Marcia VanSnick

Conseil Scolaire Acadien Provincial

Karim Amedjkouh
Joel Arseneault
Anne d'Entremont
Holly d'Eon
Peggy Deveau
Marie-Josée Doucet
Nicole LeBlanc
Mark MacIntosh

Halifax Regional School Board

Andrew Ardley
Asha Arora
Annette Beaton
Nicole Blinn
Stacey Bond
Andrea Briand
Jannea Burgess
Greg Burgess
Phillip Carragher
Pam Carter
Cassandra Chisholm
Regan Clancey
Paul Clarke
Chris Cocek
Shirley Cogswell
Dale Cooper
Jillian Corbin
Joe Cormier
Shelley Courtney
Carol Coutts
JP Crowell
Tracy Crummer
Debra Currie
Angela Currie
Robert D'alessandro

Denise Davidson
Cameron DeBaie
Lianna de Koe
Brenda Devitt
Mike Diabo
Sarah Doane
Carla Elliott
Judith Engram
Chris Faubert
Krista Ford
Stephanie Ford
Carolyn Fox
Dan Fraser
Jill Gallant
Tina Gallant
Deanna Gibson
Christie Gilbert
Leah Gillis
Joan Glover
Holly Grant
Debra Gray
Michelle Halliday
Danielle Hibberts
Michelle Hill
Angela Hill
Janice Inkpen
Michael Jean
Jason Jennings
Barry Johns
Leah Johnson
Lorraine Kelly
Joanne Kennedy
Sean Kent
Niki Keramaris
Janet Landrigan
Lorie Lanteigne
Heidi Lemire
Donald Leslie
Olanne Lowe
Mike MacDonald
Vaunda MacDonald
Lori MacDonald
Tamera MacDonald
Angela MacIvor
Lori MacKay-Carroll
Sonya MacKinnon
Rima Majaess
Bill Malloy
Amy Martell
Seana McDonah
Lynda MacDonald
Tammy McGrath
Madonna Meaney
Kelly Messervey

Heather Michael
Bertha Moore
Erin Mosher
Michelle Munt
Allan Nelson
Cindy Ng-Ivanoff
Christina Oakley
David O'Brien
Stefanie Oldrieve
Jacklyn O'Leary
Kelly Osbourne-Barteaux
Amanda Pashkoski
Dave Pendlebury
Trish Pool
Cheryl Porter
Lynda Reid
Deborah Robichaud
Anne Rodgers
Anne Roughneen
Gail Sampson
Ben etta Sanchez
Jan Scott
Jayne Seaman
Debbie Simon
Rick Smith
Christine Stavert
Ron Stewart
Tim Stiner
Doug Swinamer
Lisa Van Houten
Brian Welcher
Jennifer Welcher
Tera Fraser
Robert Wilhelm
Tiffany Williams
Joe Wolfe
Kim Wood

Nova Scotia Community College

Alma Kennedy Farrell
Ferne MacLennan
Susan Pelton
Trevor Reddick

Strait Regional School Board

Rob Allen
Brenda Burt
Jill Burton
Renette Castle
Tim Dort
Sandra Gillis
Sarita Landry
Cathy Lombardo
Tracey MacDonnell

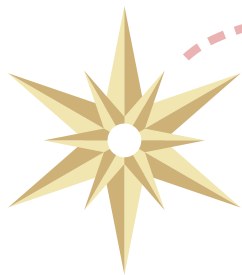
Karen MacIsaac
Amanda MacLean
Lois Madden
Alicia Mills
Lynette Rankin
Jackie Rankin
Colette Rennie
Tommy Samson
Dion Samson
Eryn Sinclair
Maureen Sullivan
Suzi Synishin
Helen Whalen
Micheal Wilson
Wade Worthylake

South Shore Regional School Board

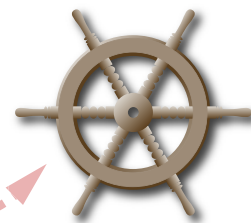
Kelly Blair
Marlene Blezy
Annette Burke
Jonathan Chiasson
Andrea Coreschi
Gretchen Gerhardt
Louise Graham
Angela Griffin
Stephanie Hunt
Kajtek Jaskowiak
Allan Muir
Bryan Reid
Marilyn Sarty
Cynthia Trudeau
Sheila Wamboldt
Chris Wentzell

Tri-County Regional School Board

Nancy Amiro
Geraldine Amirault
Wade Banks
Andrew Brown
Loretta Crocker
Sonya Eddy
Roland Hannem
Helen Ivens
Ian Kent
Kelly Lacroix
Céline Leclerc
David McNutt
Jared Purdy
Kathy Shee
Kathryn Sivret
Jim Surette
Kelli Wolfe-Enslow



Charting Your Course FOR PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT



Constant surveillance: Youth privacy in a digital age

by Matthew Johnson, Director of Education, MediaSmarts

Despite what many adults believe, *privacy matters* to youth, especially since youth's online actions are being monitored more by parents, teachers, and corporations. A high school principal creates a fake Facebook profile page and adds over 300 of her school's students as friends; a Texas middle-school plans to introduce microchip ID cards that students will be required to carry at all times; an Indiana high school student is expelled after a profane tweet (sent in the middle of the night from the student's home computer) alerts his school's monitoring system. While these are extreme examples, they show some of the ways young people find their privacy compromised—often by the same people urging them to be more privacy conscious.

MediaSmarts' study *Young Canadians in a Wired World, Phase III: Talking to Youth and Parents about Life Online* shows youth receive inconsistent messages about privacy. On the one hand, youth are often told that they need to value and protect their privacy. Parents and teachers tell students to be aware of the information they post online, on social networking pages, when entering contests or filling out forms etc. This personal information can be collected and sold to marketers for use in targeted advertising, can result in unwanted contact from strangers, or lead to social embarrassment. On the other hand, kids are told their privacy needs to be compromised for their own protection: parents feel pressured to monitor their children because they've heard about the exaggerated dangers of Internet predators, while schools monitor online activity in an attempt to prevent access to inappropriate content or deal with cyber bullying.

Online surveillance is a reality for youth today. While youth feel that the surveillance they're subject to is annoying and often useless, they have received the same mistaken messages about stranger danger and Internet risks and believe they must be monitored to keep them safe online. This surveillance—and young people's acquiescence to it—is cause for concern. Privacy is a fundamental human right, and constant surveillance chips away at our private space. If youth learn early on that having their activities and behaviours monitored by a multitude of sources is normal, they might not resist as more and more parts of their life come under the gaze of others. Moreover, constant surveillance robs kids of the chance to take risks, experiment, make mistakes and ultimately grow into independent adults.

Surveillance can also drive kids underground: many youth report they subvert, resist, or negotiate surveillance in a variety of ways. For instance, youth use slang, code words or "in-group" references to send one message to peers and another to parents, move to social networks that permit greater degrees of anonymity or pseudonymity, and seek out alternative service providers if they're uncomfortable with the amount of information a website wants to collect—or, if they can't find an alternative, limit or falsify the information they post.

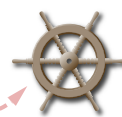


Students aren't the only ones who criticize school surveillance: many teachers do as well. When school filters block sites such as YouTube or web pages that contain certain key words, it's frustrating for students and teachers alike. Schools and teachers need to balance their responsibilities to keep students safe and to provide a space for growth and development, both academically and socially. Too often, though, safety means surveillance. Instead of blocking entire sites, students should have the opportunity to browse, learn, and develop in a supportive environment where they have access to the opportunities the Internet can provide,

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Charting Your Course FOR PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT



Email your name, home address, and school campus name with PD Giveaway in the subject line to theteacher@nstu.ca by January 11, 2012 to be eligible for the draw.

This month's PD book giveaway is *Online Professional Development* by John D. Ross, published by Corwin and Learning Forward. This book includes real life examples and resources that help to ensure that online professional learning is grounded in best practices of e-learning. It focuses on proven principles of professional learning and instructional design. For more information visit: www.corwin.com.



Congratulations To Our November 9th Book Winner!

PD – ERIN MCPHEE,
Cape Breton-Victoria Regional School Board
& Conseil Scolaire Acadien

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but also feel comfortable turning to an adult if there's a potentially dangerous situation. Rather than shutting down the computer, and the conversation, mistakes of this kind should be teachable moments, as they were for the teacher in our study whose students stumbled on a "cloaked" hate site without recognizing it.

Despite the numerous strategies youth have devised to get around surveillance and maintain their own privacy, there are still areas where kids can benefit from adult guidance. For example, youth are very concerned about their *social* privacy, but not often nearly as aware how to navigate the corporate online spaces that profit from their personal information. It's also easy for kids—especially teens—to forget about the permanency of online communications. Once it's up, it's out of our control: even if we delete that nasty comment or embarrassing photo, we can't be sure others haven't already seen it, saved it and distributed it further. Teaching kids about privacy ethics and digital citizenship can help develop an understanding about acting ethically online and avoid embarrassing or harming themselves and others online.

It's important youth have the agency to control their personal information. By providing them with access to their own personal space, instead of monitoring them online (even when done with the best of intentions), we're giving them the space to experiment and develop ideas and identities. Youth then have the chance to grow, develop, learn how to be autonomous, and cultivate mutually trusting relationships with their parents, teachers, and peers.

MediaSmarts has updated the Privacy section of its website, highlighting new developments in online surveillance and privacy issues, and legislation. For more info: <http://mediasmarts.ca/privacy>.



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New Copyright Law; New Opportunities for Teaching

Recent changes to Canada's copyright law have provided many new benefits for teachers and the learning process in the classroom. The *Copyright Modernization Act* and a Supreme Court of Canada landmark decision interpreting what fair dealing means in an education setting have set new rules for copyright and education.

Copyright law has become clearer and easier for teachers and students to follow in two significant ways.

The Use of Internet Materials

The new copyright law provides a clear legal framework that supports the use of the Internet in classrooms. Now, teachers and students can legally conduct routine classroom activities such as downloading and sharing publicly available Internet text or images, incorporating Internet materials into assignments, and exchanging works electronically with one another.

This new provision applies only to material that has been posted online with the authorization of the copyright owner. The provision does not apply to pirated textbooks or films. Also, teachers and students must respect any digital lock (such as encryption or password-protection) that restricts access or use of the Internet content.

The Use of Short Excerpts

The Supreme Court decision interpreted fair dealing as "permitting teachers to copy and communicate short excerpts from a copyright-protected work for each student in a class." So, teachers can make copies of short excerpts from a book or magazine, for example, for distribution

to their students without having to ask for copyright permission or pay copyright royalties.

As a result, many educational uses of copyright-protected works no longer require payment of copyright royalties. However, teachers' use of copies of short excerpts is meant to be a supplement to - not a substitute for - the purchase of copyright-protected work. The ruling does not allow the copying of a whole copyright-protected work, only a "short excerpt." It does not mean teachers can copy whole textbooks.

Know Your Limits with the New Copyright Law

Teachers routinely encourage copyright awareness and respect for copyright. Given the many changes to the copyright law, teachers should learn more about the new benefits and limits for classroom learning.

Good resource materials are being made available by the Nova Scotia Department of Education, the Canadian Teachers' Federation and Canadian School Boards Association.

- *Fair Dealing Guidelines* help educators deal fairly with copyright-protected works. They provide a detailed definition of "short excerpts" (i.e. What does it mean to be able to copy 10 percent of a work?)
- *Copyright Matters!* is an authoritative guide to copyright law and education, providing teachers with user-friendly information on copyright in the classroom.

These materials are available from www.cmec.ca, and paper copies will be made available through schools in January, 2013.



EDUCATION WEEK
APRIL 21-27, 2013
Teaching for a Sustainable Future

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ménage pas ses efforts; nous insuffle la volonté de réussir; nous donne à tous le sentiment d'être capables de tout et nous donne la conviction d'être pleinement acceptés.

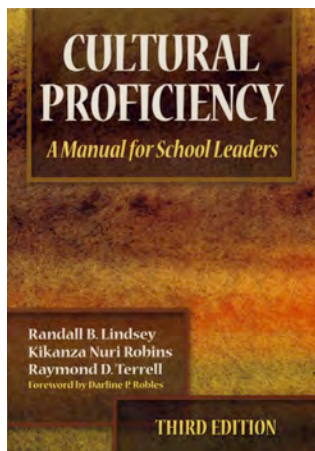
Ils vont encore plus loin et disent aussi : mon professeur est un excellent communicateur; elle m'a appris comment contrôler ma colère; il m'a redonné espoir; grâce à elle, j'ai envie d'aller à l'école; c'est une personne merveilleuse qui ne doute jamais de nous! Un parent nous a dit que son enfant recevait un traitement de chimiothérapie et n'aurait jamais pu terminer l'année scolaire sans le soutien de son professeur.

Il s'agit seulement de quelques exemples de l'impact que les membres du NSTU ont sur la vie de leurs élèves. Nos félicitations à tous nos membres et n'oubliez pas que vous touchez chaque jour la vie des élèves de cette province!

Je vous souhaite à tous de joyeuses fêtes. Profitez bien de cette pause largement méritée.

Cobequid District Elementary teacher Kathy McCulloch attended an Artlinks PD day at Redcliff Middle School. Part of the day involved hands-on screen printing. McCulloch was also the lucky winner of a draw for a classroom art cart from the Department of Education.

Email your name, home address, and school or campus with **EQUITY** in the subject line to theteacher@nstu.ca by January 11 to be eligible for the draw.



Cultural Proficiency: A Manual for School Leaders

Corwin presents the third edition in a series designed to support educators on their journey of personal growth towards becoming more culturally proficient in the classroom. Lindsey, Robins, and Terrell, outline how school leaders can lead by example, through creating a more diversified classroom by eliminating personal barriers to enhance the overall learning experience for both leaders, and those whom they inspire. With updated

information, this resource offers many possibilities for teaching students from every background.

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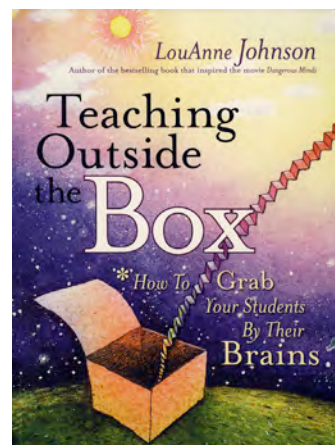
Putting new members in the KNOW!

Email your name, home address, and school or campus with **FRESH** in the subject line to theteacher@nstu.ca by January 11 to be eligible for the draw.

Teaching Outside the Box, How To Grab Your Students By Their Brains

LouAnne Johnson, presents a manual for teachers of all levels, from the very new to seasoned pros, with tools of the trade that encompass all areas of the teaching profession from lesson plans to seating plans. Educators will find valuable tips and tricks along with checklists, handouts and other helpful resources to aid in creating a stimulating and enjoyable

environment for students and teachers alike. *Teaching Outside the Box*, delivers straightforward advice, and techniques that can be easily personalized to individual teachers for a fun and dynamic way of teaching.



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NOTICES

Grade 4&5 Snow Pass! – 2012-2013

Looking for a way to get your kids healthy during the winter months? The Canadian Ski Council presents this year's Snow Pass. By visiting its website at <http://www.snowpass.ca/>, students born between 2002 and 2003 can register for a free pass to get outside and beat those winter blues on the slopes. With over 150 ski hills involved, you are sure to find one nearby. What a fun and economical way to get kids outside enjoying the brisk winter weather.

Write for a Better World – Deadline April 5, 2013

Write for a Better World invites students from Grades 5 to 8 to participate in a contest with best-selling Canadian author Eric Walters. This 400-word essay with the introduction created by Mr. Walters, asks students to "Write about a place and culture that is new to you. What is different about it and what is surprisingly the same?" The grand prize and top ten prize winners will all be published. For more information and registration forms, please visit <http://www.worldlit.ca/write2013/>.

2013 Toyota Earth Day Scholarship Program – Deadline February 15, 2013

Established by Earth Day Canada and supported by Toyota Canada, this scholarship is awarded to students who exemplify the willingness and drive to change and help the environment through innovative actions in their schools and communities no matter what field of study they choose. This award is presented to a student in high school or Cégep who will be graduating and entering into post-secondary education. For more information or if you have any questions please contact Linda Li-Chee-Ming at scholarship@earthday.ca



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Teachers who make a difference

Brenda Burt



Brenda Burt is shown with her Teachers Make a Difference certificate she was presented with on November 7, with Bernie LeBlanc (Richmond Local past president), NSTU president Shelley Morse, Richmond Academy principal Lois Landry and Phil Samson (Richmond Local president).

Richmond Academy science teacher Brenda Burt had not heard about the NSTU's *Teachers Make a Difference Campaign*, until she got the phone call to say that she had been chosen as the Strait Regional School Board recipient.

"I was utterly and completely shocked," says Burt, who has been teaching Grade 9 & 10 science, biology and chemistry at Richmond Academy since 2000.

In her twenty-third year of teaching, Burt was the president of the Richmond Local from 2006-08 and was the Strait RRC Chair from 2008-11. She says being recognized was a positive experience. "You do your job, day in and out, and rarely get a pat on the back. It felt good to receive it and meant even more that someone actually took the time to nominate me and let me know that what I do made a significant difference."

The announcement of the *Teachers Make a Difference* awards coincided with the first semester parent-teacher sessions. "I had parents telling me that their children were pleased that I was nominated and received the award. Even people seeing me at the grocery store told me they saw my picture in the paper or heard my name on television."

She's delighted the NSTU developed the program. "It was a wonderful thing for the NSTU to do. It is nice for teachers to get recognized publicly for their impact on the lives of students and society."

The student who nominated Burt had this to say: "During every class I have ever had with her, she always had my attention and interest. There was never a doubt in my mind that she didn't love what she did. Mrs. Brenda Burt always had a smile on her face but never seemed to truly get the appreciation she deserved, which is why she really does deserve this!"

Mike McPhee



Mike McPhee is shown above with his Teachers Make a Difference Certificate during a Cape Breton District Local meeting on November 28. (l – r): Shelley Morse, Mike McPhee, Cape Breton District provincial executive representatives Sally Capstick and John Helle, and Cape Breton District Local president Ron MacIntosh.

Glace Bay High School's Mike McPhee was not aware of the NSTU's *Teachers Make a Difference Campaign*, but his students certainly were. McPhee received over 50 nominations from current and former students expressing how he has impacted their lives.

A busy high school drama teacher, with six classes ranging from Grades 10 to 12 this school year, McPhee is modest about his recognition. "It's a testament to the whole school," he says. "It's a team effort here at Glace Bay High—that's the important thing about the recognition."

McPhee also taught drama at Holy Angels High before it closed down, but is happy to be teaching in his home high school. "It's great to be teaching in the high school I went to, even if there are some ghosts in the hallway," he jokes.

McPhee likes the fact that the NSTU is focusing on the impact teachers make. "I think it's really positive that the Union has focused on how teachers respond to community needs. People might not realize a lot of those needs fall on teachers' backs and sometimes society expects teachers to solve all of this. It's great that the NSTU is celebrating what teachers and students are doing." He also adds, "it was very nice to hear about the award after a long day of work."

McPhee is passionate about his subject area. His students develop, write and perform original scripts that have meaning to them. "It's great to have drama as an option for students to take. It helps kids express themselves and succeed in high school."

He beams with pride when he speaks about his Grade 10 students who recently performed their collectively written script in class for the vice principal and principal of the school.

Reasons cited as to why McPhee makes a difference include: "He's an amazing teacher, and loves doing what he does," "he strives to see the positive and beauty in things", and "he believes all it takes is determination to make change."



coming events

JANUARY 5

First Canadian ARISS contact at Charles P. Allen High School

ARISS (Amateur Radio on the International Space Station) is an international program representing Japan, Russia, Canada, the United States and several European countries. It provides students from around the world with an opportunity to communicate with orbital crews on board the International Space Station (ISS) via amateur radio and asks them questions about living and working on the ISS. The primary goals of ARISS are to promote STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) core topics, the benefits of space exploration and to introduce students and teachers to the exciting world of amateur radio. Charles P. Allen High School in Bedford made application for an ARISS contact in January 2011 and was awarded a contact with Canadian astronaut Chris Hadfield on January 5, 2013.

Hadfield will launch from Star City, Russia, on December 19 and dock with the ISS on December 21. To date, C.P. Allen will be his first Canadian contact. The event will also be the first ARISS contact for a high school in Atlantic Canada and the first for a public school in Nova Scotia. Hadfield will become the first Canadian commander of the ISS during this mission and this will be Canada's last manned space mission for the foreseeable future.

Canada's first astronaut, Marc Garneau, will be the guest speaker for the event. His appearance will coincide with the first in line to talk to Hadfield. The event, which will be streamed live, is scheduled to begin at around 1:30 pm, with contact to take place at approximately 2:45 pm depending on corrections in the ISS orbit or shifts in the crew's schedule.

Final contact time will be confirmed by NASA between Christmas and New Year's Day. Visit the CPA-ARISS website at <http://www/hrsbstaff.ednet.ns.ca/ariss> for updates on this very exciting event.

JANUARY 27

Family Literacy Day: 15 minutes for 15 years

January 27, 2013 marks the 15th annual Family Literacy Day®. Created by ABC Life Literacy Canada in 1999, Family Literacy Day encourages Canadian families to read and learn together.

Teachers know the majority of a child's day is spent learning at school. But it's important that the learning is not only continued at home but also encouraged by parents or guardians through daily teachable moments. Parents spending just 15 minutes a day engaged in a learning activity with children can provide huge benefits.

In honour of Family Literacy Day, ABC Life Literacy Canada offers these ideas on how to celebrate Family Literacy Day with students, and parents.

1. **A picture tells 1,000 words!** Stories can be inspired by many different things including paintings or photos. Give each student a piece of artwork, have them take it home and write a story with their parents that centres around the illustration.



Family Literacy Day

2. **Book time:** Organize a workshop for parents, offering tips and suggestions for reading and learning with their children, and activities to encourage learning in the home.
 3. **Organize an alphabetical scavenger hunt:** Ask students to find as many objects as they can at home starting with the letter "A". Or, ask them to find one object beginning with each letter of the alphabet. Encourage parents to help them on their hunt!
 4. **Dear Diary:** Ask students to create a family journal by interviewing family members and writing down favourite jokes and stories from siblings, parents, or grandparents.
 5. **Read all about it!** Hold a reading contest where families are asked to keep track of (or pile up) all the books they read together as a family for one week. The family that reads the most together wins!
- Family Literacy Day, taking place across Canada on January 27, 2013, is the perfect opportunity to encourage learning at home. For more information, including tips and activity ideas for the classroom, visit www.FamilyLiteracyDay.ca.

To view previous issues
of *The Teacher*, go to www.nstu.ca



Célébrons nos progrès: Assurons notre succès

L'éducation de langue française en contexte minoritaire est en pleine effervescence. Les associations de la profession enseignante des provinces de l'Atlantique, la Faculté des sciences de l'éducation de l'Université de Moncton et la Fédération canadienne des enseignantes et des enseignants s'unissent pour célébrer les étapes qui ont mené à une éducation de qualité pour les élèves d'aujourd'hui et de demain. Résolument tournés vers un avenir prometteur, les conférences et les ateliers de ce symposium porteront sur les actions novatrices qui favorisent le succès de notre projet éducatif.



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psychological problems etc.

The Plan and Career Smart Services is designed to allow you to take a proactive approach to life's transition and challenges. Some of the services include childcare and parenting caregiver support, legal, financial, career counselling, online courses, 12 weeks to wellness, nutritional support, etc.

There are also depression care services that provide assistance for individuals suffering from certain types of depression.

The services are available to all members, their spouses and dependents 24 hours, seven days a week. Please call 1-877-955-NSTU (6788).

Resilience® works in conjunction with Manulife's Health eLinks, an online resource of healthcare related material. With Health eLinks, you can take part in an interactive health risk assessment, and a comprehensive library of medical information written by medical experts and even create a personal health improvement program.

You can access Health eLinks at myresilience.com.

Brochures have been circulated by NSTU representatives and you can refer to additional information on accessing those beneficial services through the brochure. It is recommended you keep the information in a familiar place for future reference.

If you have any questions, please contact the NSTU Group Insurance Trustee for your region or Joan Ling at jling@staff.nstu.ca.

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resources

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Branching Out, the Public Schools Branch newsletter, is available online at <http://lrt.ednet.ns.ca/branching.shtml>

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Share.EDnet/Ensemble.EDnet Learning resources and professional materials designed and created by the Nova Scotia education community and mapped to Nova Scotia learning outcomes. <http://Share.EDnet.ns.ca> [English] <http://Ensemble.EDnet.ns.ca> [French]

ImagesProject A collection of images for Nova Scotia public school program use. Nova Scotia students and teachers may freely download, use and modify images for curriculum purposes. <http://imagesproject.ednet.ns.ca>

Education Portal (EduPortal) <https://edapps.ednet.ns.ca/eduportal/>
Search our online catalogue, order videos, access other departmental resources and so much more! Check out our new website <http://medialibrary.ednet.ns.ca> for more information on these and many other digital resources.

Upcoming deadlines for The Teacher:

January 18th deadline — January 4th

February 1st deadline — January 18th

February 15th deadline — February 1st

March 8th deadline — February 22nd

April 12th deadline — March 28th

Contact Sonia Matheson at

theteacher@nstu.ca

1-800-565-6788

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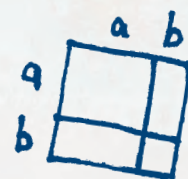
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Teachers, relatives and friends are invited to join an AMAZING trip of a lifetime! In July 2013, travel the United Kingdom visiting England, Ireland, Scotland and Wales. For more information please email Sarah/Wally Fiander (TCRSB teachers) at sfiander@nstu.ca. See <http://www.eftours.ca/eliterature/DBD/13/TBR.pdf> for itinerary.

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TEACHER EXCHANGE - A permanent Jr. High Physical Education/Healthy Living/Science Teacher in HRSB is looking to exchange positions with a similar teacher from the CCRSB for the 2013-2014 school year. A permanent exchange is possible. If interested, please contact cbarr@staff.ednet.ns.ca

TEACHER EXCHANGE - An elementary resource teacher with the HRSB is looking for the same with the CBVRSB for the 2013-2014 school year. A permanent exchange is also possible. If interested, please email dl@staff.ednet.ns.ca.

TEACHER EXCHANGE - A permanent elementary teacher with the CBVRSB is looking to exchange positions with a teacher from the HRSB for the 2013-2014 school year. A permanent exchange is desired. If interested, please contact knottt@staff.ednet.ns.ca.

TEACHER EXCHANGE - Permanent Senior High Phys. Ed and Math teacher with the HRSB is looking for an exchange with a teacher from the CBVRSB for the 2013-14 school year. A permanent exchange is possible. If interested please contact caper1976@hotmail.com

TEACHER EXCHANGE - I am a Junior High Math and Science teacher with the Halifax Regional School Board who is looking for

a possible teacher exchange to the Cape Breton-Victoria Regional School Board for the 2013-2014 school year with a chance for permanent exchange. I am, also, qualified for a Learning Centre or Resource position as I have completed my Master's. If you are interested please contact me asap via email jfrison@staff.ednet.ns.ca

TEACHER EXCHANGE - Permanent Junior/senior high learning center/resource teacher with the HRSB is looking to exchange positions with a teacher from CCRSB for the 2013-2014 school year. A permanent exchange is possible. It interested, please contact me at burtonch@staff.ednet.ns.ca

JOB SHARE - I am an experienced teacher who is seeking a job share position in the HRSB. I am finishing my Masters in Literacy in the spring and am qualified to teach P-8. Please contact Pamela for full resume at pam_benigno@hotmail.com or 902-209-1344.

AVAILABLE FOR SHORT-TERM RENTAL: fully-furnished clean & spacious townhouse in Sheffield-in-the-Park area of Clayton Park Halifax. See www.prop2go.com listing 1730.

WANTED: To borrow a Tikki Hut for prop in school event - If you or anyone you know can help with this item please contact Carol Clayton, A.J. Smeltzer Jr. High 902 864-6846



Springvale students trim and sing. Stephanie Lynch's Grade 1 - 2 class from Springvale Elementary School in Halifax were this year's official NSTU Christmas tree trimmers. After trimming the tree with ornaments they made in class, the students treated NSTU president Shelley Morse and NSTU staff to some carolling. Before heading back to school, Santa came by for a visit.

Deadline for the January issue of

The Teacher: January 4th

Contact Sonia Matheson at theteacher@nstu.ca