



Engaging members NSTU focus

NSTU's ad hoc Committee on Member Engagement has been researching ways in which NSTU members are actively engaged with their Union, determining barriers to engagement and making recommendations on how to enhance member engagement. To that end, the NSTU hosted seven focus groups corresponding to the RRC (Regional Representative Council) from February 25 to March 6.

"These focus groups enable us to explore members' ideas and attitudes about the NSTU, their level of engagement and the value that the NSTU brings to them," says NSTU president Shelley Morse.

Each Local president was asked to send NSTU reps from respective Locals along with members who were not actively involved in the NSTU.

"We've received great feedback from our members through this exercise," adds Morse. "I attended one of the focus groups and received very informative feedback from members."

Members of the APSEA, CSANE and Community College Locals, who are not connected to RRCs were also invited to attend the focus groups to ensure the NSTU was receiving feedback from all Locals.

The ad hoc Committee on Member Engagement, struck through a 2012 Council resolution also gauged priorities of NSTU member engagement from NSTU leaders at various levels, and developed a member engagement survey which was generated to a random sample of the NSTU membership in early January.

Recommendations from this committee will be forwarded to NSTU's provincial executive for consideration.



NSTU president Shelley Morse (back row) is shown with members that attended the Valley RRC Member Engagement Focus group. Seated (l-r): Tara Barker and Suzanne Greenlaw (Annapolis Local); Sara Eaton (Kings Local) and Holly Graves (Hants West Local). Standing: Jackie Allen (Chair, Social, Hants West Local); Morse; and Chair of the ad hoc Committee on Member Engagement Pam Langille (Kings Local).

Clarification sought on training modules

Over the past few weeks, teachers in some school boards around the province were required to watch Department of Education *Reporting Severely Disruptive Behaviour Modules* and sign a form indicating that they had viewed the modules.

"Through a miscommunication between the Department and Boards, some of our members viewed training modules intended for support staff only," says NSTU president Shelley Morse. "We received emails and calls from teachers curious as to why they were being required to watch and sign forms, when teachers and administrators Under Section 26 of the Education Act already have a responsibility to report the severely disruptive conduct of any student."

The training modules were developed to meet amendments made to the Education Act as a result of Bill 102, which amended Section 40 of the Act. This section deals with support staff and requires support staff, including bus drivers and custodians to report the conduct of any student who engages in severely disruptive behaviour, including bullying and cyber bullying.

Correspondence from Carole Olsen, Deputy Minister of Education to superintendents has clarified this issue and states: "Three of the four videos sent out to assist you in training support staff affected by Bill 102 are intended as a training information package for support staff resulting from this amendment to section 40 of the Act. The fourth video module is intended to assist principals in understanding the implications of Bill 102 as the Bill also amends section 38. This section of the Act outlines the duties of principals. The amendment to section 38 as a result of Bill 102 requires principals to investigate and respond to reports of severely disruptive behaviour."

(continued on page 2)



NSTU Outreach and Equity staff officer Gérard Cormier facilitates a focus group session in Sydney on February 25 for the Cape Breton RRC and Community College members.



people

Member Engagement Committee



The ad hoc committee on Member Engagement held its third and final meeting of the school year on March 4. This committee was struck through Resolution 2012-24 at last year's Annual Council and has been researching ways in which NSTU members are actively engaged, determining the barriers to active involvement in the Union and recommending ways to enhance member engagement.

Seated (l-r): NSTU staff liaison to the committee, executive staff officer Gérard Cormier, and Scott Hagell (Colchester-East Hants Local). Standing (back l-r): Krissy Brewer (Dartmouth Local); Debbie McVeigh (Community College Local); Pam Langille (Committee Chair, Kings Local); and Cindy MacKinnon (provincial executive liaison to the Committee, Pictou Local). Missing from the photo: Angela Murray, NSTU professional services staff officer, public relations and communications.

New EIP staff member

The NSTU welcomes Kristin Crocker as the newest member of the Early Intervention Program (EIP). Crocker, case coordinator, is filling in for Jennifer Finlayson who is on maternity leave. She grew up in the Annapolis Valley and attended elementary and high school in Middleton. She completed her Bachelor of Kinesiology degree at Acadia University, and her Master of Science in Occupational Therapy at Dalhousie University. Crocker gained fieldwork experience across the Atlantic provinces in Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, and Newfoundland. In 2012, she began working with the South West Nova District Health Authority at the Yarmouth Regional Hospital. She also volunteered as a coach of the Yarmouth Consolidated Memorial High School girls' soccer team. She is pleased to be living in Halifax and working with teachers across the province, with a focus within the Tri-County and Annapolis Valley Regional School Boards. She would like to acknowledge Greg and Karen Bower, teachers at Middleton Regional High who helped motivate her throughout her athletic and academic endeavours. She looks forward to working as an EIP member and thanks everyone for their warm welcome to the NSTU. Leticia Richer assumes Finlayson's role as EIP manager.



Comité de programmation acadienne

NSTU's Comité de programmation acadienne met at the NSTU building on February 21. This committee studies the curriculum and all proposed changes as it relates to Acadian schools under the direction of Conseil scolaire acadien provincial. Seated (l-r): Marc Poirier, Sheila Henderson, Cécile Thériault, and Joel Chiasson. Standing: Ian LeBlanc (CSANE Local president); Ian Comeau (provincial executive liaison) and Gérard Cormier (NSTU staff liaison). Missing: Nadine Doiron.



(continued from cover)

Bill 102 did not address the duties of teachers. Section 26 of the Act already has a duty of teachers to report to the principal or other person in charge of the school the conduct of any student who is persistently defiant or disobedient.

While the training modules are intended for support staff and principals, you may want to encourage teachers to view the modules for information purposes at their convenience."

On March 6, the NSTU forwarded a letter to the Deputy Minister reaffirming the position of the NSTU that the forms teachers were required to sign after having viewed the modules have no legislative or contractual authority. The NSTU also suggested that the Department encourage boards to destroy signed forms from teachers.

INVOLVING | INFORMING | INSPIRING
the teacher



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NSTU organizes PD day for Partners for Human Rights committee

The Partners for Human Rights (Partners) committee held its annual professional development day, which was hosted by NSTU committee representative and Partners PD committee chair Gérard Cormier at the NSTU building on February 12.

“Through a goal-setting exercise four years ago, professional development came through as an area of focus for committee members,” says Cormier.

The non-profit Partners for Human Rights committee, is made up of organizations including the NSTU, the Nova Scotia Human Rights Commission, Department of Education, Atlantic Jewish Council, Citizenship & Immigration Canada, Halifax Regional Police, Halifax Regional School Board, Dalhousie, Mount Saint Vincent and Saint Mary’s universities, Native Council of Nova Scotia and other community groups. “Our work focuses on working towards respectful and inclusive communities,” adds Cormier, who is also NSTU’s equity and outreach staff officer.

NSTU member, Ian Kent, who is the VP of communications for the Queens Local shared his best social media practice with the group and revealed how easy it is for the Partners committee to implement these tools to better communicate their message.

Partners organized events to promote racial harmony and awareness of human rights issues in the community. The group hosts an annual event for International Human Rights Day on December 10 encourages recognition of the International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination on March 21.

Since event management is a large part of what the committee undertakes every year, Lynn Buckley, lead consultant with the special event management company Agenda Managers provided her long-time expertise to enable the committee to better manage its signature Human Rights Day event.

The day ended off with a panel on cultural competency. The panel members were Sharon David-Murdoch from the Department of Health & Wellness, Gabe Saulnier from Healing our Nations, Katie Tinker from Halifax Refugee Clinic and Nolan Pike from the Youth Project. This panel shared personal experiences with respect to marginalized groups they are members of or work with. “This panel presentation helped committee members to better understand their own cultural worldview, their attitudes towards cultural differences and enable our group to better communicate and interact with people across cultures,” Cormier comments.



Ian Kent talks about social media tools and platforms during the Partners for Human Rights PD Day.



www.teachersplus.ca

902-477-5664 • 1-800-565-3103

2012

Annual General Meeting

Quality Inn & Suites
980 Parkland Drive Halifax, NS

Saturday, April 6, 2013 • From 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Please Plan to Attend.

16-36 Brookshire Court, Bedford Nova Scotia B4A 4E9



International Women's Day

The designation of International Women's Day began early in the twentieth century and was the result of a movement in which women were seeking equal participation in society.

The annual event was first observed on March 19, 1911, in Austria, Denmark, Germany and Switzerland with more than one million men and women showing public support. From that year on other countries joined the movement which is now worldwide.

As the Status of Women Canada website highlights, "International Women's Day has grown to become a global day of recognition and celebration. The theme was expanded by the United Nations in 1975 with the International Women's Year. By 1977, the United Nations had adopted a resolution designating March 8 as International Women's Day. Today, International Women's Day is a national holiday in many countries and celebrated in many more... The week of March 8 provides an opportunity to take stock of our progress towards gender equality and to honour the contributions women have made and are making—both in Canada and around the world."

This year marks the 104th anniversary and the global theme is *The Gender Agenda: Gaining Momentum*.

Much has improved for women since the movement began, however, there remain countries where women and girls fear for their safety, are subjected to rape and gender violence on a daily basis, and access to education is denied or out of reach. This year's theme highlights the progression of equal rights for women over time and distance. It celebrates the achievements of women while remaining steadfast for further sustainable change. It highlights the global momentum for championing women's equality.

While women's rights have improved a lot over the past century, it is still not enough and not everywhere. Women and girls should be able to live equally and have all the opportunities to achieve what they want. It's time to draw awareness to the discrimination women face worldwide.

On this day, celebrate the accomplishments of women and girls who were brave enough to stand for human rights against terrible odds and the threat of death. Rally for change, create awareness regarding inequality and social advancement, and keep the momentum going as we strive for peace worldwide.

For more information, visit: <http://www.swc-cfc.gc.ca/> and/or <http://www.internationalwomensday.com/>.

Journée internationale de la femme

La désignation de la Journée internationale de la femme a commencé au tout début du 20^e siècle et était le résultat d'un mouvement amorcé par les femmes pour réclamer une participation équitable à la société.

Cet événement annuel a été célébré pour la première fois le 19 mars 1911 en Autriche, au Danemark, en Allemagne et en Suisse par plus d'un million d'hommes et de femmes manifestant publiquement leur soutien. À partir de cette année-là, d'autres pays se sont joints à ce mouvement qui est maintenant d'ampleur internationale.

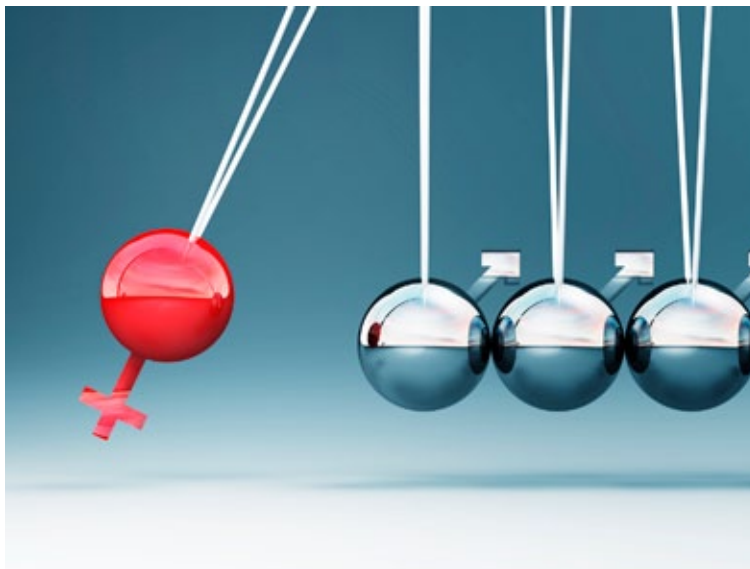
Comme le souligne le site Web Condition féminine Canada, « Au fil du temps, la Journée internationale de la femme est devenue une journée célébrée et reconnue partout dans le monde. L'Organisation des Nations Unies (ONU) a porté ce thème plus loin en désignant 1975 l'Année internationale de la femme. En 1977, l'ONU adoptait une résolution faisant du 8 mars la Journée internationale de la femme. Aujourd'hui, le 8 mars est célébré dans un grand nombre de pays; certains en ont même fait un jour férié... Chaque année, le 8 mars et la semaine qui l'entoure nous donnent l'occasion d'évaluer les progrès vers l'égalité entre les sexes et de remercier les femmes de leurs contributions passées, présentes et futures au Canada et dans le monde. »

Cette année marque le 104^e anniversaire de cette journée et le thème international est *The Gender Agenda: Gaining Momentum* (L'objectif d'égalité entre les sexes : en plein essor). Les choses se sont beaucoup améliorées pour les femmes depuis que le mouvement a commencé, toutefois, il reste des pays où les femmes et les filles craignent pour leur sécurité et sont quotidiennement victimes de viol et de violence à caractère sexiste et où l'accès à l'éducation leur est refusé ou limité. Le thème de cette année souligne la progression de l'égalité des droits pour les femmes au fil du temps et de l'espace. Il célèbre les accomplissements des femmes ainsi que leur détermination à exiger des changements durables. Il met l'accent sur l'essor international de la défense de l'égalité des femmes.

Bien que les droits des femmes se soient beaucoup améliorés au cours du dernier siècle, ce n'est pas encore suffisant et ce n'est pas le cas partout. Les femmes et les filles devraient être en mesure de vivre dans l'égalité et de disposer des meilleures chances pour réaliser ce qu'elles souhaitent. Il est grand temps d'attirer l'attention sur la discrimination subie par les femmes dans le monde entier.

Ce jour-là, célébrons les accomplissements des femmes et des filles qui ont été suffisamment courageuses pour défendre leurs droits en dépit de terribles obstacles et de la menace de mort. Unissons-nous en faveur du changement, augmentons la sensibilisation à l'égard de l'inégalité et de la promotion sociale et poursuivons cet essor tandis que nous luttons en faveur de la paix dans le monde.

Pour obtenir de plus amples renseignements, consultez <http://www.swc-cfc.gc.ca/> et <http://www.internationalwomensday.com/>.



executive highlights

February 28 - March 1, 2013

- Filed table officers report;
- Selected six candidates to the John Huntley Memorial Internship Program, along with two alternates;
- Approved a recommendation that Bill Redden replace Ron Smith as a Nova Scotia Teachers' Pension Plan Trustee effective on the date of Ron Smith's resignation and that Alan MacLean replace Bill Redden as the staff officer appointed to the Board effective the same date.
- Appointed a member to the Public Affairs to fill a vacancy with a term to end July 31, 2013;
- Approved a recommendation that the March 2013 meeting of the ad hoc Committee on Member Engagement be held face-to-face;
- Approved a recommendation that the Finance & Property Committee review Family Care Expenses and report back to the April 5, 2013 provincial executive meeting;
- Approved the draft budget to go forward to Annual Council 2013 for 2013-2014 with a recommendation that it be adopted and approved three resolutions in support of the operating budget;

- Prepared an optional budget to forward to Council in compliance with Governance Policy 1 (Res 2010-7);
- Approved an amendment to Operational Procedures 10. NSTU Locals, (k) Local Rebates, 3;
- Appointed Past President Brian Forbes as the Independent Chairperson for Annual Council 2013;
- Approved the 2013 edition of the Cape Breton District Local Constitution;
- Approved the granting of one (1) Local Service Award be awarded at Annual Council 2013;
- Approved a recommendation the NSTU file a request with the Department of Education that any teachers signatures collected in relation to Bill 102 be considered void;
- Approved a resolution be forwarded to Annual Council 2013 regarding Article 1 – Membership, 10. Membership Rights;
- Approved a joint meeting of the Public Relations & Public Affairs Committees;
- Approved a resolution be forwarded to Annual Council 2013 regarding the learning and physical environment guidelines for art teachers;
- Approved a recommendation to accept the campaign approach as presented by Dunn & Associates to meet the requirements of Resolution 2012-26.

THURSDAY, APRIL 11, 2013



MOTION LEADERSHIP IN ACTION A DAY WITH MICHAEL FULLAN

9:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.
Halifax Marriott Harbourfront

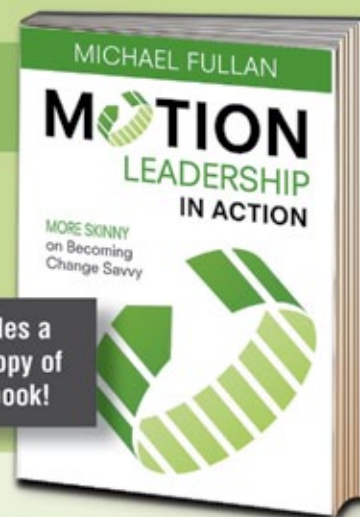
This is the only workshop of its kind in Atlantic Canada this spring. The target audience is under 200 so you will have to act fast.

How motion leadership “moves” educators to action!

Do your school reform efforts frequently sputter or stall? In this indispensable sequel to the bestseller *Motion Leadership*, Michael Fullan shares the real-life strategies and results of educators who have used motion leadership to propel entire organizations and systems forward. Success stories from around the world illustrate how educators can use a small number of specific actions to generate momentum for lasting change. *Motion Leadership in Action* addresses

- Creating and leading movement in the right direction and at the right time
- Implementing a “ready-fire-aim” mindset
- Emphasizing the importance of collaboration
- Forging relationships while handling resistance and
- Establishing your change stance in order to get better results.

For more information and to register, go to the NSELC website www.nselc.ca.



Workshop includes a complimentary copy of Michael's new book!

REGISTRATION FEE

\$350 plus tax

(includes the new book, continental breakfast and lunch)

CANCELLATION POLICY: A \$50.00 cancellation fee will apply and must be received in writing by **APRIL 1, 2013**, after which there will be no refund.

WORKSHOP AGENDA

REGISTRATION: 8:30 a.m. - 9:30 a.m.

WORKSHOP: 9:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

Continental breakfast and lunch will be provided.

LOCATION AND HOTEL RESERVATIONS

HALIFAX MARRIOTT HARBOURFRONT

1919 Upper Water Street Halifax, Nova Scotia B3J 3J5
www.marriott.com/yhzmc

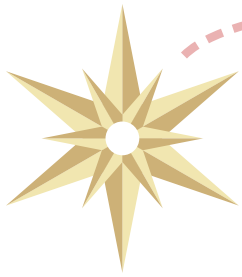
Education Leadership Canada's Rate:
\$125 + tax (available until March 27, 2013)

Telephone the Marriott at 1 (800) 943-6760 or (902) 421-1700 to make your hotel reservation.

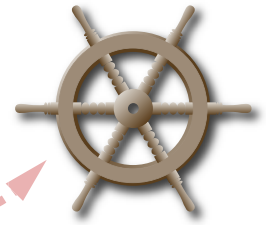
This workshop is suitable for teachers, principals and all school leaders in primary, secondary, university and government settings.



www.michaelfullan.ca



Charting Your Course FOR PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT



Social Studies Teachers Association: Navigating & communicating 50 years and beyond

by Wendy Driscoll, SSTA President

I was talking recently with my Grade 9 class about the death of my grandmother who was 96-years-old. A resident of Nova Scotia for most of her life, she was also a teacher for 37 years in our province. We were talking about the many changes that someone that age sees in his or her lifetime. My students were baffled by the thought of her early life without TV, internet, even a phone in the house; and the style of her early classrooms as both a student and a teacher. Reflecting on how things change is something teachers may find ourselves doing a lot in our careers, with Social Studies teachers perhaps among the lead “reflectors.”

This year is the 50th Anniversary of the Social Studies Teachers Association (SSTA) and such a milestone gives us an occasion not only to reflect, but also to look ahead. This professional development feature *Charting Your Course* is perhaps a good place to do this. The navigational imagery is sure to appeal to geography teachers. Navigation is about using what you know to find out new things, to find direction, and to steer. This is what teaching Social Studies and the work of the SSTA is all about.

We teach in an age where our teaching tools, our navigational instruments if you will, continue to evolve, but the mandate of the SSTA remains the same. We exist to “improve professional practice by increasing member knowledge and understanding.” Incorporated in 1963 with 89 members, the SSTA has grown to about 400 members across Nova Scotia. A volunteer executive of eight teachers from different areas of the province plan, encourage, and communicate professional development to our teacher members. What this looks like and how we do it changes as the navigational tools change. The SSTA endeavours to help our members chart their course in two ways: through professional development and through communication among members.



Past SSTA executive members. Back: Allan King, Max Moulton, and Don Clarke. Front: Bill Fougere, John Stone, Carmon Stone, and Owen Ferguson.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Teachers from elementary, to middle, to high school, in all areas of Social Studies can take advantage of professional development both in and out of our province. These opportunities help teachers learn new skills, improve their practice, make connections, and renew their enthusiasm for education. For example, teachers can take advantage of the *Forests Worth Knowing Atlantic Teachers Tour* or the *EDGeo workshops for teachers* held annually in summer. During July of this year, the *Historical Thinking Project* is also hosting a summer institute in Nova Scotia at Pier 21. Provincial teachers are encouraged to attend the *Teacher Institute on Canadian Parliamentary Democracy* in Ottawa every autumn. Internationally, there are also many PD opportunities including the Keizai Koho Centre in Japan, and through the Goethe Institute in Germany. Of course, one of the most meaningful national/international PD opportunities is offered for teachers at the Juno Beach Centre in France in August. Information on and links to these and other PD opportunities, as well as funding and grants, is available on our website www.ssta.nstu.ca.

Like most professional associations of the NSTU, October Conference is a major focus for much of the year. About 500 Social Studies teachers attend the SSTA Annual Conference where they learn from guests and each other. Plans are already underway for the 2013 conference which will be held October 25, 2013 at Lockview High School in Fall River. We'll be doing some extra special activities to commemorate our anniversary including contests for students and some special guests.

COMMUNICATION

In this age of instant and plentiful communication, there is no reason *not* to stay in touch with other Social Studies and classroom teachers across Nova Scotia and beyond. This year, communication with our members is a renewed focus of the SSTA as we commemorate our 50th. We hope that



Putting together conference kits.

EQUITY BOOK REVIEW

Nova Scotia Teachers Union

Email your name, home address, and school or campus with EQUITY in the subject line to tbeteacher@nstu.ca by April 19 to be eligible for the draw.

Change(d) Agents – New Teachers of Color in Urban Schools

This book written by Betty Achinstein and Rodney T. Ogawa explores the importance of sustaining and promoting diversity within learning environments. *Change(d) Agents*, looks at the role of change agents in schools, and their ability to serve as role models to create opportunities and support for students of color within school systems.



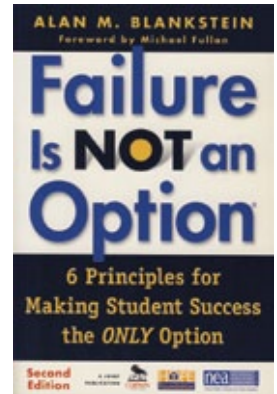
fresh

Putting new members in the KNOW!

Email your name, home address, and school or campus with FRESH in the subject line to tbeteacher@nstu.ca by April 19 to be eligible for the draw.

Failure Is NOT an Option – 6 Principles for Making Student Success the ONLY Option

This second edition of Alan Blankstein's already popular series, highlights his six core areas of focus for educators in helping them foster student success. This book is full of interesting facts, case studies and vignettes to help educators on the path to transforming themselves, their students and their schools.

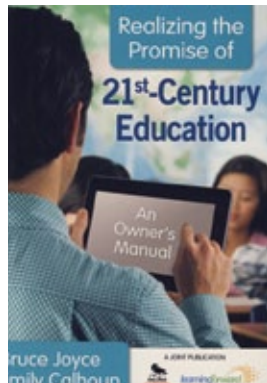


Charting Your Course FOR PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Email your name, home address, and school campus name with PD Giveaway in the subject line to tbeteacher@nstu.ca by April 19 to be eligible for the draw.

Realizing the Promise of 21st-Century Education – An Owner's Manual

This manual looks at how schools should develop courses focused on the use of technology in today's workforce. It takes the current use of technology for educational purposes and elevates its need across the curriculum with topics such as; changing the high school paradigm and developing hybrid courses that prepare students to meet 21st-century needs.



(continued from page 6)

members continue to share their success with each other and with us. In addition to our website and email, members can access the SSTA via Facebook (search our whole name, not our acronym) and Twitter. Being able to reach our membership with a quick message about news, registration deadlines, or PD opportunities in the most efficient and effective way, is one of our goals. The SSTA also offers a fellowship grant for teachers to enhance curriculum and a bursary for BEd students, and works closely with other organizations such as D250 Trust to promote grants and awards for special teacher and student projects. As busy people, Social Studies teachers need to take every opportunity to connect with each other, learn from other teachers and share plans and ideas. New teachers especially need not navigate alone!

Chart your course with us at www.ssta.nstu.ca. Like us on

Facebook "Social Studies Teachers Association of Nova Scotia", or follow us on Twitter @NSSSTA *Happy Navigating and Happy Birthday!*



For an up-to-date copy of DEALS & DISCOUNTS visit www.nstu.ca

Yoga in Schools



6th Annual Summer Institute Teacher Training
A course that inspires growth, connection and inner peace.

Four days that can transform your life and your teaching career!
"My overall health, relationships and teaching practices have been greatly influenced by this training. Be prepared for a life altering workshop!"

—Tanya Thibeau, Yoga in Schools Graduate

This program will provide teachers with an introduction to Yoga, Yoga Grade 11, Yoga for Special Needs and Autism, with physical practice and experiential activities.

These hours are part of the optional 200hr certification, which is required to teach Yoga 11 in schools. Graduates of the 200hr certification program will receive all yoga programs designed by Jenny.

"Joy and gratitude is palpable throughout the journey. This course is changing many lives, having lasting effects within the education system." —Sue Stevenson

This PD workshop will leave you feeling refreshed, renewed and inspired.

Leaders:

Jenny Kierstead, author of 6 yoga school programs and award-winning educator, is founder of Breathing Space Yoga Studios. She has trained and mentored the many teachers introducing yoga to their schools.

Blair Abbass has been teaching meditation and stress reduction for students and teachers for over 25 years and was the first teacher to bring Yoga 11 to HRSB.

Date(s): July 22nd - 25th, 2013

Time: 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Location: Chocolate Lake Hotel, Halifax

Fee: \$ 500.00 + HST (check Local PD for funding)

Register early to secure your spot!

Contacts: Jenny Kierstead & Blair Abbass 444-YOGA (9642)
info@BreathingSpaceYogaStudio.ca

NSTU STANDING & OTHER COMMITTEES



Would you like to serve the NSTU at the Provincial Level?

The NSTU needs input from the widest-possible cross section of its members to make the most effective contribution to education. Members serve on most provincial standing committees for a maximum of two years,* so we are constantly in search of skilled and interested persons to make our committee structure operate successfully. Committee membership is open to Active and Active Reserve Members.

*NSTU Operational Procedures state: Appointment to a committee will be for one defined term of two years. In extraordinary circumstances, an extension of one year is permissible.

- **APPEALS** - reviews applications for assistance on appeals under Section 36 of the Education Act and decides if the appealing teacher is to receive legal assistance from the Nova Scotia Teachers Union.
- **COMITÉ DE PROGRAMMATION ACADIENNE** - studies the curriculum and all proposed changes in it as it relates to Acadian schools under the direction of CSAP and reports its findings to the Provincial Executive.
- **CURRICULUM** - studies the curriculum of schools and proposed changes and reports the findings and recommendations to the Provincial Executive.
- **EQUITY** - is concerned with matters pertaining to the status of women, equity and diversity issues.
- **FINANCE & PROPERTY** - prepares the annual budget for Council, keeps informed of the Union's financial position, supervises the payment of accounts, forwards financial statements to Executive meetings, determines the amount of travel expenses to Council and checks every NSTU expenditure and expenditures on property.
- **INSURANCE TRUSTEES** - oversee the operation of the NSTU Group Insurance Plan which offers Life, Optional Life, Accidental Death & Dismemberment, Total Care Medical/Total Care Dental, LTD, MEDOC® and Home & Auto. **NOTE: One appointment will be made to the Insurance Trustees from the Annapolis Valley Region.**
- **MEMBER SERVICES** - identifies bargainable items; prepares background information related to merits of negotiable items; identifies trends and developments in teacher bargaining across Canada; reviews economic forecasts; considers Council resolutions; plans workshops for REWC negotiators; reviews results of most recent contract bargaining. **NOTE: Five appointments will be made to the Member Services Committee one of which will be an APSEA member.**
- **PDAF** - reviews applications for financial assistance to support innovative curriculum projects and awards grants to successful applicants.
- **PENSION** - studies pension resolutions and keeps the Executive informed of trends and changes affecting teachers' pensions. **NOTE: One appointment will be made to the Pension Committee from the Halifax Region.**
- **PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT** - reviews and develops policy programs and ideas intended to improve the effectiveness of teachers as professionals and to advance education through research in Nova Scotian classrooms.
- **PUBLIC AFFAIRS/PUBLIC RELATIONS** - promotes the involvement in public affairs by encouraging NSTU members (and others) to take an active part in government affairs pertaining to public education. Examines and reviews NSTU public relations and communications programs. **NOTE: Effective August 1, 2013 the Public Affairs and Public Relations Committees will join together to form one joint Standing Committee.**
- **TEACHERS WITH ADMINISTRATIVE RESPONSIBILITIES** - provides a voice, within the NSTU, for teachers with administrative responsibilities.
- **SHEONOROIL BOARD OF DIRECTORS** - the Sheonoroil Foundation is an arms-length charitable agency created to fund school and campus-based projects and research directed at reducing violence in schools and Community College campuses. The Board of Directors is the governing body of the Foundation; it develops Foundation policy, mandates Foundation initiatives and approves project funding.
- **SUBSTITUTE TEACHER** - advises the Provincial Executive on issues affecting and of concern to substitute teachers. **NOTE: Appointments to the Substitute Teacher Committee are made at the October meeting of the Provincial Executive. Therefore, the deadline for receipt of applications to this Committee is October 11, 2013.**
- I would be willing to serve on any committee.

Applications must be received in Central Office by Friday, May 24, 2013

Note exceptions: Substitute Teacher Committee (October 11, 2013)

Standing Committees will be appointed at the Executive Meeting scheduled for **June 7, 2013.**

Applications may be made online, [click here](#) to download from the NSTU website at www.nstu.ca (under NSTU/Structure/Provincial Executive/Committees) and forward to:
Nominating Committee, Nova Scotia Teachers Union,
3106 Joseph Howe Drive, Halifax, N.S. B3L 4L7

The NSTU reserves the right to re-advertise any position if a sufficient number of applications are not received by the deadline.

Being part of CTF is being part of the world of teaching



By being a member organization of the Canadian Teachers' Federation (CTF), NSTU members are connected with colleagues nationally and internationally. Even though CTF is a small organization, its impact on the teaching profession is tremendous in terms of vision, voice and vibrancy. While direct service to members is provided by provincial and territorial teacher organizations, CTF provides support and service to each Member organization. Let's give you the "Big Picture" of what CTF provides.

Coordination of knowledge and activities

CTF acts not only as a clearinghouse to share material among Member organizations but also provides analysis and impact that complement its work. CTF researchers draw out interactions and identify trends in education that stand to benefit the teaching profession and many national organizations that share teacher values and support public education.

CTF research projects have examined student mental health, class size, student diversity, education funding, out of pocket expenses of teachers, professional development, technology in the classroom and most recently teacher aspirations through its Teacher Voice series.

Every summer, the CTF Presidents' Forum explores the different perspectives of quality education – this year, the Forum will examine First Nations, Aboriginal and Métis education.

Influence directions in education

CTF is pro-active in working with national groups around the world to promote the value of public education. CTF is currently working with the National Education Association (3.2 million teacher members) and the American Federation of Teachers (1.7 million members) to reverse the information flow from the US to Canada by sharing the many strong and positive practices of Canadian teachers.

Advocacy

CTF lobbies the federal government on matters of direct interest to teachers such as taxes, copyright legislation, employment insurance, criminal checks and criminal allegations. One achievement has been to protect teachers' free access to materials (especially on the Web) with respect to copyright legislation. Thanks to CTF's collective efforts with other educational groups, and despite strong lobbying from the corporate sector to cut free educational access off, the copyright act has maintained provisions for free educational access. Protecting teachers from frivolous legal charges thanks to Section 43 of the Criminal Code of Canada is another achievement.

CTF provides briefs and speaks before numerous Parliamentary and Senate committees and coordinates a Hill Day in which provincial and territorial teacher organization leaders meet face to face with Ministers, MPs, Senators and senior officials.

Solidarity is priceless

There are many interest groups who would gladly subvert public education to private interests; insert corporatism into pedagogy; restrict pensions, employment insurance and health benefits; control or profit from assessments; press for unfair evaluation practices and encourage a host of other initiatives that go counter to teacher interests and values. Through the CTF, Canadian teachers can maintain a common vocabulary, shared views and collective protection.

International representation and service

CTF gives Canadian teachers a strong voice on the world stage. Whether it's opposing the creep of institutional assessment, and the influence of the OECD, the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and World Bank, CTF has been vocal and influential.

Through its Project Overseas program, CTF and its Member organizations offer rewarding and life-changing experiences both for participating Canadian teachers and overseas partners.

Social Action projects

Canadian teachers can receive subsidies to engage their students in citizenship and social justice activities in their communities through CTF's Imagineaction program. One highly successful initiative under the program is the "Listen, I read" in cooperation with the Canada Council for the Arts, the Canadian Commission for UNESCO, the Public Lending Rights Commission and Indigo Books & Music.

Another exciting program is the Canadian Defenders for Human Rights, launched last December by CTF, the Canadian Museum for Human Rights (CMHR), the Assembly of First Nations (AFN), the Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami (ITK) and the Robert F. Kennedy Center for Justice and Human Rights.

Visit www.imagine-action.ca for more information on these programs which are readily accessible to all Primary to 12 Canadian teachers.

Find out more about what your national federation is doing on your behalf by subscribing to Perspectives, the CTF flagship online publication.

Also, check out the "Hear My Voice" campaign which rallies us collectively for democracy in Canada at Vox.ctf-fce.ca



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Nova Scotia school wins citizenship challenge

Kelly Murray's Grade 7 class at Park West School were this year's recipients of the The Historica-Dominion Institute's Canadian Citizenship Challenge, selected from more than 1,000 classrooms from across Canada for the top prize.

On February 19, the students were honoured at a special citizenship celebration at the school. Students gathered to hear inspiring stories of civic engagement from Canadian Forces member L. Col. Madic, as well as from former Nova Scotia Lieutenant-Governor, the Honourable Myra A. Freeman. They also participated in a reaffirmation ceremony to bolster their civic spirit.

"The knowledge of history shown by these Park West students as well as their dedication to discovering our country is simply outstanding," said Anthony Wilson-Smith, president of The Historica-Dominion Institute. "We congratulate them and all of this year's participants."

Now in its third year, the Challenge asks youth, from Grade 7 to 12, to put their national knowledge to the test by studying for and writing a citizenship exam. More than 44,000 students competed in the 2012 edition of the Challenge.

"These proud young Canadians exemplify the importance of building active and informed citizens who have a greater knowledge and appreciation of the history, heritage and stories of Canada," said Jason Kenney, Minister of Citizenship, Immigration and Multiculturalism. "By studying Discover Canada: the Rights and Responsibilities of Citizenship, and winning the Canadian Citizenship Challenge, these young students have reinforced the fact that whether we are citizens by birth or by choice, we should all learn our past and the people and events that made Canada what it is today."

The Historica-Dominion Institute is the largest charitable organization dedicated to Canadian history, identity and citizenship. Its mandate is to build active and informed citizens through a greater knowledge and appreciation of the history, heritage and stories of Canada. Visit www.historica-dominion.ca for more information.



Park West principal Derek Carter and Grade 7 teacher Kelly Murray (left) are shown with the winning students and special guests L. Col. Madic, and the Honourable Myra A. Freeman and Historica-Dominion Institute representatives at a special visit on February 19.



Plan a getaway for you and your loved ones, and you'll become the loved one.

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For reservations, call 1-888-423-3582 or visit deltahotels.com/nstu to book on-line.

*Rate includes self-parking for \$9.95, local and long-distance access fees and high-speed internet access. Under your NSTU rate, pets stay for free. NSTU card must be presented upon check-in.

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NOTICES

Seeking Music History

Carl Orff Canada will celebrate its 40th anniversary in 2014. In recognition of this event, the Nova Scotia Chapter is looking for photos, stories, newsletters, news clippings, significant dates, names of presidents/executive or lists of members from the past. If you or someone you know has “any” data or thoughts to share please respond to Charlotte Myers at: myersc1@staff.ednet.ns.ca or send to P.O. Box 2123, Fall River, NS B2T 1K6.



Attention: Halifax County Local looking for participants for A Cultural Connection: The Tapestry of Life

We are searching for interested participants to demonstrate an array of skills, talents, arts, crafts, music, fashion, food, dance, instrumental, story telling, creative movement, etc. This event will be held on April 26 from 6 to 9:30 pm. Location TBA. An evening of fantastic enlightenment of our diverse community. To express an interest in having your group or individual represented please contact Carol Clayton, Chair, Halifax County Locals, Equity Committee, 902-576-2486; Cell: 902-221-6171.

Upcoming deadlines for *The Teacher*:

April 12th issue — March 28th deadline

April 26th issue — April 12th deadline

Contact Sonia at theteacher@nstu.ca

Technology for Teachers Fund

TELUS has introduced a new grants program to help fund technology projects and equipment upgrades in Nova Scotia schools. TELUS' *Phones for Good Campaign* will give \$25 (up to a maximum of \$75,000) from each TELUS smartphone purchased in Nova Scotia until August 7, 2013 to a newly created TELUS Technology for Teachers Fund.

The TELUS Technology for Teachers Fund will allow local schools to apply for grants up to \$5,000 to bring technology upgrades into their classrooms. The total donations from the smartphone campaign will go towards supporting this new program. The grants can be used for any technology improvement in schools such as SMART boards, iPads or laptops for classrooms.

“We believe connecting kids and their classrooms to new technologies has become imperative part of economic success in our high-tech society,” Gen. (Ret.) Rick Hillier, Chair of the TELUS Atlantic Canada Community Board. “TELUS saw an opportunity to give back by making direct contributions to improve classroom resources in the area they know best—technology. As part of TELUS' long-standing commitment to give back to local communities, we are thrilled to bring the Technology for Teachers fund to Nova Scotia schools.”

Teachers interested in applying for a technology grant should complete an [online application](#). The TELUS Atlantic Canada Community Board plans to work with members of the education sector to participate in the selection process and disburse funding which will be awarded at the start of the 2013-14 school year. For info, visit telus.com

(continued on page 12)

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(continued from page 11)

NOTICES [cont'd]

JUMP Math

JUMP Math Fund is accepting applications for their National Book Fund until March 28. JUMP offers free training, resources, and support to those who are working for students in communities with need. For more information on the program please contact Jennifer Yap at Jennifer.yap@jumpmath.org or 1-888-965-MATH(6284).

The Society for Educational Visits and Exchanges in Canada (SEVEC)

The SEVEC program is an exciting way to expose students to the many sights and sounds of our diverse country. It allows students to travel throughout Canada developing new friendships, and being instilled with a sense of pride and connection to our community. To apply online and to find more information, please visit www.sevec.ca.

aviso

Call for Manuscripts

Submissions are encouraged from Nova Scotia's public school teachers, community college faculty and professional support staff. Please mail to:

AVISO, 3106 Joseph Howe Drive, Halifax, NS, B3L 4L7

Or email submissions to aviso@nstu.ca

Manuscripts submitted should reflect AVISO's mandate as a professional journal for Nova Scotia's teaching profession. Manuscripts will not be returned. Any manuscript chosen to appear in AVISO may be edited for clarity, style, length and consistency.

Contributor guidelines are available to interested writers on the NSTU Website — www.nstu.ca

Please ensure email attachments are Microsoft Word, Rich Text Format or Text Only.

Original pictures or images related to submitted content are appreciated.

Demande de Manuscrits

Nous encourageons des soumissions des enseignants des écoles publiques, du personnel enseignant et de soutien des collèges communautaires. Veuillez envoyer vos soumissions à :

AVISO, 3106 chemin Joseph Howe, Halifax, NS, B3L 4L7

Ou bien envoyez vos soumissions par courrier électronique à : aviso@nstu.ca

Les manuscrits soumis devraient refléter la mission d'AVISO en tant que revue professionnelle des enseignants de la Nouvelle Écosse. Les manuscrits ne seront pas retournés. Les manuscrits sélectionnés pour la publication dans AVISO pourront être édités pour ce qui est de la clarté, du style, de la longueur et de la cohérence

Les directives relatives aux collaborateurs sont disponibles en consultant le site Web du NSTU — www.nstu.ca

Les manuscrits envoyés par voie électronique doivent être en format Microsoft Word, Rich Text Format ou Texte seulement.

Les photos/images originales reliées aux soumissions sont appréciées.

coming events

MARCH 15 & 16

National gathering for Indigenous education

On March 15 & 16, Indigenous educators from across Canada will gather together for the inaugural National Gathering of Indigenous Educators. During this event educators will come together to learn and share their knowledge with the goal of improving the educational success of indigenous youth throughout the country. This will also mark the launch of their much anticipated *Indspire Institute*, an online community focused on improving K-12 student success. For more information, please visit <http://indspire.ca/>.

MARCH 21

International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination

March 21 is recognized by the United Nations as the International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination. March 21 kicks off the Week of Solidarity with the Peoples Struggling Against Racism and Racial Discrimination from March 21 to 28. On March 21, 1960, police opened fire and killed 69 people at a peaceful demonstration in Sharpeville, South Africa, against the apartheid “pass laws”. Proclaiming the Day in 1966, the General Assembly called on the international community to redouble its efforts to eliminate all forms of racial discrimination. The March 21 campaign heightens awareness of the harmful effects of racism and encourages the fostering of respect, equality and diversity. It has mobilized youth across Canada to rise up and take a stand against racism. To help stop racism, you can plan an activity or project in your school or community and continue to promote the concept throughout the year. For more information, please visit <http://www.timeanddate.com/holidays/un/world-day-eliminate-racial-discrimination>

MARCH 27 (MARCH 20th DEADLINE)

5th Annual crime prevention symposium

With this year’s theme of “Building Relationships: a Way Forward for Better Communities” the NS Crime Prevention Symposium Planning Committee invites everyone to examine the importance of building relationships to improve citizenship. With presentations by internationally recognized Dr. Brenda Morrison, this is sure to be an eye-opening event on creating safe environments for all. Deadline for registration is March 20, 2013 or for more information please visit http://novascotia.ca/just/prevention/annual_symposium.asp.

APRIL 10 TO 12

FREE professional development for high school teachers

From April 10-12 the Red Cross is offering a FREE professional development session to high school teachers. This session will be exploring international humanitarian law through a toolkit called, *Exploring Humanitarian Law*, and will educate students about human dignity, humanitarian action, and justice among other things. To register for this session please visit <http://www.eventbrite.ca/event/5396095868>.

(continued on page 15)



Join the aviso Team!

Aviso magazine is looking for NSTU members who would be interested in serving on the Aviso Content Editorial Team.

Mandate

- To identify magazine article topics and writers.
- To review draft issues of the magazine prior to publication.

Consideration given to

- representation of the range in teaching assignments.
- representation across the province.
- experience in working with print publications.

Time Commitment

- Six (6) half-day meetings per year.
- Two (2) meetings per issue (fall, winter, spring).

To submit an expression of interest include:

- name and contact information;
- work site;
- any other relevant information for consideration.

Deadline for receipt of expression of interest is 4:00 PM, Wednesday, April 3, 2013 by email to:

Simon Wilkin
Coordinator of Technology and Communications
(swilkin@staff.nstu.ca)

Nova Scotia Teachers Union
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NSTU CAMPAIGN GUIDELINES



The 2013 deadlines for candidates' information are **March 28** for the April 12 issue (1st opportunity) and **April 26** for the May 10 issue (2nd opportunity). This information should be given or sent directly to *The Teacher* office.

7. VICE-PRESIDENTIAL CAMPAIGN GUIDELINES

In respect of Vice-Presidential campaigns, the following guidelines shall apply:

- (a) Active campaigning within the Council Chambers other than the normal address to delegates is prohibited. Passive campaign activity within Council Chambers is permitted.
- (b) Locals are prohibited from directly making any monetary or non-monetary contribution to any candidate's campaign. Such contributions do not include expenditure of funds designated for the Local (e.g. Local suite at Annual Council).
- (c) Campaign spending, excluding travel, by or on behalf of each candidate may not exceed \$1,500.00. Such expenses are the sole responsibility of the candidate. All promotional items including prizes sponsored by the candidate shall be included in the determination of the amount spent and shall be supported by receipts or assessed at fair market value.
- (d) All candidates must submit an approved financial statement report form to the Annual Council Elections Committee within sixty (60) days from the conclusion of Annual Council. This statement is to include a list of all contributions with non-monetary items being assessed at dollar value, and an itemized list of expenditures;
- (e) The Annual Council Elections Committee shall refer the financial statements of candidates to the Provincial Executive for review. These financial statements will be published in *The Teacher*.
- (f) Publicity:
Each candidate is permitted to insert in an issue of *The Teacher* prior to Council:
 - (i) one head and shoulder photograph of himself/herself;
 - (ii) biography of personal, educational, and career achievements, of no more than 150 words;
 - (iii) a personally prepared platform of objectives, no more than 600 words in length.
- (g) Items in (f) must be sent to *The Teacher* fifteen (15) working days before publication and these will appear in alphabetical order.
 - (i) Each candidate will be given a second opportunity to publish a statement subject to the provisions of paragraph (f), which statement shall not be more than 750 words in length.
 - (ii) Paid advertisements in any medium (press, radio, TV, *The Teacher*) are prohibited.
 - (iii) The number of campaign posters and/or banners on display in the hotel at Annual Council may not exceed a total of twenty-five (25) for each candidate. When Annual Council is held at a facility where Local delegates are divided between two facilities, the number of posters will be increased to thirty-five (35). A campaign poster shall include any poster, banner or sign posted by or for a member running for an elected position that makes a reference to the candidate and/or the position being sought.
- (h) Upon request, each candidate shall be given a list of the room numbers at the main facility used by NSTU delegates, alternates, official observers and guests once delegates have been accommodated. Distribution of campaign materials to rooms shall be limited to those rooms so identified. Such identification shall not allow the name of the occupant of the room to be determined.

8. COMMITTEE CAMPAIGN GUIDELINES

In respect of electoral campaigns for committees elected at Council, the following guidelines shall apply:

- (a) Active campaigning within the Council Chambers is prohibited. Passive campaign activity within the Council Chambers is permitted;
- (b) Locals are prohibited from directly making any monetary or non-monetary contribution to any candidate's campaign. Such contributions do not include expenditure of funds designated for the Local (e.g. Local suite at Annual Council).
- (c) Campaign spending by or on behalf of each candidate may not exceed \$100. Such expenses are the sole responsibility of the candidate.

- (d) All candidates must submit an approved financial statement report form to the Annual Council Elections Committee within sixty (60) days from the conclusion of Annual Council. This statement is to include a list of all contributions with non-monetary items being assessed at dollar value, and an itemized list of expenditures;
- (e) The Annual Council Elections Committee shall refer the financial statements of candidates to the Provincial Executive for review. These financial statements will be published in *The Teacher*.
- (f) Publicity:
Each candidate is permitted to insert in an issue of *The Teacher* prior to Council:
 - (a) One head and shoulder photograph of himself/herself;
 - (b) Biography of personal, educational and career achievements, of no more than 150 words;
 - (c) A personally prepared platform of objectives, no more than 300 words in length.
- (g) Items must be sent to *The Teacher* fifteen (15) working days before publication and these will appear in alphabetical order.
- (h) Paid advertisements in any medium (press, radio, TV, *The Teacher*) are prohibited.
- (i) The number of campaign posters and/or banners on display in the hotel at Annual Council may not exceed a total of twenty-five (25) for each candidate. When Annual Council is held at a facility where Local delegates are divided between two facilities, the number of posters will be increased to thirty-five (35). A campaign poster shall include any poster, banner or sign posted by or for a member running for an elected position that makes a reference to the candidate and/or the position being sought.
- (j) Upon request, each candidate shall be given a list of the room numbers at the main facility used by NSTU delegates, alternates, official observers and guests once delegates have been accommodated. Distribution of campaign materials to rooms shall be limited to those rooms so identified. Such identification shall not allow the name of the occupant of the room to be determined.

9. GENERAL CAMPAIGN GUIDELINES – ACTIVE & PASSIVE CAMPAIGNING

With respect to all elections, the following definitions shall apply:

- (a) Active campaigning shall be considered any display or action that involves the presentation of partisan information in a manner that is difficult for a group of delegates to avoid. Examples of such active campaigning include the display of campaign posters, the shouting of campaign slogans, shouting out in support of a candidate other than during the normal address to delegates, distributing materials throughout Council chambers including the placing of campaign materials anywhere within Council chambers prior to, during or following a Council session, and demonstrations in support of a given candidate.
- (b) Passive campaigning shall be considered any display or action that is observable only by people in the immediate vicinity of the campaign material and involves no explicit action to promote or advance those materials at the time at which the material is seen or heard. Examples of such passive campaigning include the use of writing materials containing references to a candidate, the wearing of campaign clothing, buttons or ornaments, and the presence of a single copy of a candidate's campaign literature at the delegate's seat and table spot.
- (c) A candidate or representative of the candidate is permitted to place up to one (1) item per delegate per session at the tables in Council chambers prior to the start of the session. This would replace campaign material distribution at other times. A candidate would still be permitted to greet delegates as they enter Council chambers.
- (d) In the event that campaigning for any other NSTU election takes place during Council, the guidelines for the Council Committee election campaigns applicable to the conduct of the campaign during Council, shall apply.
- (e) Active campaigning for election to a position not related to the structure of the NSTU is prohibited.

APRIL 19

Swan Lake at the Rebecca Cohn

Schools are invited to reserve seats at the Rebecca Cohn on April 19 to enjoy the timeless classic of Swan Lake. Bengt Jørgen has reinvented the classic to showcase a connection to Nova Scotia with influences from the Fortress of Louisbourg. This show is recommended for all ages and grades. Please book your place online at <http://artscentre.dal.ca> or call the Cohn Box Office School Line at 902-494-6406.

MAY 6

Music Monday

Please join the Coalition for Music Education for an exciting opportunity to be part of this year's Music Monday. The Coalition is asking for music-makers from across the country to join them in singing I.S.S. on Music Monday (May 6), to celebrate the power of music and to give a voice to all young Canadian musicians. For more information on how to take part, please visit MusicMakesUs.ca.

Congratulations to our Book Winners:

February 1st Draws

FRESH - *Barbara White-Flynn* - Yarmouth

EQUITY - *Karen Daye* - Halifax

PD - *Mary McLeod* - New Waterford

2012 Mensa Canada Distinguished Educator Award

Congratulations go to Carole Foran-Swinkels, Severe Learning Disabilities (SLP) Resource Teacher with the Halifax Regional School Board. She received the 2012 Mensa Canada Distinguished Educator Award at the Mensa Canada Annual General Meeting in Dartmouth, N.S., in July. Foran-Swinkels was nominated for the award by Barry Schmidl and his son Ben, one of her students. According



to the January 2013 Mensa Canada Communications newsletter, Foran-Swinkels "softspoken, but persistent, method of assisting students to learn not only facilitates learning, it also promotes the desire to learn through students becoming successful and wanting to build on that success." She is another example of a teacher who makes a difference in the lives of her students. Foran-Swinkels (right) is shown above receiving her award with Mensa Canada president Millie Norry. For more information on the Mensa Canada Educator of the Year Award visit: <http://www.canada.mensa.org/EducatorAward.pdf>.

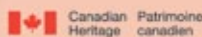
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5. Comics or storyboards are acceptable. (Remember, a 5-page comic strip is about 500 words).
6. Submit your story on our website, or by email before **June 14th, 2013**, the contest closing date.
7. You must be between 7 and 14 years old to enter. For full contest details and to submit online, visit kayakmag.ca and follow the links.



55 classes full of discovery heading across Nova Scotia

This spring, students from across Nova Scotia will be opening their classroom doors to Discovery Centre's Science on the Road education team thanks to a recent contest sponsored by Nova Scotia Teachers Union (NSTU) and Johnson Insurance.

Fifty-five school trips have been awarded as a result of the contest, which was open to all public school teachers in Nova Scotia and offered a school visit from the Discovery Centre's award-

winning external education program, Science on the Road. Every school board in the province is represented in the winners list.

"This was a really unique and creative way for us to provide supportive programs to teachers across the province," says NSTU president Shelley Morse. "And with such a large number of classes represented, we're really pleased that so many students will have access to programming that is such a great complement to what our teachers are already providing in the classroom."

The Discovery Centre's mandate to make science and technology interesting and entertaining for children and young people has made it a leader in the delivery of interactive educational programming. Its External Education Program, which reaches over 20,000 students at over 80 schools annually, offers curriculum-connected workshops and shows that blend education and entertainment to bring science to life.

"We couldn't be more proud of the dedication that teachers display and the positive influence they have on the growth and success of their students," says Jennifer Power, Regional vice-president of Johnson Insurance. "We are thrilled that together with the NSTU, we're able to support teachers, in their classrooms, and provide over one thousand students a high-quality, interactive program that makes science and technology fun and interesting."

This was the first year for the contest, which was open to all public school teachers in Nova Scotia. The detailed list of winners is available at www.johnson.ca/sciencecontest. The winning teachers are listed below.

Heather Arbuckle	Clarissa Grover	Marianne Morton
Elizabeth Atkinson	Marie Hawley	Nicole Mount
Evelyn Brown	Louanne Henwood	Laura Oakley
Cynthia Bruhm	Ann Marie Hurley	Laura Purdy
Wendy Chapman	Courtney Janes	Lisa Ritcey
Christine Compton	Danielle Jeddry	Nancy Roach
Patti Conklin	Michelle Jones	Elizabeth Rogers
Patricia Connolly	Danyelle KarisAllen	Jane Ross
Nathan Cormier	Amy Lowry	Jeff Ryan
Stephanie Deagle	Angela Lucas	Dwayne Slobodnick
Andrea Dennis	Peggy Lugar	Belinda Snow
Joan Doyle	Derrick MacCormick	Katie Spicer
Kim Drysdale	Deborah MacDonald	Debbie Walker
Stephanie Fawson	Lynn MacDonald	Karen Welton
Ruth Gaudet	Shan MacLeod	Allen Whittaker
Stephanie George	Moira Marks	
Deanna Gibson	Stephanie McMillan	
Linda Goreham	Natasha Moakes	
Sarah Grant	Yvette Mooney	
Damon Grennan	Jennifer Moore	

The John Huntley Memorial Internship Program

*The deadline for applications for the John Huntley Memorial Internship Program for the 2012-13 school year is **April 15**.*

Applications for active NSTU members are available through your NSTU rep, on the NSTU website at www.nstu.ca or at Central Office 477-5621 or 1-800-565-6788.

The internship provides members with an opportunity to learn more about the NSTU.

Nova Scotia Teachers Union

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resources

The Learning Resources and Technology Services Media Library is the place to go for all your multimedia curriculum resource needs!



Educational Videos: Our three collections let you borrow, buy, or stream/download videos for your classroom.

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

EBSCO Periodical database Online bibliographic and full-text databases that are available to all students and teachers in Nova Scotia. Also available from EBSCO are professional databases and specialized collections designed for professional educators. <http://search.ebscohost.com>

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.

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Faculty of Science
Tel: (902) 494.2373
Email: danielle.wood@dal.ca
Web: science.dal.ca/p12

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Nova Scotia Teachers Union

Do you believe that the learning conditions of students and the working conditions of teachers and Community College members must go hand in hand in the provision of a quality education?

Do you enjoy being challenged by professional issues on a daily basis?

If the answer is yes to these questions and you are an experienced educator, the members of the Nova Scotia Teachers Union invite you to apply for the position of

Pensez-vous que les conditions d'apprentissage des élèves et les conditions de travail des enseignants et des membres du Collège communautaire doivent aller de pair en vue d'offrir une éducation de qualité?

Aimez-vous être confronté quotidiennement à de nouveaux défis professionnels?

Si vous avez répondu oui à ces questions et si vous êtes une éducatrice ou un éducateur chevronné(e), les membres du Nova Scotia Teachers Union vous invitent à vous porter candidat(e) au poste de

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

DIRECTRICE EXÉCUTIVE / DIRECTEUR EXÉCUTIF

As the senior administrator of one of Nova Scotia's largest unions, you will demonstrate the leadership ability and communication skills required to direct a highly qualified staff in the provision of a wide variety of programs and services to teachers in the public schools and faculty and professional support staff in the Community Colleges in Nova Scotia.

Working with and through elected and appointed leaders, at the Local, Regional, and Provincial level, you will articulate and address the concerns of the Union's 10,300 members.

You are a self-starter, a strategic thinker, a planner and a resourceful director. You work well under pressure and are skilled at multi-tasking and delegation.

Above all, you are a strong advocate of the education system (Public Schools and Community College) and its teachers and Community College members. Your goal is to ensure that Union members have the necessary working conditions and support structures to allow them to focus on the delivery of a quality education for all students.

This position requires the ability to engage in travel and a willingness to work beyond the normal work hours, as required.

QUALIFICATIONS:

- The successful candidate must hold, or be eligible to hold, a valid Nova Scotia Teacher's License and/or be a member of the NSTU employed by the Nova Scotia Community College.
- Consideration will be given to applicants who are experienced educators, have held positions of responsibility within the educational or related field and who have knowledge of teacher organizations and unions.
- Bilingualism is an asset, but not required.
- Knowledge of pensions, contract interpretation/negotiations, and insurance is an asset, but not required.

COMPENSATION:

A personal services contract, which is competitive and reflects the importance of the role, will be negotiated with the successful candidate.

APPLICATIONS:

Please forward your resume to the President, Nova Scotia Teachers Union: by mail: 3106 Joseph Howe Drive, Halifax, Nova Scotia B3L 4L7; or fax: (902) 477-3517 or e-mail president@nstu.ca.

The deadline for applications is **4:00 p.m., March 15, 2013.**

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

A comprehensive job description can be obtained by phoning (902) 479-4700.

Only those applicants selected for an interview will be contacted.

En tant qu'administrateur principal de l'un des plus grands syndicats de la Nouvelle-Écosse, vous devrez faire preuve des qualités de leadership et des compétences de communication nécessaires pour diriger un personnel hautement qualifié en vue d'offrir une vaste gamme de programmes et de services aux enseignants des écoles publiques et aux membres de la faculté et du personnel de soutien du Collège communautaire de la Nouvelle-Écosse.

Vous travaillerez en collaboration avec des dirigeants élus et nommés, à la fois au niveau des sections locales, au niveau régional et au niveau provincial, en vue de formuler et de traiter les préoccupations des 10 300 membres du syndicat.

Vous avez le sens de l'initiative, de la réflexion stratégique, vous êtes un planificateur compétent et un directeur ingénieux. Vous êtes capable de bien travailler sous pression et vous avez la capacité de mener plusieurs tâches de front et de les déléguer.

Et surtout, vous êtes un ardent défenseur du système d'éducation publique (écoles publiques et Collège communautaire), des enseignants et des membres du Collège communautaire. Votre objectif est d'assurer que les membres du syndicat bénéficient des conditions de travail et des structures de soutien nécessaires pour se consacrer pleinement à la prestation d'une éducation de qualité à tous les élèves.

Ce poste exige de faire des déplacements et de travailler au-delà des heures normales de travail, au besoin.

QUALITÉS REQUISES :

- La candidate ou le candidat retenu(e) doit détenir, ou être en mesure de détenir, un certificat d'enseignement valide de la Nouvelle-Écosse et/ou être membre du NSTU à titre d'employé du Collège communautaire de la Nouvelle-Écosse.
- La priorité sera donnée aux candidats qui sont des éducateurs chevronnés, qui ont occupé des postes de responsabilité dans les domaines de l'éducation ou dans des domaines connexes et qui possèdent une bonne connaissance des organisations et des syndicats d'enseignants.
- Le bilinguisme constitue un atout mais n'est pas exigé.
- Une bonne connaissance des pensions, des assurances, des négociations et de l'interprétation des ententes constitue un atout mais n'est pas exigée.

RÉMUNÉRATION :

Un contrat de services personnel, concurrentiel et reflétant l'importance de cette fonction, sera négocié avec la candidate ou le candidat retenu(e).

CANDIDATURES :

Veillez envoyer votre curriculum vitae au président du Nova Scotia Teachers Union.

Par la poste : 3106, chemin Joseph Howe, Halifax, Nouvelle-Écosse, B3L 4L7

Par télécopieur : (902) 477-3517

Ou par courriel : president@nstu.ca.

La date limite de réception des candidatures est le **15 mars 2013, à 16 h.**

RENSEIGNEMENTS SUPPLÉMENTAIRES :

Vous pouvez obtenir une description détaillée de ce poste en appelant le (902) 479-4700.

Seuls les candidats convoqués à une entrevue seront contactés.

NSTU POLICY ON EQUITY & AFFIRMATIVE ACTION READS:

"Equity for under-represented groups, i.e., aboriginal persons, racially visible persons, persons with disabilities, and women, must be considered in the hiring of staff, secondments, the formation of committees, and the Internship Program."

LA POLITIQUE DU NSTU SUR L'ÉQUITÉ ET LES MESURES ANTIDISCRIMINATOIRES

STIPULE : « L'équité à l'égard des groupes sous-représentés, c'est-à-dire des autochtones, des personnes appartenant à des minorités visibles, des personnes handicapées et des femmes, devra être respectée lors de l'embauche de personnel, des détachements de personnel, de la formation des comités et programme de stage. »



Tammy Cleveland and Tanya DeViller (Yarmouth Local) attended the Tri-County RRC Focus Group on Member Engagement on March 4 at the Grand Rodd Hotel in Yarmouth. DeViller is an NSTU rep at Yarmouth Memorial Consolidated High School and both DeViller and Cleveland are teachers at the school.

classifieds

Classified rates are \$2.00 for the first 15 words; 25¢ per additional word upon presentation of a professional or NSCC Employee number.

Non-members pay \$6.00 for the first 15 words & 25¢ per additional word.

To book, call **Sonia Matheson** at

1-800-565-6788 or email theteacher@nstu.ca

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Beautifully furnished, large 4-bedroom house for rent. We are international teachers that want our home for the summer. Looking for responsible tenant that will take care of our home throughout the school year. Rent will be reasonable. Contact cboudreau@asd.edu.qa.

FOR RENT - One bedroom fully furnished apartment in Lyons Brook, Pictou Co. Heat/electricity, washer/dryer, cable, TV, parking included. Everything supplied for housekeeping. Private, own entrance, quiet. 485-6572.

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TEACHER EXCHANGE - An elementary resource teacher with the HRSB is looking for the same with the CBVRSB for the 2013-14 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 2013-14 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 - Permanent Junior/senior high learning center/resource teacher with the HRSB is looking to exchange positions with a teacher from CCRSB for the 2013-14 school year. A permanent exchange is possible. It interested, please contact me at burtonch@staff.ednet.ns.ca

TEACHER EXCHANGE - I am a Jr. High Science & French teacher with the CBVRSB looking to exchange with a teacher from the HRSB for the 2013-14 school year. A permanent exchange is possible. I am also a qualified Math/Physics/Chemistry teacher. If interested, please contact erin@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 209-1344.

JOB SHARE - Seeking P-6 job share position for the 2013/14 school year. Previous teaching experience in Grade 1 & 1-2 combined classrooms; and also job share experience. Please call Taryn at 405-7373 or email ttufts@hrsb.ca for resume and references.

2013 REGIONAL ELECTION INFORMATION FOR LOCALS



All regional elections will be conducted by electronic vote.

Region	Close of Nominations	Date of Election
Annapolis-Hants West-Kings	March 27	April 25
Cape Breton District	March 22	April 23
Community College	April 4	May 2
Cumberland	March 8	April 4
CSANE	Ian Comeau	Acclaimed
Digby/Yarmouth	March 25	April 24
Halifax City	March 14	April 25
Halifax County	April 8	April 30
Lunenburg	March 28	May 2
Northside-Victoria	March 27	May 1
Pictou	March 7	April 9
Shelburne/Queens	March 19	April 16

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

education week 2013 april 21 to 27

Teaching for a Sustainable Future

 envisioning

 critical thinking

 developing partnerships

 building engagement

Teaching for a Sustainable Future allows every human being to acquire the knowledge, skills, attitudes and values necessary to shape a sustainable future.

Learning for sustainable development means including key sustainable development issues into teaching and learning for example, climate change, disaster risk reduction, biodiversity, poverty reduction, and sustainable consumption. It also requires participatory teaching and learning methods that motivate and empower learners to change their behaviour and take action for sustainable development. This supports career choices and ongoing responsible active citizenship.

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