

Year End Report
Professional Associations Coordinating Committee
2017-2018

The Professional Associations Coordinating Committee (PACC) is a group of dedicated leaders who endeavour to support professional learning and member engagement across subject and professional areas. There are 21 professional associations of the NSTU.

Mandate:

The mandate of the Professional Associations Coordinating Committee is:

- a. To review resolutions forwarded by Professional Associations prior to submission to the Provincial Executive
- b. To recommend policy to the Provincial Executive with regard to the operation of Professional Associations
- c. To make recommendations to the Provincial Executive regarding the formation or disbandment of Professional Associations
- d. To advise the Provincial Executive on Professional Association matters
- e. To monitor the financial status of Professional Associations
- f. To assist the officers of Professional Associations in organizing, managing and directing the business and affairs of their respective Associations
- g. To receive the annual reports of Professional Associations
- h. To organize and facilitate an annual Professional Associations Conference
- i. Such other functions or tasks as assigned by the Provincial Executive of the NSTU

The focus of this year's committee was to support Professional Associations in Member Engagement and Professional Development, particularly the October Conferences. Discussions around a response to the Final Report of the Inclusion Commission and how Professional Associations might support this were begun.

Committee Members:

Wendy Driscoll, Chair (SSTA) - Social Studies Teachers Association

Joe MacDonald (MTA) - Math Teachers Association

Danielle LeBlanc (BETA) - Business Education Teachers Association

Jeff Raine (NSTEA) - Nova Scotia Technology Education Association

Kelly Brewer (NSMEA) - Nova Scotia Music Educators Association

Sandra Keddy (ATENS) - Association of Teachers of English of Nova Scotia

Allister Wadden (Provincial Executive Liaison)

Paul Syme, Staff Liaison, semester one

Adela Njie, Staff Liaison, semester two

Committee Meeting Dates:

November 24 and 25, 2017 (PALC Conference)
April 20, 2018

2017-2018 Activities:

PALC Conference

PACC hosted the Professional Associations Leadership Conference (PALC) in November 2017. The focus of the conference included innovative ways to conference/ engage in professional learning with members. Guest speaker was Lauchie MacKinnon on the topic of virtual workshops, conferences, and professional networking.

PA Support

One of our Professional Associations, the Nova Scotia Language Teachers Association (NSLTA) has been unable to maintain an Executive and have not been able to host an October conference for two years. An effort was made by PACC chairperson and staff liaisons to assist the former executive members in reforming or co-hosting a conference if they chose. (see recommendations)

Annual Council

Professional Associations' presidents/ delegates attended and participated as voting delegates. The PACC chairperson also attended as an observer. At Annual Conference, Halifax County Local successfully added a resolution to the roster, but it was not presented before adjournment. This resolution (below) directly impacts Professional Associations. It, along with other resolutions that could not be discussed and voted on before adjournment, has gone to the Provincial Executive.

Recommendations:

The committee recommends that at the Professional Associations Leadership Conference (PALC), a special session be added for newly elected PA presidents for the purpose of mentoring.

The committee recommends the dissolution of the NSLTA according to the Professional Associations Handbook, as they have not been able to offer a conference or slate an executive for two school years.

The committee recommends that the 2018-2019 PACC encourage another group of language teachers (ex, EAL, Gaelic, French Immersion) to initiate a new Professional Association, as there is presently no association for teachers who teach second languages.

The committee recommends that the 2018-2019 PACC discuss at length Resolution 2018 NB3 as it directly impacts the work of the Professional Associations, including their individual mandates. It is expected that the Provincial Executive will give PACC direction in this regard.

Resolution 2018 - NB3

Be it Resolved that ...

... the Professional Associations Coordination Committee explore a plan for a single conference in place of Professional Development Day 2019 to address the growing complexities of student needs in our diverse classrooms.

Acknowledgements

PACC would like to acknowledge the support of NSTU Staff:

Bev Tufts for her commitment to October Conference registration, PA websites and email, and other technical and logistical support.

Melanie Waye for financial advice, support and information, reports for executive meetings, and prompt consideration of professional associations' needs

Toni Maggio for administrative and other logistical support in the fall of 2018 conference season

Paul Syme and Adela Ndji for staff support, meetings, minutes, and focus/ themes for discussion and PALC conference organization

Respectfully submitted,

Wendy Driscoll, Chair