

Professional Development Committee
Year End Report 2010-2011

Mandate:

The mandate of the Professional Development Committee is:

- To support and develop strategies and programs to promote professional development for the membership of the Nova Scotia Teachers Union at the individual, school, Local and provincial levels.
- To provide advice to the Provincial Executive on matters relating to professional development and in-service education.
- To monitor the professional development needs of the membership.
- To liaise with the Local Professional Development Committees. To meet annually to identify themes and topics for future issues of Aviso
 - to set editorial policy
 - to set advertising policy
 - to evaluate issues of Aviso
- To make recommendations with regard to future directions for the publications; and to prepare recommendations for the Provincial Executive
- To consider such resolutions as may be referred by Annual Council and make appropriate recommendations for the Provincial Executive
- To participate as required in the NSTU Policy Review Process by providing recommendations for the Provincial Executive's consideration.

Activities of the PD Committee include:

- Administering the Out-of-Province Grants
- Administering the Full Time Study Grants
- Administering the NSTU Summer Travel Fellowship Grant Program
- Administering the NSTU Education Research Award Program
- Supporting and assisting Local PD Committees
- Offering professional development opportunities, in cooperation with Local PD Committees, to enhance skills at the Local PD Committee level
- Recommending policy to the Provincial Executive on matters relating to the professional development needs of the membership

The NSTU Professional Development Committee for the 2010-2011 school year was comprised of the following members:

Dan Stephenson, Chair (Colchester-East Hants)
Angela Deagle (Inverness)
Leon Swinkels (Halifax)
Jill Burton (Richmond)
Jaylene Chase (Lunenburg County)
Tonia Cromwell (Digby)
Sue Hannem (Provincial Executive)
Betty – Jean Aucoin, NSTU Staff Liaison

Meeting Dates

The Professional Development Committee met on the following dates during the 2010-2011 school year:

October 15th, 2010

January 21st, 2011

April 15th, 2011

The activities of this year's Professional Development Committee included the following:

- The committee organized and facilitated a very successful PD Conference, 'Peace...ing it Together.' This conference jointly planned with the Equity Committee and the Sheonoroil Foundation was held April 7th through 9th, 2011 hosting over 150 teachers and educational partners. The keynote, Dr. Samantha Nutt, was joined by Nova Scotia leaders in education and partnership in delivering a number of workshops on such themes as War Child Canada, bullying, cyber bullying, Imagine action, Virtues Project, Restorative Practice and more.
- The committee vetted applications for Summer Travel Fellowships, Education Research Awards, Out of Province Conference grants, and full time study grants.
- The committee reviewed resolutions to Annual Council and gave voice on professional development resolutions at Annual Council.
- The committee reviewed existing policies as required under Policy Review Procedures.
- Committee met with the AVISO Editorial Advisory Board. The committee provided feedback on recent issues and selected themes and features for the 2011 -2012 year.

Fall 2011 – 21st Century Education

Winter 2012 – Enrichment

Spring 2012 – Character Education

- The budget for the committee was \$6,300. The actual cost of the committee's business was \$6,300.

As outgoing chair, I wish to thank all of the committee members for their commitment of time and their energy and expertise.

Respectfully Submitted,

Dan Stephenson, Chair
Professional Development Committee