

# Education Week 2012



**Alexis Allen**

**President, Nova Scotia Teachers Union**

This year's Education Week recognizes teachers and partners who make a significant contribution to the student's overall development as a person.

The 2012 theme, *Educating Students for Life*, celebrates those who go above and beyond to focus on their students' mental, physical, and social well-being.

As teachers, we have instinctively done this since we first stepped in front of a classroom. Often we are one of the strongest adult figures in a child's life and have proudly accepted this position as mentor and role model. We provide students with important life skills they will need to be successful. Every day, Nova Scotia educators are teaching students how to live healthier lives, learn and develop to their fullest potential and establish positive relationships.

On behalf of the Nova Scotia Teachers Union I thank all of our members for what they do to enhance their students' growth in classrooms and schools. I applaud the support and commitment of all our education partners in developing and organizing Education Week. I also thank and acknowledge the Teachers Plus Credit Union, which has been a longtime supporter of the week, and the Halifax Regional Library which is hosting this year's event.



**Vanda Dow**

**President, Nova Scotia Federation of Home and School Associations**

During Education Week we will celebrate the successes and accomplishments of those involved in educating our children in Nova Scotia schools. As we recognize the outstanding individuals receiving awards for 2012 Education Week, *Educating Students for Life*, we must also remember the many people in our school communities

who give time to support our schools and students. We are always trying to find the balance in our schools, with the many changes in technology; recognizing and supporting our diverse learners and the struggle that financial cuts put on our educational system. It has never been so important to have the combination of educators and parents playing such a vital role in Nova Scotia students' overall development and helping them along their way to becoming happy, productive and responsible individuals within our communities and around the globe.

Congratulations to the recipients of Education Week awards 2012 and thank you to all who provide students with the important life skills they will need to be successful for life.



**Vic Fleury**

**President, Nova Scotia School Boards Association**

On behalf of the Nova Scotia School Boards Association (NSSBA), it is with pleasure that I

congratulate the Education Week 2012 award recipients.

The NSSBA is particularly pleased with this year's theme, *Educating Students for Life*, as it provides an opportunity to recognize teachers and education partners who go above and beyond to ensure students receive the knowledge and skills they need for a healthy and prosperous future.

Our society is changing faster than any of us can comprehend. With instant information sharing, and an even larger focus on social justice issues than ever before, it's important that our students are equipped with the knowledge and skills they need to be critical thinkers and engaged citizens.

We see evidence on a daily basis of inspirational teaching and volunteerism that contributes to the physical and mental health of our students and to the social well-being of our society.

Whether it is a community garden program that teaches the importance of sustainability or a youth running program that promotes physical fitness, students are being taught the importance of living a healthy and well-rounded lifestyle.

From pen pal programs with students around the world, to fundraising for local charities,

educators in Nova Scotia inspire our students to be global-minded and to make a positive impact on their world.

Congratulations again to all of the award recipients on being recognized for your outstanding commitment to the students of Nova Scotia.



**Honourable Ramona Jennex**

**Minister of Education, Province of Nova Scotia**

I can say with the utmost confidence, that Nova Scotia's educators are outstanding professionals. They provide students with opportunities to develop the skills and knowledge required to become lifelong learners. Putting kids and learning first means helping every student succeed in all aspects of life. Education Week is a way for the province and its education partners to show our appreciation for the outstanding work

educators do every day.

The theme, *Educating Students for Life*, recognizes that teachers go above and beyond to focus on their students' mental, physical, and social well-being. It is important that we work together to ensure our students develop the important life skills they will need to be successful. Thanks to our teachers, Nova Scotia students are engaged in our changing world in a way that is not only keeping pace but raising the bar.

On behalf of the Department of Education and the province, I congratulate the Education Week 2012 award recipients. Your outstanding dedication and commitment makes a tremendous difference in the lives of our children.



**Véronique Legault**

**Présidente, Fédération des parents acadiens de la Nouvelle-Écosse**

Cette année, le thème de la Semaine de l'éducation en Nouvelle-Écosse, Une éducation pour la vie, souligne le travail exceptionnel des éducateurs néo-écossais qui vont au delà de leurs obligations pour favoriser le bien-être mental, physique et social de leurs élèves.

Les éducateurs et les parents jouent un rôle essentiel dans le développement global des élèves afin que ces derniers deviennent des membres responsables de la société. Ils leur transmettent d'importantes connaissances dont ils auront besoin pour réussir tout au long de leur vie. Chaque jour, les éducateurs néo-écossais enseignent aux élèves comment vivre une vie plus saine, apprendre, développer tout leur potentiel et établir des relations positives.

En cette semaine de l'éducation je lève mon chapeau à tous les éducateurs et parents qui œuvrent sans cesse pour le bien-être de nos enfants, malgré les défis qui se présentent chaque jour. La Fédération des parents acadiens de la Nouvelle-Écosse reconnaît l'effort et le temps dévoué pour le bien-être mental, physique et social de nos enfants pour que ceux-ci deviennent des membres de la société éduqués ainsi que responsables et engagés.



**Gary Clarke**

**President, Association of Nova Scotia Educational Administrators**

As educators, it is our privilege to play a vital role in helping to shape and

prepare our students for life—within and beyond the classroom. The Association of Nova Scotia Educational Administrators is proud to celebrate our fellow educators today, who so deservedly received recognition for their dedication, commitment and meaningful work, for going above and beyond, to educate students for life.

On behalf of the Association of Nova Scotia Educational Administrators, please accept my congratulations and my appreciation for everything you do to help ensure that all Nova Scotia students achieve success. You should be proud of the opportunities, supports and services that you provide on a daily basis for the benefit of your students. Not only are you an inspiration to them, but you have inspired your peers and community as well.

