



Dear colleague:

Welcome back! Another school year is underway and I wish you and your fellow teachers well and all the best for a most successful and enjoyable year. As an NLTA school representative, your role is crucial to the success of our Association's province-wide voting process and I sincerely thank you.

Please find attached a brief introductory document outlining my NLTA experience in addition to providing a brief commentary as I re-announce my candidacy for Vice-President of NLTA.

It would be much appreciated if you would distribute the attached document to your colleagues as it is essential that teachers are informed of the candidates stepping forward to offer themselves for the office of President or Vice-President.

As the election unfolds, I would like to express my gratitude for your and your colleagues' participation and engagement in this process. Again, thank-you and please be advised that I am always available via Skype, e-mail, or phone.

Yours in solidarity,

*Derek Drover*

*B.A., B.Ed., M.Ed.*

*Candidate for NLTA VP*

*NLTA Provincial Executive Member*

*841-3151 (s)*

*293-0383 (c)*

Proud to be a teacher!

# December 6<sup>th</sup> Elect Derek Drover NLTA Vice-President

## NLTA experience:

- Member of Provincial Executive: 2007-2009, 2009-2011, 2011-2013, 2013-2015, 2015 – present
- Table Officer: 2010-2011, 2011-2013, 2013-2015, 2015-present
- Ad Hoc Committee on Policy Review: 2016
- Canadian Teachers Federation AGM: Delegate 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016
- Council of Atlantic Provinces Teacher Organizations (CAPTO) AGM: Delegate 2011, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016
- Teacher Certification Committee: 2015-present
- Staff Negotiations Committee: 2013-present (Chairperson)
- Education International 7<sup>th</sup> World Conference: 2015
- Membership Engagement Committee: 2014-present
- Pooled Investment Committee: 2010-2011 (Chairperson)
- Finance & Property Committee: 2009-2011
- Group Insurance: 2007-2009 (Trustee), 2009-2011 (Chairperson)
- International Foundation's Annual Canadian Employee Benefits Conference: 2008, 2009, 2010
- Education Forum of the Rural Secretariat: 2009 (NLTA representative)
- Employee Assistance Program Coordinating Committee: 2007-2009 (Chairperson)
- International Foundation's Trustees 2 Group Benefits Course: 2008
- Seagaulher Branch: 1999-2007 (President), 1997-1998 (Vice President), 1993-1997 (Political Action Officer)

**Always proud to be a teacher!**

Contact me anytime with your thoughts and ideas: [ddrover@nlta.nl.ca](mailto:ddrover@nlta.nl.ca) or cell: 293- 0383



Dear Colleagues:

Another summer break has quickly slipped by and the new school year is underway. I would like to wish each of you all the best for a most successful year.

However, given the net negative impact of the last provincial budget as well as further anticipated austerity measures, challenges lie ahead. Despite the increase in teaching units for the implementation of full-day Kindergarten, the overall effect of the last budget has been less than kind, to say the least.

As educators we are charged with the responsibility of educating our students – our children – to the best of our ability. That, colleagues, is a responsibility we have always professionally embraced, but all too often we have seen education budgets slashed and more and more expectations placed on the shoulders of teachers. Too often, we are expected to do more and more with less and less to the detriment of the quality of our own personal lives.

Yes, our working conditions are students' learning conditions, and when more and more stress is placed on the system, when more and more is continuously expected of us in the face of austerity measures, the system reaches its tipping point, and both teacher and student bear that burden. With yet another net reduction in teaching units from the most recent provincial budget, we know that extra burden is placed, once again, upon our shoulders as we strive, as always, to meet the needs of a diverse and increasingly complex learning environment.

Teachers have always gone above and beyond! Because we do care and give so much, because we are teachers, I believe that we have an obligation and a right to relentlessly advocate for the supports necessary to best meet the responsibility with which we are entrusted. Teachers do change lives; teachers do matter – education matters!

Colleagues, we are a profession of integrity; we are the education experts who can speak from experience. As Vice-President, I will continue to adamantly stand with you in letting our voice of solidarity be heard and we shall persevere. As candidate for NLTA Vice-President, I humbly and respectfully ask for your support.

Derek Drover

Proud to be a teacher!