



Executive Notes

Your NLTA Provincial Executive met in St. John's on **March 25** and Joint Council (Branch Presidents and Provincial Executive) met on **March 26**. *Executive Notes* is a summary of discussions that occurred at these meetings.

For further information contact any member of Provincial Executive or the staff person as indicated.

President's Report

The President reported on her activities since the January Executive meeting. She attended the Beginning Teachers' Conference in Gander, CAPTO meetings in New Brunswick, CTF Women's Symposium in Toronto, United Nations Commission for the Status of Women in New York, Education Week Opening Ceremonies in Meadows, School Administrators' Council Conference in Corner Brook, Pre-Budget Consultation Presentation in Carbonear, and the House of Assembly Throne Speech in St. John's. She continued her visits to schools and was interviewed by the media on Education Week.

For further information contact Lily B. Cole, President.

Business from Standing Committees

Standing Officers

- The NLTA delegates to the CTF AGM 2010 will be comprised of President Lily B. Cole, Vice-President Jim Dinn, Past-President Sean Noah, Table Officer Dean Ingram, and Executive Director, Edward Hancock.
- The NLTA will endorse the report *Reality Check: Women in Canada and the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action Fifteen Years On – A Canadian Civil Response*.
- The NLTA will provide funding in the amount of \$500 in support of the annual conference of the Newfoundland and Labrador Association of Speech Language Pathologists and Audiologists.

For further information contact Lily B. Cole, President or Edward Hancock, Executive Director.

Communications/Political Action Committee

The NLTA will investigate the most effective and appropriate way to get information to teachers on privacy issues and concerns around electronic communications.

For further information contact Graydon Pelley, Chair, Communications/Political Action Committee, or Lesley-Ann Browne, Communications Officer.

Membership Benefits and Services Committee

- Edward Moore of the Placentia Branch will be recipient of the Allan Bishop Award for 2010.
- Stella Johnson of the Baccalieu Branch and Sharon Penney of the Carbonear Branch will be recipients of the Bancroft Award for 2010.
- Sam Synard of the Burin-Marystown Branch will be the recipient of the Special Recognition Award for 2010.
- Seven pre-retirement seminars will be held in accordance with Association policy during the fall of 2010 in the following locations: Corner Brook, Gander, Grand Falls-Windsor, Stephenville and three in St. John's. The dates and sites will be determined by the Benefits and Economic Services Division subject to hotel and presenter availability. Consideration will be given to combining seminars based on registration numbers.
- The Membership Benefits and Services Committee will review the eligibility criteria for the Special Recognition Award.

For further information contact Jackie Maloney, Chair, Membership Benefits and Services Committee, or Steve Brooks, Benefits and Economic Services Division.

Teacher Health and Wellness Promotion Committee

The Teacher Health and Wellness Promotion Committee will investigate the possibility of establishing a Health and Wellness Week similar in scope to Education Week.

For further information contact Tina Matthews, Chair, Teacher Health and Wellness Promotion Committee, or Perry Downey, Benefits and Economic Services Division.

Equity Issues in Education Committee

The President will issue a news release to recognize the International Day Against Homophobia and to inform the media of the NLTA's anti-homophobia campaign, part of which will be the release of a poster to raise awareness of the plight of gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender youth in schools.

For further information contact Jeanne Williams, Chair, Equity Issues in Education Committee, or Beverley Park, Professional Development Division.

(continued)

Other Business

- The Association will obtain information from teacher affiliates regarding school schedules, including the opening and closing dates, for other jurisdictions in Canada.
- The President will write the Educational Speech Language Pathologists informing them that Executive is aware of their submission for inclusion in the collective agreement bonus structure for specialists and outlining the Association's procedures for inviting submissions from the membership to the Collective Bargaining Committee once it has been established prior to the next round of bargaining.
- The names of NLTA committee members will be publicized in an edition of *The Bulletin* and on the NLTA website.

For further information contact Lily B. Cole, President.

JOINT COUNCIL

Association Priorities

A detailed review of the Association priorities for 2009-11 was presented to Joint Council. Various NLTA administrative staff updated Provincial Executive and Branch Presidents on the priorities which are: quality of teachers' work life; technology in education; membership involvement/awareness; advocacy; and implementation of Teacher Allocation and ISSP/Pathways Committee reports.

For further information contact Lily B. Cole, President, or Edward Hancock, Executive Director.

Financial Wellness for Teachers

Don Ash, Assistant Executive Director of the NLTA, provided a presentation to Joint Council on Financial Wellness for Teachers. The presentation covered such topics as financial considerations, well-being, planning, calculation of benefits, CPP integration, sick leave, substitute teachers' pension plan, group insurance, life insurance, health insurance, indexing for inflation, and financial planning.

For further information contact Don Ash, Assistant Executive Director.

Discussion Topics

The following topics were reviewed by Provincial Executive and/or Joint Council for discussion or follow up: travel rate for NLTA meetings; branch inactivity; ISSPs; Teacher Allocation Model; educational leave; special education and student inclusion model; workload issues for teachers in CDLI schools; recess and lunch supervision; guidance counselor bonuses; length of parent-teacher interviews; itinerant teachers and school closure due to weather; potential PD days for preparation of anecdotal reports; school board-teacher

liaison committee; accountability re extra-curricular activities; pension indexer; and holiday schedules.

For further information contact Lily B. Cole, President.

VTC Update

A presentation on the Virtual Teacher Centre was made to Joint Council by Jim Murphy, Coordinator of the VTC. Jim provided an update on the current offerings on the VTC, various communities that have been established, the technologies that are available to users, etc.

For further information contact Jim Murphy, Coordinator of the Virtual Teacher Centre.

Beginning Teacher Research

A presentation was made to Joint Council on various findings in research on beginning teachers by Beverley Park, Senior Administrative Officer, Professional Development and Hayward Blake, Field Services Coordinator, Faculty of Education, Memorial University.

For further information contact Beverley Park, Professional Development Division.

Small Group Discussion on Role and Responsibility of Branch

Joint Council participated in small group discussions on the role and responsibility of branches. The purpose of the discussion was to gather information regarding the challenges currently facing branches including forming executives, attendance at meetings and carrying out general branch business. Once compiled, the results of the group discussions will be reviewed by the Membership Benefits and Services Committee.

For further information contact Jackie Maloney, Chair, Membership Benefits and Services Committee, or Steve Brooks, Benefits and Economic Services Committee.

A Teacher's Experience in Afghanistan

A presentation was made to Joint Council on a teacher's experiences in Afghanistan by Lieutenant Colonel James F. Camsell, CD, Canadian Army Reserve and Social Studies Department Head at Holy Heart High School. Lieutenant Colonel Camsell gave a very powerful and moving presentation on his work in Afghanistan building schools, making school yards safe, female students' right to education, the many challenges in rebuilding an education system and the dedication of Canadian soldiers performing the work in the country and the commitment of the people to make the education system work.

For more information contact Lily B. Cole, President.

Next Meeting

The next regular meeting of Provincial Executive is scheduled for **May 28 and 29** in St. John's.

For further information contact Lily B. Cole, President or Edward Hancock, Executive Director.