

MARCH 9-10,
2011



Newfoundland and Labrador Teachers' Association

Executive Notes

Your NLTA Provincial Executive met in St. John's on **March 9 and 10** and Joint Council (Branch Presidents and Provincial Executive) met on **March 11**. *Executive Notes* is a summary of decisions and discussions that occurred at these meetings.

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

President's Report

Since the November meeting of Provincial Executive the President has been very active visiting schools across the province as well as attending meetings and appointments in her role as President. She presented NLTA's submission to Government's Pre-Budget Consultations; participated in the first webcast of the Opening Ceremonies of Education Week, several Branch retirement banquets, and the Beginning Teachers' Conferences for the Eastern School District and the Western District; and attended CAPTO meetings in Halifax.

Interviews took place with numerous media on the Auditor General's Report and the issues regarding retired teachers who are substituting. The President also had Christmas greetings on radio, end of year interviews with various media, and interviews on the loss of CIDA funding for CTF's international programs, inclusion, and Education Week.

For further information contact Lily B. Cole, President.

Business of Standing Committees

Table Officers

- The NLTA will communicate to the Department of Education that the teachers of the province are opposed to pursuing a change in the traditional school opening dates that would see school opening prior to Labour Day.
- The NLTA delegates to the CTF AGM in July 2011 in Ottawa will be President Lily B. Cole, Vice-President Jim Dinn, Table Officers Dean Ingram and Derek Drover, and Executive Director Edward Hancock.
- The NLTA will provide funding in the amount of \$500 to support the annual conference of the Newfoundland and Labrador Association of Speech Language Pathologists and Audiologists.
- The recipient of the Patricia Cowan Award at BGM 2011 will be Paul Johnson.
- The Association will initiate the practice of providing a Past-President's ring to each outgoing President upon the conclusion of his/her term of office in lieu of the present practice of providing a gift on that occasion.

- The NLTA will write school districts in the province requesting the provision of school buses for the purpose of extra curricular activities which involve student travel.
- The next Collective Bargaining Committee will be asked to consider as a priority the elimination of teacher responsibility for lunch supervision for the next round of collective agreement negotiations.

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

Membership Benefits and Services Committee

- Joe Lafitte of Carbonear will be the recipient of the Bancroft Award for 2011.
- Eleanor Cameron-Stockley of Twillingate will be the recipient of the Special Recognition Award for 2011.
- Seven pre-retirement seminars will be held, in accordance with Association policy, during the Fall of 2011 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 depending on registration numbers.

For further information contact Jackie Maloney, Chair, Membership Benefits and Services Committee; Steve Brooks, Benefits and Economic Services Division; or Geralyn Costello, Administrative Assistant, Governance.

Professional Issues Committee

David Constantine from PESIC will be recipient of the Barnes Award for 2011.

For further information contact Sandra Quigley, Chair, Professional Issues Committee or Beverley Park or George Tucker, Professional Development Division.

JOINT COUNCIL

Association Priorities

The updated review of Association priorities for 2009-11 was presented to Joint Council. NLTA Administrative Staff updated provincial Executive and Joint Council on the work being performed on the priorities. The 2009-11 priorities are: quality of teachers' work life; technology in education; membership involvement/awareness; advocacy; and implementation of the Teacher Allocation and ISSP/ Pathways reports.

(cont'd.)

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

Discussion/Branch President Topics

The following topics were reviewed by Provincial Executive and Joint Council: travel for professional development – arbitration update; exam supervision and Schedule E; power outage in Deer Lake schools; security measures for teacher data; holiday schedule; changing the school day; provincial junior high school report update; preparation required during parent/teacher interviews; itinerant travel; pervasive needs criteria and teacher staffing; ensuring safe arrival at schools; bonuses for itinerants; branch membership; delegates to BGM; membership poll re school opening date; administrator liability when students not in school; sick leave; on-line voting for province-wide vote; after hours professional development; non-teaching duties; banking time; high school textbooks; and CTF International programs.

For further information contact Lily B. Cole, President.

Preparing Delegates for BGM 2011

A presentation was made to Joint Council by Edward Hancock, Executive Director of the NLTA, on preparing delegates for BGM 2011. Branch Presidents were advised that they should arrange a delegates meeting once Convention kits are received to discuss and review any specific items and take positions on resolutions. Delegates should be familiar with all BGM business, Convention procedures, presentations, resolutions and Convention expenses.

For further information contact Edward Hancock Executive Director.

That's So Gay – Combating Homophobia

A presentation was made to Joint Council on ways to combat homophobia in schools by Maureen Wrice, a teacher at Donald C. Jamieson Academy in Burin, and Lee Masters, a teacher at Christ the King School in Rushoon. The presentation called *That's So Gay – Combating Homophobia*, dealt with such issues as making schools safe for all, tips and strategies for addressing harassment, heterosexual privilege, resources available for teachers and students, survey information available, and NLTA's work in the area of homophobia.

For further information contact Beverley Park, Senior Administrative Officer, Professional Development Division.

Review of NLTA Staffing Levels

The report on the Review of NLTA Staffing Levels was presented to Joint Council by NLTA President Lily B. Cole and Edward Hancock, Executive Director. The

presentation dealt with decisions of Table Officers re carrying out the review and an overview of the major sections of the report, which included a review of responsibilities and staff duties by Division, individual staff duties and position descriptions, significant changes impacting the Association, comparisons with similarly sized organizations, and conclusions and decisions.

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

Preparation for Collective Bargaining/Small Group Sessions

A session led by Dean Ingram, Provincial Executive and Chair of the Collective Bargaining Committee, and Stefanie Tuff, Administrative Officer with the Benefits and Economic Services Division, was held at Joint Council on preparation for collective bargaining. The presentation and small group sessions helped identify issues and priorities for the next round of collective bargaining. The collective bargaining committee will be based in the Gander area and the role of the committee was reviewed. Timelines were also reviewed and input was gathered from Joint Council on the main priorities.

For further information contact Lily B. Cole, President or Stefanie Tuff, Administrative Officer, Benefits and Economic Services Division.

NLTA Printing Services Cost Analysis

Edward Hancock, Executive Director and Lesley-Ann Browne, Communications Officer, made a presentation to Joint Council on the cost analysis between in-house printing and outsourcing the printing. A resolution from the 2009 BGM requested that a cost analysis be done and the presentation reviewed the process that took place, the research that was gathered, price quotes from various printers, conclusions and recommendations.

For further information contact Edward Hancock, Executive Director or Lesley-Ann Browne, Communications Officer.

Next Meeting

The next meeting of Provincial Executive will take place on **June 10 and 11** in St. John's. Provincial Executive will also meet for a pre-BGM meeting on **April 26**.

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