



EXECUTIVE NOTES

May 8, 2015

Your NLTA Provincial Executive met in St. John's on May 8, 2015. *Executive Notes* is a summary of discussions and decisions that occurred at these meetings.

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

President's Report

Since the February meeting of Provincial Executive the President has attended numerous functions and visited schools in St. John's, Paradise, Conne River, Milltown, English Harbour West, Harbour Breton, Lewisporte, Campbellton and Norris Arm. He presented NLTA's pre-budget consultation brief to the Minister of Finance, met with NLESD Trustees, met with the Minister of Finance regarding pension discussions, and with the Minister of Education and Early Childhood Development regarding teacher allocation cuts. He attended the 2015 International Summit on the Teaching Profession, the substitute teacher conference, the NL Federation of School Councils AGM, and many other meetings and events in his capacity as President. Media interviews took place on the topics of mental health issues, pupil-teacher ratios, diverse needs of students, pensions, BGM, teacher allocation cuts, and the provincial budget.

For further information contact James Dinn, President.

Association Priorities

The Association priorities for 2013-15 are: negotiating a collective agreement; strategic plan for membership engagement; implementation of the NLTA IT strategic plan; school board amalgamation; and non collective agreement issues that impact on teacher work life. Provincial Executive discussed the action on priorities that occurred since the last Executive meeting in April.

For further information contact James Dinn, President or Don Ash, Executive Director.

Business from Standing Committees

Table Officers

- The NLTA will provide \$2,500 to the E.I. Solidarity Fund to assist the teacher organization in Nepal to

rebuild and recover from the earthquake devastation.

- The NLTA will provide \$500 to the NL Federation of School Councils to assist with their AGM.
- The NLTA will sponsor St. John's Pride to the level of \$1,000 (silver sponsorship) pending a review of the promotional material for St. John's Pride 2015.

For further information contact James Dinn, President or Don Ash, Executive Director.

Ad Hoc Committee on Substitute Teachers

- The NLTA will lobby the districts and the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development to increase substitute teachers' access to professional development sessions.
- The NLTA will consider offering professional development sessions specifically for substitutes, as well as consider the most viable way to offer these sessions to as many substitute teachers as possible.
- The NLTA will consider additional presentations at MUN (as well as other opportunities at MUN) to engage students and to better highlight the role of the NLTA, as well as the benefits of NLTA membership.
- The NLTA will publish additional articles in *The Bulletin* regarding topics relevant to substitute teachers.
- The NLTA will disseminate information regarding hiring as well as practical tips regarding how to get called back to substitute teachers.
- The NLTA will request that Teacher Certification send an info sheet with contact numbers of Association staff when sending certification.
- The Association will review current means of communicating information to substitute teachers, with a view to increasing the engagement of substitute teachers as well as their knowledge about the Association, membership, and the benefits of membership.
- The NLTA will establish a standing committee for substitute teachers.
- The Association will request school-based administrators and teachers replaced by substitutes to provide substitutes

(see page 2)

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with feedback regarding their teaching, particularly if there is a problem, and disseminate sections 7(l) and 7(k) of the NLTA policy on substitute teachers to administrators and substitute and replacement teachers.

- The Association will consider ways of ensuring that issues of importance to substitute teachers are raised in school board-teacher liaison committee meetings.
- The NLTA Collective Bargaining Committee will consider for inclusion in the opening proposals for the next round of negotiations a proposal providing for quicker pay for teachers not on regular payroll.
- The NLTA will lobby the Board to enable substitute teachers to vote on the school holiday schedule.
- The Association will liaise with the Board regarding substitute teachers' use of Power School, regarding improving ease of use for substitute teachers.
- The Association will reiterate to school-based administrators and the Boards the need to ensure that substitute teachers are provided adequate information, access and equipment to teacher safety and effectively, including but not limited to, the need for: keys to classrooms, lanyards for identification, and school information packages.

For further information contact Jean Murphy, Chair, Substitute Teacher Ad Hoc Committee, or Miriam Sheppard, staff consultant.

Other Business

- The NLTA will survey school administrators and teachers regarding the impact of recent cuts in teacher allocations to include the number of units lost, programming lost and the impact of workload. This survey will be conducted in the fall of 2015.
- The NLTA will lobby the NLESD to maintain the Behavioural Support Itinerant services as it currently stands and to extend this service across the province.

For further information contact James Dinn, President or Don Ash, Executive Director.

Discussion Topics

Provincial Executive reviewed the following for comment, actioning or follow up: BGM 2015; secretarial hours; preparation time for teachers; behavioural itinerant teachers; student support services advisory committee; and president's panel on education.

For further information contact James Dinn, President or Don Ash, Executive Director.

2015-16 Meeting Dates for Table Officers/Provincial Executive/ Joint Council

Aug. 2015	Table Officers Provincial Executive	August 25 (a.m.) August 25-27
Oct. 2015	Table Officers Provincial Executive	October 1 October 2-3
Nov. 2015	Table Officers Provincial Executive Joint Council	November 25 November 26 November 27-28
Jan. 2016	Table Officers Provincial Executive	January 21 January 22-23
Mar. 2016	Table Officers Provincial Executive Joint Council	March 16 March 17 March 18-19
Apr. 2016	Table Officers Provincial Executive	April 28 April 29-30
June 2016	Table Officers Provincial Executive	June 9 June 10-11

Next Meeting

The next meeting of Provincial Executive is scheduled for June 12-13, 2015 in St. John's.

For further information contact James Dinn, President or Don Ash, Executive Director.