

NOV. 1-3,  
2012



Newfoundland and Labrador Teachers' Association

# Executive Notes

Your NLTA Provincial Executive met in St. John's on November 1 and Joint Council (Branch Presidents and Provincial Executive) met on November 2-3. *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 staff member as indicated.

## President's Report

Since the September meeting of Provincial Executive the President has attended numerous meetings, events and functions. She presented the opening proposal for the provincial contract negotiations to the Ganova, Green Bay, St. John's, Exploits Valley, Baie Verte Peninsula, and Humber branches. She attended the Teacher Induction Ceremony in Corner Brook and St. John's and the School Rep Seminars in St. John's, Grand Falls-Windsor and Corner Brook. She brought greetings at the Retired Teachers' Association BGM and the NL Counsellors' and Psychologists' Association AGM and presented the Barnes Award for 2012 to recipient Trent Langdon. She also attended meetings with the Canadian Teachers' Federation Advisory Committee on the Status of Women, the PEI Teachers' Federation Annual Conference, CAPTO in New Brunswick, the provincial public sector unions, and gave media interviews on the International Day of the Girl.

For further information contact Lily B. Cole, President.

## Business of Standing Committees

### *Curriculum Committee*

The NLTA will request a meeting with senior officials and the Department of Education to discuss the Intermediate Curriculum Review and its continuing embargo, and to discuss the recommended time allotments.

For further information contact Gabe Ryan, Chair, Curriculum Committee, or George Tucker, Professional Development Division.

### *Table Officers*

- Honorary Membership in the Association will be bestowed upon Mr. Eric Burry.
- The theme for BGM 2013 will be *Empowering Teachers; Fostering Learning*.
- The proposed Executive/Table Officers/Joint Council meeting schedule for 2013-14 will be approved as follows:

2013-14 Meeting Dates (Table Officers/Provincial Executive/Joint Council)	
August 26	Table Officers (afternoon)
August 26-28	Provincial Executive
October 30	Table Officers
October 31	Provincial Executive
November 1-2	Joint Council
December 20	Table Officers
January 30	Table Officers
Jan. 31 - Feb. 1	Provincial Executive
March 26	Table Officers
March 27	Provincial Executive
March 28-29	Joint Council
May 22	Table Officers
May 23-24	Provincial Executive

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

## JOINT COUNCIL

### Association Priorities

A detailed review of the Association priorities for 2011-13 was presented to Joint Council. Various NLTA administrative staff updated Provincial Executive and Joint Council on the priorities which are: quality of teacher work life/collective bargaining; membership awareness and engagement; inclusion; and technology in education.

For further information contact Lily B. Cole, President.

### Pension Funding Update

A presentation on the status of the Teachers' Pension Plan was made to Joint Council by NLTA Executive Director Edward Hancock. The presentation reviewed the funded status of the TPP as of December 31, 2011, definition (liabilities, assets and assumptions), valuation results, the estimated funded position, and the rate of return.

For further information contact Edward Hancock, Executive Director.

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## Joint Council Policy and Parliamentary Procedures

Edward Hancock, NLTA's Executive Director, reviewed and provided information on the NLTA Policy on Joint Council and Parliamentary procedures, specifically the authority that Joint Council holds as an advisory body.

For further information contact Edward Hancock, Executive Director.

## Preparation for Province-wide Vote for President and Vice-President

Edward Hancock, NLTA's Executive Director, provided a presentation to Joint Council on the election of NLTA President and Vice-President by province-wide vote. The presentation included an overview of the responsibilities of the Electoral Committee, candidates to date, by-law changes from 2011 BGM, and responsibilities of branch presidents and school representatives.

For further information contact Edward Hancock, Executive Director.

## Presentation of the Queen's Diamond Jubilee Medals

The recipients of the Queen's Diamond Jubilee Medal were presented with their awards during a special session of the Joint Council meeting. The President of the Canadian Teachers' Federation, Paul Taillefer, and NLTA President Lily B. Cole presented Frank Shapleigh, Deborah Pinto and Beverley Park with their awards. All three award winners had been nominated by the NLTA. President Taillefer also presented a CTF nominated award to John Staple.

For further information contact Lily B. Cole, President.

## Trends in Education

CTF President Paul Taillefer provided a presentation to Joint Council entitled *Trends in Education*. The presentation outlined challenges faced by teacher organizations and outlined key trends such as individualization, the world as an open market, dominance of technology ideological shift to the right, and response to the financial crisis. Members of Joint Council were provided with the opportunity to ask questions of Mr. Taillefer.

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

## Policy Changes Since the March 2012 Joint Council Meeting

Joint Council approved a number of changes in NLTA policy since the March 2012 Joint Council meeting. The amended policies include: policy on Centennial Fund Awards (Study Awards) and policy on Johnson Inc. Bursaries.

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

## BGM 2013 Preparation and Deadlines

The deadlines and important dates to remember for BGM 2013 were reviewed with Joint Council. These dates are as follows:

- NLTA Act and By-Law changes – January 3, 2013
- Resolutions to BGM – February 3, 2013
- Nominations for Provincial Executive to be published in *The Bulletin* – February 3, 2013
- Delegates/Alternates for publication in *The Bulletin* – February 3, 2013
- BGM kits mailed to delegates – week of March 4-8, 2013
- 2013 Biennial General Meeting – April 2 (afternoon) to April 5, 2013 (noon)

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

## NLTA Budget for 2013-15

A presentation on the proposed NLTA budgets for 2013-15 was made to Joint Council by Jean Murphy, Chair of the Finance and Property Committee. The presentation provided information on revenues received from various sources, expenses and capital expenditures, and a breakdown of budget lines within the Association's budget. The members of Joint Council participated in small group sessions to provide input to assist in the preparation of the budgets for 2013-14 and 2014-15.

For further information contact Jean Murphy, Chair, Finance and Property Committee or Wade Rogers, Manager of Finance and Administration.

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## **Candidates Forum for 2012 Election of NLTA President and Vice-President**

The candidates for NLTA President and Vice-President had an opportunity to address Joint Council and invited guests during the Candidates Forum that took place on the second day of Joint Council. Each candidate presented a 10-minute speech and then took part in a question and answer session. The Candidates Forum was broadcast live on Saturday morning via the NLTA website and was videotaped for the purpose of being made available on the website and on DVD.

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

## **Collective Bargaining Update**

An update on the current status of collective bargaining was provided to Joint Council by James Dinn, Chair of the Negotiating Team and Don Ash, Chief Negotiator. A *Bargaining Brief* will be sent to all teachers, emailed to school reps and posted on the NLTA Members-only section of the NLTA website.

For further information contact Don Ash, Chair, Collective Bargaining Committee/Assistant Executive Director.

## **Discussion Topics/ Branch Presidents Topics**

The following topics were reviewed by Provincial Executive and Joint Council: calling in retired substitutes; accommodating students beyond the school day; opening proposal language re special services; credit recovery programs; first aid; preparation time compensation for sole charge teachers; professional learning plans; parent-teacher interviews; department head status for Physical Education teachers; mid-term exams; minimum standards for guidance rooms; math courses; and NLTA awards.

For further information contact Lily B. Cole, President.

## **Date of Next Meeting**

The next meeting of Provincial Executive is scheduled for **February 13 (afternoon) and 14 (all day)**, followed by a Joint Council meeting on **February 15 and 16**.

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