



EXECUTIVE

NOTES

October 27-29, 2016

Your NLTA Provincial Executive met in St. John's on October 27, 2016 and Joint Council (Branch Presidents and Provincial Executive) met on October 28 and 29. *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 September meeting the President visited schools in St. John's, Westport, Portugal Cove-St. Philips, South East Bight and Fogo. Media interviews took place on the Report on the Status of Public Education in NL, overcrowding and bussing issues in Labrador, and concerning comments made by the Minister of Education. The President attended school rep seminars in St. John's and Grand Falls-Windsor, meetings of CAPTO, the Teacher Induction Ceremonies in Corner Brook and St. John's, branch meetings in Fogo and Waterford Valley, the Groundswell Conference and Rally, The Way Forward Consultations, and a planning meeting for the Common Front NL Symposium.

For further information contact James Dinn, President.

Business from Standing Committees

Equity Issues in Education Committee

The NLTA will gather information from across the province on issues of equity and inequity in the school workplace.

For further information contact Donna Reddick, Chair, Equity Issues in Education Committee or Beverley Park, Senior Administrative Officer, Programs and Services.

Membership Engagement Committee

The Association will survey branch presidents regarding how we communicate with them to determine the most effective communication between branch presidents, Provincial Executive and the NLTA.

For further information contact Trent Langdon, Chair, Membership Engagement Committee or Lesley-Ann Browne, Communications Officer.

Table Officers

- The NLTA will contribute \$550 to assist the NL Federation of School Councils with the Federation's 2016 Biennial Meeting.
- The NLTA will contribute \$1,000 to the Solidarity with Haiti appeal organized by CTF.
- The NLTA will contribute \$1,000 to assist in sponsoring the CTF – Equal Voice Daughter of the Vote event to mark 100 years of some women's formal political engagement in Canada.

For further information contact James Dinn, President or Steve Brooks, Executive Director.

Other Business

- Approval was granted for the establishment of a Special Interest Council for Speech-Language Pathologists.
- An Ad Hoc Committee will be established to review and make recommendations regarding the province-wide election of President and Vice-President, including proposals for possible by-law changes; the committee will be comprised of the members of the Electoral Committee and up to a maximum of three members of Provincial Executive; and the committee will provide a report to Executive by no later than January 13, 2017.
- The Association will investigate alternate dates to hold future BGMs.
- The Equity Issues in Education Committee will review the Equal Voice Daughter of the Vote project with a view to its benefits and possibility for the Association in becoming involved and report back to Executive.

For further information contact James Dinn, President.

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JOINT COUNCIL

Association Priorities

Updates on the priorities of the Association were provided to Joint Council. Branch presidents had an opportunity to comment and ask questions. The priorities in 2015-17 are: teacher health; workload; inclusive education; membership engagement and awareness; and fostering and mentoring relationships with external agencies.

For further information contact James Dinn, President or Steve Brooks, Executive Director.

Candidates Forum for Election of NLTA President and Vice-President

During the Candidates Forum held on the second day of Joint Council, the candidates for NLTA President and Vice-President had an opportunity to address Joint Council and invited guests. Each candidate presented a ten-minute speech and then took part in a question and answer session. The Candidates Forum was available live via the NLTA website and has been archived there for further viewing.

For further information contact Steve Brooks, Executive Director or Lesley-Ann Browne, Communications Officer.

Parliamentary Procedures for Joint Council

Steve Brooks, NLTA's Executive Director, reviewed and provided information on NLTA policy on Joint Council and parliamentary procedures, specifically the authority that Joint Council holds as an advisory body.

For further information contact Steve Brooks, Executive Director.

Budget Consultation 2017-18 and 2018-19 Budget Years

A presentation on the proposed NLTA budget for 2017-18 and 2018-19 was made to Joint Council by Craig Hicks, 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 individual budget lines. The members of Joint Council and NLTA administrative staff participated in small group sessions to provide input and assist in the preparation of the budgets for 2017-18 and 2018-19.

For further information contact Craig Hicks, Chair, Finance and Property Committee or Wade Rogers, Manager, Corporate Services.

Collective Bargaining Update

Stefanie Tuff, NLTA's Assistant Executive Director and Chief Negotiator, gave an update to Joint Council on collective bargaining. Her presentation reviewed NLTA policy and legislation, as well as the current status of the

collective bargaining process. The Negotiating Team will be selected and announced in due course.

For further information contact James Dinn, President or Stefanie Tuff, Assistant Executive Director.

Teachers Change Lives Every Day Campaign

An update on the Teachers Change Lives Every Day campaign was provided to Joint Council by NLTA Communications Officer Lesley-Ann Browne. The update included highlights of the public and membership surveys carried out in late spring and the use of information from the surveys in a social media campaign. The NLTA app was also announced and launched during the presentation.

For further information contact Lesley-Ann Browne, Communications Officer.

Town Hall Meetings

The President informed Joint Council of three Town Hall meetings that are planned for November in St. John's, Corner Brook and Gander. The Town Halls will provide teachers with the opportunity to voice concerns about issues in education and ask questions of NLTA staff. Other Town Halls will be organized/planned as schedules permit.

For further information contact James Dinn, President.

Policy Changes Since the March 2016 Joint Council Meeting

Joint Council approved a number of changes in policy statement since the March 2016 Joint Council meeting. These policies provide direction for continuity of decisions and guidelines to those who take positions on behalf of the Association. The amended policies include: NLTA financial guidelines; committees of the NLTA; and group insurance.

For further information contact James Dinn, President or Steve Brooks, Executive Director.

BGM 2016 Preparation and Deadlines

The deadlines and important dates to remember for BGM 2017 were reviewed with Joint Council. These dates are as follows:

- January 19 – Proposed changes to the NLTA Act and By-laws must be received at the NLTA office.
- February 19 – resolutions to BGM 2017; nominations for Provincial Executive to be postmarked in order to be published in *The Bulletin*; delegate/alternate names received at the NLTA Office for publication in *The Bulletin*
- March 20-24 – BGM kits sent electronically to delegates (paper copies of the kit will be available at BGM registration)

- April 18 (afternoon) to April 21 (noon) – 2017 Biennial General Meeting
- April 18 (7:00 p.m.) – BGM Official Opening
- April 20 – final nominations for Provincial Executive must be received by the commencement of the Convention session.

For further information contact Steve Brooks, Executive Director.

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

NLTA Executive Director Steve Brooks reviewed details of the process for election of NLTA President and Vice-President by province-wide vote. The presentation reviewed the work and responsibilities of the Electoral Committee, candidates to date, responsibilities of branch presidents and school representatives, and isolated schools.

For further information contact Steve Brooks, Executive Director.

Teachers' Pension Plan Reform Implementation Update and Status of the Teachers' Pension Plan

Information was provided to Joint Council on the Teachers' Pension Plan Reform process, major effects of the process, future plans, the funding status of the TPP, and current funding levels.

For further information contact Steve Brooks, Executive Director.

CTF – Speak Truth to Power Canada

Beverley Park, Senior Administrative Officer with Programs and Services, presented the CTF Speak Truth to Power Canada initiative. The resource is free online for teachers and it brings to life the human rights education for Grades 6-12 across Canada.

For further information contact Beverley Park, Senior Administrative Officer, Programs and Services.

Discussion Topics/ Branch President Topics

The following topics were reviewed by Provincial Executive and Joint Council: town hall meetings; teachers exiting the profession; comments by the Minister of Education; full-day Kindergarten; Family Day; evaluation policy; accommodations/travel; CDLI monitoring; protocol for calling in student assistants; cleanliness of the schools; alternate format materials advisors; language arts writing component reduction in junior high; transfer students with special needs; diabetic students; meaningful professional development; interview standards/feedback; teaching certificate VII; protocol for emergencies at school; special services role and responsibilities clarification; summer hiring committee; school purchasing lag time; class size – multi-grade and high school; supervision; and, work to rule.

For further information contact James Dinn, President or Steve Brooks, Executive Director.

Next Meeting

The next meeting of Provincial Executive is scheduled for December 2-3, 2016 in St. John's.

For further information contact James Dinn, President or Steve Brooks, Executive Director.