

Executive Notes

Your Provincial Executive Council met in St. John's on **September 27 and 28**. This issue of Executive Notes is intended to provide you with a summary of major decisions and discussions that occurred at this meeting.

For further information on any of these issues please contact any member of [Provincial Executive](#) or the staff person as indicated.

Association Priorities

As identified in the August edition of Executive Notes, the four priorities for the Association for this school year are: quality of teachers' work life; membership involvement; communications/public relations; teacher accountability/assessment/professionalism/certification.

A detailed document was circulated to Executive members outlining action plans under each topic, who is responsible, the target date for implementation and an action update if available.

For further information contact [Winston Carter](#), President, or [Edward Hancock](#), Executive Director.

President's Report

Since the August meeting of Provincial Executive the President has continued his tour of schools across the province. He has visited schools in and around the communities of Norman Bay, Charlottetown, St. Lewis, St. Anthony, Mary's Harbour, Croque, Englee, Roddickton, Hawkes Bay, Port aux Choix, and Port Saunders.

Many issues have been raised among teachers during these school visits including problems with new school construction, class size, lack of resources, etc.

For further information contact [Winston Carter](#), President.

Labrador Benefits Negotiations

Since the exchange of opening proposals there have been eight days of negotiations between Treasury Board and the unions involved with the Labrador Benefits Agreement. These sessions included May 22-23 in Goose Bay, July 16-18 in St. John's, and August 27-29 in St. John's. Dates are set for further meetings to be held in St. John's on October 15 and 16.

To date there have not been any significant concessions from the employer, particularly on the Food, Fuel, Clothing and Housing Allowances. NLTA is

represented by Sheila Park of Forteau and Lloyd Hobbs from the Benefits and Economic Services Division.

For further information contact [Winston Carter](#), President, or [Lloyd Hobbs](#), Assistant Executive Director.

"Give to Feel Good" Campaign

A presentation was made to Provincial Executive concerning the "Give To Feel Good" Campaign by Mr. Vic Young, Campaign Chairman, Mr. Gerry Power, Campaign Manager, and Dr. Robert Williams, V.P. Medical Services with the Health Care Corporation of St. John's. The "Give to Feel Good" Campaign is a volunteer-led program organized to meet a minimum need of \$40 million for medical equipment and technology.

Provincial Executive is currently investigating the possibility of involvement in the campaign.

For further information contact [Winston Carter](#), President, or [Edward Hancock](#), Executive Director.

Business from Standing Committees

TABLE OFFICERS

- In response to an invitation from the Canadian Teachers' Federation, six individuals were nominated to receive the Commemorative Medal for the Queen's Golden Jubilee. The names of these individuals will be formally announced after all nominations are processed through the Department of Canadian Heritage.
- A series of School Representative Seminars will be established on a triennial basis starting in the fall of 2003. The province has been divided into nine regions and three seminars will be held each fall so that all schools will have the opportunity to have a representative attend a seminar every three years. The cost of the seminars will be budgeted from the general fund beginning in 2003-04.
- The policy on Province-Wide Voting for the offices of NLTA President and Vice-President was accepted as presented. The policy will now be presented to Joint Council in November and publicized to all members before December 1, 2002.
- The amended policy on the functions of the Electoral Committee at BGM was accepted.
- Provincial Executive accepted the proposed Memorandum of Understanding for a partnership between the Virtual Teacher Centre (NLTA) and the Centre for Distance Learning and Innovation (Department of Education) for the period October 1, 2002 to August 31, 2003.
- The Association has accepted the invitation of the Royal Commission on Renewing and Strengthening Our Place in Canada to make a presentation to the Commission. The Association encourages members to attend the public hearings for the purpose of promoting educational issues from the Commission's mandate.
- The NLTA policy on Special Interest Council Membership Fees was

amended to read: The maximum annual fee for active membership shall be \$50.

- The NLTA will provide financial support to the organizers of the Student Leadership Seminar in the amount of \$1,250.

For further information contact [Winston Carter](#), President, or [Edward Hancock](#), Executive Director.

Virtual Teacher Centre

A presentation was made to Provincial Executive by Alex Hickey, Co-ordinator of the Virtual Teacher Centre. Provincial Executive viewed the Virtual Teacher Centre, the links to various educational sites, lesson plans available to members, the interactive inservice components available to teachers, and the mini-courses and institutes available to teachers. The VTC is located at www.virtualteachercentre.ca.

For further information contact [Alex Hickey](#), Co-ordinator, Virtual Teacher Centre.

Other Business

The theme for Education Week 2003 will be **Many Places, Many Faces, One Spirit**.

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

Discussions on the formation of the Occupational Health and Safety Committees in schools are ongoing between the NLTA, the Newfoundland and Labrador School Boards Association, and the Department of Education.

For further information contact Perry Downey, Benefits and Economic Services Division.

Discussion Topics

The following topics were reviewed by Provincial Executive for follow-up or future discussion:

- Status of Emergency Fund;
- School closure upon death of a teacher;
- Term contracts.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of Provincial Executive is scheduled for **November 14** in St. John's. Joint Council will meet on **November 15 and 16**. For further information contact [Winston Carter](#), President, or [Edward Hancock](#), Executive Director.