



# EXECUTIVE NOTES

May 2, 2014

Your NLTA Provincial Executive met in St. John's on May 2. Executive Notes is a summary of discussions and decisions that occurred at this meeting.

For further information contact any member of Provincial Executive or the staff member as indicated via clicking on the email link.

## President's Report

The President provided a keynote address at the Newfoundland and Labrador Federation of School Councils AGM, brought greetings to the SAC Conference and AGM, attended meetings of Baccalieu and Bay Roberts Branches, visited the Coastal Labrador South Branch, attended the CTF Board of Directors meeting, and represented teachers at the wreath laying ceremony for the Day of Mourning for Injured Workers. He was interviewed by local media on issues related to negotiations.

For further information contact James Dinn, President, [jdinn@nlta.nl.ca](mailto:jdinn@nlta.nl.ca).

## Association Priorities

Provincial Executive reviewed the action update on the following Association priorities for 2013-15: negotiating a collective agreement; beginning teacher initiatives; strategic plan for membership engagement; implementation of NLTA IT strategic plan; school board amalgamation; and non collective agreement issues that impact on teacher work life.

For further information contact James Dinn, President, [jdinn@nlta.nl.ca](mailto:jdinn@nlta.nl.ca) or Don Ash, Executive Director, [dash@nlta.nl.ca](mailto:dash@nlta.nl.ca).

## Teachers' Pension Plan

A presentation was made to Provincial Executive by Don Ash, NLTA's Executive Director, on the Teachers' Pension Plan. The presentation included an explanation of the different models of pensions, defined contributions, defined benefits, shared risk, target benefits, sole sponsorship, joint sponsorship, status of the TPP, definition of liabilities, assets and assumptions, valuation results, and an estimated funding position. Members of Provincial Executive had the opportunity to ask questions and provide feedback.

For further information contact Don Ash, Executive Director, [dash@nlta.nl.ca](mailto:dash@nlta.nl.ca).

## Job Action – Options and Implications

A presentation was made to Provincial Executive by Steve Brooks, NLTA's Assistant Executive Director and Chief Negotiator, on Job Action in the Collective Bargaining Process. The presentation included an explanation of: the purpose of a job action in the private world versus the public world; the negotiations process; the definition of a strike; NLTA policy regarding job action; legislation regarding a legal job action; the range of job action options; and a discussion

on the pros and cons of each type of job action. Provincial Executive members had the opportunity to ask questions for clarification and to provide feedback.

For further information contact Steve Brooks, Assistant Executive Director, [sbrooks@nlta.nl.ca](mailto:sbrooks@nlta.nl.ca).

## Business from Standing Committees

### Table Officers

- Members of the Disciplinary Committee appointed under Section 16 of the NLTA Act are as follows: Paul Moore (chairperson), Millcrest Academy, Grand Falls-Windsor; Jeff Blundon, Appalachia High, St. George's; Gail Jarvis, King Academy, Harbour Breton; Earle Pike, Bishop White School, Port Rexton; Karen Walsh, Prince of Wales Collegiate, St. John's.
- A hearing date will be set up to hear a written complaint received under Section 17 of the NLTA Act.
- Advisory motions from the March Joint Council meeting were carried as follows:
  - The NLTA will pressure government to change the existing allocation formula for guidance counsellors so that it reflects need rather than numbers.
  - Consideration will be given to re-issuing a memo to teachers re Marking Board compensation.

## NLTA Executive

Jim Dinn  
President

[jdinn@nlta.nl.ca](mailto:jdinn@nlta.nl.ca)

Dean Ingram  
Vice-President  
[dingram@nlta.nl.ca](mailto:d Ingram@nlta.nl.ca)

Bill Chaisson

[bchaisson@nlta.nl.ca](mailto:bchaisson@nlta.nl.ca)

Derek Drover

[ddrover@nlta.nl.ca](mailto:ddrover@nlta.nl.ca)

Craig Hicks

[chicks@nlta.nl.ca](mailto:chicks@nlta.nl.ca)

Trent Langdon

[tlangdon@nlta.nl.ca](mailto:tlangdon@nlta.nl.ca)

Jean Murphy

[jmurphy@nlta.nl.ca](mailto:jmurphy@nlta.nl.ca)

Sandra Quigley

[squigley@nlta.nl.ca](mailto:squigley@nlta.nl.ca)

Sherri Rose

[srose@nlta.nl.ca](mailto:srose@nlta.nl.ca)

Gabriel Ryan

[gryan@nlta.nl.ca](mailto:gryan@nlta.nl.ca)

Sean Weir

[sweir@nlta.nl.ca](mailto:sweir@nlta.nl.ca)

Jeanne Williams

[jwilliams@nlta.nl.ca](mailto:jwilliams@nlta.nl.ca)

- The advisory motion that NLTA approach the NL English School District requesting a cell phone policy be developed for schools was referred to the Ad Hoc Committee on Educational Technology.
- Members of the Labrador West Negotiating team will be: Arlene Ann Johnson (chairperson); Earl James (Jamie) Hunt; Sandy Crowley; Darryn Cramm.
- The NLTA will donate \$2,500 to the St. John's Pride Inc. Board to be a Rainbow Sponsor for the 2014 St. John's Pride Festival.
- The NLTA will explore opportunities for teachers to offer further "in kind" support to the St. John's Pride Festival 2014 activities, e.g. volunteer opportunities for teachers during this event.

For further information contact James Dinn, President, jdinn@nlta.nl.ca or Don Ash, Executive Director, dash@nlta.nl.ca.

#### ***Equity Issues Committee***

The question of gender identity/ expression will not be part of NLTA surveys and questionnaires unless this information is of direct relevance to the survey topic.

For further information contact Sherri Rose, Chair, Equity Issues Committee, srose@nlta.nl.ca or Beverley Park, Professional Development, bpark@nlta.nl.ca.

#### ***Membership Engagement Committee***

The NLTA will survey all teachers in the fall of 2014 regarding membership engagement.

For further information contact Trent Langdon, Chair, Membership Engagement Committee, tlangdon@nlta.nl.ca or Lesley-Ann Browne, Communications Officer, labrowne@nlta.nl.ca.

#### ***Electoral Committee***

The policy on Election of the President and Vice-President by Province-

wide Vote will be amended to add the following: "A candidate who has announced his/her candidacy should not be assigned by the President and/or Provincial Executive to carry out additional duties outside the usual areas of the candidate's responsibilities on behalf of teachers."

For further information contact James Dinn, President, jdinn@nlta.nl.ca or Don Ash, Executive Director, dash@nlta.nl.ca.

### **Branch/Council Contact Reports**

A report was provided to members of Provincial Executive on contact made between branch presidents, special interest councils and members of Provincial Executive. Issues and topics that were discussed where contact was made include Power School, negotiations, membership engagement, retirement dinners, sick notes, pensions, school board-teacher liaison committees, teacher allocations, redundancies and professional development. For future meetings of Provincial Executive, members of Executive will only be required to complete five reports instead of one for each of the seven regular Executive meetings.

For further information contact James Dinn, President, jdinn@nlta.nl.ca.

### **Discussion Topics**

Provincial Executive reviewed the following topics for comment, actioning or further discussion and follow up: electronic sharing of information; alternative suspensions/alternate schools; policy on unpaid leave; and loss of IRTs. Based on the discussions, the following motions were passed:

- the NLTA will investigate the NLESD's intentions around use of alternate suspensions and alternate school services on a provincial basis;
- the NLTA will contact the NLESD and its regional offices regarding

current protocol/policy on unpaid leaves;

- the NLTA will contact the NLESD to inquire as to how many IRT/Special Needs units have been cut from schools or have been reassigned to regular classroom duties for the 2014-15 school year.

For further information contact James Dinn, President, jdinn@nlta.nl.ca or Don Ash, Executive Director, dash@nlta.nl.ca.

### **Next Meeting**

The next meeting of Provincial Executive is scheduled for June 13-14 in St. John's.

For further information contact James Dinn, President, jdinn@nlta.nl.ca or Don Ash, Executive Director, dash@nlta.nl.ca.