

MAY 30 -  
JUNE 1, 2013



Newfoundland and Labrador Teachers' Association

# Executive Notes

Your NLTA Provincial Executive met in St. John's on **May 30 and June 1**. *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 February meeting of Provincial Executive the President attended the Beginning Teachers' Conference, meetings with other public sector unions regarding negotiations, the United Nations Conference on the Status of Women, the Canadian Foundation for Labour Rights International Conference, meeting of the CTF Board of Directors, the CAPTO annual meeting, the Public Forum on Special Education Programs, and numerous other meetings in her capacity as NLTA President. Media interviews took place re the "Now is Not the Time" campaign and cuts to education, with *The Telegram*, CBC TV and Radio, NTV and VOCM; CBC Radio Central Newfoundland re school board amalgamation; NTV and CBC re provincial budget; and CBC and NTV re the Teacher Recruitment Fair.

## Association Priorities

Provincial Executive undertook a detailed review of the Association Priorities for 2011-13. Administrative staff presented highlights and updates on the priorities and answered questions from Provincial Executive. The priorities are: quality of teachers' work life/collective bargaining; membership awareness and engagement; inclusion; and technology in education.

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

## Collective Bargaining Update

The NLTA will communicate information on the negotiations process to the membership during this round of collective bargaining including all options that can be considered during the process.

For further information contact Lily B. Cole, President or Don Ash, Assistant Executive Director.

## Business of Standing Committees

### Table Officers

- The maximum number of one-year terms for members of Group Insurance Trustees will be extended to seven years.
- The NLTA will establish an Ad Hoc Committee for Integration of Education Technology.
- The amount of \$5,000 will be provided to the Togo Girl's Education Project for the 2013-14 year.
- The NLTA will provide \$1,000 to the Shahnaz Nazli Scholarship Fund.
- The NLTA will sponsor a nutrition break at a cost of \$1,000 to the Newfoundland and Labrador Public Sector Pensioners Association (NLPSPA) Convention in October 2013.

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

### Finance and Property Committee

The Virtual Teacher Centre Fund will be renamed the Information Technology Strategy Fund.

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

### Professional Issues Committee

- The proposal to establish a Substitute Teachers Special Interest Council was approved.
- For the 2013-14 school year, \$10,000 will be awarded for the Visiting Artists Program to be taken from the Centennial Fund with the money only being awarded upon guarantees that other partners will, as a minimum, provide matched funding.

For further information contact Sherri Rose, Chair, Professional Issues Committee or Beverley Park, Professional Development Division.

### Equity Issues Committee

The NLTA will discontinue the practice of funding member observers to the Biennial General Meeting and no longer require the Equity Issues Committee to review the practice in future.

For further information contact Jean Murphy, Chair, Equity Issues in Education Committee or Beverley Park, Professional Development Division.

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## Technology Strategic Plan

Provincial Executive met with the business analyst from Bell Canada on Saturday afternoon, June 1, to provide input on the explore phase of the Technology Strategic Plan being developed for the NLTA.

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

## Other Business

- The Group Insurance Trustees for 2013-14 will be Sean Weir (Chair), Jeanne Williams, Doreen Noseworthy, Linda Chaisson, Marlene Curran, Scott Fraser and Paula Smith.

For further information contact Lily B. Cole, President or Perry Downey, Benefits and Economic Services Division.

- The NLTA will investigate/determine the amount of unused resources in schools that have completed the pilot project on inclusion.

For further information contact Lily B. Cole, President or George Tucker, Professional Development Division.

- The NLTA will write the Department of Education expressing concern regarding the increased fees for teacher certification.

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

- The NLTA will lobby the Department of Education to provide substitute time for teachers to complete Grades 1 and 2 assessments.

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

- The NLTA will complete a study of research regarding the administrators' workload issues such as bullying by parents, workplace safety, respectful workplace, creating an atmosphere of wellness and the role and purpose of the school development process.

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

- The NLTA will develop a strategy for a public awareness campaign that would include, but not be limited to, possible partnerships with other education stakeholders for implementation in the fall of 2013.

For further information contact Lily B. Cole, President or Lesley-Ann Browne, Communications Officer.

- The NLTA will investigate whether the current cuts to the CDLI teacher allocations negatively impact students' access to their desired online courses.

For further information contact Lily B. Cole, President or George Tucker, Professional Development Division.

- The term "learning resources teacher" will be replaced with "teacher librarians" in all NLTA documentation.

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

- Don Ash, current Assistant Executive Director, has been appointed to the position of Executive Director of the NLTA effective August 1, 2013. Edward Hancock, current Executive Director, is retiring from the NLTA at the end of July.

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

## Next Meeting

The first meeting of the 2013-15 Provincial Executive will take place at Terra Nova Resort, Port Blandford from **August 26-28, 2013**.

For further information contact James Dinn, President-elect, or GERALYN COSTELLO, Executive Assistant, Governance.