



## NSTU member wins World Teachers' Day poster contest

Community College NSTU member Heather MacIsaac is the winner of the 2009 World Teachers' Day poster contest organized by the Canadian Teachers' Federation (CTF). MacIsaac's design concept has been reproduced on posters, electronic media and other materials in support of World Teachers' Day 2009 and peace education. She also wins a trip for two to Montréal to attend a public presentation on peace by His Holiness the Dalai Lama, at the Bell Centre on October 3, 2009—just days before World Teachers' Day on October 5.

The contest theme was *Peace. Live it. Teach it.*, and was organized by CTF with financial support from the Green Street Program. MacIsaac's design of two hands reaching out to one another represents humanity as well as doves, symbolizing global peace.

"We are so proud of Heather," says NSTU president, Alexis Allen. "Her design concept exemplifies the peaceful environment our members create in their classrooms and schools every day."

"This is one of the coolest things to ever happen to me, I am thrilled and honoured," says MacIsaac, a faculty member who teaches graphic design at NSCC's Marconi campus in Sydney. "In my career, design matters greatly, so it's wonderful when it is appreciated by others. It will be nice for my students this autumn to hear what I have been up to."

"When I think about peace and education, I like to lead by example in the hope of making me a better teacher tomorrow than I was yesterday," she adds.

There were 58 entries from across Canada, judged by a selection committee

comprised of communications specialists and graphic designers from CTF member organizations. The committee carefully studied all the entries and proposed a list of six finalists to the CTF President and Secretary General for their final decision.

World Teachers' Day on October 5 is an annual celebration of the valuable work of teachers in Canada and around the globe. World

Teachers' Day was the brainchild of a former Canadian teacher leader, Norman Goble. First recognized in 1994, World Teachers' Day now profiles the work of over 55 million teachers around the world.

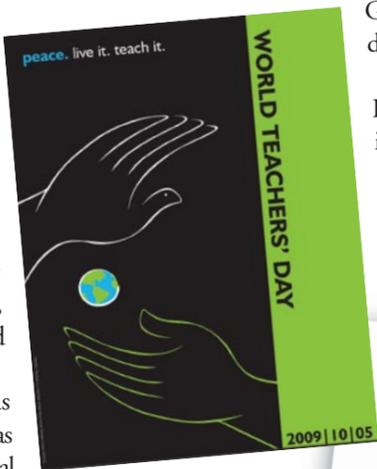
For the fifth year in a row, the NSTU is encouraging members to mark World Teachers' Day by donating a toonie in return for a special edition bookmark that will raise funds to help children in Ghana go to school. "All funds raised will be directed to programs assisting Ghanaian children to get shoes, uniforms and lunches to attend school," says Allen. "It will also enable some of the world's 77 million



Heather MacIsaac

children to have access to education."

Since 2002, through CTF, Nova Scotia teachers have worked with the Ghana National Association of Teachers (GNAT) through the Nkabom project. The NSTU WTD posters and bookmarks will be distributed to schools and community college campuses this month. Donations should be forwarded to the NSTU Central Office.



# people

## NSTU receives nine Golden Leaf Awards

The Nova Scotia Teachers Union was recognized with nine Golden Leaf Awards at the Annual General Meeting of the Canadian Educational Press Association (CEPA) on June 23. The AGM takes place during the annual CEPA conference which was hosted by Association des enseignantes et des enseignants francophones du Nouveau-Brunswick and the New Brunswick Teachers' Association in Fredericton, New Brunswick. NSTU's magazine, *Aviso*, and its writers/editors/designers received six awards. *The Teacher* received two awards, and NSTU's public relations department received one award.



Canadian Educational Press Association  
Association canadienne de la presse éducationnelle

## Term position in NSTU Counselling Services



The NSTU welcomes back counsellor Olga Scibior, who is currently serving a one-year term contract effective August 1, 2009 to replace Sharon Gibson while she's on sabbatical leave.

Scibior worked in NSTU Counselling Services during the 2007-2008 school year filling in for Peter Mullally's sabbatical leave. She has an M.Ed. in Counselling Psychology from the University of Toronto and has been a counsellor in a variety of settings for 18 years. She has done EAP and trauma counselling with government and private sector employees for the last ten years.

She has had extensive training and experience in the field of education, with a doctorate in education from

Indiana University. For 16 years she was a full-time teacher educator at Mount Saint Vincent University working with both teachers in preservice and graduate programs in Literacy Education and Educational Psychology. Scibior also provided extensive professional development workshops throughout the province on literacy education and later on the topics of managing transitions and wellness. She began her education career as an elementary teacher, working for several years in Halifax.

## NSTU support staff changes

There have been a few changes at the support staff level of the NSTU. Member services secretary Lisa Farmer was successful in a lateral transfer and is now the new secretary to NSTU president Alexis Allen replacing Bev Quillan. Quillan is taking on responsibilities in the newly created position of Administrative Assistant, Electronic Communications and Database Management. Since the dismantlement of the Bruce Hunter Memorial Library, librarian Maggie McFarlane has taken on a new role as researcher/communications assistant. McFarlane is currently on maternity leave, and Clare MacIntyre is replacing her for a one-year term.



ISSN 0382-408X

Managing Editor: Angela Murray  
Advertising & Circulation: Sonia Matheson

Published ten times a year (September-June) by the Nova Scotia Teachers Union

Return undeliverable Canadian addresses to: 3106 Joseph Howe Drive, Halifax, NS B3L 4L7

Phone: 902-477-5621 Fax: 902-477-3517  
Toll free: 1-800-565-6788  
email: theteacher@nstu.ca website: www.nstu.ca

All materials for publication must be submitted 13 working days prior to printing date. Submission deadlines for 2009-2010:

| ISSUE    | DEADLINE     |
|----------|--------------|
| October  | September 18 |
| November | October 16   |
| December | November 20  |
| January  | December 18  |
| February | January 29   |
| March    | February 19  |
| April    | March 26     |
| May      | April 23     |
| June     | May 21       |

Mailed under Canada Post Publications Agreement Number 40063555.

The opinions expressed in stories or articles do not necessarily reflect opinions or policy of the Nova Scotia Teachers Union, its staff or elected provincial representatives. We assume no responsibility for loss or damage to unsolicited articles or photographs.

We welcome your comments and suggestions: 1-800-565-6788 or email theteacher@nstu.ca.



You may find past issues posted on our website: [www.nstu.ca](http://www.nstu.ca)

© Nova Scotia Teachers Union 2009

## CSANE Local signs agreement with CSAP

### Le CSANE signe une convention avec le CASP

On June 17, members of NSTU's negotiating team for the CSANE (Conseil syndical Acadien de la Nouvelle-Écosse) Local met with members of the Conseil Scolaire Acadien Provincial (CSAP) to officially sign the agreement that was ratified by members of the Local on May 5. CSAP was formed in 1996 and since then there have been four collective agreements signed between the NSTU and the Board. The CSANE Local is comprised of approximately 400 members serving students in 19 schools across Nova Scotia.

Le 17 juin, les membres de l'équipe de négociations du NSTU pour le CSANE (Conseil syndical acadien de la Nouvelle-Écosse) se sont réunis avec des membres du Conseil scolaire acadien provincial (CSAP) pour signer officiellement une convention qui avait été ratifiée par les membres du conseil syndical le 5 mai. Le CSAP a été établi en 1996 et, depuis cette date, le NSTU et le conseil scolaire ont signé quatre conventions collectives. Le CSANE comprend environ 400 membres qui servent les élèves de 19 écoles de la Nouvelle-Écosse.

Seated are CSAP superintendent of schools Darrell Samson, CSAP chair Kenneth Gaudet, NSTU president Alexis Allen, and CSANE Local president Linda Samson. Standing are CSAP director of human resources Cetus David, NSTU staff liaison Janine Kerr and CSANE provincial executive rep Clifford Maillet. Marc Poirier, VP economic welfare for CSANE, a member of the NSTU negotiating committee is missing from the photo.



Personnes assises: Darrell Samson, directeur général du CSAP, Kenneth Gaudet, président du CSAP, Alexis Allen, présidente du NSTU et Linda Samson, présidente du CSANE. Personnes debout: Cetus David, directeur des ressources humaines du CSAP, Janine Kerr, agente de liaison du NSTU et Clifford Maillet, représentant du CSANE au Comité exécutif provincial. Marc Poirier, vice-président du bien-être économique du CSANE et membre du Comité de négociations du NSTU n'apparaît pas sur la photo.

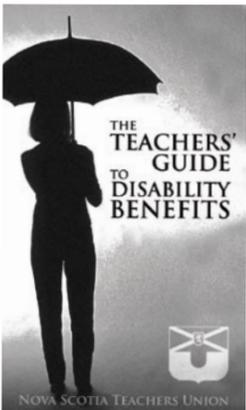
## NSTU LTD Program now mandatory

Effective August 1, 2009, the NSTU Long Term Disability Plan is mandatory for new and currently insured members. There is no ability to opt out unless the following conditions have been met:

1. Plan member is at least 50 years of age and has a minimum of 30 years of pensionable service, or
2. Plan member is in their last year of teaching with one year of accumulated sick leave.

A new member is defined as an NSTU member who has obtained their first contract in Nova Scotia or a member being rehired who has not previously opted out of the Long Term Disability Plan. If you are an active member and currently not insured for Long Term Disability, you may be eligible for coverage. Please contact Johnson Inc. at 1-800-453-9543 toll-free or 902-453-9543 local to determine any eligibility requirements you may need to complete.

Changes to the LTD program were passed at Annual Council 2009.



## NSTU supports Pride Parade

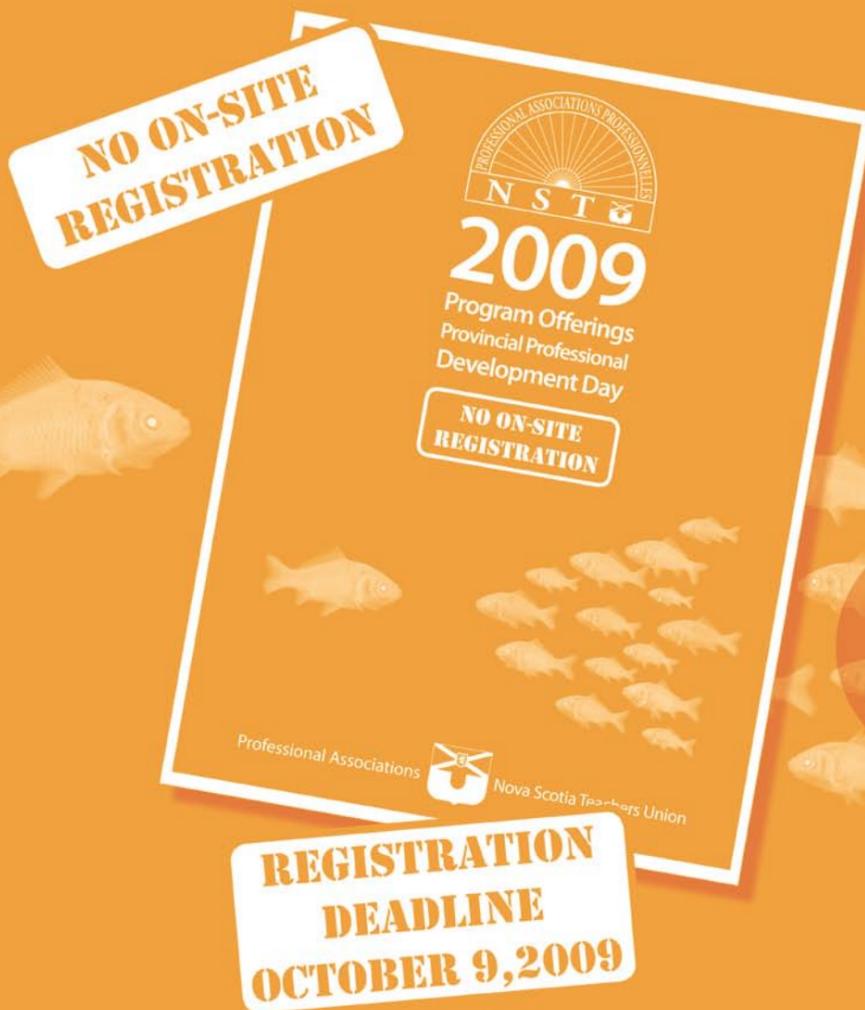
As part of the awareness campaign regarding sexual minority issues in education, and in its efforts to create safe and caring schools for all students and staff, the NSTU had for the first time, an official presence at the 2009 Halifax Pride Parade. NSTU members joined NSTU president Alexis Allen and marched in this year's *Breaking Down Walls, Building Bridges* Parade on July 25. This year's parade marked the 40th Anniversary of the Stonewall riots in New York City, the event that many see as the birth of the Gay Pride movement.



NSTU president Alexis Allen is seen with the Honourable Darrell Dexter, premier of Nova Scotia and NSTU members bearing the NSTU banner.

# NSTU Professional Associations Conferences

## October 23, 2009



The 2009 Conference Catalogue is available at all public school and Community College educational sites as well as on the NSTU website

— [www.nstu.ca](http://www.nstu.ca)



## Are you a new or returning substitute teacher?

**Don't forget to fill out the Substitute Teacher Contact Information Form available on the NSTU website at [www.nstu.ca](http://www.nstu.ca) (version française disponible) Please complete this form annually to ensure you remain on our mailing list.**

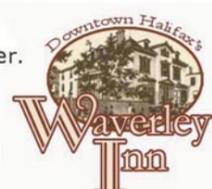


## Welcome Back

A Halifax landmark since 1876, the **Waverley Inn** is situated downtown close to all the city has to offer.

**Special NSTU rate available**

- ~Gracious guestrooms
- ~On-site free parking
- ~Complimentary hot breakfast
- ~Free wireless Internet



**Book online at: [www.WaverleyInn.com](http://www.WaverleyInn.com)**

1266 Barrington St., Halifax, Nova Scotia B3J 1Y5 ~ 902.423.9346 ~ 1.800.565.9346

Arthritis is a condition that affects one in seven Canadians; half of those affected are between the ages of 30 and 60. The word arthritis is derived from the Greek words *arthron* for joint and *itis* for inflammation. With more than 100 forms of the condition, osteoarthritis is the most common type of arthritis, primarily affecting people over the age of 60. Other common types of arthritis include rheumatoid arthritis, gout, ankylosing spondylitis, fibromyalgia, and psoriatic arthritis.

Arthritis is due to the wearing down of cartilage, the material that cushions the end of bones. The joints most commonly affected by arthritis include the weight bearing joints such as the feet, knees, hips and spine. Other joints that can be affected include the finger and thumb joints.

The key **risk factors** for the development of arthritis include the following:

**Age:** Arthritis affects a very large number of seniors. Although you can not prevent the years from adding up, you can play a significant role in how your body ages by engaging in a healthy life style and incorporating exercise into your daily routine.

**Excess weight:** Research has identified a connection between obesity and arthritis. Excess weight adds stress on weight bearing joints, particularly the knees. A 10 to 15 lb weight loss can reduce pain in the knees.

**Pre-existing injury or condition:** Arthritis can develop due to a previous joint injury, hereditary joint conditions or diseases that affect the joints, such as diabetes.

**Heredity:** Certain types of arthritis can result from hereditary factors, whether like a tendency to pass on

defective cartilage or a slight defect in the way joints fit together.

**Lack of physical activity:** Inactivity can worsen arthritis. Many affected with this condition often fear harming themselves with activity and as a result avoid exercise. Others experience symptoms such as pain, stiffness or fatigue and refrain from exercise for these reasons.

While we are not able to modify some risk factors which increase susceptibility for arthritis such as age and heredity, it is possible to reduce the onset of this disease by participating in an active lifestyle that includes exercise to strengthen supportive muscles and maintain joint flexibility. Maintaining a healthy weight will reduce stress on the joint and spine.

Try the following occupational therapy strategies to assist with **coping** with arthritis:

**Joint protection:** Proper body mechanics and joint positioning can reduce joint stress, decrease pain, prevent deformity and conserve energy. Avoid tight grasps using the thumb and fingers, e.g. pick up items using two hands if possible. Reduce muscle effort and increase strength by using built up handles, e.g. pens, utensils at home. Avoid picking up items with curled fingers; try handling books or files with straight fingers or between palms. Align your work so it is directly in front of you, rather than to one side, to avoid twisting and rotation of the body. Try to always utilize stronger muscles groups in favour of smaller weaker muscles—lift with your thighs and



not your back. Modify the task when possible to conserve energy such as rolling objects rather than lifting or use a trolley when possible.

**Plan ahead:** Fatigue can be reduced and energy conserved if you are able to take a few minutes to organize your day in advance. Schedule tasks throughout the week to ensure a balance of activity and rest with

a mix of light and heavy activity. Don't pack too much into your days. When possible, only schedule 50 per cent of your day! Determine your realistic tolerance for activity and make sure to take frequent rest breaks. Planning activities in advance can assist in conserving energy like making a grocery list according to aisle can save additional walking, and shopping during non-peak hours can save time waiting in line ups.

**Modify your environment:** The layout of a work station should be organized so most frequently used items are within an arms reach away and between waist and shoulder level. The same goes at home when organizing items in cupboards—most frequently used items should be placed on shelves between waist and shoulder level. Heavier items should be located at waist level. Dycem, a non-slip material, can be used to sta-

bilize objects such as mixing bowls or dishes. A reacher can compensate for decreased flexibility, i.e. picking items up from floor level. Light weight vacuums, mops, or cookware can decrease energy demands and compensate for weak muscles. A raised toilet seat, bath bench, bath mat, hand held shower and grab bar can facilitate ease and safety for toileting and bathing.

For more information about arthritis or coping strategies for this condition, please contact the NSTU's Early Intervention Program at 1-800-565-6788, 477-5621 (local) or [eip@nstu.ca](mailto:eip@nstu.ca) or visit [www.arthritis.ca/novascotia](http://www.arthritis.ca/novascotia).

**The Teacher Distribution for the 2009-10 School Year**

Beginning with the October issue of *The Teacher* your school or campus will receive a set number of copies of *The Teacher*. This amount will either be the number requested by your NSTU rep or half the amount of NSTU members at your school/campus. Please share your copy with a colleague. *The Teacher* is also available online at [www.nstu.ca](http://www.nstu.ca). Contact *The Teacher* if you have any concerns at [theteacher@nstu.ca](mailto:theteacher@nstu.ca).

**did you KNOW?**

The Early Intervention Program (EIP) invites NSTU members to sign up for our Wellness email list at [Be\\_Well@nstu.ca](mailto:Be_Well@nstu.ca).

Please contact Erin at [ekeefe@nstu.ca](mailto:ekeefe@nstu.ca) to provide her with your NSTU email address. The [Be\\_Well@nstu.ca](mailto:Be_Well@nstu.ca) list will provide information about the EIP and other wellness topics.



**Certification Update**

**NOTICE TO BRIDGING TEACHER CERTIFICATE (BTC) HOLDERS  
Change in Secondary Level Academic Content Requirements**

On May 11, 2009, the Minister's Advisory Committee on Teacher Certification approved a change in the policy relating to academic content requirements for secondary teachers. The effect of the change is to eliminate a portion of the specific academic content requirements for secondary teachers.

As a result of this change, persons who are applying for a teaching certificate at the secondary level are no longer required to complete the following academic content requirements:

|                                |                |
|--------------------------------|----------------|
| Social Studies:                | 6 credit hours |
| Math/Science/Computer Studies: | 3 credit hours |
| English/French:                | 3 credit hours |

The academic content requirements for secondary teachers will now be tied exclusively to completion of required academic credit hours for the major and minor teachable disciplines (30 credit hours of undergraduate study for a major teachable and 18 credit hours of undergraduate study for a minor teachable).

These academic content changes are not retroactive. If you have completed these requirements already, or are currently in the process of completing them, then the courses cannot be used for future increases in classification above the ITC level.

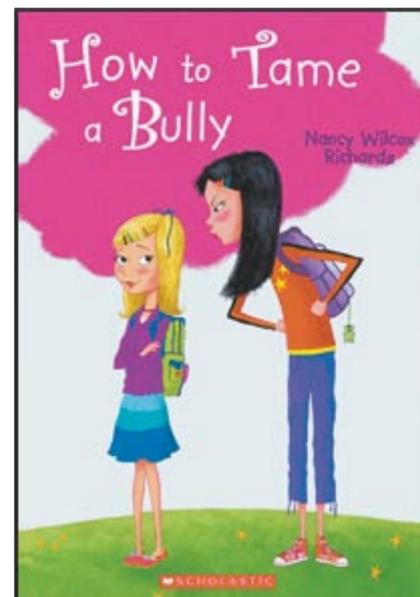
If you have any questions or require further clarification concerning this change, please contact the Office of Teacher Certification at 902-424-6620, email: [certification@ednet.ns.ca](mailto:certification@ednet.ns.ca) or visit the website at <http://certification.ednet.ns.ca>.

**STAND-UP AGAINST BULLYING DAY  
BOOK GIVEAWAY**

Email your name, home address, and school or campus name with *Bully in the subject line* to [theteacher@nstu.ca](mailto:theteacher@nstu.ca) by October 5, to be eligible for the draw.

In honour of the second annual Stand Up Against Bully Day, September 10, 2009, *The Teacher* has two copies (one English, one French) of Nancy Wilcox Richards' *How to Tame a Bully* to give away. Nancy is a Grade 2 teacher at Bayview Community School in Mahone Bay, and a member of the Lunenburg County Local. She has also written another two in the series, *How to Outplay a Bully*, which was released last September, and a third to be published in 2010.

In *How to Tame a Bully* Lauren's first day of school starts out great, but then she picks a seat right next to the worst bully at Bayfield Elementary, and Lauren finds the next few weeks torture. Can Lauren figure out what to do?





## A million reasons to do business with us

*In the last 5 years we have given back over \$1,000,000.00 to our members.*

### TIP OF THE MONTH

**Do you have a Dream....we can help make your dream come true.**

**Being on payroll deduction for \$50.00 a week for a year, you could save \$2,400.00. This money comes directly off your pay cheque and is deposited into your credit union account at the end of the month. This service is FREE and it is an easy way to save. All you need to do is email [info@teachersplus.ca](mailto:info@teachersplus.ca) or call 1-800-565-3103.**

**This money could be a Christmas Fund....Vacation Fund....or just a Me Fund....**

### TEACHERS PLUS INFO CENTRE

- 1** Wouldn't you like to become 1 of our million reasons--join in the month of September 2009 and receive an FREE gift, when you mention this ad.
- 2** Planning on upgrading your Teaching License this Fall. Ask us about our Master's Plus incentive program.
- 3** **Tax Free Savings Accounts** to find out more information visit our branch or website [www.teachersplus.ca](http://www.teachersplus.ca)
- 4** Looking for an ABM, we now have an ABM locator on our website.
- 5** Teachers Plus Credit union is now offering Travel Insurance to our members. Please visit our branch for details on our excellent rates.

### Teachers Plus Credit Union Award Winners

**Post Secondary Educational Award:**

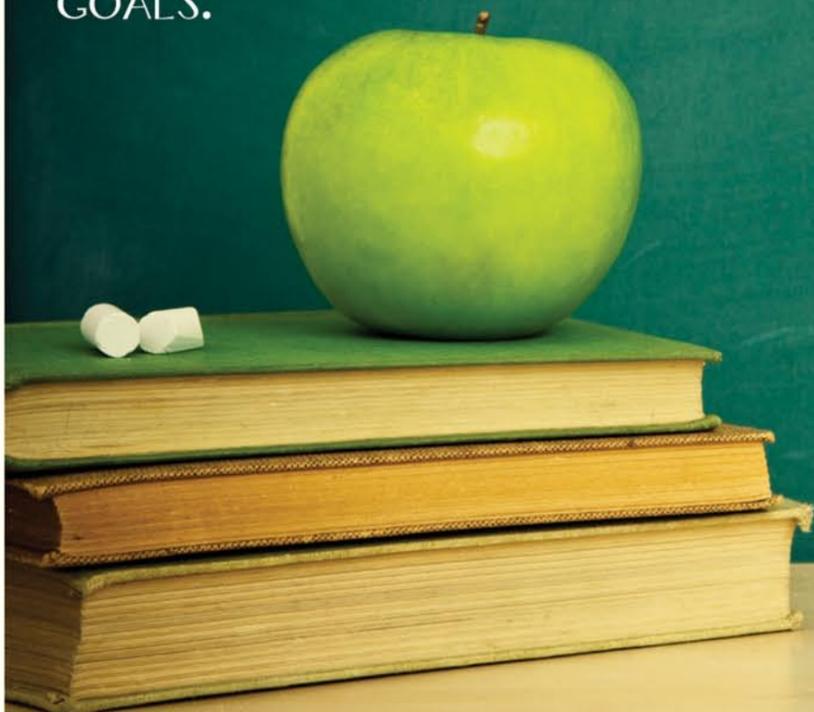
*Anita MacDonald, Charla Gaudet*

**Teacher Training Award Winners:**

*Stephanie MacDonald, Vanessa Young, Matthew Ngo, Tammy Lee Slaunwhite.*

## WELCOME BACK TEACHERS!

LET'S MAKE THIS A SUCCESSFUL YEAR FOR YOU. CONTACT US TODAY AT 1-800-565-3103 OR [INFO@TEACHERSPLUS.CA](mailto:INFO@TEACHERSPLUS.CA) FOR YOUR FINANCIAL GOALS.



**CREDIT UNION**

**TEACHERS Plus**

**36 Brookshire Court, Bedford, NS B4A 4E9**

Open Monday to Friday 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.\*

\*open Wednesday and Thursday evenings

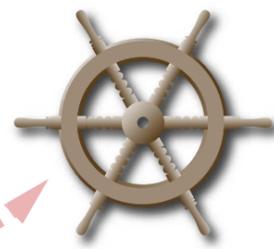
5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. for non teller Service.

**[www.teachersplus.ca](http://www.teachersplus.ca)**

**Toll Free: 1-800-565-3103**



# Charting Your Course FOR PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT



## Charting Your Course for Assessment Success

Betty-Jean Aucoin, Executive Staff Officer, Professional Development



Damian Cooper

Welcome Back! I hope all of you enjoyed a wonderful summer and have regained your passion and energy to begin a new educational journey. Throughout this summer I've had the opportunity to engage with teachers, faculty and support staff at various conferences, in services and planning sessions. I take this opportunity to thank educators for taking time out of your vacations to pursue professional development, leadership training and networking with colleagues.

This article will speak on a few points I connected with at the Nova Scotia Educational Leadership Consortium (NSEL) Assessment Summit. On August 20 and 21, 600 educators and partners of education from Nova Scotia and beyond participated in an assessment conference. This conference engaged educators in learning, dialogue and reflection with some of the best-known assessment researchers from Canada and the United States. Each spoke of assessment of learning and assessment *for* learning at the classroom, regional and provincial level. Most of the time was spent discussing assessment *for* learning at the classroom level noting this is the most important level and area of assessment and the foundation upon which all other assessments rest. In taking their lead, I will reflect on assessment *for* learning in our classrooms.

Richard Stiggins, an international leader in assessment, spoke about the history of assessment. He noted that our schools were charged to set up assessments to sift and sort students into winners and losers. We often used solely assessment of learning, summative testing and norm reference testing to align our students on a bell curve. Today, teachers are charged with the role of assisting all of our students in meeting standard outcomes. In the 21st century, a knowledge society cannot socially and economically support 30 to 50 per cent of its students failing. Therefore, assessment *for* learning in our classrooms needs to take precedence. To do this we need to have our students participate in their education asking themselves constantly these three questions. Where

am I going? Where am I now? How can I bridge the gap? These are the questions students who are successful and life long learners ask themselves each day. We must strive to have all students ask these questions and more importantly answer them. Only then will they know how to bridge the gap between failure and success. Students are not in our class to see us get tired, but to work focused on where they need to go to succeed.

When we ask students to engage in the three questions above, we are in fact demanding they work harder than we do. Instead of passing out a rubric we have developed ourselves, Anne Davies, noted Canadian educator and leader in classroom assessment, suggests we co-construct one with our students. She says that when learners note what counts, they can plan to learn and collect evidence of their learning.



Anne Davies (right) is thanked by Assessment Summit organizing committee member Kimberly Jackson-Sullivan, Coordinator of Assessment at the Chignecto-Central Regional School Board.

We demand that students think and tell us in their own language what needs to happen. When we are working together to discuss provincial outcomes and targets we ensure that the outcomes remain the focus.

Ken O'Connor, a Canadian assessment, grading and reporting consultant spoke about the fact that there are no such things as "right grades" but only "justifiable grades." He discussed what many of us already know and have been doing in grading outcomes, not tests or products. Teachers and students are then forced to think in terms of outcomes. When we are clear, students are clear. Don't communicate with percentages, but with descriptive information to inform the learner. O'Connor offered a simple way to communicate to students where they were in their learning—Wow! Got it! Nearly there! Oh no! Oops! Assessment of students' success should be on an individual basis, not on a bell curve. Students need to be clear on how good is good enough, and need to know what quality work looks like.

Damian Cooper, another noted

Canadian researcher, tells us that assessment is not about ranking; it is about learning and answering questions. Where am I? Where do I want to be, and how can I improve? As a former coach, I resonated with Damian's definition of assessment *for* learning. He speaks of assessment *for* learning as the practice for the big game. During a practice, we provide feedback, modelling and skill sets to improve the game. Assessment *for* learning is reflected in coaching, a scrimmage, which is messy. Game day is assessment of learning where we score and assess how practices have gone. He, along with noted independent consultant and speaker Cassandra Erkens, wants us to move our students from only giving final answers towards those who can think and offer their reasoning. Erkens noted that our world is increasingly complex needing students who can construct new

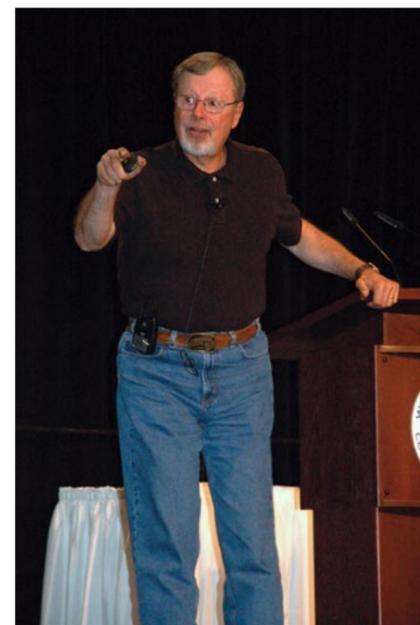
is a journey each day where both teachers and students collect information on their progress and monitor over time how they are doing. She noted that the term *assess* is a Latin term meaning "to sit beside." Many of us as educators have sat or stood beside our students in conversation about their learning and where they need to go next. This is not evaluation, but the opportunity for us provide a simple rubric for students to reflect on their strengths, where they have grown, and what they need to work on. This is a goal of our profession.

On a final note, I ask that you align this discussion with your own journey of learning. All educators are on a journey of understanding research and practice regarding productive assessment for students. As each of us writes our own professional growth plan, we need to ask ourselves; where do I need to be as an educator? Where am I now as an educator? How can I close the gap? Just as our students need the support in the assessment *for* learning process, so do we. Who is there to sit beside you and support you in having the opportunity to close the gap on what you need to know regarding productive assessment and where you are at the present time. It is my hope each individual member receives the opportunity for time, resources, collaboration and feedback on the journey to be successful. There are opportunities to develop and expand our assessment literacy—from the Department of Education, our regional school boards, the NSEL, the Community College Educational Development Program (CCEDP), and of course, the NSTU professional development workshops. Please take in some of these opportunities to close your own gaps. Our students' success depends on it.

knowledge, engage in deep inquiry and problem solve. When a teacher takes home work of a student and corrects all of it, the individual who is improving practice is the teacher. If we only focus on what is right and the mark, we do not ask our students to think. Marks or grades are the shorthand for the real need for input in words having students focus on two or three ways to close the gap between where they are and where they need to be.

Erkens also spoke about common assessments. She clarified that this means teachers meet to determine and use a common subset of assessment instruments so they may subsequently have consistent information about their instructional practice. This consistent information can then be part of the essential professional conversation educators use to enhance and develop their practice and student learning.

Anne Davies reviewed her theories on the importance of students providing us assessments in product, in observation and in conversation. Students must also have a significant voice determining criteria for those assessments. Assessment *for* learning



*"Assessment in the past has done as much to contribute to the achievement gap as anything else. Conversely, it could be the most powerful narrower of the gap."*  
(Richard Stiggins)

# EQUITY BOOK REVIEW

Nova Scotia Teachers Union

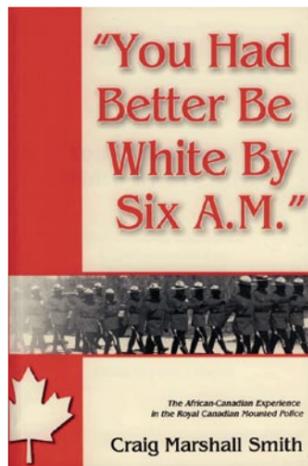
Email your name, home address, and school or campus with EQUITY in the subject line to [theteacher@nstu.ca](mailto:theteacher@nstu.ca) by October 16 to be eligible for the draw.

This month's equity book giveaway is *You Had Better Be White By Six A.M.* by Craig Marshall Smith.

published by C.M.S. Publishing this book recounts the African-Canadian experience in the Royal Canadian Mounted Police. The author examines in detail the long and tumultuous history between black Canadians and the RCMP. It also demonstrates the role African-Canadians have played in shaping Canada's history. It is dedicated in part to the men and women who wear the red serge.

Some of its chapters include:

- A brief history of the RCMP
- "Definitely refused...On Account of Their Colour"
- Towards Inclusion? and much more



As Senator Donald H. Oliver, Q.C. says, "It is a must-read for all Canadians."

## Dartmouth High Teachers Golf For The Cure

May 29 brought rain, cloud, mist and fog to the Hartlen Point Golf Course but 16 golfers raised over \$600 for the Canadian Breast Cancer Foundation. Plenty of smiles and good cheer was had by all. From left to right are Dartmouth High School teachers: Patricia Irving, Amanda LeBlanc, Mike Chaisson, Shelley Courtney, Randy Sullivan, Jason Flynn, Derek Nichols, and Aaron Manuel. Teachers from the school have been organizing this tournament for the past nine years. NSTU member services executive staff officer Grant MacLean also participated.



## TEACHERS NEED A BREAK TOO



Now members of NSTU can make reservations online.

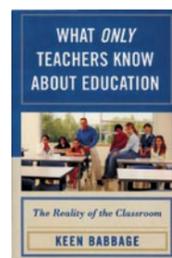
**\$84\***

\*NSTU id must be presented at check-in for special rate; discounted parking rate of \$9.95

Reservations: [www.deltahotels.com/nstu](http://www.deltahotels.com/nstu)



1-877-814-7706 (toll free)



# fresh

Putting new members in the KNOW!

Email your name, home address, and school or campus with FRESH in the subject line to [theteacher@nstu.ca](mailto:theteacher@nstu.ca) by October 16 to be eligible for the draw.

This month's FRESH giveaway is *What Teachers Only Know About Education (The Reality of the Classroom)*. It is written by Keen Babbage and published by Rowman and Littlefield Education.

This book explains why anyone who seeks to improve education must listen to teachers, because they are the experts on classroom realities. It is interactive, practical, and realistic. In this resource teachers are able to express their dedication, hopes, concerns, frustrations, and recommendations to educational decision makers.

This book contains the following content areas: The classroom reality, the frustration of reform, today's reality, lessons learned and more. This book will interest educators of all ages.

## executive highlights

### June 5

- Filed table officers' report;
- Reappointed Brad Rowe to the NS Teachers Pension Plan Trustee Inc. for a second term ending December 31, 2011;
- Postponed implementing new composition to the Pension Committee until 2010-2011;
- Selected candidates to *Introduction to NSTU Parliamentary Procedure Course* and authorized re-advertising for a candidate in the Strait area;
- Approved tentative agreement with NSTU executive staff;
- Approved distribution of CTF resource *Challenging Silence, Challenging Censorship* to NSTU Reps;
- Approved Disposition of 2009 Council Resolutions;
- Approved the status of a new Professional Association, *Learning Support Professional Association*, for Community College members within the professional support unit;
- Filed report from ad hoc Committee to Explore Future Councils containing suggestions for Council 2010;
- Accepted a proposal for a 2010 March Break PSA Camp partnering with the Viewfinders International Film Festival for Youth;
- Directed NSTU president to write letters to the Prime Minister & MPs re: persecution of teachers and others in the Philippines;

- Approved electronic voting for regional elections for provincial executive; elections for Local president *may* be conducted electronically.

### July 4

- Extended ERIP to Earl Rutledge for 10 days;
- Selected Duncan Smith as Strait Region representative for the Parliamentary Procedures Course;
- Revised John Huntley Memorial Internship Program to allow four sessions per year.

### July 7 (email vote)

- Approved amendments to Teachers' Pension Plan regulations and Teachers' Pension Act.

### August 10-11

- Elected 2<sup>nd</sup> vice-president: Eric Boutilier; re-elected secretary-treasurer: Dave Jones; personnel committee: Eric Boutilier, Alison MacPherson, Clifford Maillet, Simon Wilkin; nominating committee: Marlene Boyd, Bobbie Archer, Angela Gillis, Sue Hannem, Allister Wadden;
- Approved table officers' report;
- Approved appointment of all 2009-10 standing committees;
- Approved appointment of the Provincial Economic Welfare Committee for 2009-2010;
- Ratified constitution for the Learning Support Professional Association;
- Renewed agreement for permits to teach with CSAP.

## MASTER of EDUCATIONAL TECHNOLOGY

THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

### Empower Your Teaching!

- Upgrade your skills.
- Learn how to use emerging technologies in the classroom.
- Engage learners with innovative curriculum design & technology integration.
- Increase your earning potential.

Complete your master's degree at a world-class university from the comfort of your home, while continuing to work full-time!



Collaborate Innovate Educate  
Collaborate Innovate Educate  
Collaborate Innovate Educate

### Apply Today!

UBC's Master of Educational Technology (MET) program is delivered 100% online, providing options for Canada's educators.

*Graduate degree and certificate programs available.*

Learn more...

<http://met.ubc.ca/ns.htm>



# NOVA SCOTIA TEACHERS UNION

## 2009 - 2010 COMMITTEES



The NSTU Nominating Committee would like to thank the 79 members who applied for NSTU Provincial Committees. Thirty-seven positions were filled based on a number of criteria including: regional representation; experience in Union activities; curriculum/grade level representation; and gender representation. The Committee encourages members to continue to apply for NSTU committees.

*With the exception of the Resolutions Committee, the following list does not contain committees appointed at Annual Council or those members serving on external committees. This list is current as of August 18, 2009.*

### STANDING COMMITTEES

#### ADMINISTRATIVE

##### FINANCE & PROPERTY COMMITTEE

**Dave Jones**, Chair, Secretary-Treasurer; **Ferne MacLennan**, Community College (2010); **Jack Toomey**, Northside-Victoria (2010); **Curt Crane**, Colchester-East Hants (2011); **Cliff Maillet**, Executive Member liaison; **Melanie Hartling**, NSTU Financial Officer; NSTU Business Manager **Maureen Smith**; NSTU Executive Director **Bill Redden**

##### NOMINATING COMMITTEE (EXECUTIVE MEMBERS)

**Marlene Boyd**, Chair; **Bobbie Archer**, **Angela Gillis**, **Sue Hannem**, **Allister Wadden**, and NSTU Executive Director **Bill Redden**

##### PERSONNEL COMMITTEE (EXECUTIVE MEMBERS)

**Eric Boutilier**, Chair; **Alison MacPherson**, **Clifford Maillet**, **Simon Wilkin** and NSTU Executive Director **Bill Redden**

#### PROGRAM

##### COMITÉ DE PROGRAMMATION ACADIENNE

**Samuel Samson**, Chair (2010); **Angèle d'Entremont**, (2010) one-year extension; **Stéphanie Dionne** (2010); **Nadine Doiron**, (2010); **Denise d'Entremont**, (2011); **Clifford Maillet**, Executive Member liaison; **Gérard Cormier**, NSTU staff liaison

##### CURRICULUM COMMITTEE

**Elizabeth Thomas**, Chair, Digby (2010); **Mary Anne Alley**, Colchester-East Hants (2010); **Donald Rice**, Lunenburg County (2010); **Ernestine Oakley**, Halifax County (2011); **Michael Soares**, Richmond (2011); **Dayna Enguehard**, Cape Breton District (2011); **Grant Dunn**, Annapolis (2011); **Angela Gillis**, Executive Member liaison; **Ron Brunton**, NSTU staff liaison

##### EQUITY

**J. Scott Murchison**, Cape Breton (2011); **Belinda Josephson**, Lunenburg County (2010); **Laura McCulley**, Kings (2010); **Donna Elliott**, Halifax County (2010) one-year extension; **Tanya DeViller**, Yarmouth (2011); **Chris Weeks**, Cumberland (2011); **John MacKay**, Executive Member liaison; **Gérard Cormier**, NSTU staff Liaison

##### MEMBER SERVICES COMMITTEE

**Shelley Morse**, Chair (1st vice-president); **Mary Currie**, APSEA (2010 one-year extension); **Wally Fiander**, Yarmouth (2011); **Dean Marchand**, Guysborough County (2011); **Judy Jackson**, Northside-Victoria (2011); **Tim MacLeod**, Halifax County (2011); **Kevin Wilson**, Community College (2010); **Damian Hall**, Executive Member liaison, Community College; **Janine Kerr**, NSTU staff liaison

##### PENSION COMMITTEE

**Scott McKellar**, Chair, Community College (2010); **Turk MacDonald**, Halifax County (2010); **Glynda Wimmer**, Lunenburg County (2011); **Betty Anne McGinnis**, Hants West (2011); **Jim Kavanaugh**, RTO Representative; **Vince Gillis**, Executive Member liaison; **Joan Ling** and **Allan MacLean**, NSTU staff liaisons

##### PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

**Darlene Bereta**, Chair, Northside-Victoria (2010); **Bonnie Mahaney**, Shelburne (2010); **Angela Deagle**, Inverness (2011); **Dan Stephenson**, Colchester-East Hants (2011); **Leon Swinkels**, Halifax County (2011); **Roland Hannem**, Yarmouth (2011) one-year term replacement; **Sue Hannem**, Executive Member Liaison; **Betty-Jean Aucoin**, NSTU Staff Liaison

##### PUBLIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

**Steven Van Zoost**, Chair, Hants West (2010); **Myla Borden**, Pictou (2010); **Debbie McVeigh**, Community College (2011); **Susan Noiles**, Halifax County (2011); **Redmond MacDougall**, Cape Breton District (2011); **Milton Bonnar**, **Deborah Mitchell**, and **David Harris**, Executive Member liaisons; **Grant MacLean**, NSTU staff liaison

##### PUBLIC RELATIONS COMMITTEE

**Stephanie Black**, Chair, Cape Breton District (2010); **Phillipe Goora**, Halifax County (2010); **Chris White**, Pictou (2010); **Charyl O'Quinn-Wetzel**, Dartmouth (2011); **Eric Boutilier**, Executive Member liaison; **Paul McCormick**, **Grant MacLean**, and **Angela Murray**, NSTU staff liaisons

##### SUBSTITUTE TEACHER COMMITTEE

**Amanda Marchand**, Executive Member Liaison. **To be appointed October 2009.**

##### TEACHERS WITH ADMINISTRATIVE RESPONSIBILITIES

**David Sollows**, Chair, SAA Representative (2010); **Glenn DeMone**, Lunenburg County (2010); **Joyce Lively**, Cape Breton District (2010); **Myles McCormick**, Halifax City (2011); **Karen Webber**, Halifax County (2011); **Terry Doucette**, Queens (2011); **Vince Gillis**, Executive Member Liaison; **Danny Eddy**, NSTU staff liaison

#### STATUTORY

##### APPEALS COMMITTEE

**John Helle**, Chair, Cape Breton District (2010); **Janet Balignasay**, Pictou (2010); **Robert George**, Colchester-East Hants (2010); **Lisa Mansfield**, Halifax City (2010); **Kendra Hall**, Queens, (2011); **Krista Oswald**, Digby (2011); **Gail Walsh**, Executive Member Liaison; **Bruce Kelloway**, Assistant Executive Director, NSTU Staff Liaison

### OTHER COMMITTEES

##### INSURANCE TRUSTEES

**Paul Boudreau**, Chair, Halifax County (2011); **Jerry Berthiaume**, Antigonish (2011); **Peter Doucette**, Community College (2012); **Paul Sherrin**, Colchester-East Hants (2012); **Debbie McIsaac**, Cape Breton (2013); **Thérèse Forsythe**, Kings (2013); **Bruce Spares**, NSCC; **Joe MacEachern**, Department of Education; and **Joan Ling**, NSTU Staff Liaison

##### PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE FUND (PDAF) COMMITTEE

**Dianne Raoul**, Guysborough County (2011); **Colleen Scott**, Shelburne (2012); **Betty-Jean Aucoin**, NSTU Staff Liaison,

##### PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS COORDINATION COMMITTEE

**Dianne Raoul** (FSTA) Chair; **Christine Emberley** (ATENS); **Eileen English** (SAA); **Cathy Townsend** (PETA); **Charlene MacDonald** (AST); **Sean McLennon** (NSMEA); **Allister Wadden**, Executive Member Liaison; **Monica Maloney**, NSTU Staff Liaison

##### RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE

**Simon Wilkin**, Chair, Executive Member; **Don Church**, Halifax County (2010); **Hope Lemoine**, Cumberland (2010); **John Helle**, Cape Breton District (2011); **Pamela Langille**, Kings (2011); **Monica Maloney**, NSTU Staff Liaison

##### SHEONOROIL BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**Bill Redden**, Chair, NSTU Executive Director; **Eileen Coady**, Yarmouth (2010); **Garnet Patterson**, retired member (2010); **Bill Bruhm**, Lunenburg County (2011); **Monica Ryan**, Inverness (2011); **Paul Betuik**, Halifax City (2012); **Jennifer Murray**, Dartmouth (2012); **Marlene Boyd**, Executive Member liaison (2009); **Paul Boudreau**, Insurance Trustees; NSTU president **Alexis Allen**; **Betty-Jean Aucoin**, Coordinator, NSTU Executive Staff Officer

## Share Your Expertise with the Substitute Teacher Committee

The NSTU is actively seeking membership for its Substitute Teacher Committee. This committee advises the Provincial Executive on issues affecting and of concern to substitute teachers. To be eligible you must be an Active or Active Reserve member. Download the application form from the NSTU website at [www.nstu.ca](http://www.nstu.ca) under the "Substitutes" menu and click on "Committee".

**The deadline is 12:00 p.m. on October 9, 2009.** The Substitute Teacher Committee will be appointed at the October 15, 2009 Executive Meeting.

## Mentorship program

In June, two more NSTU members participated in the Nova Scotia Teachers Union's Mentorship program. The program, which has now been discontinued, was intended for individuals interested in learning about executive staff officer positions within the NSTU. Participants were mentored by staff officers in the member services or professional development departments. Public school members **Deborah McIsaac** and **Turk MacDonald** participated in the Mentorship Program from June 1 to 4. **McIsaac**, a member of the Cape Breton District Local and former provincial executive member is the vice-principal at Breton Education Centre in New Waterford. **MacDonald**, a member of the Halifax County Local teaches Canadian and Global History at Lockview High School in Fall River. Both **McIsaac** and **MacDonald** were mentored by executive staff officers in the professional development department of the NSTU.



From left to right are **Turk MacDonald**, NSTU PD executive staff officer **Gérard Cormier** and **Deborah McIsaac**.

## Leadership Conference 2009

Almost 200 Local leaders, provincial executive members and professional association presidents came together at St. Francis Xavier University's Millennium Centre August 11 to 13 to network, expand their knowledge of the NSTU and develop leadership skills at the annual NSTU Leadership Development Conference.

"This conference is all about leadership," says NSTU President Alexis Allen. "The number of delegates here speaks to the dedication and commitment of our NSTU leaders."



*Yves Rossignol aka Samuel de Champlain*

Lunenburg County Local member and South Shore Regional School Board's Consultant for French Second Language Yves Rossignol (aka Samuel de Champlain) opened the conference. Rossignol in his alter-ego shared with the audience the history of Champlain's time in Nova Scotia, inducted NSTU's provincial executive into the Order of Good Cheer and provided an evening of Nova Scotia history through humour, stories and song.

On August 12 and 13 NSTU leaders were offered 17 different concurrent sessions. These workshops included *Strategies for New Leaders*, *Five Functions of Effective Locals*, *Appropriate Online Behaviour and Members and the Law: Case Law*. "This coming together helps set the stage for continued future success and growth of the organization," says Allen.

Ron Pink, founding and managing partner in the Halifax office of Pink Larkin, NSTU's law firm, provided a keynote address—Public Sector Bargaining: Challenges and a View to 2030. Spanning more than 30 years of legal practice, Pink has represented clients in all aspects of labour and employment law, as well as in matters of employee benefits and pensions.

Pink warned the audience about the effect the current economic climate has on bargaining. "Life is changing for trade unions at a speed unknown in our history," he says. "The recession has turned into concession bargaining. Will we be forced to be more like private sector unions subject to the vicissitudes of the economy, or



*NSTU president Alexis Allen gets inducted into the Order of Good Cheer.*

will we be able to lead?" he asks.

Pink outlined potential actions teacher organizations should consider in the next two decades to continue to remain strong. These include raising the public awareness of the value of teachers and collective bargaining, creating national benefit plans for teachers in Canada, and preparing for attacks on job security and the restructuring of the workforce.

Delegates also met by their respective NSTU Local roles—whether as vice-presidents of economic welfare, professional development, public affairs, public relations and communications, or treasurers, secretaries, presidents or provincial executive members. NSTU executive staff officers Betty-Jean Aucoin, Ron Brunton and Danny Eddy organized

the conference with support staff member Gail Doucette.



*Ron Pink addresses delegates at Leadership 2009*



### YOUR STUDENTS' ART COULD BE FLYING HIGH IN THE NATION'S CAPITAL.

The National Capital Commission (NCC), in partnership with Classroom Connections, is running an incredible cross-Canada CONTEST AND PUBLIC ART PROJECT. Have your students create a one-of-a-kind banner design that brings youth issues or topics to the capital.

The winning banners will be professionally produced and flown in Major's Hill Park in Ottawa from May to October of 2010.

Go to [www.canadascapital.gc.ca/bannercontest](http://www.canadascapital.gc.ca/bannercontest) for full details and an easy-to-use Activity Outline for introducing the contest in your classroom.

The contest is open to grade 5-8 classes in schools across Canada. The deadline for entries is February 19, 2010.

This initiative is an extension of *The Gathering Place*, a teaching resource for grades 5-8 Social Science and History. Email us at [info@classroomconnections.ca](mailto:info@classroomconnections.ca) for your free copy.

**THE GATHERING PLACE**  
AN EXPLORATION OF CANADA'S CAPITAL

# Sheonorail Foundation celebrates 10 years



Students created hands of peace to decorate the tables at the dinner.

On June 4 the Sheonorail Foundation celebrated its 10th Anniversary at a special dinner and silent auction at the Waterfront Campus of the Nova Scotia Community College in Dartmouth.

"This event brings together students, members, Locals, provincial executive members and Sheonorail directors to celebrate 10 years of promoting peace in our schools and on our Community College campuses," says Bill Redden, Sheonorail chair, and NSTU executive director. "It also celebrates the contribution of our corporate sponsors, partners and educators who make the Foundation viable." Redden reminded the audience that the Foundation has supported over 100 projects since its inception in 1999.

Throughout the evening sponsors had the opportunity to bid on auction items donated by Locals, corporate sponsors and education partners. Silent auction items were also available to delegates at Annual Council 2009.

Sheonorail Projects were also showcased throughout the evening. Elementary student leaders from Robert K. Turner Elementary School's LEAD project were on hand to act as hosts for the evening. The LEAD project—leading our education by applauding diverse learners was coordinated by teachers Mamoonna Brace and Kim Michaud. They told the audience the positive, long-lasting effect their Sheonorail project had on staff and students at the school.

Millwood High students presented their interactive dance and multi-media performance couRAGE accompanied by fine arts curriculum leader Anna Whalen and music teacher Stephanie Ford. The Where Peace Lives project from Lakeview Elementary School coordinated by teacher Cheryl LeBlanc Weldon was also showcased through a PowerPoint presentation.



Sheonorail 10-year anniversary dinner organizer Betty-Jean Aucoin is shown with Millwood High School's music teacher Stephanie Ford and fine arts teacher Anna Whalen.

NSTU president and Sheonorail board member Alexis Allen spoke in praise of these projects in our schools and campuses. "I congratulate the hard work and dedication shown from our members and their students for their achievements in promoting peace, understanding and citizenship."

Sheonorail honorary singer, songwriter Terry Kelly addressed guests and presented his song Listen to the Children, which he wrote for 11-year-old filmmaker Logan MacGillivray to accompany his film



Robert K. Turner Elementary students are shown with their teachers Kim Michaud (left) and Mamoonna Brace.

seeking donations of items and money to help with the construction of schools in Sierra Leone.

NSTU Locals, the Department of Education and corporate partners including Pink Larkin, Johnson Inc., and Bluewave Energy purchased tables for the event, which were decorated with hands of peace created by elementary students from around the province, thanks to the Cumberland, Inverness, Kings, and Lunenburg County Locals.

Close to \$15,000 was raised at Sheonorail's 10-year Anniversary Celebration. This money will be used for Sheonorail's endowment campaign, to supplement long-term funding provided currently by the Nova Scotia Teachers Union Insurance



Millwood students present their couRAGE performance.

Trustees and Johnson Inc. and continue to support anti-violence projects for the 2009-10 school year.

"The generosity of corporations, partners and individuals remains crucial in providing the fiscal resources required to address as many program requests from teachers, schools and campuses as possible," Redden adds.

Established in 1999 as an independent foundation to focus on all forms of violence in the public school and Community College education system, the Sheonorail Foundation extends financial resources to anti-violence programs that have a direct and immediate impact on public school classrooms, students, teachers, staff, administration and community. If you are interested in finding out more about the Sheonorail Foundation please contact Betty-Jean Aucoin at the NSTU at 1-800-565-6788 or email sheonorail@nstu.ca. The deadline for the next round of proposals is November 13, 2009.

**Free Classroom Presentations on Climate Change**

The Climate Change Centre, a program of the environmental non-profit Clean Nova Scotia ([www.clean.ns.ca](http://www.clean.ns.ca)), is pleased to let teachers in Nova Scotia know that we offer free classroom presentations on climate change and energy issues. We work with elementary, junior, and senior high school levels and we can tailor our presentation to fit your curriculum and classroom needs. Our presentations are also available in French. CCC staff are experienced presenting in classrooms and would love to visit your school today!

To sign-up or find out more, please visit [www.clean.ns.ca/cc](http://www.clean.ns.ca/cc) or contact the Climate Change Centre at: 1-800-665-5377, (902) 420-3474, [ccc@clean.ns.ca](mailto:ccc@clean.ns.ca)

The work of the Climate Change Centre is funded by:



Members of the Cumberland Local and their guests are shown at Sheonorail's tenth Anniversary Celebration Dinner.

## Calling all teachers!

**Looking for a fun, hands-on way to teach your students to walk, cycle, in-line skate or skateboard safely and confidently?**

**Elementary and Jr. High:** learn how to teach safety skills to your students!

**Sr. High:** engage students in teaching safety skills to younger children and youth!

Learn more about **Making Tracks** at:  
[www.saferoutesns.ca](http://www.saferoutesns.ca) | [walk@ecologyaction.ca](mailto:walk@ecologyaction.ca) | 902.442.5055

## NSTU Huntley program expands

The NSTU is pleased to expand the John Huntley Memorial Internship Program to offer it to more NSTU members each school year. The NSTU provincial executive amended the operational procedures for the John Huntley Memorial Internship Program at their July 4 meeting.

Starting this fall there will be four John Huntley Internship sessions with up to six NSTU members per session. Many Huntley interns have continued to become more active in their respective Locals. Many of the 89 former participants of the program were delegates at this year's Leadership Development Conference. They are shown below.



*Seated are: Krista Moore (Digby Local), Sharon Midwinter (Cumberland Local), Angela Deagle (Inverness Local), Deborah Mitchell (Lunenburg County provincial executive rep), Suzanne Robland-Rogers (Dartmouth Local), Amanda Marchand (Antigonish-Guysborough provincial executive rep), Sandra Mitchell (Lunenburg County Local), Angela Gillis (Halifax City provincial executive rep).*

*Standing: Gérard Cormier (NSTU staff liaison), Milton Bonnar (Northside-Victoria provincial executive rep), Patricia Hillier (Cumberland Local president), Kyle Marryatt (Dartmouth Local president), Glen Pulley (Annapolis Local), Nathan Smart (Queens Local), NSTU president Alexis Allen, Mark Savoury (Dartmouth Local), Robert George (Colchester East-Hants Local), Jo-Leigh MacPhee (Kings Local), David Harris (Halifax City provincial executive rep), Calvin Peters (Halifax County Local), Donalda Westcott (Cape Breton District Local), Darlene Bereta (Northside-Victoria Local), Dean Marchand (Guysborough County Local president)*

Other former Huntley interns who were delegates to the 2009 Leadership Development Conference but not shown in the photo are: Barbara Flynn (Yarmouth Local), David Kokocki (Lunenburg County Local), Tim MacLeod (Halifax County Local president), Jacinta Gracie (Northside-Victoria Local), Mario Eleftheros (Halifax City Local), John MacKay (Queens-Shelburne provincial executive rep), Tanya DeViller (Yarmouth Local), Tanya Samson (Antigonish Local), Bobbie Archer (Digby-Yarmouth provincial executive rep), Vince Gillis (Cape Breton District provincial executive rep), Pam Langille (Kings Local) and Bernie LeBlanc (Richmond Local).

**The deadlines for applications for the John Huntley Memorial Internship Program for the 2009-2010 school year are September 15, November 15, February 15 and April 15.**

**Applications for active NSTU members are available through your NSTU rep, on the NSTU website at [www.nstu.ca](http://www.nstu.ca) or at Central Office 477-5621 or 1-800-565-6788. The internship provides members with an opportunity to learn more about the NSTU.**



**iwalk<sup>2009</sup>**

**International Walk to School**

**October is Walk to School Month**

**We walk for our community and the earth!**

Participate and qualify your school for great prize draws!

Register your school now at

[www.saferoutesns.ca](http://www.saferoutesns.ca)

(click on the IWALK icon)

All other provinces and countries:

[www.iwalktoschool.org](http://www.iwalktoschool.org)



### After Hours Telephone Intake, Crisis Counselling and Referral Service

4:30 PM AST  
to 8:30 AM AST  
After Hours, 24-Hour Service during Weekends and Holidays

During these hours, call:  
**1-800-268-7708**

Provided By: Health Canada's Employee Assistance Services Crisis Referral Centre



**Planning a Tour?  
just leave it to us!**

School Groups

Sports Events

Music Festivals

Corporate

Grad Parties

Single Day Tours

Multiple Day Tours

We have Vans, Double Deckers,

highway Buses or a High-end

18 or 26 passenger Executive Coach

Hotels • Attractions • Guides

Give us a call to talk to one of our Tour Planning Experts!

**Ambassatours™**  
GRAY LINE

**902.423.6242**

**1-800-565-7173**

**[ambassatours.com](http://ambassatours.com)**

# coming events

## September is...

Arthritis Awareness Month ([www.arthritis.ca/novascotia](http://www.arthritis.ca/novascotia)); Muscular Dystrophy Awareness Month ([www.muscle.ca](http://www.muscle.ca))

## SEPTEMBER TO DECEMBER

### Young Neptune Company School Tour

Entering its 29th year, Neptune Theatre's Young Company Tour has performed to over 350,000 young Nova Scotians since its inception exposing many to live theatre for the first time. Travelling throughout Nova Scotia the shows seek to present relevant issues from a youth-oriented perspective.

By visiting small communities and performing to students directly at their schools, the Young Company Tour promotes theatre to a wider (and younger) audience, thereby creating and fostering an interest in the performing arts in the next generation. This year's Young Neptune Company School Tour, co-sponsored by the Nova Scotia Teachers Union is presenting *Munschpalooza* for Grades Primary to 6. Based on the books *Andrew's Loose Tooth* and *Smelly Socks*, text by Robert Munsch and illustrations by Michael Martchenko, published by Scholastic Canada Ltd., *Munschpalooza* brings the charismatic characters of Robert Munsch, Canada's number one children's author, to life in one high-energy and music-filled show.

This production features five Munsch stories including *Paper Bag Princess*, *I have To Go*, *Andrew's Loose Tooth*, *Smelly Socks* and *Something Good*. Your students are sure to be enthralled and captivated by *Munschpalooza* while at the same time learning valuable lessons about cooperation, imagination and friendship. Book *Munschpalooza* for your school today by calling 429-7300, ext 231, or 1-800-565-7345 on-line at [www.neptunetheatre.com/content/How\\_To\\_Book\\_The\\_Tour](http://www.neptunetheatre.com/content/How_To_Book_The_Tour).

## SEPTEMBER 10

### Stand Up Against Bullying Day September

The second Thursday in September is *Stand Up Against Bullying Day*. Last fall, the first *Stand Up Against Bullying Day* took place in public schools, colleges and universities across the province. On this day, schools are encouraged to focus on respect and peace education. It highlights the importance of peace education, communication and learning healthy conflict resolution skills. The education partners—Nova Scotia Teachers Union, Nova Scotia School Boards Association, Nova Scotia Federation of Home and School Associations Inc. and Fédération des parents acadiens de la Nouvelle-Écosse, in collaboration with the Nova Scotia Government, celebrate this special day and recognize the importance of healthy, safe and positive learning environments for students and educators alike. For more information on the program visit the Department of Education website at [www.ednet.ns.ca](http://www.ednet.ns.ca).

## SEPTEMBER 13 TO 27

### AIDS Walk for Life Nova Scotia

The AIDS Walk for Life is Canada's most important HIV/AIDS fundraising and awareness event. During the national event cities and communities from across the country host Walks to raise funds for local services

and programming and to increase awareness about HIV/AIDS. The AIDS Walk for Life New Glasgow will take place on Sunday, September 13 starting at the YMCA, South Frederick Street at 2 p.m. The Sydney Walk will take place on Friday, September 18 starting at the Sydney Boardwalk at 6 p.m. The Amherst and Elmsdale Walks will take place on Saturday, September 19 starting at the YMCA, Church Street at 12 noon and Sobeys at 1 p.m. respectively. The AIDS Walk for Life Truro will take place on Sunday, September 20, starting at the Tourist Bureau, Commercial Street at 1:15 p.m. The AIDS Walk for Life Halifax will take place on Sunday, September 27 starting at the Halifax Central Common at 2 p.m.

Funds raised through the AIDS Walk for Life go directly to programs and services offered across Nova Scotia.

Register a team, hold an in-house event or volunteer on Walk day. Your support is a demonstration of your commitment to support those living with HIV/AIDS within our community. For more information about this Walk, please contact: Robin Levy at [walk@acns.ns.ca](mailto:walk@acns.ns.ca), phone 902.425.4882 x.228, fax: 902.422.6200 or visit [www.acns.ns.ca](http://www.acns.ns.ca) or [www.aidswalkforlife.ca/Halifax.htm](http://www.aidswalkforlife.ca/Halifax.htm).

## SEPTEMBER 19

### Healing Hands Mental Health Association of NS One Day Conference

On September 19 Healing Hands Mental Health Association of Nova Scotia will be holding a one day conference of **FREE**, public workshops on a variety of mental health and other health related issues. These will be held in the Multipurpose Room and Seniors' Lounge of the Bloomfield Centre, 2786 Agricola St., Halifax.

Registration begins at 9 a.m. Presentations will include *Compassionate Yoga and Mental Health*; *Youth Mental Health? What is it? What should we be doing?*; *Early Intervention for Youth with Psychotic Illness*; and *New Therapeutic Approaches to the Treatment of Heart Disease*.

For information, or to register please send an email to [hmmhans@gmail.com](mailto:hmmhans@gmail.com). A complimentary lunch. **We will gratefully accept cash donations for Feed Nova Scotia on the day of the conference.** For further details, please call 902-443-3269.

## SEPTEMBER 23

### The Canadian Museum for Human Rights public roundtable

The Canadian Museum for Human Rights will be holding a public roundtable session on September 23, 2009 in Halifax, and invite you to participate. The purpose of this session is to gather Canadian human rights stories, perspectives and ideas that can be used to develop the content of the Museum. More detailed logistical information will be available prior to the roundtable. Please take the time to mark your calendar and register now to reserve your place. Invite friends, family members, colleagues and members of your community to this public roundtable session. This is an opportunity to contribute to the development of Canada's fifth national museum, due to open in Winnipeg, Manitoba in 2012. To attend, please RSVP to [rsvp@humanrightsmuseum.ca](mailto:rsvp@humanrightsmuseum.ca), call 1-877-295-6639, or register online at [www.humanrightsmuseum.ca/share-your-story](http://www.humanrightsmuseum.ca/share-your-story).

**MIKMAQ TREATY DAY**  
1752  
OCTOBER 1ST  
HONOURING MIKMAQ TREATIES PAST, PRESENT AND FUTURE

**SCHEDULE OF EVENTS HALIFAX, NOVA SCOTIA**

|  |   |   |
|--|---|---|
| <p><b>Wednesday, September 30, 2009</b></p> <p>UNSI 40th General Assembly 4 pm - 7 pm<br/>Lord Nelson Hotel</p>  | <p>Flag raising ceremonies 11:30 am<br/>Mayor Peter Kelly, Halifax Regional</p> <p>Mikmaq Gathering Feast 12 pm<br/>World Trade &amp; Convention Centre</p> <p>Observance of Treaty Day 1:30 pm<br/>Province of Nova Scotia<br/>Premier Darrell Dexter<br/>World Trade &amp; Convention Centre</p> <p>Opening prayer 1:45 pm<br/>Grand Chief Ben Sylliboy</p> | <p>Opening remarks</p> <p>Presentation and Awards</p> <p>Grand Chief Donald Marshall Memorial Elder Award</p> <p>Chief Noel Doucette Memorial Youth Award</p> <p>Grand Chief Donald Marshall Scholarship Fund Award - Mi'kmaq Kina'matnewey</p> <p>For more information contact Deborah Ginnish at (902) 565-8176</p> |
| <p><b>Thursday, October 1, 2009</b></p> <p>Treaty Day church services 10 am<br/>St. Mary's Basilica<br/>Spring Garden Road, Halifax</p> <p>Veterans Parade of Honour 11 am<br/>Grand Parade Square</p> |   |   |

**ALL ARE WELCOME!**

**CELEBRATING THE LIVING TREATIES BETWEEN THE MIKMAQ AND THE CROWN**

Original artwork by: Jessica McDonald

## SEPTEMBER TO DECEMBER

### SCANS courses

The Seniors' College Association of Nova Scotia (SCANS) is a registered non-profit organization dedicated to providing non-credit academic courses to seniors (age 50+).

**Courses for the fall term beginning the week of September 28 include:** *Canadian Constitution and the Charter of Rights*; *Multiculturalism or Morality*; *The Great Greek Tragedies of Euripides, Aeschylus and Sophocles*; *Art Appreciation*; and *Russian History*.

For information on these courses contact Rodney Padmore, registrar, 443-7181; email [rodpadmore@ns.sympatico.ca](mailto:rodpadmore@ns.sympatico.ca) or visit <http://adrp.dal.ca/SCANS>.

## OCTOBER

October is International Walk to School Month. Schools and groups can register online at [www.saferoutesns.ca](http://www.saferoutesns.ca) (click on the IWALK icon) and qualify for some great prize draws. Walk to School Month is a project of Active & Safe Routes to School, coordinated by the Ecology Action Center in partnership with the Nova Scotia Department of Health Promotion and Protection as part of the Active Kids Healthy Kids Initiative.

## OCTOBER 4 TO 5

### Tri-County SAA conference with Mike Schmoker

The Tri-County SAA (School Administrators Association) is hosting the fall symposium of the Atlantic Association of School Administrators on October 4 and 5. The symposium will feature a morning with educational researcher and author Dr.

Mike Schmoker. Dr. Schmoker is a former administrator, English teacher and football coach. He has written four books and dozens of articles for educational journals, newspapers and for TIME magazine.

His most recent book *RESULTS NOW: How We Can Achieve Unprecedented Improvements in Teaching and Learning*, was selected as a finalist for book of the year by the Association of Education Publishers. His previous bestseller, *RESULTS: the Key to Continuous School Improvement*, is one of the most widely used books by school leaders in the United States.

His keynote, *THE OPPORTUNITY: From Brutal Facts to the Best Schools We've Ever Had* describes how a true renaissance could occur in our schools. This will be followed by an interactive workshop where participants will learn about the simple elements most essential to substantive, measurable improvement in all areas, including higher-order thinking skills.

Other breakout sessions will include Betty-Jean Aucoin – *What Great Principals Do*; Sue Taylor-Foley - *Technology Leadership in Schools: What Works and What Can Work*; Kathy Stockman – *Leading in Literacy*; Everett McPherson and Dave Jones – *School Organization in the Annapolis Valley Regional School Board*; Gérard Cormier – *Battling Homophobia in Schools*; Ron O'Flaherty – *School Sport: A Celebration of Opportunity for Student Achievement*; Svein Ravlo and Mary Manning; *Sharing Successes and Challenges* (Interactive Session) and Paul Millman: *International Student Programs-Benefits to Students, Schools and Communities*.

Participants are invited to check out the website at <http://tcsaa.nstu.ca> for registration and accommodation information. **The early registration fee has been extended until September 15, 2009.**

## OCTOBER 26

### Holocaust Education Week 09 Workshop

On October 26, 2009 the Atlantic Jewish Council in conjunction the Azrieli Foundation, is presenting the Azrieli's Holocaust Survivor Memoirs Program as part of Holocaust Education Week (October 26 to November 9). This program preserves and publishes the written memoirs of Holocaust survivors who later made their way to Canada and is guided by the conviction that such accounts play an important role in education about tolerance and diversity. This interactive workshop will present the new teachers' resource guide of the Azrieli Series of Holocaust Survivor Memoirs. Participants will receive both a set of the printed volumes of Series 1 and Series 2 and the teachers' resource guide.

The **free of charge program** will take place at the NSTU building in Halifax, 3106 Joseph Howe Drive, with two session times available 1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. and 7 to 9 p.m. The workshops are open to all junior high, high school and university educators.

The workshop leader is Lisa Black-Meddings, a history teacher with the Toronto District School Board. Her many years of experience in Holocaust and human rights education and curriculum development includes writing the Holocaust unit

of study for the Toronto District School Board's Genocide and Crimes Against Humanity Course. **Registration deadline is October 12** (space is limited so early registration is encouraged). To register or for more information please contact: Edna LeVine, Director of Community Engagement, Atlantic Jewish Council at (902) 422-7491 #226 [elvine@theajc.ns.ca](mailto:elvine@theajc.ns.ca), or visit [www.theajc.ns.ca](http://www.theajc.ns.ca).

What do Nova Scotia's Teachers do after retirement? Come and See... Visit our Second **Retired Teachers' Showcase and Sale**. A wide selection of the results of our Retired Teachers' Talents: Arts & Crafts, Paintings, Baked Goods, Quilts, Photographic Prints and lots more! Saturday, September 26, 2009 Bethany United Fellowship Hall 2669 Joseph Howe Dr. Halifax 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. Admission \$1.00. Sponsored by: The Halifax Branch of the Retired Teachers Organization

## NOTICES

### ViewFinders & Nova Scotia Teacher's Union Partner for March Break Video Camp

ViewFinders: International Film Festival for Youth and the Nova Scotia Teachers Union are partnering to put on a student video camp during March Break 2010. Participants will be mentored by top Nova Scotia industry professionals while they team up to create three professional 30-second public service announcements promoting how teachers make a difference. Students will have the opportunity to learn the fundamentals of video production, sound design, and marketing communications.

This camp is open to Nova Scotian high school students attending public school and will also include NSTU members interested in professional development connecting to Film 12 program outcomes. For more information contact Courtenay Kyle, the ViewFinders Coordinator at 902.420.4398 or [Courtenayk@atlanticfilm.com](mailto:Courtenayk@atlanticfilm.com). Further details will be made available later this fall.



### Festival in a Van is Hitting the Road!

ViewFinders Festival in a Van reaches out across Atlantic Canada to bring the best of the Atlantic Film Festival and ViewFinders straight to communities and school-based youth audiences. ViewFinders Festival in a Van screens powerful films on topics that inspire young people. Interactive workshops created by Festival in a Van are also available and offer children and students a hands on approach to film appreciation. If you'd like ViewFinders Festival in a Van to visit your school or community, contact Courtenay Kyle, the ViewFinders Coordinator at 902.420.4398 or [Courtenayk@atlanticfilm.com](mailto:Courtenayk@atlanticfilm.com).

### Flamme de la francophonie project

The Canadian Association of Second Language Teachers (CASLT) is proud to participate in the promotion of the Canadian flamme de la francophonie project as part of the Vancouver 2010 Winter Olympic and Paralympic Games school-based activities and is asking all FSL teachers in Canada to integrate this project into their lesson plans project starting this fall.

The flamme de la francophonie is a new pan-Canadian educational project that encourages learners of French as a second language to use French while offering them an opportunity to demonstrate their participation in Canada's linguistic duality. Students will be able to use French on topics of interest to them and proudly carry the flamme de la francophonie. More details on this project can be found at [www.flammefranco.ca](http://www.flammefranco.ca).

### Second annual WHERE Challenge launches in September

The second annual WHERE Challenge will launch in September 2009 and run until January 31, 2010 and offer thousands of dollars in regional and national prizes. Once again, the WHERE Challenge will ask 10 to 14-year-old Canadian students to discover the answers to these questions: What on Earth is in your stuff and WHERE on Earth does it come from? Students will be encouraged to use their imagination in their response to create an educational story about non-renewable Earth resources found in an everyday item.

The first annual WHERE Challenge awarded more than \$16-thousand in three national, 33 regional and five school prizes. Teachers say the Challenge offered them a unique method of presenting Earth sciences material to students.

Dozens of school classrooms and more than a thousand students participated in the first annual WHERE Challenge. The hope is the WHERE Challenge raises awareness about the importance of non-renewable Earth resources and also encourages young people to consider a career in the Earth sciences. For more information visit [www.earthsciencescanada.com/where](http://www.earthsciencescanada.com/where).

### Share your human rights stories

Share your human rights stories with the Canadian Museum for Human Rights. The Museum has recently launched a new component to its website to allow people to submit their human rights stories online. If you have any other stories or ideas to share with the Museum, please visit [www.humanrightsmuseum.ca/share-your-story](http://www.humanrightsmuseum.ca/share-your-story).

## EDUCATION WEEK

April 18-24, 2010

## Eddie's Litterless Road Tour



Eddie is a cat with a cause - litter to be exact - and he would love to come to your classroom and talk about litter-prevention. *Putting a stop to litter is better than cleaning it up!*

This interactive presentation is available to grades P-3 and booking enquiries can be made to Kari Riddell at 1800-665-5377 or e-mail [riddell@clean.ns.ca](mailto:riddell@clean.ns.ca). Visit [www.clean.ns.ca](http://www.clean.ns.ca) for all the fun details.

**Hint:** Inviting Eddie to your school is a great compliment to taking part in the Great Nova Scotia Pick-Me-Up program.

Register for a free cleanup kit at [www.clean.ns.ca/pmu](http://www.clean.ns.ca/pmu)

A PROGRAM OF

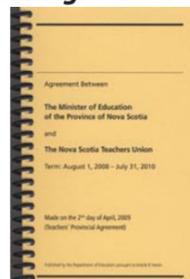
**Clean Nova Scotia**  
inspiring environmental change

PRESENTING  
SPONSOR

**Tim Hortons**

The annual September mailing includes the following and has been delivered with the September issue of The Teacher!

**Professional Associations' Conference Poster,**  
**Professional Associations' Conference Booklet,**  
**2009-2010 Member Diary and**  
**the Teachers' Provincial Agreement.**



See your NSTU Rep, go online at [www.nstu.ca](http://www.nstu.ca)  
or contact the NSTU central office at 1-800-565-6788  
if you haven't received your copy.



## NSTU Group Insurance Plans for New Members

The NSTU Group Insurance Trustees would like to advise that if you are a new NSTU member in Nova Scotia and have a term, probationary or permanent contract, you are eligible for benefits under the NSTU Group Insurance Plan. Please review the information below carefully to ensure you enroll on a timely basis.

**\* IMPORTANT \***

**The earlier you enroll, the earlier your coverage is effective.**

**Total Care Medical – This benefit is not automatic.**

You may apply for this benefit at any time. Coverage will take effect the first of the month following receipt of your application.

**Single:** 100 per cent paid by the Employer – No cost to member

**Family:** 100 per cent paid by the Employer – No cost to member

**Total Care Dental – This benefit is not automatic.**

You must apply for this benefit by October 15, 2009. If you elect to participate, coverage will remain in effect for a full twelve (12) month period, provided you remain an active member. Coverage will begin the first of the month following receipt of the application form, provided the form is received before October 15. If not received prior to this date, coverage will not become effective until September 1 of the following year.

**Single - Public School/APSEA members:** \$16.48 monthly cost to member - Difference paid by the Employer

**Community College members:** \$17.64 monthly cost to member - Difference paid by the Employer

**Family - Public School /APSEA members:** \$34.86 monthly cost to member - Difference paid by the Employer

**Community College members:** \$37.30 monthly cost to member - Difference paid by the Employer

**Provincial Master Life and Accidental Death and Dismemberment** – You are automatically insured for this benefit. To designate a beneficiary, you must complete a beneficiary designation form.

Public School members, Community College members and APSEA members are insured for **\$50,000** of Life Insurance and **\$50,000** of Accidental Death and Dismemberment Insurance. There is no cost to the member for this coverage as it is paid 100 per cent by the Employer.

**Long Term Disability** – Effective August 1, 2009, the NSTU Long Term Disability Plan is mandatory for new and currently insured members without the ability to opt out unless the following conditions have been met:

1. Plan member is at least 50 years of age and has a minimum of 30 years of pensionable service, or
2. Plan member is in their last year of teaching with one year of accumulated sick leave.

A new member is defined as an NSTU member who has obtained their first contract in Nova Scotia or a member being rehired and has not previously opted out of the Long Term Disability Plan. The NSTU Long Term Disability Plan is cost-shared with the Employer at 50 per cent. Therefore, your portion of the monthly premium is 0.45 per cent of your gross monthly salary. As an example, a new Public School member earning \$43,305 per year will have a payroll deduction of \$16.24 per month.

**Other Coverages** – There are a number of other optional coverages available to NSTU members through payroll deduction. These coverages are: Optional Life Insurance, Spousal Life Insurance, Voluntary Accidental Death and Dismemberment, MEDOC® Group Travel Plan, MEDOC® Trip Cancellation/Interruption Plan and Home and Automobile Insurance.

Further details of the above plans and information on enrollment is outlined in the Group Insurance Profile. If you have not yet received a copy, your NSTU Rep has a copy on file.

If you have not received a new teacher letter, application form or Group Insurance Profile, please contact Johnson Inc. at 453-9543 (local) or 1-800-453-9543 (toll free).

home & auto insurance

Request a home or auto insurance quote and you could win

**15,000**  
AIR MILES® reward miles.



Exclusively for Members of the NSTU.  
(Existing policyholders are automatically entered).

Enjoy peace of mind with exceptional home and auto insurance through Johnson. Some of the special products and services include:

- Special savings and discounts
- Identity theft coverage
- 24-hour customer service
- Earn AIR MILES reward miles

Contact us today and put your mind at ease.

[www.johnson.ca/nstu](http://www.johnson.ca/nstu) | 1.800.563.0677  
(Please provide your Group ID code: 62)



**Johnson Inc.**  
**Insurance**

Home and auto insurance is available through Johnson Inc., a licensed insurance agency. Policies are primarily underwritten by Unifund Assurance Company. Unifund and Johnson Inc. share common ownership. AIR MILES® reward miles awarded on regular home and auto insurance policies underwritten by Unifund Assurance Company. At the time the premium is paid, one AIR MILES reward mile is awarded for each \$20 in premium. Contest runs from March 1, 2009 to December 1, 2009. No purchase necessary. Those already insured through the NSTU Johnson Inc. Home and/or auto program are also entered. Chances of winning depend on the number of entries received. Winner must correctly answer a skill-testing question. Certain conditions may apply. For full contest details visit [www.johnson.ca/nstu](http://www.johnson.ca/nstu). \*Trademarks of AIR MILES International Trading B.V. Used under license by LoyaltyOne, Inc. and Johnson Inc. (for Unifund Assurance Company).

AE 02/09

**October deadline for *The Teacher* is September 18th.**  
**Please contact Sonia Matheson at**  
**[theteacher@nstu.ca](mailto:theteacher@nstu.ca) or call 1-800-565-6788.**



**Be Natural**  
LASER CLINIC

Laser Hair Removal - Free Consultation

Receive \$25.00 off your first treatment

HRM: 404-3939 Toll free: 1-877-404-3939

[www.benaturallaserhairremoval.com](http://www.benaturallaserhairremoval.com)

Check out the **Deals and Discounts** section for updates on the NSTU website at [www.nstu.ca](http://www.nstu.ca) in the Members-Only section under Benefits.

# resources

## Video Resources from Learning Resources and Technology Services

Learning Resources and Technology Services ships multimedia curriculum resources to schools anywhere in the province. Dubbing programs become a part of your school's collection; we charge only for the price of the blank media used. Read the Public Schools Branch newsletter *Branching Out* available online at <http://lrt.ednet.ns.ca/branching.shtml>.

Order pre-made titles from our lists online at [http://lrt.ednet.ns.ca/media\\_library/express/Video\\_Express.shtml](http://lrt.ednet.ns.ca/media_library/express/Video_Express.shtml).

**EBSCO Periodical database** (<http://search.epnet.com>) EBSCO provides a series of online bibliographic and full text databases so you and your students can find information, pictures and citations on curriculum related topics.

EBSCO offers access to a wide variety of professional databases like ERIC and to a highly specialized collection of over 450 full-text journals, designed for professional educators. EBSCO is available to all students and teachers in Nova Scotia through computers connected to Ednet, or at home with passwords that can be obtained from your school.

**ImagesProject** (<http://imagesproject.ednet.ns.ca>) Need a photo to use in a school project? Visit the ImagesProject, a web-based collection of images for Nova Scotia public school program use. Nova Scotia students and teachers who are on Ednet may freely download, use and modify images from the ImagesProject website for curriculum purposes.

These programs are available in VHS and DVD format. Unless otherwise specified, DVD format will be sent.

**Body Systems and Health (80 min.) Health - Grades 5-6; Healthy Living - Grades 7-8; Science - Grades 5-8**

This video includes four programs: *Healthy Circulatory and Respiratory Systems*, *Healthy Skeletal and Muscular Systems*, *Healthy Digestive and Excretory Systems*, and *Healthy Nervous and Endocrine Systems*. Each program explores the role of the system, things we can do maintain the health of the system and some of the most common problems associated with the system.

**The Healthy Human Body Series (80 min.) Health - Grades 4-6; Science - Grades 4-6**

Introducing the structure, functions and care of their bodies to youngsters, this four-part series covers the skeletal/muscular, respiratory, digestive, and circulatory systems. It features live action shots of young people, three-dimensional models, animation, endoscopic cinematography, lab experiments, interactive quizzes and comic interludes. Titles in the series include: *Skeletal & Muscular System*; *Respiratory & Circulatory System*; *Digestion & Nutrition*; and, *Blood, Heart & Circulation*.

**The Human Body (90 min.) Health - Grades P-4; Science - Grades P-4**

The Magic School Bus is off on a roller-coaster ride through our insides and anybody could be the next field trip! Their valiant vehicle can go anywhere and be anything, so each field trip is an awesome adventure. In *For Lunch*, Ms. Frizzle leads the class on an action-packed journey through Arnold's digestive system; *Inside Ralphie* is a pulsating excursion through Ralphie's bloodstream; and, *Flexes Its Muscles* is an exciting exploration through the Ralphie Robot to learn about bones, joints and muscles.

**Bully Smart Series (65 min.) Health - Grades 3-5**

This four-video set explores positive ways to recognize and deal with bullying situations. Students are encouraged to work together to build a zero-tolerance policy toward bullying, while practicing skills that will both prevent and reduce bullying problems. This series also looks at why people bully and how to spot bullying in oneself. Titles include: *Don't Stand By* (15 min.), *Five Ways to Stop a Bully* (15 min.), *Are You a Bully?* (20 min.), and *Help! I'm a Bully* (15 min.).

**Playground Safety (15 min.) Health - Grades P-2**

Children learn that by acting properly on the playground equipment they will have more fun and reduce injuries. Children learn playground rules—using equipment for its designed purpose, taking turns, what to do when approached by strangers, and what to do if someone is injured.

**You're Mean! When Words Hurt Us (13 min.) Health - Grades P-5;**

This age-appropriate program helps children understand that words can hurt—whether the insults are intentional or the inadvertent result of “trying to be funny.” Four vignettes identify the power of words and each vignette includes a positive outcome where children find a way to stand up for themselves and overcome the power of hurtful words. Techniques include: stand up for yourself, ignore the bully, explain how the words make you feel, and seek help from an adult.

**Developing Self Confidence (18 min.) Health - Grades 5-6; Healthy Living 7-9**

Using a series of dynamic vignettes and engaging animated cartoons, this program examines the ins and outs of learning self confidence. By watching Carly, Ben, Alex and Maria, students will learn four key strategies



for improving self-confidence and how to analyze their own behavior. The four strategies are: stop making excuses, take reasonable risks, examine your fears, and identify and change negative self-talk. Each strategy is carefully explained and dramatized in ways sure to inspire even the shyest middle-schooler.

**7 Ways to Block a Cyberbully (13 min.) Health – Grade 6; Healthy Living 7-9**

Cyber bullies don't shove kids on the playground or steal lunch money, but they are just as dangerous. They stay hidden behind technology and target students on the Internet and through cell phones. This film details seven effective strategies for dealing with a digital bully and teaches students how to be smart and stay safe in a cyber bully situation.

**Education Media Library, Brunswick Place, 2nd floor, 2021 Brunswick Street, Halifax, NS B3K 2V5; 424-2440; 428-5828 (fax); email [mediacir@ednet.ns.ca](mailto:mediacir@ednet.ns.ca) or visit <http://lrt.ednet.ns.ca>.**



**Educate U.** Upgrade your teacher certification with graduate education courses from Acadia University.

Featured programs:

- Counselling
- Curriculum Studies
- Leadership
- Inclusive Education

Courses are available face-to-face and online. Teachers are encouraged to apply for admission before February 1 (Counselling) and March 15 (other programs).

For more information: [MEd.openacadia.ca](http://MEd.openacadia.ca) 1.800.565.6568

open ACADIA

NOVA SCOTIA  
MUSEUM  
THE FAMILY OF PROVINCIAL MUSEUMS

## ONLINE LEARNING RESOURCES CATALOGUE

Explore our province's rich natural and cultural heritage through school kits, interactive programs, museum visits and virtual exhibits – amazing hands-on resources that support your curriculum outcomes.

- 27 diverse museums to discover across Nova Scotia
- hundreds of interactive experiences and tours to engage and inspire
- dozens of virtual exhibits and collections
- scores of books or resources to expand your classroom learning
- timely e-updates to keep you informed of new resources

2009-2010 information now online at [museum.gov.ns.ca/learn](http://museum.gov.ns.ca/learn)

[museum.gov.ns.ca/learn](http://museum.gov.ns.ca/learn)

NOVA SCOTIA  
Tourism, Culture and Heritage

## classifieds

Classified rates are \$2.00 for the first 15 words; 25¢ per additional word upon presentation of a professional number. Non-teachers pay \$6.00 for the first 15 words and 25¢ per additional word. To book, call Sonia Matheson at 1-800-565-6788 or email [theteacher@nstu.ca](mailto:theteacher@nstu.ca).

**FOR SALE** - Epiphone six string Special 2 electric guitar with 26 watt silvertone amp. Two years old, asking \$300. Excellent condition. Call 449-0981.

**PET SITTER** - Veterinary Technician (not currently working in a veterinary clinic) available for petsitting in the HRM. Bilingual service, security clearance, reasonable rates, excellent references! Please email [marcellederoche@gmail.com](mailto:marcellederoche@gmail.com) for details.

**FIELD TRIP IN HALIFAX?** Stay downtown Halifax, walking distance to Pier 21 and the Metro Centre. Dormitory and private rooms available, ask about our group rates. Wireless available. Please call 422-3863 or email [halifax@hihostels.ca](mailto:halifax@hihostels.ca).

**SKI TRIP IN WENTWORTH?** Stay at charming county hostel house. Minutes to Wentworth Ski, snowshoe rental, and outdoor classroom and wireless available. Dormitory and private rooms available, ask about our group rate. Please call 902-548-2379 or email [wentworth@hihostels.ca](mailto:wentworth@hihostels.ca).

**REGISTERED MASSAGE THERAPY** \$5.00 donation to Canadian Cancer Society for every therapeutic massage covered by Blue Cross. Located up the street from Alderney Landing at 115 Portland St., Dartmouth. Teachers are entitled to 20 massages per year per family member with Blue Cross, no referral required. Excellent for relieving stress, anxiety, muscle tension and improving sleep. Chris Bagnell RMT-10 years experience. To contact Chris call 902-464-0606 to book an appt. "Making a difference great."

**AVAILABLE** - "The Bully And The Purple Pants" - A Dynamic School Assembly! Award-Winning songs are combined with motivational speaking to provide students with effective strategies for dealing with bullies. Hundreds of schools across Canada have experienced this fabulous presentation! For bookings call 519-655-2379 or visit [www.paulbehnke.on.ca](http://www.paulbehnke.on.ca) for complete details.

**ROOM FOR RENT** - On Educational/Study Leave in Halifax? Need accommodations? Furnished room in Retired teacher's home, two

minutes from Armdale Rotary, on bus route. Wireless, all utilities included. Parking for one vehicle. Inquire: 902-477-9392.

**CONDO FOR RENT** - Breathtaking views of Halifax Harbour and Cityscape. Fully furnished and equipped, all utilities included; centrally located. Enjoy spectacular views of the harbour and both bridges from balcony and all main rooms of this two bedroom condo in conveniently located Harbourview Acres condominium building at 7 Jamieson Street, Dartmouth. Fully furnished and equipped with dishes, linens, etc. All utilities included (heat, electricity, phone, digital cable, high-speed internet, garbage and snow removal), plus the best parking space in the building! Tile and laminate flooring, spacious rooms and closets. Building is secure, quiet, clean and well maintained; coin-operated washers and dryers just down the hall (1.25 per load). Owners moving to a larger place in the same neighbourhood as we are expecting our 2nd child and need more space. Walking distance to Dartmouth Sportsplex and Dartmouth Shopping Centre and MacDonald Bridge (10 minutes), parks (3 minutes), ferry and Alderney Gate Library (15 minutes). Just a few minutes' drive to downtown Halifax. Relax to the sounds of seabirds, not traffic, in rooms that are filled with sunlight from morning 'til night. See ad on kijiji.ca for pictures, and I will email you more at your request. Call Amanda at 431-1452 for more information. Available October 1, 2009, \$1,400 per month (negotiable).

**JOB SHARE** - Experienced teacher looking for job share in elementary French Immersion or Core French. Call Suzanne at 902-492-4446.

**PRIVATE COUNSELLING** - Nelda Armour, MSW, RSW offers confidential professional counselling in Antigonish re: life transitions/issues. Mental health background and addiction specialty. Covered by Blue Cross. Phone 863-3798 or email [nelda.jean.armour@gmail.com](mailto:nelda.jean.armour@gmail.com).

**FOR SALE** - 3-drawer legal black filing cabinet with art lessons, art materials and all kinds of goodies. Asking \$200. Phone 462-5948.

## TEACHERS' PENSION PLAN INC. BOARD OF DIRECTORS

### Call for applications

The NSTU Provincial Executive is inviting applications from retired NSTU members for one (1) Director's position on the Teachers' Pension Plan Inc. Board. Operating under a Trust Agreement, this nine-member corporation oversees the administration of the Plan and the investment of the Plan's assets.

The NSTU is currently seeking:

• **One (1) retired member** - Initially a one-year term, renewable for a second three-year term. If you are interested in this appointment, please complete this application form and indicate your knowledge or experience with the criteria below and other related information.

Criteria for selecting persons for the above positions include:

- Has considerable knowledge about the Teachers' Pension Plan;
- Has experience in and/or knowledge about investments particularly the investments of pension funds; and
- Has experience as a Trustee or has a working knowledge of trusts.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Prof. Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Postal Code

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ (Fax) \_\_\_\_\_ (Email) \_\_\_\_\_

Have you previously applied for an NSTU standing or *ad hoc* committee? Yes

If so, when? \_\_\_\_\_ No

OTHER PERTINENT INFORMATION (e.g., skills, interests, relevant courses, professional development, or experiences that relate to this Board. You may attach additional information to this application.)

---



---



---

\*Please attach an additional sheet to list the NSTU Committees on which you served at the Local and Provincial Levels as well as the Offices you've held at the Local and Provincial Levels.

Submit to: Executive Director, NSTU, 3106 Joseph Howe Dr., Halifax, NS B3L 4L7

**APPLICATIONS MUST BE RECEIVED IN CENTRAL OFFICE  
BY 12:00 NOON, NOVEMBER 20, 2009!**

The NSTU has an affirmative action policy that encourages participation of women, visible minorities, native persons and physically-handicapped persons within the teaching profession. Should you choose to provide any relevant information, please indicate:

This form is also found on the NSTU website. [www.nstu.ca](http://www.nstu.ca)

## PROJECT OVERSEAS "Teachers Teaching Teachers"

### VOLUNTEER OVERSEAS WITH CTF!

Would you like to assist teachers in a developing country? Are you interested in learning more about global education issues? Can you see yourself volunteering in Africa, Asia, or the Caribbean?



PROJECT OVERSEAS SAINT VINCENT—2008

**If yes, Project Overseas (PO)  
might be for you!**

CTF needs English and French-speaking Canadian teachers who are interested in volunteering during July and August to offer in-services in a wide-range of subjects and levels, in various developing countries.



PROJECT OVERSEAS TOGO—2008

### Application criteria include:

- Membership in a provincial or territorial teacher organization that supports PO
- Valid teachers' certificate
- A least five years teaching in Canada by program start
- Canadian citizenship
- Excellent health and ability to work in developing country conditions
- Flexibility, mature judgment, and a strong willingness to put a team and project's needs above personal needs
- Canadian passport valid for 6 months after the placement or proof of a passport application



PO is a volunteer experience. Administrative, travel, and living expenses are borne by CTF, provincial and territorial teachers' organizations (which are CTF members) and CIDA. No salaries or honoraria are paid.

Further information and application forms are available from Lillian Pottie, Nova Scotia Teachers Union, 3106 Joseph Howe Drive, Halifax, NS B3L 4L7; 902-477-5621, 1-800-565-6788 (toll-free) or on the web @ [www.ctf-fce.ca/en/](http://www.ctf-fce.ca/en/).

**APPLICATION DEADLINE: NOVEMBER 13, 2009**

CTF'S INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMS: *Together We Make a Difference!*