LOCAL REGISTER

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TENTATIVE PROVINCIAL AGREEMENT

Dear Members,

I hope by now you have been able to read the details of the **Tentative Provincial Agreement**. I know there has been, and will continue to be a lot of discussion about the contents of the agreement. The NSTU will be putting out a Frequently Asked Question Sheet explaining the process forward.

As you know, on September 16th, after two days of deliberations, the Provincial Executive voted (12-11) to recommend acceptance of the Tentative Agreement. On Monday, September 19th, Local Presidents were invited, along with Provincial Executive and NSTU staff to hear the contents of the Tentative Agreement. There were many differing opinions from all of the Local Presidents and the Provincial Executive Members. It was made clear to the group that the negotiating team felt this was the best possible deal that they could achieve, especially given the fact that Bill 148 has been passed. Now, let me be clear – while this may have been the best deal that was possible at this time, this is absolutely not what you deserve. You deserve to be paid as the highly educated and dedicated professionals that you are. You deserve to have a government that cares about your working conditions.

There has been much criticism about the fact that the Provincial Executive recommended acceptance of this Tentative Agreement. While we all have our opinions, I can assure you that the PE anguished over this decision, and every member made the decision they felt was right for the 9 000 public school teachers in our province.

On October 4th, every teacher has the chance to vote and voice their opinion. I would encourage all members to continue their discussions, attend the upcoming meetings, and vote your conscience.

The stakes in this vote are high.

The Provincial Executive members of Halifax City, County and Dartmouth are working on arranging another meeting for members with an NSTU Staff Officer – the time and location TBA. I would encourage all members to attend this meeting.

Whatever our collective decision on October 4th – it is important that we remain committed and united in the days ahead.

Ryan Lutes

Ryan Lutes

President, Halifax City Local NSTU

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School Visits

Our Local President is available to come to you so that you may ask questions directly. Lunch visits, after school, staff meetings, In-service Days – whenever is best for you. School administrators or NSTU Reps can arrange this with the Local Pres.

Member Engagement Social



Register now until October 14 for Professional Association Conference

On the fourth Friday in October of each year, NSTU members from around the province are invited to attend professional development conferences organized by our Professional Associations. The program offerings demonstrate a breadth of curriculum-based and other professional development opportunities that are designed to ensure Nova Scotia's students benefit from the latest pedagogical advances.

PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS PROFESSIONNELLES

To register please go to www.nstu.ca

As in the past, there is no on-site registration.

NSTU/HRSB Pre-Retirement Seminars

To register, login to myHRSB – registration closes October 7th

The Teachers' Provincial, Community College and APSEA agreements allow a teacher in their last five (5) years to register with the Board/Employer for a pre-retirement seminar.



The Union provides a two-day seminar from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. each of these days. The topics include:

- Features of the Teachers' Pension Plan
- Canada Pension Plan and Old Age Security
- wills and estate planning
- service awards
- Money management in retirement
- Retired Teachers Organizations
- Insurance
- Psychological aspects of retirement.

Dates for HRSB NSTU Members are:

November 28 & 29
February 13 & 14
March 6 & 7

Please direct questions to Anne Patterson at apatterson@hrsb.ca

Executive Position Election

Congratulations to Colleen Harris and Kyle Sarka who were elected to the Halifax City Local Executive this past meeting. Colleen was elected to 1st Vice-President and will become part of the Regional Negotiating Team. Kyle is our new Vice-President of Public Affairs, Public Relations and Communication.

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Follow us on Facebook and Twitter

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Twitter—@HalifaxCityNSTU

Economic Welfare (Working Conditions)



- Physical space not big enough to teach?
- Not enough resources?
- Too many special needs? Or violent students in your class?

If any of the above are having a negative impact on the learning conditions in your classroom, check out Article 63: Class Climate in the TPA (Teachers Provincial Agreement).

It is written in steps and timeline provided. It is best to start by communicating your concerns to your school leadership first and try to solve there first. Sometimes the leaders' hands are tied because of funding, etc.. This article can potentially help in that case.

Please contact our Local President, Ryan Lutes, for assistance with this: halifaxcity@nstu.ca.

ARTICLE 63 CLASS CLIMATE

63.01 The parties under this Agreement recognize the educational desirability of having **classroom climate conducive to creating conditions under which teachers are able to carry out their duties** pursuant to the Teachers' Provincial Agreement.

63.02 A teacher who considers that her/his class climate is inconsistent with Article 63.01 may report the facts of the **situation in writing to the Principal** who shall investigate, take appropriate action, and report in writing within fifteen (15) days to the teacher the action taken.

63.03 If the Principal is unable to resolve the concerns of the teacher, the **teacher and/or Principal may report, in writing, the facts of the situation to a Classroom Climate Review Team**. A Classroom Climate Review Team shall be comprised of a representative designated by the Superintendent, and a representative designated by the Union.

63.04 The **Team shall meet with the teacher and the Principal within ten (10) days** to review the teacher's written concerns. The teacher may be accompanied by a representative of the Union.

63.05 The Team's considerations shall include but not be limited to:
(i) the **physical limitations** of the instructional area;
(ii) the **resources** available to the classroom;
(iii) the **range of educational and behavioural needs** of the students in the teacher's class.

63.06 The Team shall examine all options available within the Board and make recommendations within fifteen (15) days of the meeting with the teacher and the Principal or such longer period as may be agreed by the Union and the Director. The recommendation(s) of the team shall be reported to a Director determined by the Superintendent, with a copy to the teacher and the Principal.

63.07 The Director will review and assess the recommendation(s) of the Review Team and will report back within ten (10) days to the Review Team to identify which recommendations will be implemented, if any, and will provide status updates when accepted recommendations have been implemented. The Director's decision as to whether or not to implement the recommendation(s) is final and non-grievable.

63.08 The parties recognize the sensitive nature of class climate issues, and accordingly agree that the process is to be kept confidential.

Local Rep Retreat

Once again the Halifax City Local together with the Dartmouth Local will be hosting a Rep Retreat on **November 18th and 19th** at **Oak Island Inn**. Reps are encouraged to register for our Local retreat. Registration forms will be sent out electronically when we have your rep information.

ATLANTICA
OAK ISLAND
RESORT & CONFERENCE CENTRE

National/International Travel Grants

Halifax City Local offers 18—$500 international/national conference grants to help supplement the NSTU/HRSB Article 60 PD Funding. They are awarded on a first come, first served basis – providing the member meets the eligibility requirements.

For more information, please visit our website at www.halifaxcity.nstu.ca

Article 60 PD Fund

Teachers can access up to 6 substitute days **every year** (max 3 at a time)

We can also access up to $1,300 every 2 years.



Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14 Local Exec Meeting	15 Deadline John Huntley Intern App Provincial Exec at NSTU	16 Prov Exec at NSTU	17 Prov Exec at NSTU	18
19	20 **Tentative Agreement Meeting – 4:30pm - HWHS**	21 Local General Meeting – 4:30PM	22	23 Local Presidents' Conference	24 Local Presidents' Conference	25
26 HRRC Meeting Deadline Art 60 Conf Grants In-Service Prom Grant	27	28 Management Teacher Mtg	29	30 Communications Conference	Communications Conference	



Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
					1 Deadline PDAF Grant App	**2**
3 Deadline Educ Leaves less 1 year starting Jan-May 2016	**4** **Tentative Agreement Ratification Vote**	**5** **World Teachers Day** Deadline Out-of-Prov Conf (NSTU)	**6** **Fall Social – Lower Deck Clayton Park – 4:00 – 7:00**	**7**	**8**	**9**
10 Thanksgiving Day No School	**11**	**12**	**13**	**14** Deadline Professional Association Conferences Equity Conference	**15** Equity Conference	**16**
17	**18**	**19** Exec Meeting	**20**	**21** Prov Exec at NSTU	**22**	**23**
24 Deadline Art 60 Conf Grants In-Service Prom Grant	**25**	**26** Local Council Meeting – 4:30PM	**27**	**28** NSTU Professional Associations Provincial PD Day	**29**	**30**
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