



MEMORANDUM

March 19, 2020

TO: All Members

RE: COVID-19 Update

The recent NLESD message regarding the clearing out of student lockers clearly indicates that this is work to be done by support staff. This has been confirmed in conversations with the District. Teachers' assistance may be required in identifying which student's materials are in each locker or cubby. Teachers' attendance at schools should only be **if required** for this purpose and only if it can be done while respecting social distancing directives. Many teachers may be able to do this by providing a student locker list, for example. **Teachers and administrators cannot be directed to clean out lockers or other student storage spaces.**

The NLESD has assured NLTA that health and safety are their first priority. If you as a teacher or administrator have concerns about social distancing and the preventative measures being taken as NLESD works to close schools for what may be a long period, you are encouraged to bring them to the attention of your school administration and Director of Schools. If you have concerns regarding any direction, do not hesitate to contact NLTA through mail@nlta.nl.ca.

The NLTA staff is working hard to respond and provide information in what is a rapidly evolving environment. We continue to take the position that any plans must provide flexibility for personal circumstances, that teacher and administrator professional judgement must be respected, that health concerns must be recognized and addressed, and that no one should be economically disadvantaged. Your patience and cooperation are appreciated in these challenging times.