

For Immediate Release

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## **NLTA EXPECTS THE NEW GOVERNMENT TO HONOUR ITS COMMITMENTS ON EDUCATION**

St. John's...The Newfoundland and Labrador Teachers' Association extends its congratulations to Premier Andrew Furey and his newly elected government, and looks forward to working with them to implement the education commitments made by the Liberal party during the election campaign.

"Over the course of the provincial election assurances were given regarding education," said Dean Ingram, President of the Newfoundland and Labrador Teachers' Association. "Of particular importance to our membership is the very clear commitment made by Premier Furey during our Leaders Forum on Education to immediately conduct the long-overdue independent review of the Teacher Allocation Model. The Premier committed to advancing the review as soon as his new Liberal Government was in place. I certainly look forward to hearing from the Premier in short order with details on the process for this review."

A 2008 Cabinet directive required government to conduct a review of the Teacher Allocation Model in 2011. This review has yet to be done. However, government has, since 2009, proceeded with new initiatives while, during the same period, increasing class size cap guidelines and reducing administrator allocations.

For the 2020-21 school year, government temporarily increased allocations for school administrators and guidance counsellors to those recommended by the 2007 Teacher Allocation Commission report. However, no assurance has been given that these much needed supports will continue beyond the current school year.

"Challenges related to class size and composition are a long-standing and growing source of concern in our schools," said President Ingram. "Premier Furey indicated his government is committed to re-instating class sizes to 2008 levels, maintaining administrative and guidance counsellor allocations at least at current 2020-21 levels, and to an independent review of the Teacher Allocation Model. We were very pleased at the time to hear such a firm statement from the Liberal Party Leader. Now we need to see Premier Furey action that commitment."

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