Newfoundland and Labrador Teachers' Association -

EXECUTIVE Notes March 3-4, 2022

Your Provincial Executive met in St. John's on March 3, 2022, and Joint Council (Branch Presidents and Provincial Executive) met on March 4, 2022. *Executive Notes* is a summary of discussions and decisions that occurred during these meetings.

For further information contact any member of **Provincial Executive** or the NLTA staff person as indicated.

President's Report

Since the last meeting of Provincial Executive, the President has visited numerous schools in the province and has attended events and meetings in his capacity as President. Media interviews took place on the return to in-person learning and the review of the Teacher Allocation Model as well as an appearance on the NTV *Issues and Answers* program. The full President's Report is available **here**.

For further information contact **<u>Trent Langdon</u>**, President.

Business from Standing Committees

Table Officers

• The NLTA will donate \$5,000 to the Workers' Action Network.

For further information contact <u>Trent Langdon</u>, President or <u>Stefanie Tuff</u>, Executive Director.

Finance and Property Committee

• The capital budget will be adjusted in the amount of \$108,000 to proceed with proposed renovations to the NLTA building at 3 Kenmount Road.

For further information contact <u>Colin</u> <u>Short</u>, Chair, Finance and Property Committee or <u>Wade Rogers</u>, Manager of Corporate Services.

Equity Issues in Education Committee

•For the next selection of a teacher in the *Teachers Change Lives* campaign, preference will be given to a member of a historically marginalized group.

For further information contact <u>Angela Dawe</u>, Chair, Equity Issues in Education Committee or <u>Miriam</u> <u>Sheppard</u>, Administrative Officer.

Membership Benefits and Services Committee

- The NLTA will change the EAP policy to increase the lifetime EAP benefit to \$3,000, retroactive to January 1, 2022.
- Sharon Peach will be the recipient of the 2021-22 Allan Bishop Award.
- Anne Whelan will be awarded the 2021-22 Special Recognition Award.
- Tracey Payne will be the recipient of the 2021-22 Bancroft Award.
- Joe Santos will be awarded the 2021-22 Bancroft Award.

- Five Pre-Retirement Seminars will be held, in accordance with Association Policy, during the fall of 2022 in the following locations: Corner Brook, Grand Falls-Windsor, three in St. John's, plus one additional seminar to be offered virtually. The dates and sites will be determined by Programs and Services, subject to hotel and presenter availability.
- The NLTA will explore the feasibility of reinstating a retirement seminar in either Labrador West or Happy Valley-Goose Bay, when numbers are sufficient to do so.

For further information contact <u>Sean</u> <u>Weir</u>, Chair, Membership Benefits and Services Committee or <u>Gabe</u> <u>Ryan</u>, Administrative Officer.

Other Items

Provincial Executive discussed: itinerant ground travel costs/rates; leave days in lieu for COVID-19 related work; code of conduct training; recent membership survey; safety protocols in schools; and, Code 99 leave.

For further information contact <u>Trent Langdon</u>, President or <u>Stefanie Tuff</u>, Executive Director.

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JOINT COUNCIL Association Priorities

Updates on the NLTA Priorities for 2021-23 were provided to the Provincial Executive and Branch Presidents for review, questions and comment. The priorities are: Teacher Workload; Teacher Health and Wellness; Response and Advocacy on Government Initiatives (PERT, PTF, Teacher Allocation Model Review); Promoting the Profession; and, Member Services/Collective Bargaining. The Association priorities are available <u>here</u>.

For further information contact <u>Trent Langdon</u>, President or <u>Stefanie Tuff</u>, Executive Director.

Policy Changes Since December 2021

Joint Council approved a number of changes in policy. These policies provide direction for continuity of decisions and guidelines to those who take positions on behalf of the Association. The amended policies include: *The Bulletin* distribution; Employee Assistance Program; and, Committees.

For further information contact <u>Trent Langdon</u>, President or <u>Stefanie Tuff</u>, Executive Director.

Group Insurance Market Study and Renewal

Joint Council was advised of the recent decisions by Group Insurance Managers regarding Insurance Premiums for the 2022-23 fiscal year.

For further information contact <u>Tracey</u> <u>Payne</u>, Chair, Group Insurance or <u>Darrin Pike</u>, Administrative Officer.

Advisory Motions

The following advisory motions were discussed and passed at Joint Council for Provincial Executive consideration:

- That the NLTA lobby NLESD and the Department of Education to discuss the need for important data about children entering Kindergarten be provided from Public Health in a timely manner prior to the deadline of student support profiles.
- That the NLTA investigate the cost of paid leave for NLTA members participating in voluntary armed forces service so that this issue can be added to the next collective bargaining agenda items list.
- That the NLTA delay the application of the policy on branch funding no matter the amount that's in a branch account for this year.
- That the NLTA lobby the Department of Education to provide/designate professionals within the school system to provide vision and hearing screenings so that assessments are able to proceed without having to rely on Public Health.

For further information contact <u>Trent Langdon</u>, President or <u>Stefanie Tuff</u>, Executive Director.

Discussion Topics

The following topics were reviewed and discussed by Provincial Executive and Branch Presidents: sick leave/family leave; lack of PPE; lack of substitutes; consistency in hiring substitutes; snow days/ teacher safety; and, PL offerings.

For further information contact <u>Trent Langdon</u>, President or <u>Ian</u> <u>Crewe</u>, Assistant Executive Director.

Next Meeting

The next meeting of Provincial Executive is scheduled for **April 29-30**, **2022** in Stephenville.

For further information contact <u>Trent Langdon</u>, President or <u>Stefanie Tuff</u>, Executive Director.

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