

For Immediate Release

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NLTA SUPPORTS DECISION TO CANCEL ALL PUBLIC AND HIGH SCHOOL EXAMS

St. John's, NL... Today, the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development announced that all public and high school exams for this school year have been cancelled.

The NLTA supports this decision, and agrees that should schools be in a position to reopen this school year, the focus needs to be on instruction, not testing.

The NLTA continues to work collaboratively with the two provincial school districts and believes that measures being taken with regards to continued student learning are achievable and in the best interests of students. Teachers in Newfoundland and Labrador are among the best trained in the world.

According to Dean Ingram, President of the Newfoundland and Labrador Teachers' Association: "Newfoundland and Labrador has a strong tradition of developing high quality online teaching and learning resources to complement and supplement regular instruction. The resources currently available to students through the Centre for Distance Learning and Innovation (CDLI) are world class. These resources, along with those currently being developed by the school districts, will provide students, with the support and assistance of their regular teachers, access to curriculum materials needed to continue their learning during these challenging times. The global COVID-19 pandemic has impacted everyone, and has required all nations and provinces to consider how best to continue student learning in these unprecedented circumstances. Newfoundland and Labrador is setting a great example of how all public education stakeholders can work together with a focus on the best interests of our students. The NLTA looks forward to returning to normal classroom instruction and school operations as soon as this can be safely resumed."

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