

NEWS YOU CAN USE

President's Message

by Darren Abramson, DFA President

As 2017 comes to a close, the DFA is in full swing with strike preparations. While we are hopeful that the December 20th meeting with Dalhousie's Board of Governors' negotiations team goes well, we must be prepared in the event that an agreement cannot be reached. DFA President-Elect Dave Westwood has been appointed our Strike Coordinator. Committee members are being put forward for appointment, and results will be announced in the New Year.

We have collected alternate non-Dalhousie emails for about 60% of our Membership, and we are sourcing possible strike headquarters in Halifax and Truro.

On Wednesday, January 10, 2018, the DFA is holding a general meeting of its Membership (see details on the right). Chief Negotiator Ray Larkin will provide Members with an update on collective bargaining and next steps in the process.

On behalf of the DFA Executive Committee, I wish you a safe and happy holiday season. We look forward to serving you in 2018.

DFA General Meeting

Wednesday, Jan. 10, 2018
7 pm to 9 pm

Tupper Theatre A, Halifax
Haley Rm 254, Truro
DMNB Rm 218, Saint John

Chief Negotiator Ray Larkin
will provide an update on
collective bargaining.

CNEI Recognizes Deborah Tamlyn



Congratulations to DFA Executive Committee Member Deborah Tamlyn, Ph.D., School of Nursing, Dalhousie. In November, Deborah was named a Fellow of the Canadian Nurse Educator Institute (CNEI). The CNEI contributes to the strength and growth of Canadian nurse educators through high-caliber professional development opportunities.

Aboriginal and Indigenous: What's the Distinction?

By Nancy MacDonald, School of Social Work, Dalhousie

The distinction between the terms Aboriginal and Indigenous is important to understand. In Canada, the 'indigenous' or First Peoples are Aboriginal Peoples. The rights and definition of Aboriginal Peoples of Canada are protected by the Constitution Act (1982) Section 35:

- (1) The existing aboriginal and treaty rights of the aboriginal peoples are hereby recognized and affirmed.
- (2) In this Act, "aboriginal peoples of Canada" includes the Indian, Inuit and Metis Peoples of Canada.
- (3) For greater certainty, in subsection(1) "treaty rights" includes rights that now exist by way of land claims agreements or may be so acquired.
- (4) Notwithstanding any other provision of this Act, the aboriginal and treaty rights referred to in subsection(1) are guaranteed equally to male and female persons.

This affirmation recognizes Indian, Inuit and Metis peoples are the Aboriginal and the only 'indigenous' peoples of Canada.

There are 370 million indigenous peoples worldwide. However, as noted above, only the Aboriginal (Indian, Inuit and Metis) are indigenous to Canada. In other countries, the indigenous peoples refer to themselves by other names that also mean they are indigenous to that country. For example, Native Americans or American Indians are both terms that the indigenous peoples in the United States use to refer to themselves.

The United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues (UNPFII) has provided a common definition for the term indigenous that applies to the 370 million 'indigenous' peoples worldwide. The term indigenous means "those who inhabited a country or a geographical region at the time when people of different cultures or ethnic origins arrived. The new arrival later became dominant through conquest, occupation, settlement or other means" (UNPFII, Indigenous Peoples, Indigenous Voices: Fact Sheet). There are many peoples worldwide who view themselves as indigenous or the 'first peoples' of that country. Indigenous Peoples worldwide continue to practice their traditions and retain their cultural, economic and political characteristics that are distinct from the dominant culture. As you can see, the terms are distinct and the meanings important for all to recognize and affirm.

Workplace Wellness

Next month, Dalhousie's Workplace Wellness program is offering the following workshops in recognition of Mental Health Month:

Mental Health First Aid (Jan. 9) <https://events-tm.dal.ca/workshop.php?id=2374>

On Being Positive (Jan. 12) <https://events-tm.dal.ca/workshop.php?id=2207>

Lighten Up Your Day (Jan. 16) <https://events-tm.dal.ca/workshop.php?id=2375>

**WORK
WELL**

