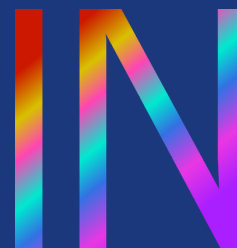




# The CHECK IN

June 1, 2026

Issue 38



## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE:

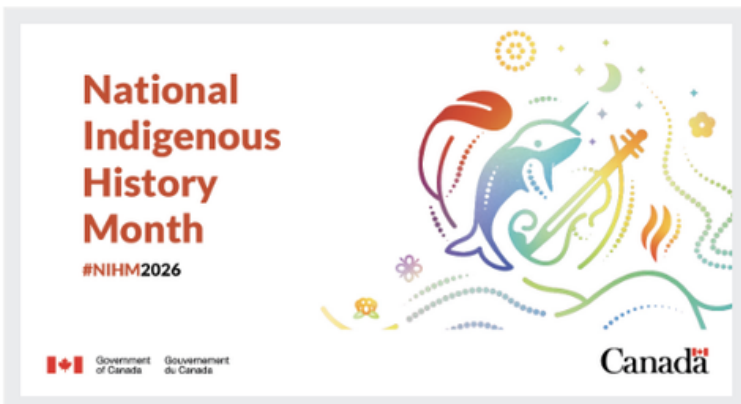


It's a big week for our Local! Our Annual General Meeting takes place this Wednesday, and I encourage all members to come out and be part of it. In addition to reviewing the work we've done together, we'll be holding elections for several Local Executive positions. This is your opportunity to have a say in the future direction of our Local and help shape the year ahead. We're looking forward to seeing many of you there and to wrapping up a great year of working together on behalf of our members.

## National Indigenous History Month

National Indigenous History Month takes place every June in Canada. It is a time dedicated to celebrating and learning about the rich heritage, cultures, and contributions of First Nations, Inuit, and Métis peoples. First established as National Aboriginal History Month in 2009, the name was officially updated to National Indigenous History Month in 2017. National Indigenous Peoples Day: Celebrated annually on June 21, this specific day aligns with the summer solstice and holds deep spiritual and cultural significance for many Indigenous communities.

Learn more about [National Indigenous History Month](#) and how you can participate.



## IMPORTANT DATES

- June 1 Final permanent posting round closes (12pm)
- Article 10.04 postings open (12pm)
- NSTU Program Development Assistance Fund application due
- June 3 Local General Meeting
- June 4 Article 10.04 postings close (12:00pm)
- June 5 School Counsellor posting round goes live (12pm)
- June 8 School Counsellor posting round closes (9am)

“ June is the gateway to summer  
~ Jean Hersey ”

# Halifax County Local Executive Candidates

The Nominations Committee is pleased to announce the candidates for the following Local Executive positions: Vice President of Communications, Vice President Nominating, Vice President Professional Development and Vice President Social Wellness.

Elections for these positions will take place at the **June 3rd Annual General Meeting**. As per Robert's Rules of Order, additional nominations for all positions will be taken from the floor. The Nominations Committee wishes to thank all candidates for putting their names forward for these positions.

## Vice President of Communications:

### Sarah McCann

Sarah McCann is a teacher with 15 years of experience at the elementary level and a genuine passion for communication, creativity, and public education. Alongside her work in the classroom, she has built experience in digital marketing, social media, and content creation, with a focus on creating authentic and engaging online communities. Sarah believes communication should feel clear, approachable, and connected — whether it's sharing important union updates, celebrating the work teachers do every day, or helping members feel more informed and involved. She is excited about the opportunity to bring a fresh, modern perspective to communications within the Halifax County Local, while continuing to advocate for strong public education and meaningful member engagement across the NSTU community.



## Vice President Nominating:

### Christine Emberley

I'm running for VP Nominations because I believe strongly in a democratic voice within our union, and believe it means more than checking boxes for the selections and elections within the local, but also making sure members and nominees are well-informed about the process, and have access to the tools to support their engagement with members. There is always room for growth and change, and I don't think that's something to be afraid of. Our profession has changed, our communities have changed, and our relationship with the NSTU has changed. These require new voices and perspectives to make sure that we are considering all angles when fighting for equity in our profession, and equitable representation of our members. I have been a school rep or alternate for all but 3 years of my 20-year career, both in Halifax County, and Dartmouth locals. I look forward to representing your voices on the Halifax County Local Executive.



## **Vice President Social Wellness:**

### **Jennifer Moriarty**

As a County member I have been the recipient of the good that the social and wellness events and offerings have brought to the local community. As the VP of Social Wellness it would be my absolute joy to be able to build on the foundation laid by past committee members and work together to build additional opportunities for members to connect and seek ways of being the most well we can be while at work and play. I have over a decade experience supporting my own career path with the tools provided by our local NSTU communities and the support I have offered and hope to continue to offer to our local through this position would be a small measure of appreciation. My passion for our shared work will fuel the work to be done for all County members.



### **Jessica Wells**

Hi everyone! My name is Jessica Wells, and I am excited to be putting my name forward for the VP of Social Wellness.

As a teacher, I spend every day building relationships, supporting others, and creating spaces where people feel included and valued. I also bring 11 years of teaching experience, 7 years as a union rep, and 2 years on the Social Wellness Committee to this role. I would love the opportunity to continue doing that within this role by helping organize meaningful events, promoting staff wellness, and encouraging connection within our community.



I am always open to new ideas and enjoy working collaboratively with others to help create a supportive and positive atmosphere.

Thank you so much for your support — I would greatly appreciate your vote for VP of Social Wellness!

## Vice President Professional Development:

### Turk MacDonald

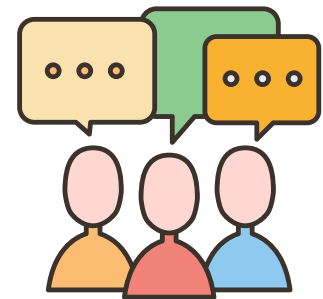
I would be honoured to serve as Vice President of Professional Development for Halifax County and continue building on the strong foundation already established within our Local. I bring an organized, approachable, and member-focused perspective to the role, along with extensive experience in union leadership and professional learning. Currently, I serve on the Professional Development Committee and have previously served on both the Local and NSTU Professional Development Committees earlier in my career. I have also held the positions of Local Treasurer and Vice President of Economic Welfare, experiences that strengthened my understanding of advocacy, collaboration, and member support. As a result of being a part of the negotiating team for our current regional contract, I engaged with HRCE staff and gained valuable experience that would support my work on the Article 60 Committee. I am committed to supporting meaningful, relevant, and accessible Professional Development opportunities for all members.



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## ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING: JUNE 3

General Meetings are held at the Royal Canadian Legion located at 45 Sackville Cross Rd, Lower Sackville, NS B4C 2M2. **Arrival 5:30pm (dinner) for 6:00pm start. All members welcome and encouraged to attend.**



## Rep Forum @ General Meetings

This is the time to ask questions that may be affecting multiple schools or to gather information from other reps – general issues, questions or concerns.

Please email questions/concerns to the President **the Wednesday prior to each General Meeting** so that as much information can be shared with the members as possible. Information will be provided via email response as well as during Rep Forum. Anything that has arisen before or after this date can and should still be brought before the membership at the General Meeting.



# CUTS TO EDUCATION WON'T HELP STUDENTS THRIVE



**CONTACT YOUR MLA & EXPLAIN WHY**



# ACT FOR EDUCATION



# 2026 Staffing Timelines



June 1 (12pm)	Final permanent posting closes
June 1 (12pm)	Article 10.04 posting goes live
June 3	Final permanent posting placement complete; check Successful Applicants list
June 4 (12pm)	Article 10.04 postings close
June 5 (12pm)	School Counsellor posting round goes live
June 8 (9am)	School Counsellor posting round closes
June 10 (12pm)	Teacher Placement Process appointment times and postings go live
June 11 (4pm)	Teacher Placement Process begins
June 13	Teacher Placement Process continues
June 17 (12pm)	First term posting goes live
June 19	Priority Placement staffing
June 22 (12pm)	First term posting closes
July 8 (12pm)	Summer term posting goes live
Aug 17 (12pm)	Summer term posting closes
Aug 19 (12pm)	Weekly Term postings resume

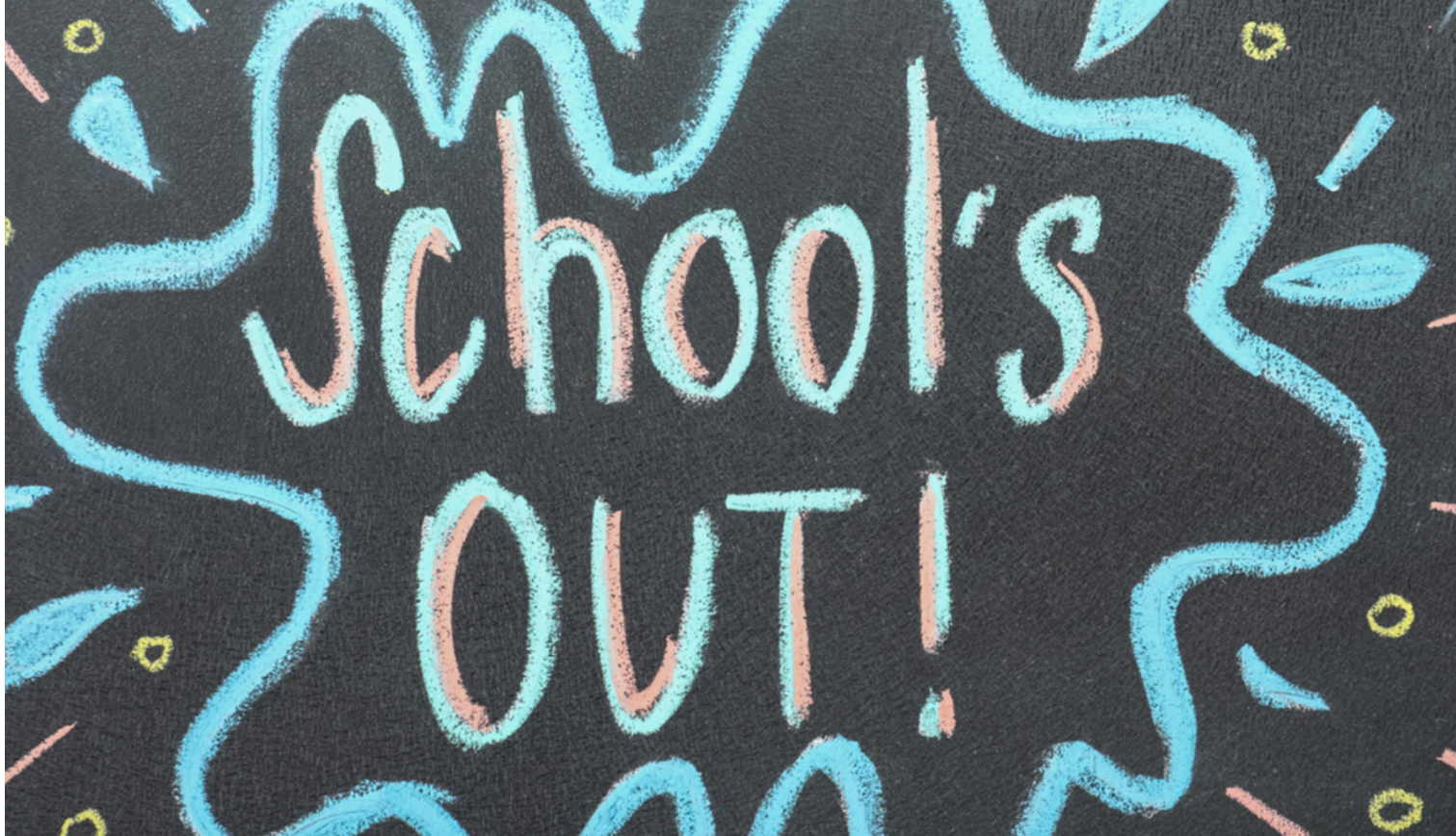
## Important to Note:

During the permanent posting rounds and during the Teacher Placement Process (TPP) teachers are required to rank the positions they apply to, in order of preference. Rankings will be relied on by HR Services to place you in a position. Rankings along with seniority and qualifications will determine the position teachers are placed in. Please note that ranking a position #1 does not guarantee that you will be placed in that position, as a more senior qualified applicant may be placed or it may be determined by HR Services that there were no qualified applicants for the position.

## Article 10.04 Positions

Article 10.04 positions will be posted at noon on **June 1, 2026** and close at noon on **June 4, 2026**. These positions are open to Permanent and Probationary status teachers. The selection process is merit-based which means seniority is not a factor. Teachers selected for an interview will be contacted directly by the principal. If you are offered and accept an Article 10.04 position, you are required to make a commitment to the position for three (3) school years in accordance with Article 10.04 of the NSTU local agreement. For clarity, if you accept a permanent position in the first or second round of permanent postings you are still eligible to be considered for and accept an Article 10.04 position.

**\*\*\*The above information is an excerpt from the 2026 Teacher Staffing Memo sent via HRCE email on Monday, May 4, 2026.**



**ALMOST!!!**

Join us at

**BIG LEAGUES PUB**

**(Cole Harbour)**

**FRIDAY, JUNE 19th**

**3:30 - 6:00 pm**

Celebrate the end of another school year with friends and colleagues - enjoy a complimentary beverage and snacks.

**[REGISTER HERE](#)**



# NSTU Benefits at a glance...

## Optional Group Life Insurance & Spousal Life Insurance

**Cost Sharing:** Member pays 100%

### Coverage:

Effective May 1, 2019 – Initial Amount increased to \$100,000 member / \$50,000 spouse. The initial amount of Optional Life Insurance has increased over the years, therefore, member may be insured for a lesser amount. The initial amount of \$100,000 member or \$50,000 spouse for a new member is not subject to medical evidence of insurability. However, a 24-month pre-existing condition clause applies.

Additional amounts available in units of \$5,000. The overall maximum of Optional Life Insurance available is \$300,000.

Spouse covered for \$10,000 & Dependent Children covered for \$5,000. Spouse can apply for an amount equal to or less than your amount of coverage.

- Can apply at any time under age 65. No application beyond age 65
- At age 70, the benefit will reduce to a maximum of \$50,000. Anyone who has less than \$50,000 of coverage would continue with the lesser amount
- Can be continued to age 85
- For amounts \$100,000 and below for the member and \$50,000 and below for the spouse, coverage takes effect the first of the month following receipt of the application. For all amounts that require medical evidence, coverage takes effect the first of the month following approval by the insurer.
- Conversion option available

902-453-9543 or 1-800-453-9543

email: [insurance@nstu.ca](mailto:insurance@nstu.ca)/[GroupBenefitsNS@belairdirect.com](mailto:GroupBenefitsNS@belairdirect.com)




Visit the belairdirect Agency Inc. website:

[www.belairdirect.com/nstu](http://www.belairdirect.com/nstu)



## Three to Thrive

Three quick, practical tips to help us recharge, stay balanced, and thrive—each one takes just a few minutes!

-  Protect your skin with sunscreen
-  Take 3 deep breaths before reacting – pause first
-  Pause and notice the sounds around you for 1 minute

Do you have any tips that work well???

If so, please feel free to send into [halifaxcountylocal@nstu.ca](mailto:halifaxcountylocal@nstu.ca) to be included in an upcoming Check In.



## CONTACT

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# Halifax County Retirement Event

SATURDAY

27

JUNE 2026

5:00 - 11:00 PM

DELTA HOTELS DARTMOUTH

240 BROWNLOW AVENUE



**REGISTRATION  
NOW OPEN**

Retiree registration

Paying Guest Registration

FEES

Retiree &  
One Guest  
Complimentary

All Others  
\$60.00

# Local PD Opportunities for June

## Halifax County Local Conference Fund

Amount: Up to \$800 CDN

Members can use to attend a conference, workshop, seminar, clinic, symposium, institute or other approved PD opportunity. Can receive once every 2 years.

**Eligibility:** Must be a permanent, probationary or term teacher of the Halifax County Local only. Please note: NSTU Professional Development Day (October Conference) and credit courses are not funded by this grant. For such funding, go to HRCE Internal Sharepoint for more information.

**Deadline: Last Friday of each month – August to June**

\*If applying for a Halifax County Local Conference from August 2026 to July 2027, please use the current 25-26 application found on the website. Please note that the current \$800 may be different and approvals will be conditional provided that the applicant remains in Halifax County after the postings. The new application will be posted once the budget is approved.

## Halifax County Local C.D.A.F. (Curriculum Development Assistance Fund)

Amount: 10 projects up to \$750

This fund was initiated to financially support Halifax County teachers to develop long term project ideas that align with grade/teaching assignment. These projects must be self-sustaining and contain non-consumables. As a result of this support, students benefit from enhanced learning experiences. Once per year.

**Eligibility:** Must be a permanent, probationary or term teacher of the Halifax County Local only.

**Deadline: Opens Monday, September 14<sup>th</sup> at 4pm and closes Friday, October 2<sup>nd</sup> at 4pm**

## Halifax County Local Cash for Classrooms

Amount: 500 applicants up to \$100

For Halifax County members to purchase items to improve some aspect of their teaching their profession, once per year as long as the budget has the funds.

Eligibility: Must be a permanent, probationary or term teacher of the Halifax County Local only. Cannot have received the CDAF in the same school year. **MUST be pre-approved. DO NOT BUY AHEAD OF APPROVAL.**

**Deadline: Opens Friday, October 16<sup>th</sup> and closes when the limit of 500 applications is reached**

## Article 60 Upcoming Deadlines

The 2026-27 Article 60 Guidelines are available via Sharepoint. Members are responsible to read and follow guidelines. Members must ensure they have completed all sections/boxes of the Sharepoint applications when applying. Members are responsible to verify documents are attached and deadlines are met.

**All documents must be received electronically via Sharepoint by 4pm.**

# Local PD Opportunities for June

Continued...

## Conference, In-service and Course Pre-approval 2026-27

### Application Deadline Dates (no later than 4:00 PM)

September 2, 2026  
September 30, 2026  
October 28, 2026  
November 25, 2026  
January 6, 2027  
January 27, 2027  
February 24, 2027  
March 31, 2027

### Committee Meeting Dates

September 9, 2026  
October 7, 2026  
November 4, 2026  
December 2, 2026  
January 13, 2027  
February 3, 2027  
March 3, 2027  
April 7, 2027

### Please note:

For conferences and Course Pre-Approvals, **the start date** must take place at least **10 calendar days AFTER the Committee Meeting Date.**  
For In-Services, **the start date** must take place at least **30 calendar days AFTER the Committee Meeting Date.**  
*Applications for conferences ending April 1, 2027-March 31, 2028 will be accepted beginning in January 2027.*

## Course Reimbursement Deadlines 2026-27:

Course Completed During the Following Dates	Deadline Date via SharePoint. No Later than 4pm
April 1, 2026 – June 30, 2026	July 31, 2026
July 1, 2026 – September 30, 2026	October 31, 2026
October 1, 2026 – December 31, 2026	January 31, 2027
January 1, 2027 – March 31, 2027	April 30, 2027

**HRCE has asked that when submitting documents for course reimbursements and use “snipping tool” from university websites, to please ensure members include their name in the snip to prove the receipt/course grade, etc belongs to the applicant.**

**\*\*These dates are a guide only. Members are responsible to reconfirm deadlines on the various websites. Halifax County Local is not responsible for incorrect/missed deadlines.**

## **KNOW YOUR CONTRACT(S)**

### **REGIONAL AGREEMENT (HRCE)**

#### **Summer School Article 15**

**15.01** Teachers employed for summer school employment shall be appointed from the teachers employed by the Regional Centre with first consideration given to teachers who taught the course in the immediate preceding school year.

**15.02** The rate of salary shall be seventy percent (70%) of the per diem rate applicable to each teacher. The rate of salary shall be as of August 1 of each year

### **TEACHERS' PROVINCIAL AGREEMENT (TPA) - ARTICLE 71 - MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES**

**71.01** The Employer and the Nova Scotia Teachers Union agree that mental health is an important consideration when ensuring the overall well being, safety, and learning of students and that having appropriate resources to provide mental health services is vital for students and the prevention of violence.

**71.02** Each school site in Nova Scotia shall have a School Counsellor (or a similarly situated NSTU professional) assigned to that school on a full-time basis, however, in school sites with less than 150 students the School Counsellor assigned to that school may be assigned other teaching duties.

**71.03** The Employer has until July 31, 2026 to fulfill its obligations under this article.

**71.04** The number of Counsellors assigned to existing schools will not be reduced as a result of the implementation of this article.

# CONGRATULATIONS

HALIFAX COUNTY LOCAL NSTU MEMBERS!



Were you a **BLUENOSER** this spring???

Receive a gift card for up to  
\$70 based on your registration fee.



Celebrating your training,  
dedication and participation in the  
**Bluenose Marathon 2026**



Please send us **your name, school name,**  
and attach a copy of your **confirmed registration**  
**showing the event fee paid.**

[EMAIL TO: hfxcowellness@nstu.ca](mailto:hfxcowellness@nstu.ca)



Also, share your race photos, so we can connect and inspire our  
entire membership as we celebrate your success!  
(Shared photos will be posted on our social media platforms.)



JOIN YOUR COLLEAGUES  
IN CELEBRATING

**HFX PRIDE**



More details in our  
Facebook event:  
"Hfx Pride Parade - NSTU Members"

**#NSTUpride**

**SAT. JULY 18, 2026**  
**MEET AT 11:30AM**

Bring a colleague, friends, or  
family (pets, too!) and walk with us

