



The

CHECK IN

May 11, 2026

Issue 35

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE:



This week, we celebrate Education Week 2026 and its theme, "Fostering Empathy: Learning and Leading with Kindness." We thank our teachers, school staff, and community partners for creating welcoming spaces where students can learn, grow, and lead with compassion.

We also recognize Mother's Day yesterday and extend our appreciation to all mothers, grandmothers, caregivers, and mother figures. Thank you for the kindness and care you bring to our homes, schools, and communities each day.

Mi'kmaw Language Day and Black Excellence Day

This week, we recognize and celebrate both Mi'kmaw Language Day and Black Excellence Day, two important occasions that honour the rich cultures, histories, and contributions that help shape Nova Scotia.

Today, May 11th, Mi'kmaw Language Day celebrates the strength, perseverance, and spirit of Mi'kmaq communities, and the vital role of the Mi'kmaw language in preserving identity, culture, and heritage. Established through the Mi'kmaw Language Act in 2022, the day also honours the enduring relationship between the Crown and the Mi'kmaq and the treaties of peace and friendship.

We also celebrate Black Excellence Day, first recognized in 2022, which highlights the brilliance, achievements, and talents of African Nova Scotian students and students of African ancestry. This year's celebration on May 15, 2026, provides an opportunity for school communities across the province to recognize and honour the stories, art, innovation, and contributions of individuals throughout the African diaspora.

IMPORTANT DATES

- May 11-15 Education Week
- May 11 Mi'kmaw Language Day (Culturally Significant Day) Schools OPEN
- May 13 Notice of Assignment
- May 13 First permanent posting round goes live (12:00pm)
- May 15 Black Excellence Day (Culturally Significant Day) Schools OPEN
- May 16 Hfx Co Local Student Bursary Applications Close
- May 18 Victoria Day
- May 18 First permanent posting round closes (12:00pm)

“Diversity is our strength, and inclusion is our future
~ Mayann Francis”

2026 Staffing Timelines

May 11, 2026

Issue 35

2026 Teacher Staffing Timelines

May 13	Notices of Assignment given to Permanent/Probationary teachers
May 13 (12pm)	First permanent posting goes live
May 18 (12pm)	First permanent posting closes
May 21	First permanent posting placement complete; check Successful Applicants list
May 27 (12pm)	Final permanent posting goes live
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.

Permanent Posting Rounds Process

- Permanent and probationary status teachers will apply for and rank positions in order of preference.
- HR will place teachers in a position for which they apply to, and are qualified for, in order of seniority and ranking, if it is available.
- **If a teacher is placed in a position they apply to, they will have no option to decline the position.** Therefore, it is important that teachers only apply to positions they are willing to be placed in.
- Successful applicants will be posted on Successful Applicants on myHRCE as positions are being filled by HR. Since this is a live system, please note that placements are subject to change if you're viewing these prior to the completion of the staffing process, May 15, 2025 and May 29, 2025.
- If you are listed as the Successful Applicant upon completion of the staffing process for the first permanent posting round, you are expected to email the Principal of your current school to advise them of such. Please follow the same process if you are the Successful Applicant for position in the final permanent posting round.

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

Halifax Local Executive Elections 2026

The Nominating committee will open the following application forms on Monday, April 20th at 4pm and close on Friday, May 14th at 4pm.

Vice-President Communications -
<https://forms.gle/8fB95PbPy3sKnty6>

Vice-President Nominating -
<https://forms.gle/8pjj19ssRkrbS2TZ8>

Vice-President Professional Development -
<https://forms.gle/8EUnALhRV3uTVz2B6>

Vice-President Social Wellness -
<https://forms.gle/BaDihb2Cbx1p3D1DA>

Applicants will receive an email from the Nominating chair soon after the close of nominations. Each applicant will be given the option to submit a photo and a 150-word informational statement that will be published in the weekly memo. Please keep an eye on your emails.

Local Executive elections will be held at the **June 3, 2026 2026 AGM.**

NOTES: It is advised to complete & submit all forms using a desktop or laptop computer and not a cell phone to make sure the Nominating Chair receives the form submission! Please keep the confirmation email you will receive as proof of submission. Any questions or concerns should be directed to Erica Ans (hfxconominations@nstu.ca)

KNOW YOUR CONTRACT(S)

TEACHERS' PROVINCIAL AGREEMENT (TPA) - ARTICLE 44 - SUPERVISORY AND ADMINISTRATIVE POSITIONS

44.01 For the purpose of this Agreement and every Local Agreement, a supervisory or administrative position refers to the classification of Department Head or any new classification established by the Employer.




Halifax County Local Bursary Application 2026

Halifax County bursaries are given to the children/stepchildren of Halifax County Local members (not PSAANS members) who are currently (2025-2026) teaching in a term, probationary or permanent position. Applicants must be graduating from High School in 2026. This bursary must be used for enrollment in post secondary education in September 2026 and cannot be deferred to another school year. The amount received by each recipient will be dependent on how many applications are received in total. The deadline for applications is **Friday, May 16th, 2026.**

Successful applicants will be notified by email after the deadline of Friday, May 16th, 2026. Due to confidentiality, all correspondence will be between the applicant (not a parent) and the Halifax County Local Treasurer only. Applicants are responsible for keeping the confirmation notification that is received once the Google Form is completed. Successful applicants will be asked to supply their Confirmation of Enrollment for a September 2026 start by September 25th, 2026 in order to receive the funds. Failure to submit the required document by the deadline will forfeit the funds to be shared amongst the applicants who completed the requirements. **Please note: A child of two Halifax County Teachers does not qualify for two bursaries.*

If you have any questions, feel free to email our treasurer, Paul Murphy at halifaxcountylocaltreasurer@nstu.ca

Please pass the Google Form link on to your child to apply which opens at 4:00pm on Friday, March 6, 2026. 

To apply please click **HERE**

Halifax County Retirement Event

SATURDAY 27 JUNE 2026

5:00 - 11:00 PM

DELTA HOTELS DARTMOUTH
240 BROWNLOW AVENUE



Registration forms will be available later this week so watch your NSTU registered email.



FEES

Retiree & One Guest Complimentary

All Others \$60.00

RESERVING HOTEL ROOM

Call 902-468-8888 & ask for "NSTU room rate". Limited block of rooms reserved, first come, first serve. After sellout, NSTU rate still available but subject to room availability. Rooms in reserved block must be booked by May 27th.

Education Week 2026
May 10-16

Fostering Empathy

Learning and Leading with Kindness

Empathy helps students build strong friendships, work well together, and grow into leaders who care about others. By learning and leading with kindness, we prepare students not just for success in school, but for making their communities better places.

Proudly sponsored by:

- Teachers Plus CREDIT UNION
- CACE
- NOVA SCOTIA NOUVELLE-ÉCOSSE
- FPANE
- PSAANS AAEPNE
- APSEA
- NS Education
- NS Teachers' Union

Join Us for a Social Gathering at Lefty's Restaurant & Lounge!

We hope to see as many of you as possible for an afternoon of connection, conversation, and relaxation as we head into the home stretch of the year. Feel free to bring along a colleague or two and enjoy some time to unwind together.

Friday, May 15, 2026
3:45 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.






We look forward to seeing you there! (link on **poster** on the following page to sign up)



Three to Thrive

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

-  Give yourself credit for finishing a tough task
-  Treat yourself to a brief walk in the fresh air
-  Listen to your body and rest when needed

Do you have any tips that work well???

If so, please feel free to send into halifaxcountylocal@nstu.ca to be included in an upcoming Check In.



CONTACT

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The belairdirect Scholarship Program

For many Canadian students, the jump from high school to post-secondary education is a thrilling transition into adulthood, but one that comes with new financial responsibilities.

At belairdirect they understand the challenges faced by students during their pursuit of higher education, and they are proud to offer scholarships to help them achieve their dreams.

This year, Belair Insurance Company Inc. ("belairdirect") is pleased to offer 50 scholarships worth \$1000.

To apply, the student must be:

- a resident of a province or territory of Canada;
- completing high school in 2026;
- have a minimum cumulative average of 80% over the last three terms of available marks, and
- enrolled in an undergraduate program on a full-time basis for the 2026-2027 academic year at a recognized publicly funded Canadian post-secondary institution or CEGEP (if living in the province of Quebec).



Additional information **HERE**



Halifax County Social Gathering

FRIDAY, MAY 15
3:45 - 6:00pm

Lefty's Restaurant & Lounge
Tantallon, NS

JOIN US FOR A BEVERAGE & APPETIZER BUFFET

[CLICK HERE](#)
TO REGISTER!

KNOW YOUR CONTRACT(S)

REGIONAL AGREEMENT (HRCE) - ARTICLE 8 - ADMINISTRATIVE APPOINTMENTS & PROMOTIONS

- 8.01** An administrative position is as defined in Article 44.01 of the *Teachers' Provincial Agreement*.
- 8.02** (i) The Regional Centre shall post all vacant and one (1) year acting administrative positions on the Regional Centre's web site for at least three (3) working days prior to the closing date of application.
- (ii) All permanent teachers are eligible to apply for positions pursuant to Article 8.02 (i).
- (iii) The Regional Centre shall fill the administrative position(s) posted pursuant to Article 8.02 (i) and post the name of the successful applicant on the Regional Centre's web site within twenty (20) days of the close of the posting.
- 8.03** (i) In selecting the most suitable applicant for each position posted in Article 8.02 (i), qualifications, quality of service and demonstrated leadership experience shall be the determining considerations.
- (ii) The Regional Centre shall establish a committee of at least three (3) members who shall select the successful applicant pursuant to Article 8.03 (i).
- 8.04** Applicants who apply for positions pursuant to Article 8.02 and are unsuccessful shall receive a debriefing upon request with the Principal/ Director of the relevant department or designate.
- 8.05** An acting position shall mean a position that results directly from the temporary absence from that position of the permanent incumbent.
- 8.06** Acting positions which are known to be for a period of less than one (1) school year and permanent or acting Department Head positions where only the Department Head component of the assignment is vacant need not be advertised but will be filled by the Regional Centre.
- 8.07** The Regional Centre shall not fill a vacant position or one (1) year only position with an external applicant unless no presently employed teacher who has applied for the position meets all the criteria specified by the Regional Centre for the position including criteria with respect to qualifications and teaching experience.



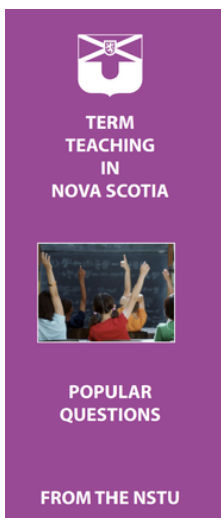
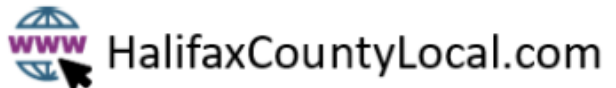
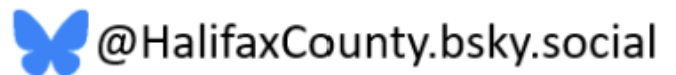
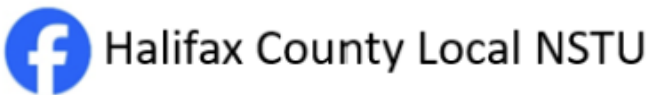
Pride Parade 2026



Are you interested in helping to plan the NSTU float in the Halifax Pride Parade? This year Halifax County, Halifax City and Dartmouth locals will work together to plan, and organize the NSTU's participation in the annual Pride Parade, taking place June 18th, 2026. **Please note our first meeting will be May 19th at 4:30** at 202 Brownlow Avenue (County office).

Sign up here:

<https://forms.gle/LFoWqWw3s9y5KgpS9>



Term Teacher Contract Information

Questions?

Please contact the Member Services Department at toll-free 1-800-565-6788 or email contractinfo@nstu.ca

Visit - <https://nstu.ca/nstu-members/early-career/term-contracts-q-a>

Local PD Opportunities for May

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.

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. All attachments should be visible so please ensure all documentation is attached.

Conference, In-service and Course Pre-approval:

The START DATE for Conferences and Courses must take place 10 Calendar days AFTER the committee meeting dates (first Wednesday of each month). In-services can take place 30 Calendar Days after.

Conference and In-Service Application Due Dates: **MAY 27**

Course Reimbursement Deadlines:

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

Local PD Opportunities for May

Continued...

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.

Upcoming Provincial NSTU Deadline Dates 2025-26 (nstu.ca)**

All applications must be received at the NSTU Central Office by 4pm on the date specified. If the deadline falls on a holiday, applications will be accepted until 4pm the next business day.

<https://nstu.ca/nstu-members/professional-development/grants-opportunities/study-and-research-grants>

Program Development Assistance Fund (PDAF) - June 1, August 1

**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.

Halifax County Local Standing Committees 2026-2027

The expression of interest form for members of Halifax County Local NSTU wishing to serve on one of the Local standing committees for the 2026-27 school year will **open on April 20th at 4pm** and **close on May 15th at 4pm**. Committees include Nominating, Finance, Social Wellness, Equity & Reps, Economic Welfare & Resolutions, Communication and Professional Development. Please fill out the form using the following link: <https://forms.gle/H3ycuWRuwDFVWJtD7>

NOTES: Current committee members must reapply for the upcoming year. It is advised to complete & submit all forms using a desktop or laptop computer and not a cell phone to make sure the Nominating Chair receives the form submission! Please keep the confirmation email you will receive as proof of submission. Any questions or concerns should be directed to Erica Ans (hfxconominations@nstu.ca)