



The CHECK IN

Nov. 17, 2025

Issue 12



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE:



National Child Day, observed across Canada on November 20, highlights our collective responsibility to support and uphold the rights of all children. The day echoes the principles of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child and encourages us to foster environments where young people feel safe, valued, and able to reach their full potential.

Information on the day and ways in which to celebrate are linked to the graphic above Important Dates.

Teacher Professional Practice

These days are for teachers to **complete professional duties as determined by the teacher, including but not limited to marking, preparation and professional collaboration.**

Teachers are entitled to determine what professional duties they undertake during this time and the employer cannot mandate meetings or the performance of any particular task.

If you are being asked by admin to attend meetings or anything other than what is stated in the contractual language above, please contact Wally Fiander, Tim MacLeod (Bedford/Sackville schools) or myself.

Self-directed PD days for HRCE:

Dec 4/25: - Progress Conferences/Teacher Professional Practice Day No Classes All Schools -1/2 day Teacher Professional Practice for everyone

Dec 22/25 -full day Teacher Professional Practice for everyone

Apr 2/26: - Elem/Middle/Jr Progress Conference/Teacher Professional Practice Day & High School PD (No Classes All Schools) - 1/2 day Teacher Professional Practice for Elementary and Middle Level Only

Apr 29/26: - Elem/Middle/Jr Professional Development & High School Progress Conference/Teacher Professional Practice Day (No Classes All Schools) -1/2 day Teacher Professional Practice for high schools only.

IMPORTANT DATES

Nov 21 Elem/Middle/Jr Evaluation Day
No Classes
ELEM/MIDDLE/JR ONLY

Nov 26 Teacher or School Initiated Inservice Promotion Grant application deadline

Article 60 Conference Grant application due

General Meeting

Nov 28 Teaching Together application due

Halifax County Local Conference Fund and Local Reserve Conference Fund application deadline

“Children are entitled to special care and assistance”
~ UN Convention on the Rights of the Child

General Meetings:

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.**



November 26
January 21

March 4
April 8

May 6
June 3

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 still be brought before the membership at the General Meeting.



Beaded Holiday Ornament Workshop



Our beading workshop on Sunday, November 16th was a wonderful success! Thank you to everyone who joined us.

Participants were guided by Priscilla (Cilla) Babin-Halsey as they created their own holiday ornaments. Cilla, a member of the Millbrook First Nation and the Acadian community, teaches at Astral Drive Elementary and represents the school within

our Halifax County Local. Beading is an important way she connects with and expresses her Mi'kmaq identity, and we were grateful she shared her knowledge and artistry with our members.

A few spaces are still available for our next session on Sunday, November 23rd. To register, please contact

Shelley Rigby, VP of Reps and Equity, at hfxcoreps@nstu.ca.



Nov. 17, 2025

Issue 12

Connect Hfx County Campaign

Let's grow our Local together! Our Social Media Campaign is now live on Facebook and Instagram. Follow us, read the official rules, and get involved for your chance to win while helping build a stronger communication network for all Hfx County Local members.

Link to official rules:

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1ai987JVgpnCiE9pSP81xsHGDo3BVLhbue-r-9oLDv6c/edit?usp=sharing>

KNOW YOUR CONTRACT(S)

Regional Agreement (HRCE) **ARTICLE 4 SPECIAL LEAVES**

4.07 Teachers shall be entitled to temporary Leave of Absence with full pay for a maximum of three (3) days in any school year for urgent or imperative responsibilities. Responsibilities shall be defined as a victim of fire or flood or other natural disaster, to attend the citizenship ceremony of the teacher, to attend the deployment of the teacher's spouse or common law partner or such others as may be approved by the Regional Executive Director or designate. The leave shall be for the purpose of addressing the urgent or imperative matter. The teacher responsible shall return to work once the matter is under control.

<https://nstu.ca>

Local PD Opportunities for October

Cash for Classrooms Receipts are Due February 27th

The PD Committee has processed all Cash for Classroom applications. Those who have received an approval email are reminded to verify the instructions on the attachments. **Make sure the purchase is DATED NOVEMBER 11th or later and not before. All EXPENSE FORMS AND RECEIPTS MUST BE RECEIVED BY Friday, February 27th, 2026.**

Remember to take a photocopy (or picture) of the expense form and receipts in case they are lost.

Return your completed form and receipts either by:

**Mail to: Halifax County PD Committee,
202 Brownlow Ave, Suite 320,
Dartmouth, NS B3B 1T5**

-Drop it off at the local office (address above – mail slot to right of the door if the office door is locked). **Please note the building itself is locked after 5pm and on weekends.**

-Give it to your School Rep to give to Jodie MacIlreith at a General Meeting (Nov 26th and Jan 21st)

REPS or Members: If you collect forms and receipts for your school, please ensure all receipts are stapled to the appropriate form before collecting and put in a large envelope. Have each member sign a form stating they have given you their forms with receipts but that they have taken copies of said forms and receipts for their own records in case something happens.

We appreciate your patience while we process over 500 expense forms and receipts. Cheques will be issued as soon as the committee is able to verify the expense forms/receipts and the Treasurer/Finance committee is able to process them.

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

THUNDERBIRDS NIGHT

**DECEMBER
5TH
7:00PM**

**SUBSIDIZED
TICKETS**

2 tickets per Hfx
County Member

Brought to you by Halifax County
Social Wellness Committee

GET YOUR TICKETS/DETAILS HERE: <https://forms.gle/LJ3CwUiN9t42JtG38>



Membership Registry

Nov. 17, 2025

Issue 12

NSTU reps should be updating the Membership Registry online and in real time. When an NSTU rep updates the site list, the changes are immediately made to the database ensuring the Union's membership information is current and accurate.

How To: Click on "Edit Site", you will be presented with the site list.

If the listed member is no longer at the site, click on "Employment Status" and select the reason. If the member has retired please check the "Retired" box. If you are uncertain of the reason they are no longer at the site you may select "Unknown" from the dropdown list.

If you select "New Site" from the dropdown list, another field will appear. Once you begin to type a site name into the field it will present you with options. Click on the name of the site and it will populate the field.

If a member is **MISSING** from the site:

- enter their professional number into the field above the list that says "start typing to search".
- The system will present you with a list of names which will narrow down to a single name once all the digits have been input.
- When you see the name to be input, select it. Once it replaces the number in the box select "Add". This will add the member to the bottom of the list. Will move to alphabetical order when saved.

If a member is **NOT** in the system (no match found):

- please ensure that the member completes a "Membership Information" form ([English/French](#)) and submit it to Central Office so that the member is put them into the system.
- Once they have been entered they will automatically appear on your site.
- **Until the member completes and submits the "Membership Information" form, that person will not be included in the membership database and; therefore, not in the Local's membership numbers.**

To save any changes, you **must click the "Save" button** at the top of the page. When satisfied that all the necessary changes have been made to the list simply select the box for "submit completed information" then click the "Save" button. Changes **MAY** be made after these steps.

Registry cont...

Membership figures are pulled from the Registry on the **first Monday in December** and the **last Monday in March** each year. NSTU representatives are responsible for ensuring the accuracy of the site information within the Membership Registry. All site updates should be completed at **least one week prior to each of the above-mentioned dates** and may be completed any time prior to that point. Should you require additional information please contact NSTU Central Office by phoning (902)-477-5621, or toll free at (800) 565-6788 or by emailing registry@nstu.ca



Trouble Accessing Your NSTU Account?

Having issues with your username, password, or registration?

Email webaccounts@nstu.ca from a non-employer email. Be sure to include a description of the issue and your professional number.

Counselling Services Available through NSTU

Counselling Services works to strengthen and support the quality of personal and professional life for NSTU members, their partners and dependents throughout all school districts and community college campuses.


Counselling Services provides short-term assistance. Those requiring longer-term intervention are, after an initial assessment, assisted by referral to an appropriate community-based professional.

Workshops for school/campus staffs are offered, as requested, on issues such as wellness, managing workplace stress, balancing home and career, conflict management and transition into retirement.


Crisis intervention for staff members to address trauma and grief situations is available on request, all counselling requires the consent and participation of the client regardless of the referring circumstances and all information given to Counselling Services will be confidential.

Any release of information requires the signed consent of all parties involved who are over the age of 12. Exceptions to this apply if subpoenaed by the court or required under legislation. Counselling sessions are made by appointment only.

Appointments are available at a mutually acceptable time and place throughout all regions of the province. To arrange an appointment, please call Counselling Services between 8:30 am and 4:30 p.m. at the NSTU Central Office, 1-902-477-5621, or 1-800-565-6788 (toll free). **NSTU provides these services to members at no additional charge.**

 Halifax County Local NSTU

 @HalifaxCounty

 @HalifaxCounty.bsky.social

 HalifaxCountyLocal.com




Nov. 17, 2025

Issue 12



Three to Thrive

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

-  Avoid skipping meals—it affects focus and energy
-  Reflect on a fun classroom moment today
-  Go screen-free for 15 minutes before sleeping

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

Desiree Daniele
Local President
P(cell): 902-499-0933
P(office): 902-468-6788
E: halifaxcountylocal@nstu.ca

202 Brownlow Av. Suite 320
Dartmouth NS B3B 1T5

Wally Fiander
NSTU Executive Staff Officer
P(office): 902-477-5621
E: wfiander@staff.nstu.ca

Tim MacLeod (Bedford/Sackville)
NSTU Executive Staff Officer
P(office): 902-477-5621
E: tmacleod@staff.nstu.ca

Halifax Regional Representative Council (HRRC)

Economic Welfare Virtual Sessions



~~Retirement Income~~

~~November 6, 2025 @ 6 pm~~

~~Presenter: Wally Fiander, NSTU~~



~~Pregnancy, adoption, and parental leave~~

~~November 13, 2025 @ 6 pm~~

~~Presenter: Tim MacLeod, NSTU~~

Introducing New Members to the NSTU

November 25, 2025 @ 6 pm

Presenter: Tim MacLeod, NSTU



Contracts and the hiring process

December 9, 2025 @ 6 pm

Presenter: Tim MacLeod, NSTU



Sessions open to members of:

Halifax County • Halifax City • Dartmouth

Once registered, the Zoom link will be sent to you the day of the session.

To register, e-mail: economicwelfaresessions@gmail.com

Please specify which session you are registering for.



CTF/FCE Initiative

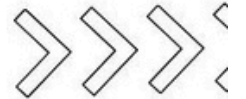
Sponsored by



Nova Scotia
Teachers Union



Teaching Together



NSTU sponsors 2 members to collaborate with colleagues in economically emerging countries to improve teaching & learning through co-planning and co-delivering professional learning.

Brochure



CTF Info



NSTU Info



DEADLINE

Friday November 29

