



The

CHECK IN

Oct. 27, 2025

Issue 9

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE:



This past week has been challenging for many County members. We encourage everyone to support one another, stay connected and remember that help and resources are always available if you need them.

There are many supports available through the NSTU:

- Counselling Services: 1-902-477-5621 or toll-free 1-800-565-6788, 8:30 a.m.–4:30 p.m. Appointments are available at a mutually acceptable time and place throughout all regions of the province
- Homewood Pathfinder Employee and Family Assistance Program (EFAP): 24/7
<https://nstuinsurance.ca/members/active/efap>
 - English: 1-877-955-NSTU (6788)
 - French: 1-514-875-0720

Both services are free of charge to active NSTU members.

You're Invited! Halifax County Local Open House

Join us on **Wednesday, November 5/2025** from **3:30–5:30 p.m.** at our Local office — drop in to say hello, connect with colleagues, and learn more about what Halifax County Local does for you!

📍 Where: 202 Brownlow Ave, Suite 320 Dartmouth B3B 1T5 (above RBC)

🍰 Enjoy light refreshments and conversation with colleagues

We can't wait to see you there!

IMPORTANT DATES

Oct 29 Teacher or School Initiated Inservice Promotion Grant application deadline

Article 60 Conference Grant application due

Oct 31 Halifax County Local Conference Fund/ Local Reserve Conference Fund application deadline

Article 60 PD (Course) Grant application deadline



Article 60 update

Article 60 arbitration is now complete — the committee is considering all applications. Apply today!

“

Language is the soul of the people; Language is the mind of the people; Language is the spirit of the people

~ Sister Dorothy Moore

”

Alberta Teachers Need Our Support

Since Oct. 6, over 51,000 Alberta teachers have been on strike for smaller classes, better supports, and fair pay. Let's show our solidarity from Nova Scotia!

On Wed. Oct. 29, wear **red** and post a photo with #OurKidsCantWaitAB #StopTheExcuses #HfxCoLocal.

Follow and boost the **Alberta Teachers' Association** on social media to help their message spread.

- Instagram: @abteachers
- Bluesky: @albertateachers.bsky.social
- Facebook: Alberta Teachers' Association
- X (Twitter): @albertateachers

The Alberta Premier plans to introduce the "Back to School Act" on Oct. 27—let's make sure teachers know we're with them.



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Important Notice: Mail Strike and Cheque Distribution

Due to the ongoing Canada Post rotating mail strike, we will not be mailing out cheques at this time. Members can make arrangements to **pick up cheques at the Local office** or **receive them at the next Local meeting on November 26th**.

To arrange pickup or for more information, please contact:

✉ **Desiree Daniele** –
halifaxcountylocal@nstu.ca

✉ **Paul Murphy** –
halifaxcountylocaltreasurer@nstu.ca

Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.



<https://nstu.ca>

Local PD Opportunities for October

October Conference Day Receipts are due electronically by **November 14th at 4pm** via HRCE Sharepoint. **Each member** is responsible to submit their own receipts before the deadline. Most conferences email receipts to members after attendance.

Cash for Classrooms Update

Applications are now closed for the 2025-26. Those members who applied are reminded that the PD Committee must review over 500 Cash for Class applicants. Members are reminded NOT to purchase any materials until they receive an approval email sometime in November.

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

KNOW YOUR CONTRACT(S)

Regional Collective Agreement (HRCE)

Leave of Absence (excerpt)

- 5.01** (i) The Regional Centre shall grant a one (1) school year unpaid Leave of Absence to a teacher on a permanent contract who applies for such leave. Upon completion of the Leave of Absence the teacher's status within the school remains the same as if the Leave of Absence had not occurred; however, it should be understood that nothing in the application of the Leave of Absence will affect the status of a teacher in the school should it become necessary to apply Article 11 – Seniority and Reduction or Article 10 – Staffing.
- (ii) The Regional Centre may grant an additional one (1) school year unpaid Leave of Absence to a teacher granted a Leave of Absence pursuant to Article 5.01, and who has applied for a second such leave. Teachers shall provide written reasons for the request. Upon approval of the second year Leave of Absence, the teacher's status will be surplus and the teacher's position will become a permanent vacancy and will be posted in accordance with Article 10.01. The teacher shall apply for positions pursuant to Articles 10.10 and 10.11 for the year of their scheduled return.
- 5.02** (i) Applications for Leave of Absence shall be submitted to the Director of Human Resource Services or designate on or before April 1 of the school year prior to the one in which leave is desired.
- (ii) Applications for a Leave of Absence submitted after April 1 may be granted by the Regional Centre.

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.

Would you like to serve the NSTU at the Provincial Level?

***** Revised *****

The NSTU needs input from the widest-possible cross section of its members in order to make the most effective contribution to education. Members serve on most provincial standing committees for a maximum of two years,* so we are constantly in search of skilled and interested persons to make our committee structure operate successfully. Committee membership is open to Active and Active Reserve Members

Substitute Committee – One Vacancy: 1 year term replacement (2026)

Professional Associations Coordination Committee (PACC): One Vacancy: 1-year term replacement (2026)

**NSTU Operational Procedures state: Appointment to a committee will be for one defined term of two years. In extraordinary circumstances, an extension of one year is permissible.*

You may apply online by going to the following link (you do not require an NSTU webmail account to apply online):

<https://conf.nstu.ca/ConferenceRegistrations/Index/1338>

The Nominating Committee will be accepting applications until 4:30 p.m. on Wednesday, November 26, 2025.

Call for Expanded Student Loan Forgiveness

A stronger future for our schools starts with supporting the people who work in them. Join us in calling on the federal government to keep its promise and expand student loan forgiveness for educators and specialists in rural and remote communities. Write to your local Member of Parliament today - <https://www.actforeducation.ca/action/>

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Three to Thrive

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



Practice saying “no” when your schedule is full



Reflect on a kind moment from today



Take a short break to doodle or color

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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