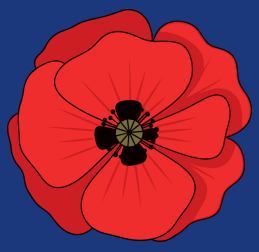
Halifax County Local NSTU

The CHECK IN

Nov 2, 2026

Issue 10



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE:



Well, after a weekend filled with Halloween festivities and the end of Daylight Saving Time, I hope everyone had a chance to enjoy a little fun and perhaps an extra hour of rest!

As we move into November, our school year continues to be busy, and I want to take a moment to thank each of you for the work you do every day to support your colleagues, students, and school communities. There are several opportunities coming up to connect, learn, and strengthen our work together. I encourage everyone to take advantage of these opportunities, stay in touch, and continue to reach out whenever questions or concerns arise.

As always, please remember that we are stronger when we support one another. Thank you for everything you do and for the time and energy you continue to give to our NSTU community.

In solidarity, Desirée Daniele

First Vice President - Economic Welfare and Resolutions By-Election

Halifax County Local has a vacancy on the Executive for First Vice-President, Economic Welfare and Resolutions. An Expression of Interest form is now open for anyone who would like to offer for the position. Information on the duties and responsibilities is available at the top of the form. Questions about the position should be directed to the **Local President**. The form closes November 2nd at 4 pm, and the election will take place at the General Meeting on November 18th.

Expression of interest Google Form:
https://forms.gle/u5nQdy2JQh28u1h5A

Campaigning or publicity cannot happen prior to the close of nominations, as per Halifax County Local's Operational Procedures.

IMPORTANT DATES

Nov 11	Remembrance Day
Nov 13	Article 60 NSTU Professional Association Conference Day Grant (October Conference Day) application deadline
Nov 14/15	Representative Training
Nov 18	Local General Meeting
Nov 20	Elem/Middle/Jr Evaluation Day *No Classes ELEM/MIDDLE/JR ONLY*

> At the going down of the sun and in the morning, we will remember them
>
> ~ Laurence Binyon

Nov 2, 2026
Issue 10

Access to Safety Should Not Be Considered Optional



Have you ever been unable to access a secure space during a Hold and Secure, Lockdown, or other safety-related situation because you didn't have the necessary keys or access?

We continue to hear concerns from staff about these situations, and your experiences matter!

The Local is collecting information through this form to document these incidents and share the findings with our employer to continue advocating for the changes needed to ensure all staff can access secure spaces when their safety may be at risk.

Help us turn concerns into action! By reporting your experience, you can help demonstrate the scope of this issue, strengthen our advocacy, and support meaningful changes to improve staff safety.

Your safety matters. Your voice matters. Let's work together to make our workplaces safer for everyone.

https://forms.gle/Sfj4KKfMPQZhNWt76

Representative Training Conference 2026



The Representative Training Conference for Halifax County will take place on November 14 & 15, 2026.

If you are planning to attend, please check your email for a message to be sent in the next few days with additional information. If you do not receive an email, please contact hfxcoreps@nstu.ca.

Nov. 2, 2026
Issue 10

From the Nominations Committee!

Consideration for members to attend Annual Council begins early! If you think you might want to apply, please be aware that attendance at the Local Rep meetings is a contributing factor for success.

See the excerpt from the rubric below, and mark your calendars for Sept 23, October 21, and November 18. 5:30 pm for supper, 6:00 pm start. Sackville Legion, 45 Sackville Cross Rd, Lower Sackville. See you there!

	5	3	1
Attendance at Halifax County Local General Meetings	Attended 3 meetings this school year	Attended 2 meetings this school year	Attended 0-1 meetings this school year

General Meetings:



General Meetings are open to all active and reserve County members and 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 18	March 3	May 5
January 20	April 7	June 2

The Rep Forum is for 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.



Halifax County Local NSTU
@HalifaxCounty
@HalifaxCounty.bsky.social
HalifaxCountyLocal.com





Local PD Opportunities for October

Halifax County Local Conference Fund

Amount: Up to $900 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

Special Note:
October Conference Day Funding: (NSTU Professional Development Day). Deadline to submit conference receipts is November 13, 2026 at 4:00pm. Instructions and application form is located on HRCE SharePoint.

Nov 2, 2026
Issue 10



Your Time Is Valuable: Let's Talk Workload

Elementary educators are raising growing concerns about the time it takes to enter literacy and math data for the employer and the impact these demands have on already busy workloads.

We want to hear from you! By completing this form, you can help document the time and workload involved in these requirements and their impact on your day-to-day responsibilities. The information gathered will help support informed conversations with HRCE and the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development about current expectations and their impact on educators.

Your time matters. Your voice matters. Help us build a clearer picture of these demands and advocate for meaningful conversations about educator workload.

And yes, the irony of asking educators to spend more time providing data about the time spent on data collection is not lost on me! Thank you for taking the time to share your experiences and help us highlight the impact these demands have on educator workload.

👉 Please take a few minutes to complete the form below:

https://forms.gle/5658aCzQvKcg8RrB9

🌟 Wellness & Classroom Funding Updates!

Cash for Wellness: Approval emails have officially been sent! 🎉 Be sure to check your inbox, and don't forget to peek in your junk or spam folders just in case. Have questions? Reach out to us at halifaxcountylocaltreasurer@nstu.ca or halifaxcountylocal@nstu.ca. We're happy to help!

Cash for Classrooms: The PD Committee is reviewing applications this week, so keep an eye on your inbox! Emails with updates and decisions are expected to be sent out soon.

Deals & Discounts

Halifax County Local - Nova Scotia Teachers Union

Bring a colleague.
Build our Local.

School Representatives:bringamember who has never been to a General Meeting.New anddiversevoicesmake our conversations richer — and our union stronger.



Where & when

Royal Canadian Legion
45 Sackville Cross Rd, Lower Sackville, NS
5:30 pm — arrival, dinner, networking and time to read reports
6:00 pm — meeting starts

Gift card draws

Bring a colleague and you're **both** entered in the gift card draw that night — one entry for you, one for your guest.

General Meeting Dates

2026-2027

- Nov 18 2026
- Jan 20 2027
- Mar 03 2027
- Apr 07 2027
- May 05 2027
- June 02 2027

Welcome to Halifax County Local – NSTU

Updates & information:

https://halifaxcountylocal.com/



Have an idea about something the HRRC should change, improve, or address through regional negotiations?

Have Your Say:

Scan the QR Code or follow the link to create a suggestion for the regional negotiating team.

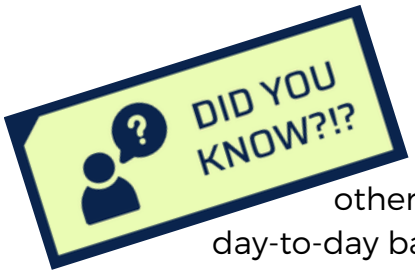
https://forms.cloud.microsoft/r/HxWEsCqyMm

KNOW YOUR CONTRACT(S)

Teachers' Provincial Agreement (TPA)
ARTICLE 29 LEAVE FOR BIRTH OF CHILD

29.01 On the occasion of the birth of the teacher's child, the non-birth parent who is a teacher shall be granted special leave with pay up to a maximum of two (2) days.

29.02 The leave may be divided as follows:
(i) one (1) day within one (1) week of the date of birth;
(ii) the remainder of the leave shall be granted within six (6) weeks of the date of birth.



Reserve Membership

A Reserve Member is a teacher or other qualified person employed on a day-to-day basis to replace a regularly employed teacher who has worked at least 15 days during the current and/or preceding school year. Reserve Members must pay both an annual Union Membership Fee and per diem Union Membership Fees, as established by Council.

Membership Application Details:
The rights of Reserve Membership shall include, but not necessarily be limited to the right to:

1. benefits as provided through NSTU as bargaining agent;
2. request legal assistance in instances resulting from problems arising in the performance of duties;
3. professional counselling within education;
4. vote at the local and provincial level;
5. attend Council as outlined in Article II of these By-Laws;
6. membership in Professional Associations, except the right to hold office;
7. membership in the NSTU Group Insurance Plan, in accordance with the provisions of the plan;
8. membership on NSTU committees, where elected or appointed;
9. access NSTU publications and materials, as assigned, on the NSTU website

Fee: $32.00 per year (August 1 – July 31) plus an additional $3.00 per day taught

Application details located on the **NSTU website**

Nov. 2, 2026
Issue 10



CONTACT

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Tim MacLeod
NSTU Executive Staff Officer
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E: tmacleod@staff.nstu.ca

Jeff Morse
NSTU Executive Staff Officer
P(office): 902-477-5621
E: jmorse@staff.nstu.ca

Please visit our website for a breakdown of Executive Staff representation for our County school sites.

Teacher SOLE Stories

The shoes that get us through the school day!



This fall, we're putting our best foot forward and eelebrating the shoes that keep educators moving!



What's your Teacher Sole Story?

Show us your favourite teacher shoes and tell us:

The Sole:
What shoes are you rocking?

The Story:
Why do you love them?

The School-Day Test:
How do they hold up through a typical day of teaching?

The Sole Reason:
What makes them your must-have teacher shoes?

Maybe they're...

- The comfiest sneakers known to humanity
- Your trusty "I can stand all day" shoes
- Boots that say fall is here!
- A stylish pair that somehow survives recess duty
- The shoes you've worn so much they're practically a member of staff

Because every pair has a story.

Step into the spotlight.
Share your shoes. Share your story.

READY TO SHARE YOUR SOLE STORY?

Upload your favourite teacher-shoe photo + tell us why you love them!

Submit your Sole Story here:
https://forms.gle/7Rs1Xvu5HdbLwX578

$50 GIFT CARD

3 WINNERS OF A $50 GIFT CARD EACH!

OCT 23rd | OCT 30th | NOV 6th

#TeacherSoleStories #PuttingYourBestFootForward
#TeacherStyle #TeachersOnTheMove

Great teachers.
Great stories.
Great shoes.

Parental Leave & Benefits



23 NOVEMBER 2026

Presented by an NSTU Staff officer via Zoom at 6PM

Sign up by scanning the QR code or following the link below:

https://forms.cloud.microsoft/r/d9hDdtCBSS?origin=lprLink

HRBRC
Halifax City • Halifax County • Dartmouth

Nova Scotia Teachers Union



Are you looking for a larger, more global view of education?

As a teacher, do you feel you have more to offer and more to learn?

Are you ready for a professional and personal adventure?

If yes, Teaching Together might be for you!

Volunteer for Teaching Together with the Canadian Teachers' Federation (CTF/FCE)

The CTF/FCE is seeking English- and French-speaking Canadian teachers at the elementary and secondary levels who are interested in volunteering their time, knowledge, and skills to co-facilitate professional development in-service programs in partnership with teaching organizations in Africa and the Caribbean. Each year, over 50 Canadian teachers are chosen to volunteer in the program, which takes place in July.

All candidates must:

- Hold a Canadian passport valid until at least six months following the volunteer program. (Proof that a passport application has been made will be accepted);
- Be a member of a provincial or territorial teacher organization that supports Teaching Together;
- Hold a valid teaching certificate;
- Have completed at least five years of teaching in Canada by the time of departure for the program;
- Be in excellent health and be able to work in potentially challenging conditions;
- **Have high standards of professionalism and personal conduct;**
- **Show evidence of flexibility and mature judgment;**
- **Be willing to put the team and program needs above personal needs.**

Please note:

Teaching Together is a volunteer experience. Administrative, travel, and living expenses are covered by the CTF/FCE and its Member Organizations. No salaries or honoraria are paid to volunteer participants. No family or friends are permitted to accompany participants during pre-departure orientation or overseas programs.

To apply please contact Amanda O'Regan-Marchand at amarchand@staff.nstu.ca

Deadline to apply is November 27, 2026

www.ctf-fce.ca

Membership Registry

Nov 2, 2026
Issue 10

Introducing the New & Improved Member Registry!!

We think you are going to like this new user experience.

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.

.If the listed member is no longer at the site, click the arrow under "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:

- click on the + add member button to enter their professional number.
- 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 and click the blue Add button.

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.**

All changes will be saved as you make them. When satisfied that all the necessary changes have been made to the list simply select the box for "Approve & lock this list".

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 webaccounts@nstu.ca

Registry Representative Guide is available on the NSTU website to assist with updating.

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.