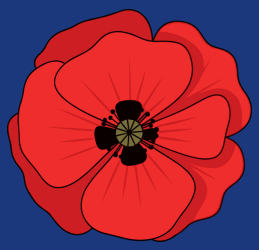
Halifax County Local NSTU

The CHECK IN

Nov 9, 2026

Issue 11



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE:



On November 11, we pause to honour the courage, sacrifice, and service of all those who have served Canada in times of war, conflict, and peace. We remember those who made the ultimate sacrifice, those who returned home, and those who continue to serve our country today.

Their courage, dedication, and commitment remind us of the importance of peace, freedom, and gratitude. We are forever grateful for their service and the sacrifices made to protect the values we hold dear.

Lest we forget.

In solidarity, Desirée Daniele



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*

🌟 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 almost done reviewing applicants purchases and emails should be sent out notifying applicants later this week. Members are reminded NOT to purchase any materials until they receive an approval email sometime later in November.

> "Lest we forget
>
> ~ Rudyard Kipling"

1st VP, Economic Welfare & Resolutions

Introducing the candidates!

Jonathan Sproul



It's with great enthusiasm that I confirm my candidacy for 1st Vice President of Halifax County. After serving on our local executive for the last three years, I once again ask for your support with the same message, this time attached to a new position: #HalifaxCountyStrong!

During my time as Member At Large, I've prioritized initiatives with direct impact on members. As your 1st VP, I will stay member-focused, helping with all economic welfare matters. Whether it's your working conditions, resolutions for Council or asking package items, I'll be your voice and take action to move County forward.

I've occupied this role as an interim position and have already developed much of the skill set it requires. I've worked regionally and locally to ensure our members' voices are heard; to make sure we become stronger, together. I remain committed to representing our Local with pride, and ask for your support and your vote on November 18th.

Jessica Wells

I'm Jessica Wells, and I've been teaching for 11 years and involved with our Halifax County Local for the past 7 years. Through my work as a school representative, Annual Council delegate, and in local and provincial NSTU roles, I've seen how important strong economic advocacy is to our members.

I'm running for First Vice-President – Economic Welfare & Resolutions because I want to help ensure our members understand their rights, have a strong voice when it comes to working and economic conditions, and feel supported when navigating issues that affect them. I'm someone who listens, asks questions, and gets involved, and I'm ready to bring that approach to this role.



Have your say!

Vote at the General Meeting on November 18th, 6 pm

Sackville Legion 45 Sackville Cross Rd, Lr. Sackville

Nov. 9, 2026
Issue 11

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



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/



Nova Scotia Teachers Union

HRRC
Halifax City • Halifax County • Dartmouth



JOHS

Hosted by ourown
NSTU StaffOfficer & InHouseLegalCounsel

November17th,2026
Time: 6:30-7:30pm

Zoom / Virtual

Learn from our in house specialist and network / ask questions, sharing what's happening at your site(s).

Sign up here! Scan QR or click on link...

https://forms.cloud.microsoft/r/1NFKKcLCVb?origin=lprLink







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.

Local PD Opportunities for November

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.

Deals & Discounts

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

Nov 9, 2026
Issue 11



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.

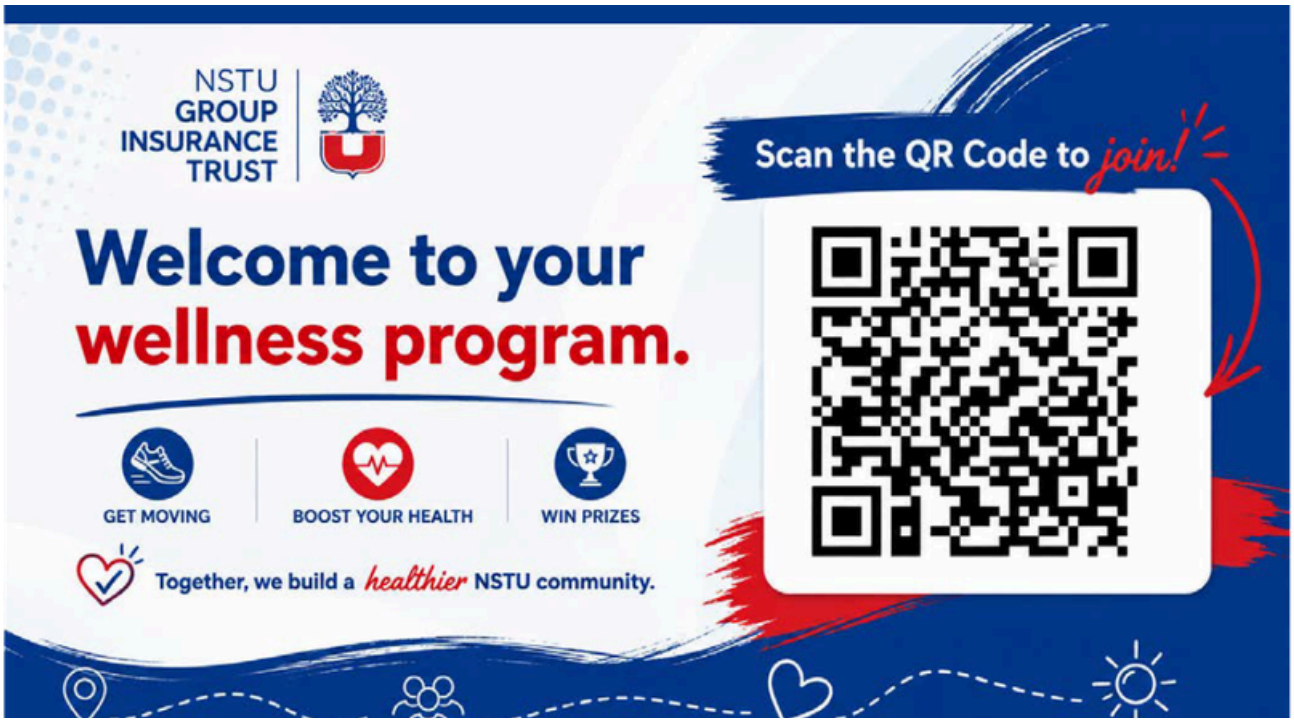
We want to hear from you! By completing this form, you can help document the time and workload involved in these requirements and their impact on your day-to-day responsibilities. The information gathered will help support informed conversations with HRCE and the Department of Education and Early Childhood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



Nov. 9, 2026
Issue 11

DID YOU KNOW?!?

It All Began in 1895

The NSTU's history began in 1895, when Nova Scotia teachers recognized that they needed a collective voice to advocate for better working conditions, fair salaries, professional recognition and stronger public education.

The union was born at a time when teachers often worked in isolation, had little job security, and were completely at the mercy of the local municipal boards that hired them. The idea of organizing teachers was proposed by Margaret Graham of Central Economy, who believed teachers deserved an organization that would protect their economic interests while promoting professionalism. Robert MacLellan of Pictou Academy became the NSTU's first president.

Over the decades, the NSTU grew from a small organization into a strong provincial voice for teachers and public education. Its history includes important milestones such as the fight for fair and equitable salaries, improved teacher qualifications, pension provisions, collective bargaining rights and greater recognition of teachers' contributions to society. But did you know that, in the early days, teachers could actually lose their jobs if someone else offered to teach for less money? Or that a set of reported 1872 teaching rules included duties such as hauling coal, filling lamps and cleaning chimneys? The history of the NSTU is full of fascinating stories, surprising changes and hard-won victories that helped shape the profession we know today.

Curious about how far we've come? Take a look back at our history in **Landmarks and Challenges: A Short History of the Nova Scotia Teachers Union** and discover some of the people, events and milestones that helped shape our union.





CONTACT

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

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

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.

Presented ByYour:

HRM
Halifax City • Halifax County • Dartmouth

Nova Scotia Teachers Union

Pension 102

December 1st, 2026,
6:00-7:00pm

Presented by,
NSTU Staff Officer

Zoom / Virtual



Scan the QR Code To Sign Up

All things pension!
Come learn all you need to know about the TPP!



Click Here!

Direct Registration Link:
https://forms.cloud.microsoft/r/dv3EEGeyUf?origin=lprLink