



The

CHECK

IN

Oct 13, 2026

Issue 7



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE:



As we look ahead, your voice continues to be an important part of shaping our union's future. The Economic Welfare Committee is gathering member feedback to help guide priorities for County's resolutions for Annual Council 2027. Please share your ideas, questions, and concerns; your input makes a difference!

Also, mark your calendars! Applications for both Cash for Classrooms and our new Cash for Wellness grants open Friday, October 16th. See Check In for details and get ready to apply!

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

- Oct 15 Student Mental Health & Wellness Grant application due
- Oct 16 CASH for Class application open
- Cash for Wellness application open
- Oct 21 Local General Meeting
- Oct 23 NSTU Conference Day
- Oct 28 Teacher or School Initiated Inservice Promotion Grant application deadline
- Article 60 Conference Grant application due
- Oct 30 Halifax County Local Conference Fund/Local Reserve Conference Fund application due
- Oct 31 Article 60 PD (Course) Grant deadline

“

I look for the good

~ Rita Joe

”



...wants to
hear from
you!

Please take just a few minutes to complete our Google Form survey.

The google form will close Tuesday, October 20th.



<https://bit.ly/CountyLocalSurvey2026>

****Link above is Case Sensitive!**

And! ...enter the Sobeys gift card draw to thank you for your time!



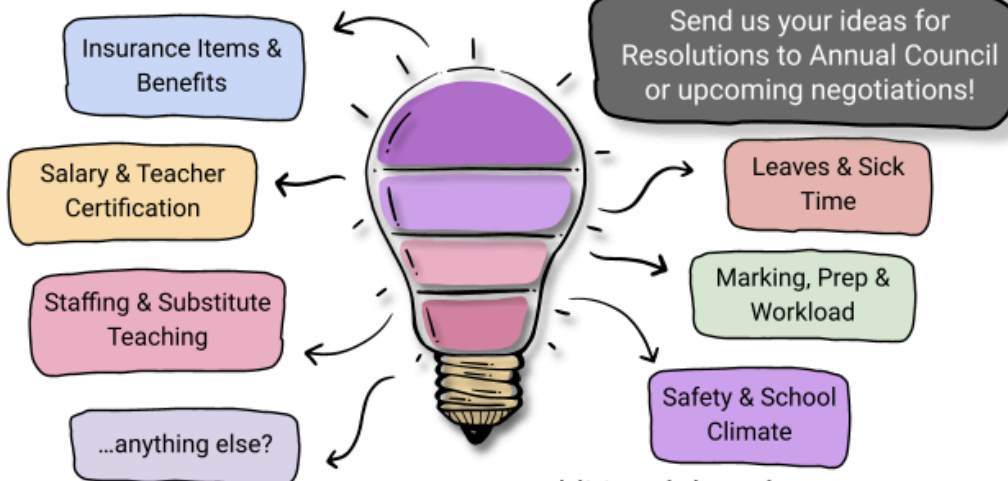
What Would You Change?!?

Have an idea for improving the NSTU, our working lives, or the education system?



Your ideas can help shape the future.

Send us your ideas for Resolutions to Annual Council or upcoming negotiations!



Additional thoughts, concerns or questions can be sent to: hfxcoecwel@nstu.ca

Thank you, from your HfxCo Local Economic Welfare Committee

Local PD Opportunities for October

Halifax County Local Cash for Classrooms

Opens October 16th

Amount: 500 applicants up to \$100 each

For Halifax County members to purchase items to improve some aspect of their teaching their profession. Once per year as long as the budget has the funds.

Eligibility: Must be a permanent, probationary or term teacher of the Halifax County Local only. Cannot have received the CDAF in the same school year. First come, first serve basis. **MUST be pre-approved.**

Deadline: Opens Friday, October 16th at 4pm and closes when the limit of 500 applications is reached

Please note: That because it is a google form, members will need to use Google as their web browser and not Firefox or another browser. A desktop is preferable to a handheld device.

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



Funding Available: Up to \$100 per eligible member

Who Can Apply: Permanent, probationary, and term teachers in the Halifax County Local.

What It Covers: Funding to purchase items that enhance or support your teaching practice. Members may apply once per school year.

Eligibility Requirements:

-  Applicants must be permanent, probationary, or term teachers in the Halifax County Local.
-  Members cannot have received CDAF funding during the same school year.
-  All purchases must receive pre-approval.

Application Opens: October 16, 2026

Deadline: Applications will close once the maximum of 500 applications has been reached.



Application link (<https://forms.gle/L2Br2zWMm4ZmP36H7>) will be active after 4:00pm on Friday, October 16, 2026.

Ready to invest a little in you? We are excited to introduce the new Cash for Wellness Grant, designed to help members purchase items that support and improve their personal wellness.

What's available?

-  Up to \$100 per approved applicant
-  First 600 approved applicants
-  Opens Friday, October 16, 2026 and applications will close once 600 applications have been received.

This grant is open to permanent, probationary, and term teachers in the Halifax County Local. Members who have received a CDAF or Cash for Class grant during the same school year are not eligible.

 **Important: Pre-approval is required before making any purchases.** Applications will be processed on a first-come, first-served basis, so don't wait!

A quick application tip: The application is a Google Form, so please use Google Chrome rather than Firefox or another browser. A desktop computer is recommended over a phone or other handheld device.

Application link (<https://forms.gle/NxkeD6imDghDKdVi8>) will be active after 4:00pm on Friday, October 16, 2026.





Do You Sit On Your

JOHSC?

(Joint Occupational Health & Safety Committee)



October 29th, 2026
Time: 4:30pm



Local NSTU Office at 202
Brownlow Ave
(RBC Building),
Suite 320 (2nd Floor)



Learn and Network: ask
questions & share
what's happening at your site's
JOHSC

Come join this **information
session**
on JOHSC's.

If you've sat on the
committee before,
currently do or may in the
future,
this is for you!



Sign up
here!

Scan
QR or
click
here



Hosted by, Tim MacLeod, NSTU
Staff Officer

QR/Linknotworking?Typeinthislink(nospaces,case sensitive)... <https://bit.ly/JOHSComOct2026>

Introducing
Meet a
Member Monday



ABOUT

Each week, we'll be introducing and spotlighting our amazing Halifax County Local Members!

It's a chance to celebrate the people who make up our Local and recognize the many ways they contribute - at school, in our Local, in their communities, with their families, or simply by being themselves.

Nominate yourself or another Local Member to be featured.

We want to hear about the people who make our schools, workplaces, communities, and Local a little better - no huge accomplishment required!

<https://forms.gle/NnAr1HfWKqeBo7xG8>

KNOW YOUR CONTRACT(S)

Regional Agreement (HRCE)

ARTICLE 5 LEAVE OF ABSENCE

5.05 An unpaid Leave of Absence of less than one (1) year may be granted at the discretion of the Regional Centre.

5.06 Applications for an unpaid Leave of Absence of less than one (1) year duration shall be delivered in writing to the Regional Centre not less than two (2) months prior to the anticipated date of commencement of leave. In exceptional circumstances the Regional Centre may grant a leave with less than two (2) months' notice.

5.07 If a teacher is granted an unpaid leave pursuant to 5.05 that is greater than twenty (20) days and takes a Leave pursuant to 5.01(i) in the school year immediately following the partial year leave, they will not be eligible to apply for a leave pursuant to 5.01(ii) or a leave that is greater than twenty (20) days pursuant to 5.05 in the immediately following school year.



The deadline for Dental Plan enrollment for the year is **October 15th**.

Additionally, any new teachers hired after October 1st have 31 days to enroll. Those who were enrolled last year will be automatically renewed.



Halifax County Local NSTU



@HalifaxCounty



@HalifaxCounty.bsky.social



HalifaxCountyLocal.com

NSTU GROUP INSURANCE TRUST 	 Halifax Region Trustee Krissy Brewer HalifaxTrustee@nstu.ca
	 NSTU Staff Liaison Kyle Marryatt kmarryatt@staff.nstu.ca
	 NSTU Staff Liaison Paul Boudreau pboudreau@staff.nstu.ca
	 belairdirect. 902-453-9543 or 1-800-453-9543
 Remember to check out the Trustee's website! www.nstuinsurance.ca	
 Health & Wellness	 Travel

Teacher SOLE Stories

The shoes that get us through the school day!

This fall, we're putting our best foot forward and celebrating 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>

#TeacherSoleStories

#TeacherStyle

#PuttingYourBestFootForward

#TeachersOnTheMove



3 WINNERS

OF A \$50 GIFT CARD EACH!

OCT 23rd

OCT 30th

NOV 6th

Great teachers.
Great stories.
Great shoes.



Show Me the Money!



14 OCTOBER 2026

An overview of where your dues go and why

Presented by an NSTU Staff officer via Zoom at 6PM

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

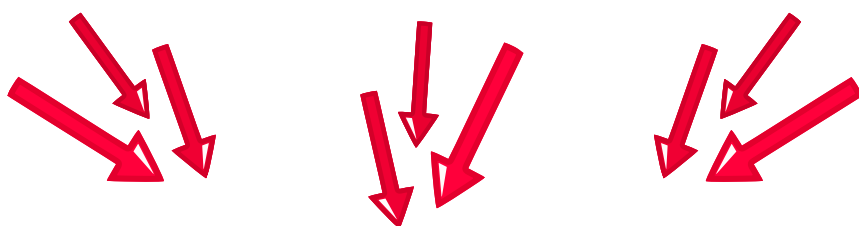


https://forms.cloud.microsoft/r/6dPGC_qcWiK?origin=lpLink

From the Nominations Committee!

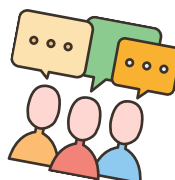
Consideration for members to attend Annual Council begins early! If you think you might want to apply, please be aware that attendance at the Local Rep meetings is a contributing factor for success.

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.

October 21	January 20	April 7	June 2
November 18	March 3	May 5	

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.

Deals & Discounts



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

Tim MacLeod
NSTU Executive Staff Officer
P(office): 902-477-5621
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.

NSTU Webmail has ended...

but let's stay in touch



Visit <http://www.nstucentral.ca> and update your member registry profile with a preferred non-employer email

Don't know your username?
Email webaccounts@nstu.ca for help



<https://nstu.ca>

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

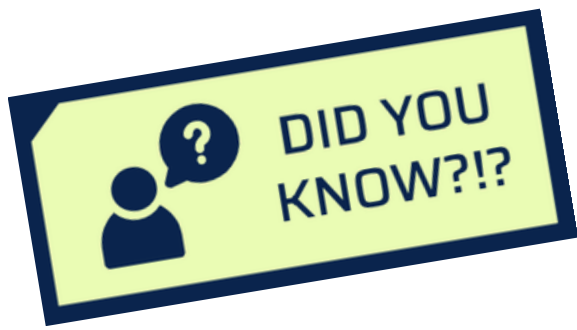
Have Your Say:



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

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





Total Care - Medical

Under the Teachers' Provincial Agreement/APSEA Agreement, the Employer pays 100% for all active members for both Single and Family coverage. For new members, this benefit is not automatic. Coverage becomes effective the first of the month following receipt of your application.

Coverage:

Hospital Benefits:

100% of semi-private room – no maximum.

Extended Health Benefits:

80% reimbursement for such items as the following (benefit maximums may apply):

- Home nursing care
- Physiotherapy
- Prosthetic appliances
- Ostomy equipment
- Wheelchairs, walkers, hospital beds, mist tent, etc.
- Out-of-province physician services
- Accidental dental
- Hearing aids
- Cochlear implant upgrades, parts and accessories
- Eyeglasses
- Diabetic supplies
- Continuous Glucose Monitoring (CGM) Systems
- Paramedical services

Prescription Drugs:

\$5.00 co-pay for each prescription, Restricted Drug List, All new drugs require approval.

Frames and Lenses

Frames & Single Lenses – \$155.00

Frames and Bifocals or Trifocal Lenses – \$170.00

Contact Lenses and Laser surgery are eligible in lieu of frames and/or lenses at the same benefit level

(The Employer provides \$145 for Single Lenses/Frames and \$160 for Bifocal or Trifocal Lenses/Frames)

Contact:

If you have any questions regarding the above, please call the Administrator, belairdirect Agency Inc., at 902-453-9543 or 1-800-453-9543 (toll-free).

email: insurance@nstu.ca or GroupBenefitsNS@belairdirect.com

Visit the belairdirect Agency Inc. website: www.belairdirect.com/nstu



Bring a colleague. Build **our** Local.

School Representatives: bring a member who has never been to a General Meeting. New and diverse voices make 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

Oct 21 2026

Nov 18 2026

Jan 20 2027

Mar 03 2027

Apr 07 2027

May 05 2027

June 02 2027

2026-2027

Welcome to Halifax County Local – NSTU

Updates & information:

<https://halifaxcountylocal.com/>



Membership Registry

Oct 13, 2026

Issue 7

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.

Falling for the - Love of Teaching

Let's get
together!



Lefty's
— TANTALLON —



OCTOBER 30TH



3:45 - 5:45 PM



SHAREABLE
APPETIZERS

AND ONE
BEVERAGE
PER PERSON



DRAWS
FOR PRIZES



PRIZE FOR THE
SCHOOL WITH THE
GREATEST PERCENTAGE
IN ATTENDANCE



CLICK HERE TO SIGN UP!

<https://forms.gle/WtPQyxLM1SgK8n3LA>

See you there!



Student Mental Health & Wellness

Purpose

The NSTU Group Insurance Trustees, with support from belairdirect, will fund innovative projects that support the mental health and well-being of students in the schools across Nova Scotia.

Deadline

October 15

Grant Amount

Up to \$600 each.

Eligibility

Open to term, probationary and permanent members of the NSTU or PSAANS.

For more information:

<https://nstuinsurance.ca/grants/student-mental-health-and-wellness-grant/>



Individual Application Form

NSTU
GROUP
INSURANCE
TRUST



Group Application Form

Grant