



The

# CHECK IN

Oct 19, 2026

Issue 8



## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE:



NSTU Conference Day is almost here, bringing with it a province-wide celebration of professional learning, collaboration, and the dedication of our teaching community!

Thanks to the work of our Professional Associations, members will have the opportunity to explore a diverse range of sessions designed and led by fellow educators. From exchanging perspectives to exploring new ideas and practices, Conference Day is a chance to learn from one another, strengthen our connections, and bring renewed energy to the important work we do every day.

Wishing everyone an inspiring and rewarding Conference Day! May it be filled with meaningful conversations, new discoveries, and ideas that continue to make a difference for our students and our profession.

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 2<sup>nd</sup> at 4 pm, and the election will take place at the General Meeting on November 18<sup>th</sup>.

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 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

“Poetry can give a voice to the voiceless”  
~ Rebecca Thomas



...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!



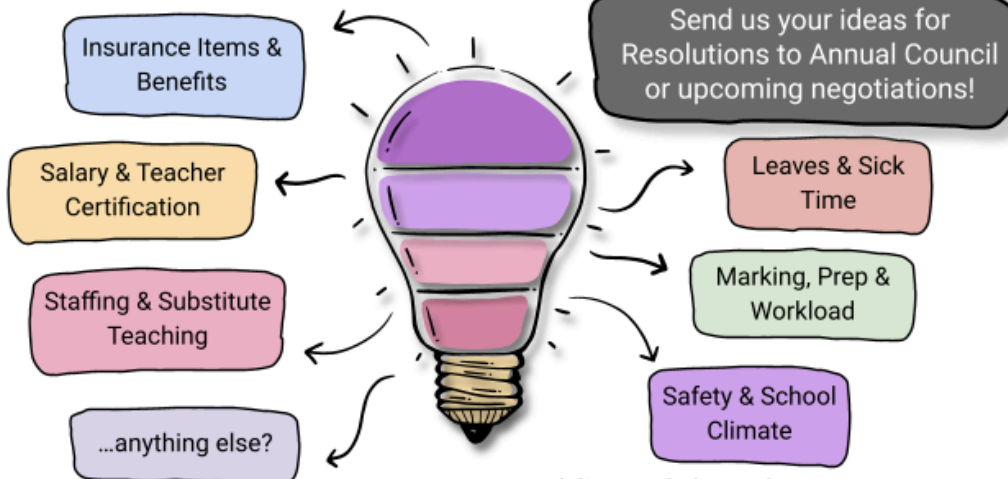
**What Would  
You Change?!?**

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](mailto:hfxcoecwel@nstu.ca)

Thank you, from your HfxCo Local Economic Welfare Committee

## 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). For funding, go to HRCE Internal Sharepoint for more information.

Meet a  
Member  
Monday

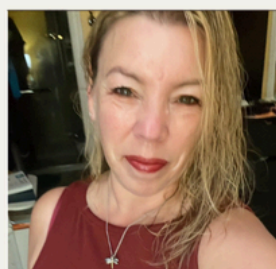


### MEET PRISCILLA!

This Monday, we're happy to introduce **Priscilla Babin-Halsey**, a passionate educator, proud grandmother, lifelong learner, and active member of the Halifax County Local!

Priscilla is currently working toward her first Master of Education degree, proving that learning never stops. Her life experiences have taken her as far as Hong Kong, and she has even run marathons in the past!

*she takes great pride in her heritage...*



### MEET PRISCILLA!

She is learning the Mi'kmaw language, traditional beading, and she makes wooden roses. She also enjoys sharing her Acadian culture with her students and finding creative ways such as crochet to encourage them to speak French.

When she's not busy teaching, studying, or creating, Priscilla's favourite title might just be Mémé to her sweet grandson.

*Thanks for sharing your passion, Priscilla!*



## 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.



**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>) is still OPEN!**

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>) is still OPEN!**





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>

# 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 #PuttingYourBestFootForward  
#TeacherStyle #TeachersOnTheMove



## 3 WINNERS

OF A \$50 GIFT CARD EACH!

OCT 23<sup>rd</sup>

OCT 30<sup>th</sup>

NOV 6<sup>th</sup>

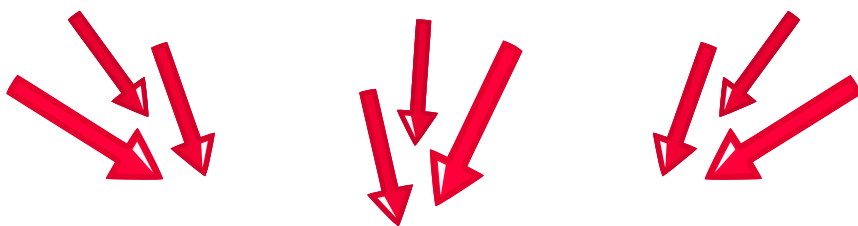
Great teachers.  
Great stories.  
Great shoes.



## 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](mailto:webaccounts@nstu.ca) for help



<https://nstu.ca>

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

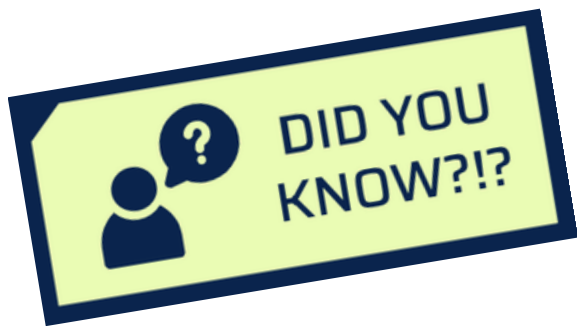
## **Have Your Say:**



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

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





## 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.**

**Contact:** email: [counselling@nstu.ca](mailto:counselling@nstu.ca)  
<https://nstuinsurance.ca/members/active/counselling-services>

NSTU GROUP INSURANCE TRUST

NSTU

**Halifax Region Trustee**  
Krissy Brewer  
[HalifaxTrustee@nstu.ca](mailto:HalifaxTrustee@nstu.ca)

**NSTU Staff Liaison**  
Kyle Marryatt  
[kmarryatt@staff.nstu.ca](mailto:kmarryatt@staff.nstu.ca)

**NSTU Staff Liaison**  
Paul Boudreau  
[pboudreau@staff.nstu.ca](mailto:pboudreau@staff.nstu.ca)

**belairdirect.**  
902-453-9543 or 1-800-453-9543

Remember to check out the Trustee's website!  
[www.nstuinsurance.ca](http://www.nstuinsurance.ca)

Health & Wellness

Travel

Halifax County Local NSTU

@HalifaxCounty

@HalifaxCounty.bsky.social

[HalifaxCountyLocal.com](http://HalifaxCountyLocal.com)



# 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 19, 2026

Issue 8

## 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](mailto: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](mailto: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 30<sup>TH</sup>



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!



# 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>