



The CHECK IN

Oct 26, 2026

Issue 9



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE:



I hope everyone had a wonderful NSTU Professional Association Conference on Friday and had the opportunity to connect with colleagues and recharge!

As we enter the final week of October, I know there is uncertainty surrounding potential CUPE strike action and what it may mean for our school communities. Please know that you are not

navigating this alone. If you have questions or concerns, please reach out to NSTU Staff or to me directly. We are here to support you, provide clarity where possible, and help you navigate the days ahead.

Let's continue to support one another and take care of ourselves and our school communities during this uncertain time.

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 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 |
| Nov 11 | Remembrance Day |
| Nov 13 | Article 60 NSTU Professional Association Conference Day Grant (October Conference Day) application deadline |

“

That's what it's all about – the kids

~ Gerald Gloade

”



STANDING TOGETHER: SUPPORTING OUR CUPE COLLEAGUES



As we face the possibility of upcoming CUPE strike action, we want to take a moment to recognize and celebrate the incredible contributions of our CUPE education workers. They are an essential part of our school communities, and our schools simply would not be the same without them.

From supporting students' daily needs to helping create safe, caring, and inclusive learning environments, CUPE colleagues make a meaningful difference every single day. We know how important these relationships are to all students, and especially to some of our most vulnerable learners, who rely on consistency, connection, and the dedicated support these staff provide.

Our CUPE colleagues matter. Their work matters. And they deserve to know that they have our support.

NSTU members are encouraged to show their support for CUPE education workers during strike action. If you wish to demonstrate your solidarity, you may join picket lines or rallies outside your working hours, including before school, at lunch, after school, or in the evenings. Other ways to show support include providing coffee or snacks for striking colleagues, sharing messages of support professionally on social media, and contacting your MLA to express your support.

As we navigate the days ahead, let's remember that strong school communities are built on the contributions of all education workers. This is an opportunity to stand together, recognize the value of our CUPE colleagues, and show them that they are respected, appreciated, and supported.

Solidarity is more than a word. It's how we show up for one another.



Halifax County Local Committees



Halifax County Local still has vacancies on a couple of our standing committees! In addition, we like to keep a wait-list, in case a member needs to withdraw for any reason.

Local Committees are a great way to meet other members, learn more about how the NSTU and Halifax County Local work, eat a great meal, and do something to support the NSTU community! Positions are appointed, not elected, and rookies are always welcome — **NO experience required!** Reserve members, those on partial terms, and members on Deferred leave are all eligible!

Contact the VP Nominating, Christine Emberley, with questions: hfxconominations@nstu.ca

Apply Today! <https://forms.gle/JAZuKHGKVUv1KNt69>



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>



Do You Sit On Your JOHSC?



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

(Joint Occupational Health & Safety Committee)

Come join this **information
session**

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

Hosted by, Tim MacLeod, NSTU Staff
Officer



Sign up
here!

Scan QR or
click here





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>



**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

Halifax County Local NSTU

@HalifaxCounty

@HalifaxCounty.bsky.social

HalifaxCountyLocal.com

Deals & Discounts

Meet a
Member
Monday



MEET JENN!

Teacher of third and fourth grade
nuggets of love and single mama of two,
Jenn Moriarty is thoughtfulness
personified.

She has long been an architect of joy
for others through her kind heart and
focus on giving, and in the last three
years she has also become an architect
of her own joy. Her preferred building
material is the beauty that remains
after hard times have done their work to
break away what isn't meant to last.

Giving purpose to pain...



MEET JENN!

Jenn has taken to sharing her story
through public speaking events within
our teaching community- October
Conference Day, CONTACT and most
recently, a keynote address to the BEd.
class at St.FX.

Future dreams and aspirations are built
around adventures in travel and the
hopes of gaining her degree in
counselling.

You are a true role model, Jenn! ❤️



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.

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.

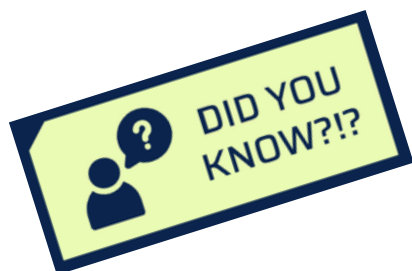
<https://forms.cloud.microsoft/r/HxWEsCqyMm>



Teachers' Provincial Agreement (TPA)

ARTICLE 24 EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

24.01 While the parties consider it desirable that teachers participate in extracurricular activities, it is recognized by the parties bound by this Agreement that any involvement, such as participation, supervision, administration, direction, coaching, by a teacher in extracurricular activities shall be on a voluntary basis.



Teacher Professional Practice

These days are for teachers to **complete professional duties as determined by the teacher, including but not limited to marking, preparation and professional collaboration.** Teachers are entitled to determine what professional duties they undertake during this time and the employer cannot mandate meetings or the performance of any particular task. If you are being asked by Admin to attend meetings or anything other than what is stated in the contractual language above, please contact Tim MacLeod, Jeff Morse or myself.

Self-directed PD days for HRCE:

Dec 4/26: - Progress Conferences/Teacher Professional Practice Day No Classes All Schools

Dec 21/26 - Teacher Professional Practice Day (No Classes All Schools)

Apr 2/27: - Elem/Middle/Jr Progress Conference/Teacher Professional Practice Day & High School PD (No Classes All Schools)

Apr 30/27: - Elem/Middle/Jr Professional Development & High School Progress Conference/Teacher Professional Practice Day (No Classes All Schools)



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



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>



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>

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

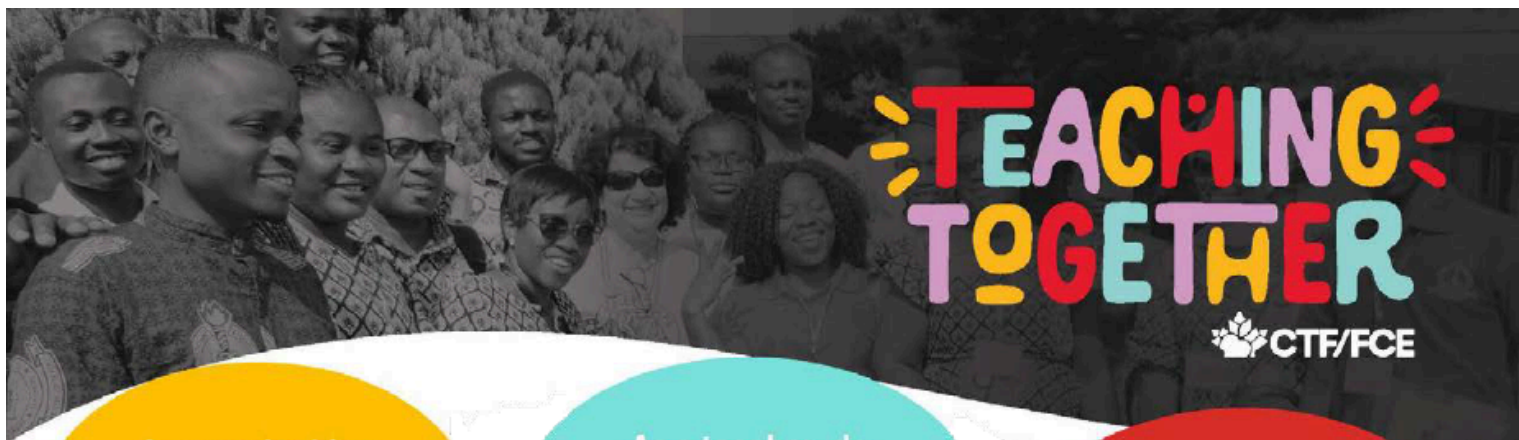


CLICK HERE TO SIGN UP!

<https://forms.gle/WtPQyxLM1SgK8n3LA>

See you there!





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