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NOVA SCOTIA TEACHERS UNION

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## Talks to continue between NSTU and government over weekend

Talks between the Nova Scotia Teachers Union (NSTU) and the Province of Nova Scotia will continue over the weekend, following three days of conciliation this week.

Members of the negotiating team, including President Liette Doucet have agreed not to speak to media during this time.

Doucet does want to clarify statements made by Education Minister Karen Casey regarding school board approved professional development, available under Article 60 of the NSTU collective agreement. All PD was booked prior to December 5 when NSTU members began work-to-rule. An FAQ provided by school boards stated to teachers: "You continue to have the right to attend the approved PD and be reimbursed for it. This does not change even if the approved PD activity turns out to fall within a 'work to rule' or 'full strike'. So, as long as the teacher actually does attend and fully participate in the pre- approved PD Activity, the previous commitment to reimbursement will be honored."

"Teachers and students want a fair deal that will see improvements to our education system, and all Nova Scotians want this situation resolved," said Doucet. "It's unfortunate that while both sides are working around the clock in an attempt to reach a new contract, Minister Casey is making disparaging remarks about teachers. This does nothing to build trust or to bring the two sides closer together."

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