

# news



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N O V A S C O T I A T E A C H E R S U N I O N

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## Teachers approve tentative agreement

Nova Scotia's 10,000 public school teachers have endorsed a tentative agreement reached between the Nova Scotia Teachers Union and the provincial government on September 23.

"Our members voted to accept the contract," says NSTU president Alexis Allen. "The union will now be preparing for the next round of bargaining."

In a province-wide electronic vote held Thursday, October 6, and Friday, October 7, 78 per cent of teachers voted 63.3 per cent in favour of the tentative deal. The contract will give teachers a one per cent salary increase in each of the two years of the agreement. The contract will expire on July 31, 2012.

The agreement also includes a commitment from the Department of Education to strike a joint committee to consider workload issues including reduction or elimination of unnecessary administrative tasks and data collection.

"Teachers are telling us that these issues must be addressed so they can spend more time improving student learning and less time on paperwork," says Allen.

The previous teachers' contract expired on July 31, 2010.

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