

news



3106 Joseph Howe Drive
Halifax, Nova Scotia B3L 4L7
www.nstu.ca • pr@nstu.ca
Tel 902.477.5621
Fax 902.477.3517

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

Date: September 29, 2009 For Release: Immediately Contact: Angela Murray

NSTU accepts offer to resume bargaining

The Nova Scotia Teachers Union has accepted an offer from the Nova Scotia Community College to return to the bargaining table this coming Friday.

“It is the Union’s expectation that going back to the table means the Minister of Education is prepared to provide the financial commitment necessary to reach a fair and equitable agreement with these employees—and avert a strike,” says NSTU President Alexis Allen.”

The NSTU represents some 930 faculty and professional support employees who have been in a strike position since late last week.

Talks between the two sides broke off in June when a provincially appointed conciliation officer was unable to broker an agreement. In a province-wide strike vote held on September 22, faculty voted 93 per cent—and professional support employees 90 per cent—in favour of taking strike action. The NSTU filed a strike notice with the Minister of Labour and Workforce Development the following day.

The provincial government has so far refused to commit the funding that would support the same economic increase in 2009 that most other public sector employees, including public school teachers, have received.

“These professional educators bring extensive qualifications and experience to the College and are highly sought after by industry,” continues Allen. “They deserve a fair and equitable settlement and are still prepared to walk off the job to get one.” She says the planned resumption of talks will have no effect on strike school sessions being held this week across the province.

Community College members have been without a contract since August 31, 2008. The Nova Scotia Teachers Union represents some 760 faculty members and 165 professional support members at 13 NSCC campuses around the province.

- 30 -

For further information contact:

Angela Murray, NSTU PR Coordinator at 902-479-4708 or 902-497-0194 (cell)

Email: amurray@nstu.ca