



New Brunswick Teachers' Association

## Media Release

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### **Incoming NB Teachers' President says Parents will see Evidence of Cuts in September**

New Brunswick Teachers' Association President Guy Arseneault, who took office earlier this month, says that parents will see a significant impact from the loss of 249 teachers in the system when students return to class next month.

"Up until now, the cuts may seem like just a number, but fewer teachers will mean more combined classes, fewer course options and less individualized learning support for students," Arseneault says. "These cuts are unacceptable and should never have taken place."

The NBTA President says reducing the amount of teachers in the province by more than 4 percent was based entirely upon numbers of teachers and students, and completely ignored two major government studies, (MacKay Report, 2005 and Porter-Aucoin Report, 2011) which clearly indicated that needs were outweighing resources. Arseneault, who has many years experience as a teacher and school principal says, "The system is stretched beyond capacity and many students are already unable to access the services they need. These cuts will have an immediate negative impact, as well as long-term social costs. "

Arseneault met with the teacher leaders of the NBTA Executive Committee last week, and it is clear morale among educators has been substantially damaged. "The Government has promised to create jobs, and the first step has been to cut 249 teaching positions. The individuals affected will be primarily young New Brunswickers hoping to practice their profession and support the learning of children in their home province. For many, they will be forced to follow the path of so many others, seeking employment in other jurisdictions."

**The NBTA is a professional association of 6000 members that provides services to teachers and in support of public education in New Brunswick.**

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