



New Brunswick Teachers' Association

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March 16, 2020

TO: NBTA Members

The purpose of the school closure is to try to prevent further transmission of COVID-19 through self-isolation and social distancing. Public health experts are urging everyone to be aggressive in their efforts to “flatten the curve.” Everyone needs to take these actions seriously and stay safe.

On Monday March 16, 2020, the Chief Medical Officer for Health recommended that all non-essential services close in order to stop the spread of the COVID-19 virus and safeguard the health of employees. As a result, NBTA will be closing our offices in response to this directive. There will be further communication about similar measures from AEFNB and NBTF. However, the work of the Association will continue as staff will be checking messages on phones and email, although there will likely be a delay in members receiving service or information.

As of this time, the schedule of NBTA-sponsored meetings, events, workshops and conferences will be altered as follows (please regularly monitor your email for updates):

Short term: March 16-29

All face-to-face meetings are cancelled. We will communicate with members of these committees if/when they are to be re-scheduled. Members may not hear about rescheduling until at least the first week of April.

Committees affected by this cancellation include:

- Internal & External Communications Committee
- Enhanced Learning & Working Environments Committee
- Diversity Committee
- Finance Committee
- Elementary, Middle-Level, and High School Council Planning Meeting
- All Branch Meetings

Medium Term: March 30-April 30

At this time, meetings remain scheduled, but contingency plans will be developed in case these need to be altered. Committees affected by this include:

- NBTA Board of Directors
- Awards Committee
- POINT
- Branch meetings and AGMs

Long Term: May 1 - June 30

Meetings remain scheduled, but contingency plans will be developed in case the schedule needs to be altered further. This includes, but not limited to:

- Council Day
- Branch Meetings, events & AGMs
- Provincial AGM
- Retiring Teachers' Luncheon

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Planning for future events, including Council Day (May 1), the Provincial AGM (May 29-30), the Retiring Teachers' Luncheon (May 30), Developing Successful Schools (DSS) (July 13-16) and CONTACT (August 4-7), which take place in July and August, will continue and we will advise members of the status of these events as the situation evolves and more information becomes known.

We recognize that many members have been affected in various ways by the current circumstances. Members should feel free to reach out to NBTA staff and counsellors for advice and/or guidance as need be.

All members are encouraged to continue to monitor the news and follow the advice of Public Health officials for the latest information about the COVID-19 outbreak. Members are also encouraged to visit the NBTA and NBTF webpages and our social media feeds for the latest information about how this unprecedented situation is affecting our members.

Social distance and stay safe!



Larry Jamieson
NBTA Executive Director