

Submission Form for Branch Resolutions to the NBTA AGM

Branch:

Date of meeting passed by branch:

Submitted by (name of branch president):

RESOLUTION

All branch resolutions must request one specific priority action from the NBTA and be related to at least one Object of the Association.

Examples:

change (NBTA) by-laws, policies, practices, etc.

lobby a particular group

study/address/make a priority of a particular issue

OR for contractual issues:

NBTA ask NBTF to take action (negotiate, lobby, etc)

Be it Resolved that NBTA (Limit 30 words):

Concisely state the main reason(s) why this resolution should be passed/made a priority by the Association, and indicate to which "Objects" of the association it relates.

Object(s) Referenced:

Rationale (Limit 60 words):

Click [here](#) to view a video about branch resolutions.
For wording or other advice about branch resolutions contact:
chantal.lafargue@nbta.ca NBTA Staff

Branch Resolutions to the NBTA AGM

Purpose

Branch Resolutions to the NBTA AGM provide one way through which members have input regarding NBTA policies, by-laws, priorities, and actions. They are published in the NBTA News, discussed at all branch AGM's across the province, and submitted to the NBTA AGM, the Association's highest decision-making body. There are many other routes through which input is gathered and actions taken by the NBTA year-round. Before beginning the Resolution process, Branches may also consider other ways of effecting changes such as working through their representatives on the NBTA Board of Directors.

Procedure

Step 1: Start Early for Proper Consideration and Discussion

There should be adequate time provided at branch rep councils for the discussion of potential resolutions. The earlier a resolution is considered, the more opportunity there is for branches to seek clarifications/additional information from the NBTA and input from teachers. A potential resolution could refer to something that has already been done, make reference to inaccurate information, or request an action that is beyond the powers of the NBTA. If these difficulties are identified early, the branch may have time to adjust the wording of resolutions they deem worthy. Branches do not have to actively generate resolutions, but they should at all meetings consider the possibility.

Step 2: Yes or No...It's Up to Rep Councils!

Branches have the essential role of deciding if a potential resolution should be endorsed and submitted. **There are no individual resolutions to the NBTA AGM, only branch resolutions.** Teachers can submit potential resolutions to their branch, but the rep council decides if it becomes a branch resolution. Branch ownership applies to the wording of resolutions as well. A rep council may decide to vote in favour of a potential resolution verbatim, adjust the wording, or defeat it. If a branch likes the idea behind a defeated resolution, they may even wish to create a new one with wording more to its liking. An electronic vote on a last-minute resolution is not against the rules, but does not allow for the proper consideration outlined above.

Step 3: A Word on Wording

Branch Resolutions must be submitted on the proper Submission Form for Branch Resolutions to the NBTA AGM. The form assists with wording, indicating that a specific action by the NBTA/F must be included, along with why this should be a priority for the NBTA. It also provides a space to indicate to which "Object" of the Association the resolution relates. Being concise is vital and word counts are now in place. It is advised that you consult the NBTA Staff Officer - Communications (chantal.lafargue@nbta.ca) for advice on the wording of resolutions.

Step 4: Watch the Deadline – March 1st

All Branch Resolutions must be received in Fredericton, normally by fax or e-mail, by March 1 of each year.

No Late Resolutions can be Accepted

If an important issue (emergent) arises after the deadline for submissions has passed, a Local/Branch AGM (not Rep Council) may pass a resolution to be brought forward at the NBTA AGM itself. A two-thirds majority of NBTA AGM delegates must vote in favour to bring any of these resolutions forward for discussion.

Returned or Combined Resolutions

The NBTA AGM Resolutions Committee meets soon after the submission deadline. It is tasked with the following responsibility: *...combine all resolutions of a similar nature, make the necessary corrections without changing the intent of the resolutions, and advise the branches concerned of the form in which their resolution(s) will be presented to the Annual General Meeting or the reason for their return.*

In the case of a returned resolution, the originating branch still has the opportunity to resubmit the resolution directly to the NBTA AGM but, as with late resolutions, a two-thirds majority of delegates must vote in favour of having it brought to the floor for discussion.

NBTF Concerns

There is no NBTF AGM so some NBTA resolutions are directed towards that organization. However, while resolutions of this nature carry the weight and support of the NBTA, they are in no way binding upon the NBTF. This is a separate teacher organization comprised of both the Anglophone (NBTA) and Francophone (AEFNB) professional associations. ***If a resolution relates to an item that might be sought in bargaining, we remind members that the NBTF sought Branch submissions for the current Asking Package. Therefore, any resolutions regarding working conditions could not impact the Asking Package until after the current round is completed.**

Branch Resolutions to the NBTA AGM

Key Questions to Consider

While individuals can submit or propose resolutions to their own NBTA Branch, they are truly “Branch Resolutions to the NBTA AGM.” There are no individual ones. Branches have full authority on whether they pass/endorse resolutions and forward them to the NBTA through the decisions of their Rep Councils or General Meetings. They also have complete control of wording. Branch Resolutions to the NBTA AGM must be submitted on the proper form by March 1st each year.

Below are some key questions that should assist Branches in their considerations of potential resolutions.

Does it identify **1 Specific Action**?

Is the issue **Provincial** in Scope (not school, district or individual)?

Should it be a **Priority** for the Association?

Does it ask NBTA to **Change/Lobby/Study/Address** or the NBTF to **Negotiate**?

Does it respect **Word Count** Limits?

Is the wording **Concise & Clear**?

Does it **Stand On Its Own**? (the Rationale is eventually discarded)

Have **Other Avenues** to address the issue already been tried or don't apply?

Is it based on **Accurate Information**?

Is it **Already Being Done**? (past resolution, policy, NBTA Strategic Action Plan)

Is it **Practical**? Could it **Reasonably be Accomplished**?

Does it suggest **Taking Rights Away** from other members?

Has it been **Submitted Early** to allow for research, consideration & decision-making?

Is it **On Time**? (None accepted after March 1st deadline)



New Brunswick Teachers' Association Section 18 of the Act of Incorporation

The objects of the Association shall be:

- (a) to advance and promote the cause of education in the Province of New Brunswick;
- (b) to raise the status of the teaching profession;
- (c) to impress the public with the supreme importance of providing and maintaining quality educational services;
- (d) to advise, assist, protect and discipline members in the discharge of their professional duties and relationships;
- (e) to publish or assist in the publication of educational periodicals;
- (f) to provide for, establish, subsidize and regulate branches of the Association throughout the Province;
- (g) to co-operate with the Federation in the promotion of the interests of the teaching profession in the fields of salary and working conditions, certification and pension;
- (h) to establish, subsidize and regulate councils;
- (i) to co-operate with the Department of Education and co-operate or affiliate with public organizations, societies, institutions and others in furtherance of the purposes set forth above.

