

# NBTA News

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New Brunswick Teachers' Association

## NBTA Committees Accessing our Greatest Resource - *Teachers*

by Blake Robichaud, NBTA Staff Officer - Communications

Each year the NBTA establishes numerous committees as a means of tapping into the expertise of teachers. Some of these are "standing (permanent) committees," while others may be "ad hoc" (temporarily in place to examine a specific issue). Committees meet up to three times per year, often scheduled so that a report and the accompanying minutes can be available for each of the Board of Directors' meetings. The elected teacher leaders of the Board examine NUMEROUS key issues, but to do so they require the in depth research, reports and recommendations on specific topics that are provided by various committees. **There are approximately 120 teachers province-wide serving on over 20 NBTA Committees in 2009-10.**

Standard NBTA committees are made up of five members, appointed by the President, often from a list of teachers provided by branches. **Beginning in 2010, we**

**will include an application form for NBTA Committees in each June issue of the NBTA News.** Hopefully, this will be an effective way of encouraging an even broader pool of participants who have particular interests and expertise to offer. As with practically all NBTA functions, the success of these groups requires a continuing flow of volunteers. Each member serves for two years, with terms being staggered. Therefore, some personnel stay and some leave every year, allowing for a mixture of new and experienced members on each committee. One NBTA staff member is assigned to each committee to act as secretary, preparing minutes, agendas, and carrying out additional research between meetings.

**A full list of the teacher volunteers who will be serving on 2009-10 NBTA Committees can be found in the center sheet (pg. 16-17) of this issue.**

### NBTA Committees

**Standard Structure**  
**5 teachers**  
includes 1 member of NBTA Board of Directors  
**+ 1 NBTA Staff**

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**Meet up to 3 times per year to identify, research & discuss key teacher issues**



### NBTA Decision-Making Bodies


**Comprised of Elected Teachers**

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**NBTA Board of Directors**

**NBTA Executive Committee**

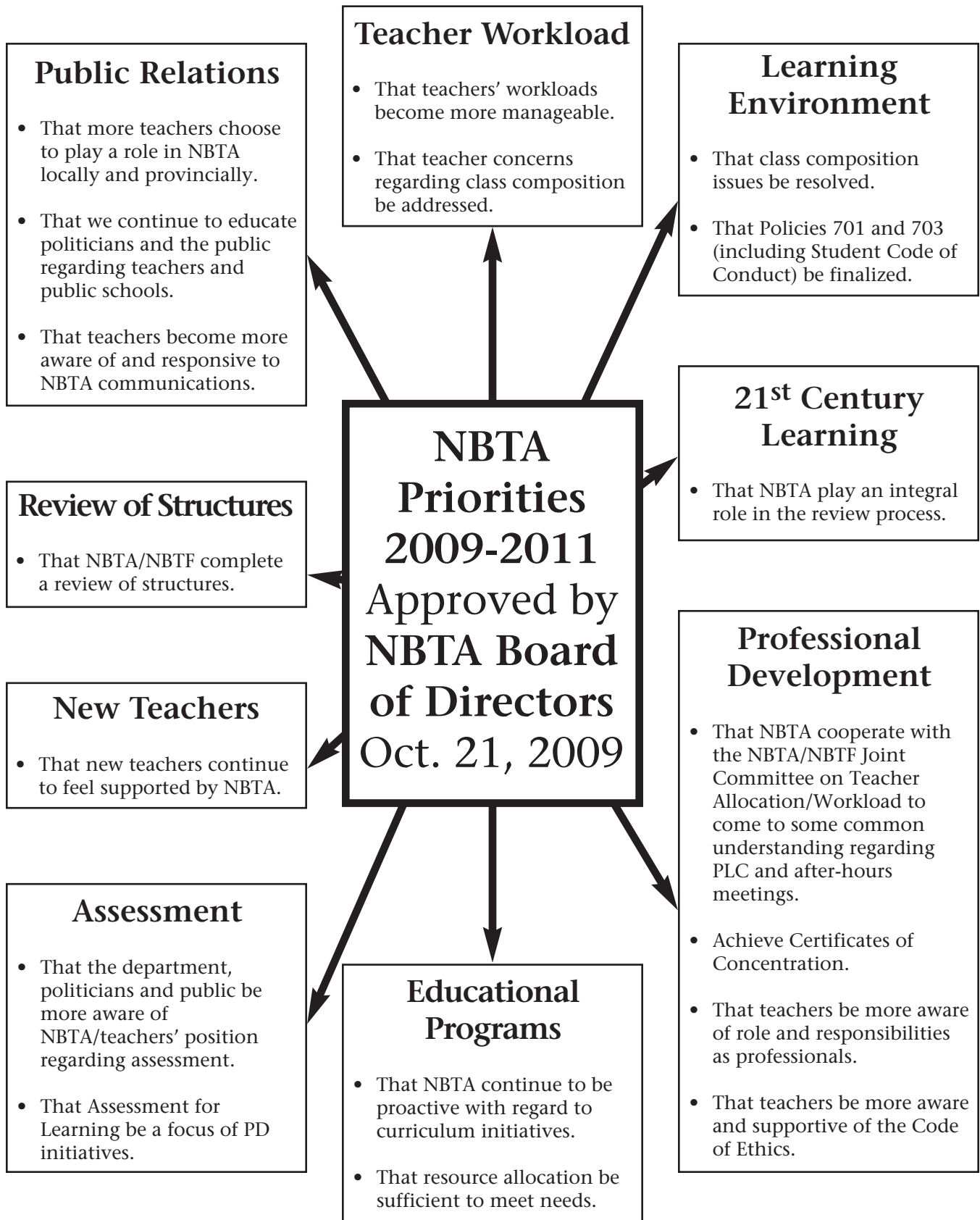
**NBTA Annual General Meeting**

|                       |       |  |
|-----------------------|-------|--|
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### Send us your Articles and Photos!

We need your contributions to keep all teachers up to date with the Association's activities, professional issues, and the great things educators do.

# NBTA Priorities



## The President Says, "Keep Healthy!"



Noreen Bonnell

A heartfelt hello to all our teachers in this, the third month of the 2009-2010 school year!

**HEALTH** – This is a hot topic in the world now, with the approaching 'flu' season, further complicated by the threat of the pandemic H1N1 virus. Much information is available from many sources to keep us all informed, aware, and as up-to-date as possible, in order to make decisions on immunizations, when to stay home, who is ill in the

classroom and general workplace, how to keep as virus-free as possible, and so much more. I encourage you to log in to our NBTF website often for updated information and links.

**HEALTH** – The health of our classrooms is affected by how well the available resources correspond to the needs of all. At this point in the year, we are cognizant of the emerging educational, social, and emotional concerns that exist with the very diverse populations of our classrooms. We question, evaluate, consult, continue to modify, enrich, adjust as necessary, and make the thousands of professional judgments that we expect will encourage and enhance the educational lives of the students, to provide a healthy balance of education each and every day. Remember to communicate any need for support with your fellow teachers and administration.

**HEALTH** – Are you monitoring your own physical and emotional health? I have mentioned often how important it is not to have an over-full plate, i.e. how important balance is in life, for our own health. Teachers, we must keep vigilant on many fronts, but very importantly, regarding our own health – to care for others, we must also care for ourselves.

**HEALTH** – We belong to a great organization of teachers, our New Brunswick Teachers' Association. The health of our organization depends on the involvement of our membership, the support of our teachers, the knowledge and adherence to the policies and codes developed by teachers for teachers, and the pride we take in being part of a highly professional organization. Keep informed; keep involved; keep aware of the high esteem in which we are held as teachers. Let's support each other in maintaining that high level of professionalism to which we aspire everyday.

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Teachers in our province, in neighbouring provinces, across our country, around the world – live with the similar concerns: workload, class size, class composition, assessment, teacher allocation, support for beginning teachers.....

Earlier in October, the Joint Committee on Teacher Allocation and Workload (established in our last contract) met for the first time, with two other meetings scheduled for this school year. You can expect more information regarding this vital committee in the months ahead.

In mid-October, I represented NBTA during the Annual PEITF Convention in Charlottetown. Support for teachers was celebrated by all partners. Recently we, in New Brunswick, have heard many accolades from our new Education Minister, the Honourable Roland Haché. He has applauded the enthusiasm, work, and dedication of teachers. There has been much emphasis on the positive and building on those positives. The power of positive words, as Hal Urban - who presented during our Combined Conference last May - so effectively communicated, has its effect over time. We hope that this very welcome support of teachers will also result in substantial action to appropriately resource the classrooms of our Province. Again, health is a balance of needs and resources.

What are true stories of the classroom? Just a few days ago, external standardized provincial assessment results were released. The results from these snapshots of a time in our students' lives last school year were higher in specific areas. Teachers ARE making a difference everyday with students, even when some of those much publicized results may show less success. Where will we see the all-round story of each child? Ask you, the teacher. Ask you, the professional who is involved with each child every day, who has the observations, the conversations, the assignments, the quizzes, the discussions, the writing samples, the explanations of mathematical and scientific problem-solving, the projects from many different sectors, the performances in music and drama. The teacher has the story over time - the learning continuum of each child.

I remind you to share those 'true' stories. Keep in touch with NBTA and NBTF and me as often as you need. We are here to support you.

Keep healthy, happy, and hopeful!

## Thank You

*from the family of Reg Bonnell*

*On behalf of our family, I sincerely thank all our friends and colleagues in New Brunswick, in the Atlantic region, and across the country, for all the support and thoughtfulness shown in so many ways, during my husband's short battle with brain cancer and since his passing on September 10.*

*We are deeply grateful.*

Noreen

# NBTA Welcome to New Teachers Workshop

**"It was very welcoming and I felt I was part of a big family."**



On September 19, 2009, new teachers from across the province attended the "Welcome to New Teachers Workshop" in Fredericton. It was an opportunity for them to meet fellow new teachers and learn what their Association can do for them.

*"I liked learning about pension benefits and recall rights."*

*"I found it helpful to discover all the support that is available for teachers."*

*"Having time to address personal questions one-on-one was beneficial."*



*"...meeting the other new teachers and the NBTA Staff."*



*"There was an overview of everything."*



# Classroom Management Institute for Early Career Teachers

Sixteen enthusiastic early career teachers attended the Cooperative Discipline institute held at the NBTF Building in Fredericton on October 14th. This NBTA sponsored opportunity for professional development brought teachers from around the province together to learn new strategies and to reflect on current practice. The teachers spent the day learning about 5 main concepts related to classroom management:

- Students choose their behavior
- Behavioral choices are often influenced by classroom management styles
- The 4 goals of misbehavior
- Building self-esteem through encouragement
- Teacher action plan process

The sixteen participants eagerly engaged in discussions, activities and demonstrations in order to increase their knowledge and skills in the area of classroom management. Thank you to both the participants and the districts and schools who supported them in attending this event.



## NBTA Board of Directors Meeting October 21 - 23, 2009

The first of the three sessions for 2009-10 was underway as this issue went to print. Among the key items on the agenda for these elected teacher representatives was NBTA Priorities for 2009-11 (see page 2), reports from numerous committees, and an address from Education Minister Roland Haché.

This was also NBTA President Noreen Bonnell's, first Board meeting in her new role. The NBTA President serves as Chair of the Board. The NB Teachers' Federation Board met October 23rd.

*NBTA Branch 1826 will now be represented by 2 members on the Board of Directors. The NBTA welcomes Heather Palmer (above) from Devon Middle School.*



*(L to r) Executive Director Larry Jamieson, Executive Secretary Erna Leger, President Noreen Bonnell, Vice-President Heather Smith and Past President Brent Shaw.*



*Education Minister Roland Haché listens to questions from the NBTA Board of Directors. Deputy Minister of Education John Kershaw is at left.*

## More than 50 Attend NBTA Pension Seminar in Dalhousie

Teachers are seeking information about their financial futures far earlier in their careers. This trend was in evidence as the first of seven NBTA Pension Seminars for 2009-10 was held in Dalhousie, Saturday, October 17. NBTA Executive Director, Larry Jamieson, continues to host these increasingly popular sessions, as he transitions from his former role of Director of Teacher Welfare Services. The Teachers' Pension Act, the Canada Pension Plan, Pension calculations and Old Age Security are among the numerous topics discussed. Future seminars will be held at various locations across the province. **For more information or to register, see the form on page 7 of this issue or click the Pension Seminar icon on the website at [www.nbta.ca](http://www.nbta.ca).**



# YOUR PENSION



from TPA Echo, Vol. 6, 2009

### What is Canada Pension Plan (CPP) integration and why is my IPA pension benefit integrated?

In January 1966, the Government of Canada implemented the CPP. At the time, provincial governments had to decide whether or not their employees were going to be subject to the national plan. In September of 1966, the Province of New Brunswick decided it would apply to its employees and thus the provincial and federal plans became integrated. All provinces made a similar decision, with Quebec integrating with the QPP as opposed to the CPP.

What this means is that both your contribution rate and the benefit rate for your provincial pension are reduced because you are also contributing to the CPP. To be more specific, Teachers' Pension Act (TPA) pension plan members pay 7.3% of salary instead of the 9.0% of salary that they would pay if the plans were not integrated. For salary in excess of the Yearly Maximum Pensionable Earnings (YMPE), as defined by the CPP (\$46,300 in 2009), contributors pay 9.0% of salary into the TPA pension plan.

Depending on an individual member's career choices and his/her age of retirement, the TPA pension plan is designed to provide, in concert with the CPP, a benefit of 2% of the highest five years average salary for each year of service in the provincial plan.

Under the TPA, benefits are integrated at age 65 – the current age at which you are eligible for an unreduced benefit from the Canada Pension Plan. Prior to age 65, the TPA actually provides an enhanced benefit of 2% on all salary (2.14% for service before 1 September 1966). At age 65, your TPA pension benefit is adjusted to reflect the benefit from the CPP. The integration formula is standard, and applies to all members in the same fashion – that is, from age 65, regardless that you may have elected to receive your CPP pension as early as age 60 (a reduced CPP).

Unfortunately, this integration at age 65 has been regarded negatively, as a reduction in the TPA pension plan earned benefit. In actual fact, the enhanced payment from the TPA pension plan, up to age 65, should be considered a bonus; and the amount at age 65, the normal earned benefit. Prior to September 1966, the contributions and benefits were not integrated, a full 2.14% was earned, and the full contribution was made.

### Contributions Paid for Pension Benefits Received

|                                      | TPA Contributions | TPA Benefit Received |              | CPP Contributions | CPP Benefits Received |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------|----------------------|--------------|-------------------|-----------------------|
|                                      |                   | Before age 65        | After age 65 |                   |                       |
| Salary up to average YMPE            | 7.3%              | 2.0%                 | 1.3%         | Yes               | Yes                   |
| Portion of salary above average YMPE | 9.0%              | 2.0%                 | 2.0%         | No                | No                    |

# 2009-2010 NBTA PENSION SEMINARS REGISTRATION FORM

Please accept my application to attend the NBTA Pension Seminar to be held on (check one):

**NOTE:**

***Due to the change in the issue schedule of the NBTA News, this is the only hard copy of this application form that will be printed before the new year's seminars. It may also be found on the NBTA website at [www.nbta.ca](http://www.nbta.ca)***

DATE OF SEMINAR \_\_\_\_\_

DEADLINE FOR REGISTRATION \_\_\_\_\_

- \_\_\_\_\_ November 25 - Bristol, Carleton North Senior High
- \_\_\_\_\_ December 5 - Saint John, Simonds High
- \_\_\_\_\_ January 9 - Fredericton, NBTF Building
- \_\_\_\_\_ January 23 - Miramichi, Dr. Losier Middle School
- \_\_\_\_\_ February 6 - Sussex, Sussex High School

- November 18
- November 27
- December 23
- January 15
- January 29

Name of Teacher: \_\_\_\_\_ S.I. No. \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Dist. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Name of Spouse (if attending) \_\_\_\_\_

***(If spouse is a teacher, please fill out a separate form)***

No. of pension years you will have accumulated to June 2010 \_\_\_\_\_ Certificate Level: \_\_\_\_\_

Are you planning to buy back time? \_\_\_\_\_ If "yes", how much time? \_\_\_\_\_

Do you have Responsibility Allowance? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_ ***(If "yes", contact your payroll officer at your District Office and have your last 5 years' salary history faxed to Karen Vautour, 453-9795)***

I am enclosing a cheque in the amount of \$5.00 / \$10.00 (please circle one) to cover the cost of registration; nutrition break, and materials to be supplied. Please make cheque payable to **New Brunswick Teachers' Association.**

**Mail Application form to: Karen Vautour, P.O. Box 752, Fredericton, NB, E3B 5R6 or fax to 453-9795.**

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

## SEMINAR GUIDELINES

The following guidelines should be noted for participation in these seminars:

1. All participants must pre-register.
2. A registration fee of \$5.00 for each participant must accompany the application; however, cheques will not be cashed until after the workshop.
3. Travel and accommodation costs are the responsibility of the participant.
4. A nutrition break will be provided.
5. Questions relating to these seminars should be directed to: **Larry Jamieson**  
**Executive Director**  
**New Brunswick Teachers' Association**  
**P.O. Box 752**  
**Fredericton, N.B. E3B 5R6 (Tel. 452-1722)**
6. Any interested teachers are eligible to attend.
7. All workshops begin with registration at 8:30 am and sessions at 9:00 am until 1:00 pm. ***(Except Bristol, where registration will begin at 4:30pm -- Seminar at 5:00pm)***
8. Detach and return the registration form as soon as possible.

### PROGRAM

- Teachers' Pension Act
- The Canada Pension Plan
- Pension Records (will be available at meeting if possible)
- Pension Calculations
- Old Age Security
- Retirement Allowance
- Pre-retirement Vacations
- Deferred Salary Leave Plans
- Financial Planning for Retirement:
  - RRSPs
  - Annuities
  - Registered Retirement Income Funds
- Individual Consultations



**PLEASE NOTE: YOU WILL RECEIVE CONFIRMATION WITHIN ONE WEEK OF CONFERENCE.**



# Are You Eligible to Retire?

By Larry Jamieson, NBTA Executive Director

**The New Brunswick Teachers' Pension Act (TPA) provides that a teacher becomes eligible to retire on an immediate pension:**

- (a) at age 65 with 5 or more years of pensionable service (no reduction)
- (b) at age 60 with 5 or more years of pensionable service (Pension reduced 5 per cent per year for each year under age 65)
- (c) at age 60 with 20 or more years of pensionable service (no reduction)
- (d) when the combination of a teacher's age and service reaches 80 (reduced pension). (Reduction will be 2.5% for each index year that retirement precedes age/service index of 87)
- (e) when a combination of a teacher's age and service equals 87 (no reduction)
- (f) after completing 35 years of pensionable service (full pension)

**Below is a checklist of things you should do when you have decided to stop teaching and receive your pension:**

- If you are unsure of your pension service, check with the Compensation & Employee Benefits Division, Office of Human Resources (Pensions Branch) to make sure that you are indeed eligible for retirement. Include your Social Insurance Number (SIN) and birth certificate in any communication with the Pensions Branch.
- Notify your Superintendent, in writing, of your intention to retire (the Regulations of the *Education Act* now stipulate this notification be communicated as of February 1st):
  - (a) specify the date of retirement (always at end of the month - e.g., June 30, 2010)

**Note:** In the case of a disability pension, these steps will only occur once the teacher has received approval for his/her disability pension from the Compensation & Employee Benefits Division, Office of Human Resources.

- Make arrangements with a financial institution to have your retirement allowance placed in a RRSP account or any other registered investment mechanism. The banking institution, trust company or credit union, etc. will then undertake the necessary steps (complete TD2 form) so that the amount is

deposited directly into a RRSP account without going through your hands. Otherwise you might end up paying tax at a high rate on that amount.

- If you are age 60 or over, do not forget to apply for the Canada Pension (CPP).

#### **Forms to fill out at District Office:**

1. Termination Notice / Benefit Request — Claim for pension benefits (copy of birth certificate(s) required)
2. TD1 — Personal exemptions for income tax purposes after retirement
3. Direct Deposit form (*blank, void cheque required*)
4. NBTF Group Insurance form indicating what you plan to do regarding your group insurance coverage. This will allow the Compensation & Employee Benefits Division to make the necessary deductions from your pension cheque.

**Note:** It is important that the Compensation & Employee Benefits Division receive the necessary forms properly filled out (notice of termination and TD1) at least 90 days prior to the month you expect to receive your pension. The School District will look after sending these forms where appropriate.



Larry Jamieson

Pension cheques are received on the 23rd/24th of each month, except December.  
For any additional information on the above process, please contact:

→ Larry Jamieson, New Brunswick Teachers' Association  
P.O. Box 752, Fredericton, NB E3B 5R6 Tel. 452-1722

or

→ Compensation & Employee Benefits Division, Office of Human Resources  
P.O. Box 6000, Fredericton, N.B. E3B 5H1 Tel. 453-2296 or 1-800-561-4012

If you have decided to retire, please notify NBTA Central Office as soon as possible.  
This will help us prepare for the provincial Retiring Teachers' Luncheon which will be held on Saturday, May 29.



# Rural NB School House Teacher Helps Inspire Large Donation to UNB

excerpts from UNB news release

David and Wendy Betts of Calgary, Alta. have donated \$700,000 to establish the **Betts/Wilbur Memorial Scholarship** at the University of New Brunswick.

Raised in Millerton, Mr. Betts attended UNB on a Beaverbrook Scholarship. He recently retired as a corporate financial consultant with more than 30 years experience as an investment analyst and banker. As a way to honour the key people who led him on the path to success, Mr. and Mrs. Betts named their scholarship fund after Mr. Betts' parents, John LeRoi and Audrey Ellen, and former teacher, **Aletha Wilbur**.

"My parents provided the incentive for my brothers and me to go beyond the village of Millerton and further our education," explained Mr. Betts.

He describes **Ms. Wilbur, who passed away in 1998 at the age of**



**104, as a kind-hearted teacher who had her students' and community's respect, someone of integrity and determination who devoted her life to education and her students.** As a high school teacher she had a significant impact on David, helping ensure that he, his two brothers and so many others in the community were groomed for a university education, and more specifically one at UNB.

"She provided extra classroom time, outside of normal hours, to any student that showed a capability to go on to university," he said. **Ms. Wilbur was principal of Derby Superior School, a three-room schoolhouse in Millerton.** Schools such as this were at the center of community life, often serving as meeting spaces and worship facilities – certainly a place where students came to know their neighbours and build a sense of community and interdependence. Many of those who taught in these schools, living on very modest wages, often boarding with a local family, became important leaders, not just in the classroom, but well beyond.

The scholarships are valued at \$24,000 over four years and are open to New Brunswick students entering the faculties of computer science, science, or engineering.

## Teacher for Life

by Jessica Fenton, Riverview High School

**"Teachers – May you teach one to teach another." - Erin Gruwell**

Attending the Freedom Writers Institute in Long Beach, California with Erin Gruwell and the Freedom Writers was an opportunity I was blessed to receive. I remember vividly being told by another teacher at the institute that she would die for her students and she expected that kind of commitment from her students to themselves. I realized in that moment – I am home. Being surrounded by other dedicated teachers helped me become more passionate about my calling. I was amongst 30 teachers, from all backgrounds and ages and from all over the world, who came together in a collaborative workshop learning how to engage, enlighten, and empower our students through internally motivating student-

centered teachings – a model of teaching which makes lessons relevant to kids and reinforces that



*Jessica Fenton met Erin Gruwell on Council Day 2009 and was invited to attend her workshop last summer.*

'every kid can make it'. The workshop emulated a freshmen classroom where

we, as teachers, became 14-year-old students not wanting to attend school again. The institute was both provocative and silly as Erin taught us in the same way she taught her own students. During that experience, I could completely relate to what my students go through on a daily basis. The institute allowed me to see how important it is for students to be involved in their learning, to have a voice, and be shown "tough love". It is not only teaching curriculum, but teaching people and relating to kids. Incorporating Erin's teaching model and lessons into my teachings has opened many doors for me and my students. I have learned that when diverse worlds come together, beauty is inevitable.

If interested in a Freedom Writer workshop, please contact me at: [jessica.fenton@nbed.nb.ca](mailto:jessica.fenton@nbed.nb.ca).

For more information about the Freedom Writers Teachers you can access the following links:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=utPoZCH2oEc&NR=1&feature=fvwp>, Freedom Writers Teacher Institute, 2009;

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Fx0H4HSw2Og&feature=channel>, Teaching Hope: Stories from the Freedom Writers Teachers, 2009

## Home and School Connections: Conferencing Effectively About the Children We Share

*“Teachers who establish partnerships with the families or other caregivers of their students must understand the cultural backgrounds of their students and the unique challenges those families may be experiencing. Teachers must be able to communicate clearly and respectfully with family members and demonstrate a genuine interest in the welfare of the child and family. They must be skillful in conducting meetings with caregivers that create a sense of teamwork between the home and school as well as delineate appropriate and manageable ways for providing support for a student’s learning at home. In addition, teachers must demonstrate sensitivity to ways in which caregivers may be most appropriately involved in schools as classroom volunteers or committee members.”*

*(National Staff Development Council Standards – Family Involvement)*

As I sit down to write this month’s article for the NBTA News, I find myself thinking that I just might have to admit that age is finally catching up to me. Why you ask? Well, it seems that I have LOST at least 3 weeks of September and perhaps 2 weeks of October. I have no idea where they went!

While I may be finding it difficult to imagine that November is upon us, the thickening frost on my windshield each morning reinforces the fact that time has indeed marched on. The chill in the air reminds us all that it will soon be **that** time of year again --- (insert Count Dracula-like laugh here) --- Report Cards and Parent Teacher Interviews. (And you thought Halloween could be scary!)

Other than their obvious proximity of timing, I think we must acknowledge that both of these milestone events, evoke more trepidation from students, their parents and teachers than perhaps any other single event in the school calendar.

For many of our struggling students, this annual dashing of September’s “new school year expectations” when juxtaposed with the “realities of my report card marks” leaves opportunity for many possibilities for miscommunication and misunderstanding between home and school. (A recent study suggests that our struggling students do not see a link between their report card mark and their day-to-day academic performance and achievement in class. This inability to make this link results in them viewing report card marks as a

random valuation on them personally rather than a measure of academic performance that has potential for improvement.)

Likewise, many of our parents are reminded of their own feelings of inadequacy, fear or frustration regarding school as they watch their children’s school experience. I can still remember watching my parents prepare to leave the house on “Parent/Teacher Talk” night.

***“...report card and conference time can be one of the more intimidating yet most informative times during the school year...”***

(Showing my age yet again with that terminology, aren’t I?) I distinctly remember feeling my mother’s nervousness as she went through rituals of extreme preparedness for the event and then her immense relief upon her arrival home later that evening at having survived “another round”. I now realize that her nervousness had far less to do with my performance at school and was more symptomatic of her own negative school experiences that resulted in her not finishing high school.

As teachers, it is also important to remember that the urban legend of the “irate parent” can sometimes lead to inclinations of defensiveness

in our approach to home and school communication.

For all teachers, but perhaps most especially for our newer teachers, conference time can be one of the more intimidating yet most informative times during the school year.

What follows are a few tips that may be helpful in preparing yourself to handle conferences professionally and effectively and not feel intimidated:

- Dress appropriately. Clearly demonstrate your professionalism, importance of the meeting and respect for the parents.
- Pay attention to your surroundings and make every effort to make things inviting. Arrange desks or a table where you can sit with families to discuss common areas of interest or concern as opposed to sitting behind the teacher’s desk talking at one another.
- Have access to a digital camera? This can be a great tool to help prepare for conferences. Take lots of photos of students engaged in classroom activities throughout the term and display them in prominent locations. While conferencing, reference them as you explain links with curricular outcomes.
- Have a copy of the report card with you plus any documentation you think they’ll need - e.g. monthly reports, behavioral logs, tests (that have been signed by

the parents), examples of grade level standards, exemplars of student work, etc.

- Begin the conference by asking "Do you have any questions or comments about the report card?", and then go from there.
- Maintain a positive attitude, good eye contact and listen attentively, i.e. learn as much as possible about the student's home life, their hobbies, responsibilities, etc.
- Be relaxed and calm when discussing a behavioral or emotional issue. Your intent is to get the parents to be your allies and work together to resolve any problems.
- If and when you discuss actual events about the student's misbehavior (or other problems), give examples of what he/she did or was involved in - if the student is there, all the better - he/she has to explain and be accountable. (Of course, if these have been significant issues, then significant communication between home

and school would already have occurred. The parent-teacher conference would not be the occasion to initiate such conversation.)

- End by shaking hands, smiling and perhaps even some small talk about school social events, etc.

Things to avoid while conferencing with families:

DO NOT -

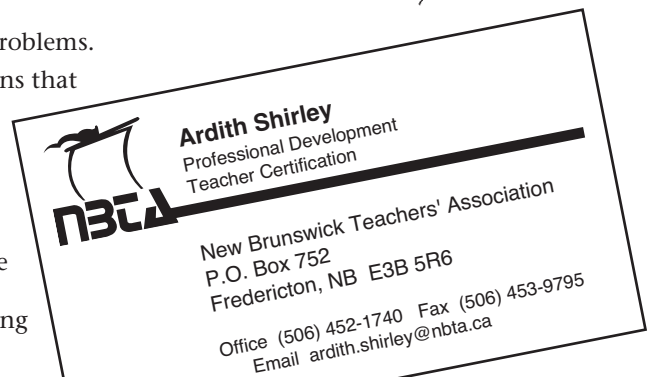
- Begin by focusing on the student's problems.
- Compare one student to another.
- Argue with a parent or blame them.
- Focus on family problems.
- Allow conversations that speak negatively about other teachers, the school or the administration.
- Allow any possible distractions or interruptions during

the parent teacher conference - e.g. turn off your cell phone.

Know that since each one of your students is different and unique, your interviews will be just as diverse. Finally, keep in mind that students and parents look to you as an expert in their education.

Be professional, personable, compassionate, and most of all confident in your abilities.

Best wishes for a happy and healthy reporting period!



## May I Recommend?

(Who am I kidding? Who has time to read anything I might recommend in November? I will save anything I have come across in the last month or so until our next issue! Stay tuned! ☺)

### Closing Quote:

*"Communication does not depend on syntax, or eloquence, or rhetoric, or articulation but on the emotional context in which the message is being heard. People can only hear you when they are moving toward you, and they are not likely to when your words are pursuing them. Even the choicest words lose their power when they are used to overpower. Attitudes are the real figures of speech."*

- Edwin H. Friedman

## References

National Staff Development Standards (Available online at: <http://www.nsd.org/standards/family.cfm>)

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<http://www.priceless-teaching-strategies.com/effective-parent-teacher-conferences.html>





## Formative Assessment – a noun or a verb?

by Julie Kilcollins, Florenceville Middle School

When teachers ask “Formative assessment. . . what is it really?”, they are usually not asking from a grammatical standpoint! The fact that the question is being posed repeatedly, however, speaks to the need for clarification of what is and what is not ‘formative assessment’. In an effort to clarify the term and its synonyms (assessment for learning, informative assessment, transformational assessment), and distinguish it from other forms of assessment (interim, benchmark and summative assessments), a few authors refer to formative assessment as a ‘verb’ to underline that it is a process, not a product.

When teachers have asked for examples of formative assessment, I have shared ideas such as thumbs up/thumbs down to show understanding, green card/red card to signal progress with a task or learning, and separating exit passes into “got it”, “almost there” and “not yet” piles. Teachers may have been happy to have a take-home strategy, but they may also have been misled. It is not the technique, strategy or tool that is formative, rather it is what the teacher and students do with the information that makes it formative. This distinction is crucial in a time where

vendors are marketing “formative assessments.” If I have students complete a vendor-, team- or self-created assessment piece, ‘mark it’ with or without a grade and continue with instruction as previously planned, I can call it what I will, but it is not formative assessment. What makes a piece



formative is how it is used; the teacher and the student use formative assessment results to make decisions about what actions to take to promote further learning. Teachers use formative assessment to adjust instructional plans and methods, and provide learners ‘just-in-time’ descriptive feedback that

allows them to take the next steps. Formative assessment in action is not observable; administrators can’t ‘see’ formative assessment as they do walk-throughs because it is a decision-making process in the head of the teacher or learner as a result of information that was gathered through a technique or activity. Formative assessment can only be ‘seen’ when debriefing: ‘What did you find out and what did you do as a result of that?’ When formative assessment is done well, students don’t realize they are being assessed; it feels like a learning activity, not a ‘test’.

Formative assessment is not new; many good teachers have intuitively been doing it for decades. What is new is the focus on intentionally and purposefully using formative assessment as practice and process linked directly to and interwoven with instruction (Garrison, 2009). It is not an ‘add-on’ or another item for our to-do list, but rather must become a natural and purposeful component embedded in planning and delivery. This is a crucial piece of the larger assessment puzzle on which teachers must focus if we are to capture the power of assessment to improve student learning and allow for increased learner success.

### References:

- Chappuis, S. & Chappuis, J. (2008). The Best Value in Formative Assessment. *Educational Leadership*, 65(4), pp. 14-19.  
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 Garrison, Catherine (2009). Formative Assessment: Debunking the Myths. (Interview audio file). Retrieved from <http://www.nmsa.org/Publications/TodaysMiddleLevelEducator/tabid/1409/Default.aspx?name=formative%20assessment>  
 Popham, W. James (2009). A Process – Not a Test. *Educational Leadership* 66(7), pp. 85-86

## Elementary Council News

Kudos to the Nominating Committee of Roberte Melanson and Sharyn Pope; the Elementary Council now has its full complement of members, all thirteen of us representing elementary teachers from across the province. We have not had thirteen members for quite a while. The Elementary Council now includes; Brenda Bordage,



Cathy Boudreau, Peter Gorham, Kelly Gorham-Gaines, Jane Jonah, Erica LeBlanc, Natalie Legere, Donna Losier, Roberte Melanson, Karen Miller, Sharyn Pope, Karla Roy, and

Pauline Thomas. We have all met once and have started to work on our May Day. If you have any concerns or questions about council please contact one of these volunteers. Their names are listed on the NBTA website ([www.nbta.ca](http://www.nbta.ca) YOUR NBTA > COUNCILS > ELEMENTARY COUNCIL > EXECUTIVE/CONTACTS)



Our program committee is working to provide a very different day in May with more choices, more small sessions, and more make-and-take sessions. Donna Losier is collecting names of possible speakers and topics. **If you know of any speakers or if you have a session you would like to present, please email Donna** (donna.losier@nbed.nb.ca). We are still looking for a name for

the day, but the site will definitely be Fredericton.

We have set aside funds to support two workshops; one organized by Pride in Education (PIE) on Establishing Gay/Straight Alliances in Schools, and the New Brunswick Physical Education Society's workshop for Physical Education and Health Educators. Karla Roy has organized an Art

Institute on October 27th at the Beaverbrook Art Gallery related to the work of the Impressionists. The workshop is based around the National Gallery exhibition and is supported by a number of works by Canadian impressionists like Mabel May.

Peter Gorham  
President, Elementary Council



*Elementary Council met on Sept. 25. The members of the Council are Peter Gorham, Donna Losier, Karla Roy, Kelly Gorham-Gains, Sharyn Pope, Erica LeBlanc, Karen Miller, Roberte Melanson, Natalie Legere, Brenda Bordage, Cathy Boudreau, Jane Jonah and Pauline Thomas.*

## Middle Level Council News

The Middle Level Council had our first meeting with our sister councils on September 25 and 26 in Fredericton. Thanks to Council members Amy Maloney and Krista Nowlan-Hamilton, planning for May 2010 Council Day is well underway. We are looking forward to providing many great sessions in the Miramichi. Plans for Council Day 2011 in Saint John have also been made as we booked our keynote speaker, Rick Wormelli, long ago.

The Middle Level Executive for



2010 consists of Stacy Garland (President), John Irvine (Past President), Jason Burns (VP), Amy Maloney (Secretary), Lise Martin-Keilty (Treasurer), Lise Bourgeois (Curriculum), Shelley Hunter (Communications), Lynne Morneau, Cheryl Aylward, Krista Nowlan-Hamilton; new member

Donna Lagacy and returning member Tanya Whitney. If you need to contact any member of Council, go to our link on the NBTA website under Your NBTA to find the representative nearest to you.

In addition to funding the Autism Institute, the ML Council has also given \$500 to Pride in Education for their institute Creating Allies for Gay Youth which also takes place this November.

Shelley Hunter  
MLC Communications



*Middle Level Council (l to r): Stacy Garland, Jason Burns, Shelley Hunter, Lynne Morneau, John Irvine, Amy Maloney, Lise Martin-Keilty, Tanya Whitney, Donna Lagacy, Cheryl Aylward, and Kimberley McKay (NBTA). Absent: Krista Nowlan-Hamilton and Lise Bourgeois.*



### MIDDLE LEVEL COUNCIL FALL INSTITUTE

#### “You’re Going To Love This Kid”: Educating Students with Autism in Inclusive Schools

Dr. Paula Kluth is a consultant, teacher, author, advocate, and independent scholar who works with teachers and families to provide inclusive opportunities for students with disabilities and to create more responsive and engaging schooling experiences for all learners. Paula is a former special educator who has served as a classroom teacher, consulting teacher, and inclusion facilitator. Her research and professional interests include differentiating instruction, and supporting students with autism and significant disabilities in inclusive classrooms.



**Date:** Monday, November 23, 2009      **Location:** Fredericton      **Cost:** \$25

For more information or to register, click on Middle Level Council Institute icon on the NBTA website at [www.nbta.ca](http://www.nbta.ca) or see **page 18** of this issue.

## High School Council News

Happy Fall, everyone! The High School Council has already had an exciting start to the year with the first meeting being held on September 25 and 26 in Fredericton along with Middle Level and Elementary Councils. We have all been enthusiastically working towards High School Council Day 2010 which will be held in Moncton. There has also been work towards selecting locations and sessions for 2011 and 2012; you can never think too far ahead.

The High School Council



Executive for 2010 consists of Jocelyne Schwenger (President), Angela Murphy Landry (VP), Jane Porter (Secretary), Celinda Van Horne (Treasurer), Derek Taggart (Past President), Marla Anderson, Martin Daigle, Shelly Stairs, Stacey Stairs and Sheridan Mawhinney; new members Mary Anderson and

Adam Trider; and returning member Paul Lenarczyk. Our full compliment represents teachers from all over the province. If you need to contact any member of the executive, check out our link on the NBTA website under **Your NBTA** to find the representative closest to your area. While you are there take a glance at the PD opportunities that your councils have linked to this site; there may be something of interest to you or a colleague.

Marla Anderson  
HSC Communications



High School Council (l to r): Adam Trider, Jane Porter, Angela Murphy-Landry, Mary Anderson, Sheridan Mawhinney, Celinda Van Horne, Jocelyn Schwenger, Marla Anderson, Shelly Stairs, Paul Lenarczyk, Stacey Stairs, Martin Daigle, Derek Taggart, and Melinda Cook (NBTA).

## Teaching Tip: FSL

### Parlez-vous français?

A great way to get ALL students involved in oral French (FILA or prime French) is after a quick mini lesson for specific questions and phrases, invite them to a “5 à 10”. This free time to *bavarder* (chit chat) gives all students ample time to practice their skills with these brief, one-on-one conversations. Armed with a class list, you can jot your observations as you circulate and listen in.

*This tip provided by Evelyn Paquin (Florenceville Middle School)*



## Teaching Tips: Literacy/Technology

### Elementary

In most NB Elementary Schools, reading comprehension tests have become the norm. Different strategies are used to help students answer comprehension questions. One strategy that is often used is to highlight the answer in the text and write the corresponding question number beside it. This ensures that students are not highlighting everything they see and they are able to show you where the answer was found. Another is to make sure that students are aware of the difference between questions. There are questions where answers are found in the text or “on the lines”, some questions have answers that require students to infer from the information given or to read “between the lines”, and there are also questions that allow students to express their thoughts and opinions “beyond the lines” text.

#### BTW By The Way...



Technology can be used when working with reading comprehension texts and questions. A great way to do this is with centios. If you do not have a class or school set, many districts have class sets available on loan from district office. Once you pre-program the questions and answers to the comprehension text, you can see the excitement students have for this activity, simply because technology is involved.

### Middle Level - Making it Real

#### Starting the Year the Write Way

Two great books that can help you to get students writing are “Lessons that Change Writers” by Nancie Atwell (ISBN 0-86709-546-6) and “Notebook Know How: Strategies for the Writer’s Notebook” by Aimee Buckner (ISBN 1-57110-413-5). One nugget in Atwell’s book is to have students, at the beginning of the year, generate a list of ideas about which they could write. Later on, if they are lost for an idea, they can refer to this list.

To assist you with meeting individual needs, you can profile samples of their writing and reading comprehension from their last year, provided these samples are available. These profiles can be used to generate differentiated Guided Writing and Guided Reading groups.

*This tip provided by Cristy DeMerchant (Florenceville Middle School)*

#### BTW By The Way...



Here are three great websites for writing in the Middle Level classroom.

- Prompts, lessons, and resources for writing classrooms: [writingfix.com](http://writingfix.com)
- Links for Middle and High School LA: [rozauer.tripod.com/hslanguagearts.htm](http://rozauer.tripod.com/hslanguagearts.htm)
- Writing Prompts and Student Models: [www.thewritesource.com](http://www.thewritesource.com)

*Website links submitted by Vanessa Kelley (District 14).*

### High School

Many schools, especially in English/French language arts classes, encourage sustained silent reading at least once a week. Sometimes the books or magazines that the students chose to read have words that are not familiar to the students. Encourage your students to keep a paper bookmark to write down words that they do not understand and the page number while they are reading the book. Later, the student will be able to look up the word or ask the teacher to discover its meaning. By having the page number referenced, the student will be able to go back and read the section again with more comprehension of the new word.

#### BTW By The Way...



Technology has taken the world of note taking to a new level. With the addition of SmartBoards, InFocus machines and computers, teachers may never have to worry about chalk dust again. When converting notes to overheads or PowerPoint, however, try to remember the 7/10 rule: no more than 7 words per line and no more than 10 lines per page/slide. Students think that they need to copy everything from the slide rather than listening to the teacher. Use the slides to organize and emphasize your points without cluttering the screen. Teaching is not about the performance you put on, but about learning basic concepts and the content that supports or opposes those concepts.

### Looking Ahead:

In the Council section of the January issue, we will be focusing on the theme of *Wellness - Singing the February Blues* and providing teaching tips based on *Numeracy*.



## Direct Input from Te

### Ad Hoc 21<sup>st</sup> Century Learning Committee

|                   |                      |
|-------------------|----------------------|
| Jason Reath       | Sackville (TRHS)     |
| John Irvine       | Woodstock (WMS)      |
| Nic Boucher       | Miinto (ME/MS)       |
| Jane Fiander      | Harvey Station (HHS) |
| Kathleen Breault  | St. Stephen (SSES)   |
| Sara Currie       | Saint John (LLS)     |
| Karla Roy         | Fredericton (PSS)    |
| Sonia Strangemore | Miramichi (JMHS)     |
| Celinda Van Horne | Hampton (HHS)        |
| Heather Smith*    | NBTA Vice President  |
| Melinda Cook      | NBTA Staff           |
| Kimberley McKay   | NBTA Staff           |



The NBTA School Learning Environments Committee met on Oct. 5, 2009.

### Ad Hoc Committee on Student Activity Transportation

|                 |                   |
|-----------------|-------------------|
| Judy Vautour    | Moncton (HTHS)    |
| Lori Wall       | Rothesay (HMMS)   |
| John Tanner     | Old Ridge (SSHS)  |
| James Watters   | Miramichi (MVHS)  |
| Stuart Dunbar*  | Grand Falls (JCS) |
| Blake Robichaud | NBTA Staff        |

### Ad Hoc Review of NBTA Structures

|                  |                             |
|------------------|-----------------------------|
| Barry Snider     | Hillsborough (HES)          |
| Kelly Munroe     | Saint John (SJHS)           |
| Katherine Soucy  | Grand Falls (JCS)           |
| Charlotte Casey  | Miramichi (Learning Centre) |
| Dawn Beckingham* | Dalhousie (DRHS)            |
| Larry Jamieson   | NBTA Staff                  |
| Blake Robichaud  | NBTA Staff                  |

### Awards Committee

|                 |                     |
|-----------------|---------------------|
| Rodney Buggie   | Blackville (BS)     |
| Tracey Dale     | Oromocto (OHS)      |
| Shane Thomas    | Fredericton (FHS)   |
| Heather Smith*  | NBTA Vice President |
| Noreen Bonnell* | NBTA President      |
| Larry Jamieson  | NBTA Staff          |

### Council Coordinating Committee

#### Middle Level

|                        |                    |
|------------------------|--------------------|
| Stacy Garland          | Moncton (BS)       |
| Jason Burns            | Saint John (PCS)   |
| John Irvine            | Centerville (CCS)  |
| Amy Maloney            | Miramichi (HMS)    |
| Krista Nowlan-Hamilton | Miramichi (HMS)    |
| Lise Martin-Keilty     | Fredericton (GSMS) |

### Council Coordinating Committee

#### Elementary

|                     |                   |
|---------------------|-------------------|
| Peter Gorham        | Nackawic (NES)    |
| Kelly Gorham-Gaines | Canterbury (CHS)  |
| Donna Losier        | Bathurst (PHES)   |
| Erica LeBlanc       | Oromocto (SSES)   |
| Sharyn Pope         | Fredericton (BPS) |
| Karla Roy           | Fredericton (PSS) |

### Council Coordinating Committee

#### High School

|                      |                      |
|----------------------|----------------------|
| Martin Daigle        | Moncton (BMHS)       |
| Celinda Van Horne    | Hampton (HHS)        |
| Jane Porter          | Hartland (HCS)       |
| Jocelyn Schwenger    | Bathurst (BHS)       |
| Angela Murphy-Landry | Sunny Corner (NSERS) |
| Sheridan Mawhinney*  | Oromocto (OHS)       |

### Curriculum Committee

|                         |                          |
|-------------------------|--------------------------|
| Stephanie Moxness       | Fredericton (Mat. Leave) |
| Karen Dunlop            | Saint John (CS)          |
| Leisa Brown             | Grand Falls (JCS)        |
| Richard Kelly           | Oromocto (OHS)           |
| Carolyn Barnhart-Elson* | Fredericton (FHS)        |
| Melinda Cook            | NBTA Staff               |

### Equity in Education Committee

|                         |                         |
|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| Paul Saad               | Old Ridge (SSHS)        |
| Les Crossman            | Perth-Andover (PAMS)    |
| Michelle Tobin-Forgrave | Blackville (BS)         |
| Derek Taggart           | Fredericton (LHHS)      |
| Marla Anderson*         | St. Stephen (Ed. Leave) |
| Kimberley McKay         | NBTA Staff              |

### In-School Administration Committee

|                      |                    |
|----------------------|--------------------|
| Brian Dean           | Port Elgin (PERS)  |
| Joan McFarlane       | Debec (DES)        |
| Cynthia Freeman-King | Saint John (HS)    |
| James Waycott        | Old Ridge (SSHS)   |
| Jason Smith          | Hartland (HCS)     |
| Coleen Ramsay        | Bathurst (BHS)     |
| Daniel Scully        | Richibucto (EWGMS) |
| Suzanne Gallant      | Oromocto (SSES)    |
| Stephen Everett      | Stanley (SHS)      |
| Janet Wright*        | Moncton (MHS)      |
| Larry Jamieson       | NBTA Staff         |
| Blake Robichaud      | NBTA Staff         |

\*Board of Directors

# Committees

## Teachers on Key Issues

### NBTA Finance Committee

|                        |                          |
|------------------------|--------------------------|
| Kelly Coughlan         | Sussex (SMS)             |
| Jason Green            | Perth-Andover (AES)      |
| Emily Daigle           | Rexton (Learning Centre) |
| Gordon Linder          | Fredericton (AGMS)       |
| Aldena Higgins-Harris* | Back Bay (BBS)           |
| Melinda Cook           | NBTA Staff               |

### NBTA Resolutions Committee

|                 |                      |
|-----------------|----------------------|
| Peter Lagacy    | Nackawic (NSH)       |
| Erica LeBlanc   | Oromocto (SSES)      |
| Michael Smith   | Fredericton (NMS)    |
| Tina Noble      | Harvey Station (HHS) |
| Blake Robichaud | NBTA Staff           |

### Nominating Committee

|                 |                         |
|-----------------|-------------------------|
| Trevor Perry    | Riverview (RHS)         |
| Lynn Steeves    | Plaster Rock (TVHS)     |
| Jennifer Lawlor | Miramichi (HES)         |
| April Wilson    | Cambridge Narrows (CNS) |
| Brent Shaw      | NBTA Past President     |
| Larry Jamieson  | NBTA Staff              |

### Pension Committee

|                   |                      |
|-------------------|----------------------|
| Jennifer Keilty   | Saint John (MHS)     |
| Tracy Graham      | Nackawic (NSHS)      |
| Brock Curtis      | Sunny Corner (NSERS) |
| Nathan Langille   | Fredericton (LHHS)   |
| Yvonne Caverhill* | Doaktown (DCHS)      |
| Larry Jamieson    | NBTA Staff           |

### Personnel Committee

|                    |                    |
|--------------------|--------------------|
| Christopher Brown* | Bristol (CNHS)     |
| Stuart Dunbar*     | Grand Falls (JCS)  |
| Gail Blanchette*   | Campbellton (SSHS) |
| Heidi Ryder*       | Miramichi (JMHS)   |

### Professional Conduct & Standards Committee

|                   |                      |
|-------------------|----------------------|
| William Burroughs | Sackville (TRHS)     |
| Julia Mawer       | Quispamsis (KVHS)    |
| Mary Turnbull     | Bristol (BES)        |
| Dean Mutch        | Sunny Corner (NSERS) |
| Dawn DeCourcey    | Fredericton (GCS)    |
| Melinda Cook      | NBTA Staff           |
| Ardith Shirley    | NBTA Staff           |

### Professional Development Committee

|                        |                     |
|------------------------|---------------------|
| Danny Coughlan         | Sackville (MMS)     |
| Alyssa MacIsaac        | Rothesay (RES)      |
| Daniel Patterson       | Saint John (BS)     |
| Ann Marie Berry-Wattie | Perth-Andover (AES) |
| Heidi Ryder*           | Miramichi (JMHS)    |
| Ardith Shirley         | NBTA Staff          |

### School Learning Environment Committee

|                     |                    |
|---------------------|--------------------|
| Denis Roy           | Hillsborough (CRS) |
| Kelly Green-Filmore | Norton (NES)       |
| Carol Trainor       | Pennfield (PES)    |
| Melanie Wood        | Fredericton (CSS)  |
| Heather Hogan*      | Woodstock (WCES)   |
| Kimberley McKay     | NBTA Staff         |

### NBTA Teacher Education & Certification Committee

|                            |                            |
|----------------------------|----------------------------|
| Kendall Tomilson           | Grand Bay-Westfield (RVMS) |
| Jeffrey Steeves            | Bristol (CNHS)             |
| Suzanne Bernier            | Janeville (JS)             |
| Monique Chevarie-Pelletier | Oromocto (RMS)             |
| Barry Robertson*           | Rexton (RES)               |
| Ardith Shirley             | NBTA Staff                 |

### Public Relations & Communications Committee

|                  |                      |
|------------------|----------------------|
| Heidi Horsman    | Riverview (FLBS)     |
| Kimberly Seymour | Sussex Corner (SCS)  |
| Tracy McCluskey  | Blacks Harbour (BHS) |
| Richard Cuming   | Grand Falls (JCS)    |
| Derrick Sleep*   | Saint John (SHS)     |
| Blake Robichaud  | NBTA Staff           |



*The NBTA Public Relations and Communications Committee met in Fredericton on October 13th, 2009.*

### Teaching/Learning Conditions - Emergent Issues

|                   |                       |
|-------------------|-----------------------|
| Cynthia Arsenault | Dalhousie (DMS)       |
| Terry Whalen      | Miramichi (MVHS)      |
| Lisa Sullivan     | Miramichi (Ed. Leave) |
| Johanne Munn      | Doaktown (DCHS)       |
| Gary Anderson*    | Salisbury (JMA/SMS)   |
| Blake Robichaud   | NBTA Staff            |

**NBTA thanks all those teachers volunteering their time and energy to serve their Association, whether it is on a provincial committee or at the local level!**

\*Board of Directors





**MIDDLE LEVEL COUNCIL FALL INSTITUTE**

**“You’re Going To Love This Kid”:  
Educating Students with Autism In Inclusive Schools  
November 23, 2009**

**REGISTRATION FORM**

**YOU WILL RECEIVE CONFIRMATION OF YOUR PARTICIPATION BY PHONE OR EMAIL. PLEASE  
PROVIDE ACCURATE CONTACT INFORMATION.**

**WHEN: Monday, November 23, 2009**

**WHERE: Fredericton Motor Inn  
Fredericton, NB**

**AGENDA**

*For complete details go to: [www.nbta.ca](http://www.nbta.ca)*

**8:30 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.** Meet & Greet  
**9:00 a.m. – 11:45 a.m.** Dr. Paula Kluth: “You’re Going To Love This Kid”  
**11:45 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.** Lunch – On Your Own  
**1:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.** Presentation Continues  
**3:30 p.m.** Wrap Up

**\*\*Books will be available for purchase\*\***

**REGISTRATION DATES:**

**NBTA MEMBERS:** October 9<sup>th</sup> – November 16<sup>th</sup>, 2009

**NON – NBTA MEMBERS:** November 1<sup>st</sup> – November 16<sup>th</sup>, 2009

**\*\*Register Early as Space is Limited\*\***

*\*Sponsored by Middle Level Council and Proudly Supported by Autism Society of New Brunswick*

**Dr. Paula Kluth: “You’re Going To Love This Kid”:  
Educating Students with Autism In Inclusive Schools  
Middle Level Council Institute**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ School / Work Location: \_\_\_\_\_

\*Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Position: \_\_\_\_\_

\*Email: \_\_\_\_\_

*\*We require your contact information in order to confirm your participation.*

**I am an NBTA member. Member # \_\_\_\_\_**

**Registration fees for NBTA members: \$25.00**

**I am not an NBTA member.**

**Registration fees for Non-NBTA members: \$35.00**

Send registration and fee (**cheques only**, made payable to Middle Level Council) to:

Middle Level Institute  
c/o Denise McCoy  
650 Montgomery Street  
P.O. Box 752 STN A  
Fredericton, NB E3B 5R6

**REGISTRATION DEADLINE NOVEMBER 16, 2009**

# Bathurst Students Learn about Climate Change through Gardening

By Mitzi Whelton, Grade 5 teacher - Parkwood Heights School

Students at Parkwood Heights Elementary School in Bathurst have enjoyed the hands-on learning of planting their very own garden. Bathurst Sustainable Development (BSD) in partnership with Environment Canada have started this project to develop a Children's Garden and Biodiversity Center at the school. This project will teach the students about the impacts of climate change on wildlife, biodiversity and habitat by developing a garden and biodiversity center. This program also functions as an outdoor classroom, where the children can learn about how we can offset carbon emissions and lower our ecological footprint by producing local sources of food.



They also can learn about the many actions we can all participate in to help be part of the solution to climate change. Grade 4 and 5 students began planting their own garden in the spring and were responsible for weeding and taking care of potatoes, tomatoes, beets and other vegetables. Volunteers from BSD tended the garden over the summer and Grade 5 students harvested the vegetables this fall. The ground was then prepared for the winter and the entire school population enjoyed a salsa party and vegetable tasting session to conclude the program this year. The school hopes to continue the project next year.

**Moving? Name Change? Not Getting Your NBTA News? LET US KNOW!**

In order to keep our NBTA members' database as accurate as possible, it is important that you advise the NBTA Communications Department (**Carlene Merrick, 452-1833 or [carlene.merrick@nbta.ca](mailto:carlene.merrick@nbta.ca)**) of any changes such as marital status, home address, school location, phone number, etc., as soon as possible. This is necessary to ensure that all mailings reach our members and that our nominal roll is up to date for voting purposes. Initial information is collected on the green registration forms, but changes occur. Many of these changes occur during the summer months. **We do not receive this updated information through any other source, so please keep us informed of any changes.** Thank you for your assistance in helping us serve you better.



## Sorry June, We left you out!

**Correction:** In the September issue of the *NBTA News*, we neglected to include June MacNair (NBTA President 1999-2001), in the list below the photo of past presidents.

**Correction:** The article titled "Parents, English Language Learners and Academic Success" in the September issue of the *NBTA News* was written by Dr. Paul-Emile Chiasson.



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**Editor:** Blake Robichaud

**Editorial Assistant:** Eileen McNeil

**Graphic Artist:** Eileen McNeil

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**Member:** CEPA

Address all correspondence to:

The Editor, P.O. Box 752,

Fredericton, N.B., E3B 5R6

**Telephone:** (506) 452-8921

**FAX:** (506) 453-9795

**E-mail:** [nbtanews@nbta.ca](mailto:nbtanews@nbta.ca)

**Web:** [www.nbta.ca](http://www.nbta.ca)

# School-Based Learning Team Grants

*In a true Learning Community, everyone learns.*

## ⇒ What is a School-Based Learning Team?

A School-Based Learning Team (SBLT) is a team of 3-5 teachers from a school who decide to work together to examine some aspect of student learning with the goal of studying, collaborating, sharing and learning to improve instructional strategies that will lead to improved student achievement.

## ⇒ Can you give me an example of what a SBLT might attempt to accomplish under this program?

An Elementary Team might determine, by examining their school achievement data and their students' performance, that their students seem weak in the area of measurement. The team might work towards identifying/developing strategies to improve this area of student learning. The teachers might try various teaching techniques, learning from one another or experts, and continue to compare the progress of their students as a result of the efforts of the Learning Team. Likewise a Middle School Learning Team might recognize that their students are weak in poetry ; a High School Math Team might decide to focus on improving their students application of geometric principles.

## ⇒ What is a School-Based Learning Team Grant?

A SBLT Grant is a \$1000 grant that will be awarded to a school upon successful application to the NBTA Committee established to administer the grant fund. The focus must be student learning.

## ⇒ What is the purpose of the grant?

The grant is intended to support the work of the Learning Team. Such support may include providing some release time for the team to meet, purchasing resources to support the efforts of the team, accessing

expertise in the form of resource people, etc.

## ⇒ How often should the team meet?

The SBLT grant extends from the calendar year January to December 2010. The team is required to meet a minimum of 18 hours throughout the year for which the grant has been awarded. Team members determine when the meetings will take place.

*\$1000 Grant  
for your School  
to Support Student  
and Teacher Learning*

## ⇒ How is a SBLT different from a study group?

In many ways the SBLT has similarities to a study group in that teachers are working together to grow and learn. *However, the Learning Team must focus on an aspect of student achievement and work towards improving the achievement levels of their students in that area.* Actually examining student work is an important part of a Learning Team.

## ⇒ Will there be any help for the SBLT to get started?

Yes. The Staff Officer for Professional Issues for the NBTA will meet with each Learning Team to help them launch their work. A template for recording the work of the team will be provided and protocols for examining student work will be introduced. These guidelines are intended to provide a framework for both accountability and productivity but will not restrict the direction and creativity of the team.

## ⇒ How many grants will be available?

For the calendar year January 2010 – December 2010, there will be five \$1000 grants available.

## ⇒ How does my school apply?

Complete the application form accompanying this article or found on the NBTA website ([www.nbta.ca](http://www.nbta.ca)). A school may submit more than one application provided the guidelines above are represented in each application. **Deadline for applications is December 14, 2009.** Successful applicants will be notified by January 15, 2010.

## ⇒ Why should my school consider creating a School-Based Learning Team?

All teachers strive to do their best, but so much more can be accomplished if teachers can work together, share strategies and improve their instructional techniques. Students and teachers all benefit. In a true learning community, everyone learns. A School-Based Learning Team is one more step toward the creation of such a learning community.

---

The guiding question of a School Based-Learning Team is:

*"What is happening differently in our classrooms as a result of what we are doing and learning in our Team?"*

---



*See application on following page.*



# **NBTA School-Based Learning Team Grants Application Form**

School \_\_\_\_\_

School Address \_\_\_\_\_

School Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Fax \_\_\_\_\_ Name of Team Contact Person \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail for Contact Person: \_\_\_\_\_

Title of Your Team's Project: \_\_\_\_\_

**Please complete the following after carefully reading the information about School-Based Learning Teams that accompanies this form. Feel free to attach additional pages.**

What aspect of student learning will be the focus of this Learning Team?

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How and why did your team determine the need for this focus?

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---

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How will the team monitor the impact of your efforts on your students?

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---

Who are the members of your School-Based Learning Team? Indicate their teaching assignment within the school?

---

---

---

Comment on the schedule your team will develop for completing the minimum 18 hours of meeting time for your team between January and December 2010.

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Please add any other comments which you feel are relevant to your application.

---

---

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Send completed application form to: **Kimberley McKay, Staff Officer for Professional Issues, NBTA  
PO Box 752, Fredericton, NB E3B 5R6**

**Deadline for applications: December 14, 2009**

Successful schools will be notified by January 15, 2010. An NBTA Committee will base selection on factors including the thoughtful development of the application form, distribution of various levels (K-12) and geographic considerations.

# Veterans Affairs Canada Learning Resources

Submitted by Jim Johnston, Senior Education Officer, Canada Remembers Division, Veterans Affairs Canada

<http://www.vac-acc.gc.ca/youth>



Veterans Affairs Canada offers educators a wide selection of free, bilingual resources about Remembrance and Canada's military history, from the South African War to today.

You can make use of our resources in multiple formats. If high-quality printed copies are what you need, you can request many of our materials using our easy-to-use on-line ordering system (there are absolutely no purchase costs and no shipping charges). And if you are looking for instant access to our materials in your library, our Veterans Affairs Canada website is the place to go.

## Historical Resources

*Remembrance* is an important part of being a well-informed Canadian. How can we truly understand the country we have today without a knowledge of the sacrifices and achievements that have been made by our Veterans and current Canadian Forces members to protect the peace and freedom we enjoy?

For a country that has an international reputation for peace, Canada has taken part in many wars and conflicts. Knowing what Canada did - and why - is important. Veterans Affairs Canada has a wide selection of historical publications like public information sheets and historical booklets, covering many chapters of



our military heritage from the First World War to modern-day Canadian Forces efforts. Our two- and three-page public information sheets are ideal for providing a concise overview of a subject, helpful to teachers looking to give their students some historical background in an easy-to-digest manner. Our longer historical booklets (some of which are more than 50 pages in length) offer more in-depth information on a subject, making them very useful for research projects or other situations where a more detailed historical account is required.

Check out the **History** portion of our website to explore some of our resources for yourself. Most of our materials are available in HTML and downloadable PDF formats, and we offer our streaming video resources in Flash, Window Media and QuickTime formats.

## Learning Materials

Veterans Affairs Canada also produces high-quality resources created specifically for educators. Our comprehensive multimedia learning kits offer videos, in-depth historical information, lesson plans and a variety of other resources like posters, music CDs, postcards and information sheets to give educators the tools with which to engage their students. We currently offer kits about the First World War, the Second World War and the Korean War.

We also offer on-line learning modules for you and your school focussing on specific military events, such as D-Day and the Battle of Normandy, the Italian Campaign, and the Battle of the Atlantic. *Heroes and Poppies - an Introduction to Remembrance*, the *60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the End of the Second World War Teacher's Guide* and the *50 Ways to Remember* information sheets offer a wealth of activities that educators can use as starting points to incorporate Remembrance into their teaching, while the *Candlelight Tribute Ceremony* information sheet has instructions for organizing a candlelight tribute that a

school could conduct to show that we remember Canadians who have given their lives in service.



## Veterans' Week Materials

Each year, Veterans Affairs Canada distributes hundreds of thousands of copies of our Veterans' Week youth newspapers across Canada. *Tales of Animals in War* is aimed at youth aged 5 to 11 and introduces concepts of remembrance to a young audience in a gentle manner using the six Remembrance Clubhouse animal characters. These bilingual colour newspapers come in sets of 30, ideal for use in a classroom setting or for distribution in a school library.

The *Canada Remembers Times* is aimed at youth aged 12 to 18 and explores interesting chapters from Canada's military heritage, from the First World War to today. This year's new edition features stories about First World War flying aces, D-Day and the Battle of Normandy, the Italian Campaign, the Korean War, Canadians in Afghanistan, the contributions of women, Aboriginal-Canadians and visible minorities in uniform, and much more. This bilingual colour newspaper also comes in sets of 30.

*Postcards for Peace* is a learning activity that allows youth to send postcards expressing their personal thanks to those who have served in the cause of peace and freedom over the years. A class pack includes 30 postcards and an instruction sheet with information on how to send the postcards to Veterans or current members of the Canadian Forces

serving overseas.

We also offer colourful Veterans' Week posters, available in 8.5" x 11" and 18" x 24" sizes. Our Veterans' Week bookmarks are very popular as well.

To request these free materials, you can call Veterans Affairs Canada toll free at 1-877-604-8469 or use our convenient on-line Veterans' Week ordering system. This easy-to-use system allows you to make your order instantaneously.

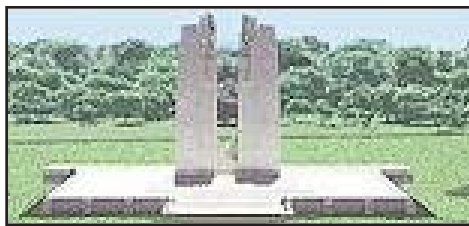
#### Other On-line Resources

2009 marks the 65<sup>th</sup> anniversaries of the Second World War's Italian Campaign, and of D-Day and the Battle of Normandy. Veterans Affairs Canada has two dynamic web features with a wealth of information on these significant events. Students can watch the *D-Day and the Battle of Normandy* and the *Italian Campaign* vignettes to hear powerful first-hand accounts from Canadian Veterans who were actually there. We offer a number of other interesting web features as well, exploring subjects like the 90<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the end of the First World War, the 55<sup>th</sup> anniversary of

the Korean War armistice, and the Canadian Forces - in the service of peace.

We have many other on-line resources, as well. For example, *Experience Vimy* allows users to visit the Canadian National Vimy Memorial in France without leaving their chairs. Students can use their computer mouse to swoop up and down and zoom in and out to view the memorial from many different angles. You can also read the names of the 11,285 Canadians who died in France during the First World War and who have no known grave which are inscribed on the base of the monument.

*Heroes Remember* is a database of



videotaped interviews with Canadian Veterans, containing approximately 3,000 English clips and more than 800 French clips. With this tool,

students can search for first-hand accounts from men and women who served in the navy, army, air force, Merchant Navy, or on the home front; stories related to significant chapters in our country's military heritage; and even find interviews with Veterans from their own communities, regions or provinces. There are a variety of interesting components associated with this resource, such as a section focussing on the contributions of Chinese-Canadians during the Second World War and *Profile Spitfire*, an interactive multimedia module that allows students to learn what it was like to be a pilot in the famous Spitfire fighter plane during the Second World War.

Veterans Affairs Canada's array of educational and informational resources can help you meet your provincial curriculum goals while fostering students' understanding of the sacrifices and achievements of those who have served in the cause of peace and freedom. Visit the **Youth & Educators** section of the Veterans Affairs Canada website today and see what you may have been missing.



## Freedom Travel American Express The Student Tour Travel Experts



### Freedom Travel can make your next student tour easier!

Freedom Travel, your New Brunswick owned student travel specialist, has provided specialized tours for universities, colleges, high schools and middle schools for the past 25 years.

Whether it is New Brunswick, Halifax, Quebec City, Montreal, Ottawa, Toronto, Boston, New York, Washington, Europe or even further a field, we have the expertise to provide you with the most enriching travel experience! Freedom Travel can help Atlantic Canada's students travel to any part of the world.

### We create content-rich itineraries that are comfortably paced to ensure the most productive learning experience.

We arrange for students to be involved in "behind the scenes" activities to make the tour a valuable learning experience. We create educational tours, sporting and activity-related events - travel adventures that are truly memorable.

**We handle all the details for you - everything from tour development to arrival home.** We meet with you to present ideas and discuss requirements for your tour. We print flyers, handle payments, field parent's inquiries, and do presentations! We are there for you before, during and after the tour. It takes the pressure off you!

**Comfort, safety and attention to detail are our paramount criteria.** Our guides have successfully completed the National Examination for their respective occupations from CTHRC and TIANB and have completed a Standard First Aid/CPR certification course through the St. John Ambulance. We are members of ACTA - the Association of Canadian Travel Agents and are members of SYTA, the Student and Youth Travel Association.

*"The world is a book and those who do not travel read only one page." - St. Augustine*

80 Charlotte St, Saint John N.B. E2L 2J3  
Toll Free 1-800-561-2324 or 506-632-1012  
[www.freedomtours.com](http://www.freedomtours.com) or  
[hmackenzie@freedomtours.com](mailto:hmackenzie@freedomtours.com)



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## Interest-Free Loans

Up to \$1,500.00 in any one school year shall be made available to statutory NBTA members on leave who are improving their professional qualifications through educational programs. Application forms are available from:

Melinda Cook  
New Brunswick Teachers' Association  
PO Box 752, Fredericton, NB E3B 5R6  
Tel: (506) 452-8921  
Email: melinda.cook@nbta.ca

**The application  
deadline for  
2010 - 2011 is:  
March 31, 2010**

## 30th Annual NBTA Men Teachers' Curling Bonspiel

Carleton Curling Club, Saint John, NB, January 15, 16, 17, 2010  
**Registration: \$140.00/team**

Not more than 18 teams will be accepted on a first-come, first-served basis. Entries must include skip's name, address, telephone number, and team members.

(If you want to participate but aren't on a team, contact Terry)

**Send entries and cheque to:**

Terry Kilfoil, Chairperson  
NBTA Men Teachers' Curling Bonspiel  
21 Meadow Drive

Rothsay, NB E2H 1K9  
Tel: 847-5429 Fax: 847-5424  
Email: kilfoilt@nbnet.nb.ca



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MA M.ED CCC

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or  
1-506-461-8440  
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## School of Graduate Studies Award The G. Forbes Elliot Award for Educational Leadership

**Value: \$5,000 in 2010**

**Duration: One year**

### Description

The award is to encourage experienced teachers who have demonstrated leadership qualities related to their educational field to return to university to undertake postgraduate studies at the Master's or Doctoral level at the University of New Brunswick.

It is funded from the estate of the late Dr. G. Forbes Elliot, first Vice-President of the Saint John Campus.

### Eligibility

Recipients must have taught for a minimum of five years in the public schools of New Brunswick. They must have been accepted unconditionally into the graduate program in

education and normally be in full-time attendance at the time of receipt of the award. If in any year, in the opinion of the Selection Committee, there are no full-time graduate studies candidates who satisfy the eligibility criteria, all or part of the award may be granted to one or more suitably qualified part-time graduate studies candidates.

### Application Deadline

February 15 of the year in which the studies are expected to commence.

### Awarding Agency

The University of New Brunswick, upon the recommendation of the Selection Committee.

### Application forms available from:

The Elliot Award Selection  
Committee Coordinator  
PO Box 5050  
Saint John, NB E2L 4L5  
E-mail: eduksj@unbsj.ca

# YOUR STUDENTS' ART COULD BE FLYING HIGH IN THE NATION'S CAPITAL!



The National Capital Commission (NCC), in partnership with Classroom Connections, is running an incredible **CROSS-CANADA CONTEST AND PUBLIC ART PROJECT**. Have your students create a one-of-a-kind banner design that brings youth issues or topics to the capital.

The winning banners will be professionally produced and flown in Major's Hill Park in Ottawa from May to October of 2010.

Go to [www.canadascapital.gc.ca/bannercontest](http://www.canadascapital.gc.ca/bannercontest) for full details and an easy-to-use Activity Outline for introducing the contest in your classroom.

The contest is open to grade 5-8 classes in schools across Canada. The deadline for entries is February 19, 2010.

This initiative is an extension of *The Gathering Place*, a teaching resource for grades 5-8 Social Science and History. Email us at [info@classroomconnections.ca](mailto:info@classroomconnections.ca) for your free copy.

**THE GATHERING PLACE**  
AN EXPLORATION OF CANADA'S CAPITAL

THE CITY

“OVERDRAFT IS NOT A ROCK BAND”

Teach your students basic financial skills. Make it part of your teaching plan at THE CITY.

Designed for teachers and ready to use in the classrooms, THE CITY is an award-winning online resource to teach teens about financial matters through scenarios and interactive tools. To get your students started, go to [themoneybelt.gc.ca/thecity](http://themoneybelt.gc.ca/thecity)

>> WIN A SMART Board.  
Register on THE CITY before December 31st and get a chance to win a SMART Board for your class. Go to [themoneybelt.gc.ca/thecity](http://themoneybelt.gc.ca/thecity)



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Agence de la consommation  
en matière financière du Canada



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# Developing Curriculum Materials on Homelessness

Submitted by Susan Atkinson, The Canadian Homelessness Research Network



As the homelessness crisis has continued to grow in Canada, the engagement of students in conversations about homelessness has become ever more important – it makes for more thoughtful and understanding citizens, encourages critical thinking, and can actually help contribute to solutions to homelessness. In response to this, a new series of curriculum resources focusing on homelessness have been developed and made available to teachers across Canada.

In September 2009, the Homeless Hub officially launched an “Education” section that houses educational resources for teachers and students ([www.homelesshub.ca/Education](http://www.homelesshub.ca/Education)). The Homeless Hub was originally developed with learning in mind. In addition to making a wide range of research, firsthand accounts of homelessness and a plain language topics section more accessible, the Hub now offers a range of curriculum materials and resources for schools, educators and students all across Canada. These materials

have been developed in a number of subject areas, across all levels and provinces. All of the resources are free and available for download by teachers and students alike.

One of the key goals of this project is to continue to engage educators in the development and improvement of curriculum materials. All of the resources on the site offer a means for educators to “talk back” to the material; to improve the content, and offer suggestions for modifications, or new approaches. The social networking components of the Hub will allow teachers to share ideas directly with each other, which promises to be an exciting opportunity for educators to learn from others across the world.

The Homeless

Hub also welcomes the submission of new curriculum units, which can be shared broadly. This educational resource is by no means complete; it is hoped that over the years, the resources made available on the site will continue to grow, and that more and more students will be given the opportunity to engage the topic of homelessness through their learning. For more information, visit the Homeless Hub website ([www.homelesshub.ca](http://www.homelesshub.ca))



A drama teacher uses the Dramatic Arts unit in her classroom

## 28th Annual New Brunswick Mathematics Competition (for Grades 7, 8, 9)

Friday, April 30, 2010

Forms will be sent to the principals by the beginning of February. Preliminary application forms should be returned by **February 26, 2010** and final application forms should be returned by **March 26, 2010**. Forms can also be submitted electronically by accessing: <http://www.math.unb.ca/mathcomp/forms>

For Further information contact:  
**University of New Brunswick**  
Fredericton - Maureen Tingley  
(506) 458-7343, [tingleym@unb.ca](mailto:tingleym@unb.ca)  
Saint John - Tim Alderson  
(506) 648-5622, [tim@unbsj.ca](mailto:tim@unbsj.ca)

**Université de Moncton**  
Moncton - Paul Deguire  
(506) 858-4155, [deguirp@umoncton.ca](mailto:deguirp@umoncton.ca)  
Edmundston - Ginette Bégin  
(506) 737-5153., [gbegin@umce.ca](mailto:gbegin@umce.ca)  
Shippigan - Jules de Tibeiro  
(506) 336-3444, [jules.de.tibeiro@umcs.ca](mailto:jules.de.tibeiro@umcs.ca)



# Wellness Highlights



## PROFESSIONAL COUNSELLING SERVICE FOR TEACHERS

### Michael Ketchum

Districts 14, 17, 18  
1-800-561-1727  
462-0208  
michael.ketchum@nb.aibn.com

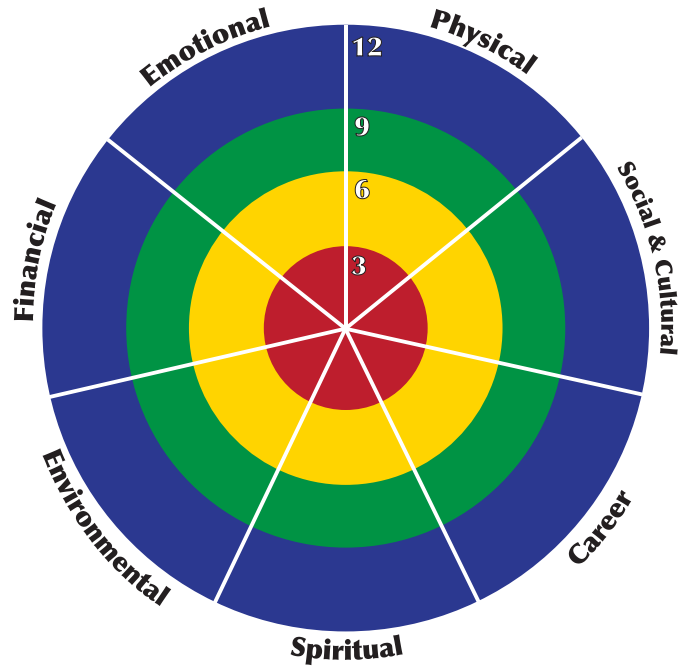
### Niel Cameron

Districts 2, 15, 16  
1-888-763-5050  
855-5243  
niel.cameron@nb.aibn.com

### Carmen Meehan

Districts 6, 8, 10  
1-800-563-3938  
634-2901  
carmen.meehan@nb.aibn.com

# Wellness Wheel



## What Does Your Wellness Wheel Look Like?

Answer the questions below using the scale provided. Add up the totals in each section and plot them on your wellness wheel. Scores of 0 are placed in the centre of the wheel and higher scores, up to 12, move toward the outside of the wheel. Connect your dots to reveal your Wheel Alignment. Keep your Wellness wheel on hand to remind you of how well you are doing or where you can make improvements.

0 - Never      1 - Sometimes      2 - Often      3 - Most of the Time      4 - All of the Time

### Physical

- I feel the sleep I get is adequate and I awake feeling refreshed.
- I get at least 30 minutes of moderate physical activity everyday.
- I eat regular nutritious meals that give me the energy I need to stay active and get through the day.

### Social & Cultural

- I am able to find the time to maintain healthy relationships with my loved ones.
- I feel I belong in a group or in a community.
- I respect others and their cultural identities.

### Career

- I feel that the work I do is rewarding.
- I am satisfied with my work performance.
- I seek out new challenges and career goals.

### Spiritual

- I feel an overall sense of peace and well-being in my life.
- I understand my own values and beliefs and respect the values and beliefs of others.
- I believe my life is meaningful and has direction.

### Environment

- I care for and respect the environment.
- I am aware of the risks within my own environment and make adjustments accordingly. (hand washing, travel insurance, personal safety)
- I live an eco-friendly lifestyle (recycle, drive less, lights off).

### Financial

- I have both short and long term financial goals.
- I live within my means.
- I budget my spending each month.

### Emotional

- I am able to ask for/seek out help when I need it from my family, friends, colleagues.
- I value self-exploration/self-improvement.
- I am able to recognize and manage the different stressors in my life

Adapted from:  
*Simon Fraser University Student Services*  
<http://students.sfu.ca/wellness/wellnessquiz.html>

LA ZONE

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UN GROUPE ROCK »

Enseignez les règles élémentaires de la finance à vos élèves. Rendez-vous dans LA ZONE pour intégrer ces notions à votre plan d'enseignement.

Conçue pour les enseignants, LA ZONE est une ressource en ligne primée et prête à utiliser qui permet de sensibiliser les ados aux connaissances de base en matière financière, grâce à des scénarios et à des outils interactifs. Pour en faire profiter vos élèves, rendez-vous à [lalikeeconomik.gc.ca/lazone](http://lalikeeconomik.gc.ca/lazone)

>> GAGNEZ UN TABLEAU  
SMART Board  
Inscrivez-vous dans LA ZONE  
avant le 31 décembre et courez  
la chance de gagner un tableau  
interactif SMART Board pour votre  
classe. Rendez-vous à  
[lalikeeconomik.gc.ca/lazone](http://lalikeeconomik.gc.ca/lazone)



Agence de la consommation  
en matière financière du Canada

Financial Consumer  
Agency of Canada



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# Announcements



**NPES District Physical Education Award Winners**  
 (l to r): Robin Buchanan - NPES Vice President, District 17;  
 Krista Richard - Forest Glen School District 2; Gerald  
 Arseneault - Kennebecasis Park Elementary School, District 6;  
 Pierre Melanson - Fairvale Elementary School, District 6;  
 Maurice Chevarie - Gerald Teed School and Millidgeville  
 North, District 8; Reed Haley - Milltown Elementary School,  
 District 10; Lori Purvis - Centennial Elementary School,  
 District 14; Kezia Stever - Terry Fox Elementary School,  
 District 15; Jamie Chiasson - Bliss Carmen Middle School,  
 District 18; Ross Campbell - NPES President District 17.  
 Missing from the photo: Kevin Scully - Eleanor W. Graham  
 Middle School, District 16 and Amanda McMorran - Gesner  
 Street School, District 17.



**NPES Physical Education Career Award**  
 (l to r): Robin Buchanan - NPES Vice President, District 17;  
 Sandy Leland - Award Winner, Simonds High School District  
 8; & Ross Campbell - NPES President, District 17.

We would like to remind all Members to **KEEP** their **membership cards** in a safe place. They have their **member number** on them and are **used for discounts** (see [www.nbta.ca](http://www.nbta.ca) for discounts)

## Salary Deferred Leave Plan 2009-2010

Application forms will be available  
 from District Offices in early  
 January 2009.

**Application Deadline is  
 February 28, 2010.**

Exclusive for NBTF members from Johnson.

Request a home or auto  
 insurance quote and  
 you could win

**15,000**

**AIR MILES®** reward miles.



Contact Johnson for details.  
[www.johnson.ca/nbtf](http://www.johnson.ca/nbtf)  
**1.800.563.0677**

(Please provide your Group ID Code: 63)

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 you deserve.*



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Home and auto insurance is available through Johnson Inc., a licensed insurance agency. Policies are primarily underwritten by Unifund Assurance Company. Unifund and Johnson Inc. share common ownership. Certain conditions may apply. AIR MILES® reward miles awarded on regular home and auto insurance policies underwritten by Unifund Assurance Company. At the time the premium is paid, one AIR MILES reward mile is awarded for each \$20 in premium. Contest runs from March 1st to December 1, 2009. No purchase necessary. The approximate value of AIR MILES reward miles prize depends on the chosen method of redemption and available reward options available at the time of redemption. Chances of winning depend on number of entries received. Winner must correctly answer a skill-testing question. For details visit [www.johnson.ca/nbtf](http://www.johnson.ca/nbtf). ©™Trademarks of AIR MILES International Trading B.V. Used under license by LoyaltyOne, Inc. and Johnson Inc. (for Unifund Assurance Company). (CAT.PC.01.09)

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\*As of printing, many fall committee meetings and conferences had not been set. For the latest updated NBTA calendar, please go to the website ([www.nbta.ca](http://www.nbta.ca)) and click on upcoming events.

| <b>November 2009</b>   |                      |      |                                     |       |   |  |
|--|----------------------|------|-------------------------------------|-------|---|--|
| Sun  | Mon                  | Tues | Wed                                 | Thurs | Fri   | Sat                                    |
| 1<br>Project Overseas<br>Deadline                                    | 2                    | 3    | 4                                   | 5     | 6<br>Educational Leave<br>Deadline for<br>Application | 7<br>Pension Seminar<br>in Moncton     |
| 8  | 9                    | 10   | 11<br>Remembrance Day               | 12    | 13  | 14                                     |
| 15   | 16                   | 17   | 18                                  | 19    | 20  | 21                                     |
| 22   | 23                   | 24   | 25<br>Pension Seminar<br>in Bristol | 26    | 27<br>NBTA Executive                                  | 28<br>NBTF Executive                   |
| 29   | 30                   |      |                                     |       |   |  |
| <b>December 2009</b>   |                      |      |                                     |       |   |  |
| Sun  | Mon                  | Tues | Wed                                 | Thurs | Fri   | Sat                                    |
|  |                      | 1    | 2                                   | 3     | 4   | 5<br>Pension Seminar<br>in Saint John  |
| 6  | 7                    | 8    | 9                                   | 10    | 11  | 12                                     |
| 13   | 14                   | 15   | 16                                  | 17    | 18<br>Schools Close for<br>Christmas Break            | 19                                     |
| 20   | 21                   | 22   | 23                                  | 24    | 25<br>Christmas Day                                   | 26<br>Boxing Day                       |
| 27   | 28                   | 29   | 30                                  | 31    |   |  |
| <b>January 2010</b>  |                      |      |                                     |       |   |  |
| Sun  | Mon                  | Tues | Wed                                 | Thurs | Fri   | Sat                                    |
|  |                      |      |                                     |       | 1<br>New Year's Day                                   | 2                                      |
| 3  | 4<br>Schools Re-open | 5    | 6                                   | 7     | 8<br>Nominating<br>Committee Report                   | 9<br>Pension Seminar<br>in Fredericton |
| 10   | 11                   | 12   | 13                                  | 14    | 15<br>NBTA Executive                                  | 16<br>NBTF Executive                   |
| 17   | 18                   | 19   | 20                                  | 21    | 22  | 23<br>Pension Seminar<br>in Miramichi  |
| 24<br>31<br>31-CAPTO<br>31-Deferred Salary<br>Leave Plan Application | 25                   | 26   | 27                                  | 28    | 29  | 30                                     |

New Brunswick Teachers' Association  
650 Montgomery Street,  
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## **NBTA Credit Union Annual General Meeting**

NBTA Credit Union will be holding the Annual General Meeting at 650 Montgomery Street, Fredericton on Wednesday, November 25. The meeting will take place on the second floor. Registration will begin at 6:30PM and the meeting will begin at 7:00PM. Light refreshments will be served.



**NBTA**

650 Montgomery St., P.O. Box 752, Fredericton, N.B. E3B 5R6  
506-452-1724 • 1-800-565-5626 • 506-452-1732 (fax)  
E-mail: [nbtacu@nbnet.nb.ca](mailto:nbtacu@nbnet.nb.ca) • Web: <http://www.nbtacu.nb.ca>  
Hours: Monday to Friday, Telephone Service 8:30 am - 4:30 pm  
In-Branch Service: 9:00 am - 4:30 pm

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