

# NB

December 5, 2007  
Vol. L, No. 4

# TA News



*New Brunswick Teachers' Association*

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**Next Final Copy Deadline  
For NBTA News:  
Friday, December 7**



## The Changing Face of the NBTA: *Leadership and Services*

Blake Robichaud, Director of Communications

**A**s one of the youngest baby boomers (born December 1962), most of my generation and I are now within ten years of retirement eligibility. Boomers have provided the primary leadership of the NBTA for a couple of decades, but with at least two hundred retirements each year, this is an era of transition. An increasing number of our current membership is more familiar with *Facebook*, texting and blogs rather than Topo Gigio or milk bottles on doorsteps. This demographic shift can be taken lightly in some ways, but at the same time creates serious challenges and opportunities for our Association.

***“Leadership succession is becoming a very important issue for all teacher groups nation-wide.”***

While we actively encourage all our members to volunteer, be they in their first year of teaching or thirtieth, the NBTA will soon require a new generation of leaders to step forward. School Reps and PD Chairs, Branch Presidents, Treasurers and Secretaries give freely of their time to represent their colleagues. More than a hundred other teachers serve at the provincial level as members of the NBTA Board of Directors, on various committees, and with the Elementary, Middle Level and High School Councils. These positions are essential to the function of our Association, and with projected retirements there will soon be many vacancies. Leadership succession is becoming a very

*The President, Board of Directors, and staff of the NBTA wish all of our members a warm and happy holiday season!*

### **Holiday Hours**

The office will close at 12:00 pm on Monday, December 24, 2007 and will re-open at 8:30 am on Wednesday, January 2, 2008.

important issue for all teacher groups nation-wide.

Volunteering, while difficult at times, does provide a chance for teachers to make a real difference. They can influence the setting of priorities for the NBTA and participate in decision-making. New directions and initiatives can be developed, advocated and approved. It is leadership, with all the benefits and difficulties that accompany it. A teacher's vision for improving education in New Brunswick is most attainable if he/she participates and leads change.

There could also be a major impact on services. The priorities of our younger members may differ from those of boomers. Paying off student loans may be seen as more

important for many, rather than pension improvements. Environmental issues are moving even more to the forefront. There has also been a bit of a mini-boom recently, with hundreds of teachers becoming new parents every year. Those with very young children balance an increasingly challenging profession with the priorities of home. Will discretionary days or leaves for family situations become higher priorities? Will newer members, raised in an electronic world, want to "connect" with the NBTA in different ways?

I apologize for the generalizations in this article. You can't really draw a line and say *everyone* is 100% in one generation or another and that each of them think or believe the

same. However, we do know our demographic is changing, and it will be far easier for the NBTA to serve the needs of newer members if lots of you decide to participate and lead. What we all have in common is a love of kids and a dedication to improve their learning and their lives.

By the way, Topo Gigio was a little puppet mouse on the Ed Sullivan Show, which most of us watched on black and white TV.



**Topo Gigio**



## **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) 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.

## **NBTA NEWS**

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## President's Message



Brent Shaw

**F**irst off, let me thank all of you for the numerous e-mails and calls I have received about important issues. I continue to work toward improving teachers' working conditions and fixing as many problems as possible. The personal contacts I have with you allow me to identify critical areas and focus my efforts accordingly. We have to continue to keep these lines of communication open. I may not always be able to satisfy your requests completely, but at the very least the first steps towards resolution will have been taken. You may also simply require some extra

information that is helpful.

The NBTA submission to the Commissioners reviewing French Second Language

Instruction in New Brunswick is now complete. Gathering information for this report was one of our major efforts this fall and included four teacher discussion groups, an on-line survey completed by more than a third of our membership, and two meetings of our FSL Committee. The NBTA Board of Directors then determined the major points to be brought forward to the Commissioners. I am confident that Mrs. Lee and Mr. Croll will give a lot of weight to the opinions and expertise of teachers in their determinations. We are in the process now of sharing the information we gathered with our teachers. The full details of the submission are available under the Members-Only section of the website at [www.nbta.ca](http://www.nbta.ca).

A further incentive for registering onto the Members-Only section is that this will be a major mode of communication with teachers during the next round of bargaining. Weekly updates, information on news conferences, communiqués of various sorts and a bargaining

calendar showing where we are in the process will all be available on this site. Some communication, including lengthier communiqués, will also be available in paper form. It is essential that members have the information to make the most informed choices possible. Direct contact, such as Branch meetings at various stages, will also continue.

At a recent meeting with some of my colleagues from across the country, it became very clear that new technologies are creating some pitfalls for many teachers nationwide. *Facebook* in particular has some significant privacy concerns, even when extra measures are taken.

***"... updates, information on news conferences, communiqués of various sorts and a bargaining calendar showing where we are in the process will all be available on this site."***

Any items uploaded to this site become the permanent property of *Facebook*, even after they are

deleted, so educators should keep this in mind. Teachers should be cautious with blogs as well. The simple rule is, "A teacher is a teacher 24 hours a day." Electronic statements are still public ones and subject to the same professional limitations. There has been some comprehensive research carried out on this topic by several other members of the Canadian Teachers' Federation and a major article based upon this will appear in the next *NBTA News*. In the meantime, please be careful. Several other jurisdictions are dealing with a number of cases related to this issue.

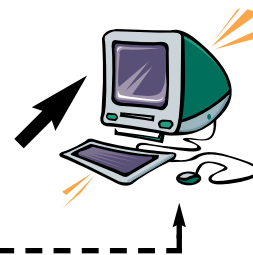
Finally, thanks to everyone for all your hard work this fall on behalf of children. Soon you can begin a well-earned couple of weeks off. Family and friends can once again, for awhile at least, be your main priority each day. My wife Sharon, my sons Tyson and Dylan, and I wish you Happy Holidays and a Happy New Year. All the Best!

*Brent Shaw*

# NBTA Website: Members Only

## Please Register Now!

This site will be a **primary method of communications during the upcoming round of negotiations** and in sharing other important information with our members. So far only a small percentage of our membership have signed on.  
Go to **www.nbta.ca** to register.



## NBTA Professional Course Available — Winter

- This course is applicable to a Certificate 5 (or if you already hold a Masters degree, the course may be used towards a Certificate 6). Course may be taken also for professional or personal interest.
- Fee for this course is \$375 payable by cheque dated the first day of the course. Make all cheques payable to NBTA.
- Course requires 36 hours of instruction.
- Full description of the course is available at [www.plsweb.com](http://www.plsweb.com). Click Graduate Courses.
- Maximum seats per course: 24 (minimum numbers are required for a course to run).

### **MAGIC08WDOSS — Meaningful Activities to Generate Interesting Classrooms**

Meaningful Activities to Generate Interesting Classrooms is an exciting hands-on course that offers teachers opportunities to learn about and acquire a multitude of engaging activities that go beyond the textbook and worksheet. Participation in over 60 activities will give you practice in creating, evaluating and adapting ideas to your own specific curriculum needs - immediately useful in your day-to-day classroom at any grade level.

**Dates:** Thursday evenings (January 10 - April 3, 2008)

**Location:** St. Stephen Elementary School, St. Stephen    **Instructor:** Derek O'Brien

**Registration Deadline:** Friday, December 21, 2007

### NBTA Sponsored Professional Course Registration Form

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Current Certificate Level: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Address: \_\_\_\_\_

School: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: (H) \_\_\_\_\_ (S) \_\_\_\_\_ Fax \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_ Do you check e-mail daily? \_\_\_\_\_

#### **Course Details:** \_\_\_\_\_

Course Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Course Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Location: \_\_\_\_\_ Course Instructor: \_\_\_\_\_

Will you be taking this course for: Certification Credit \_\_\_\_\_ or Professional Development \_\_\_\_\_

Do you require any special considerations (access, visual/auditory support etc.)?  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Please mail registration form with \$375 payment to:  
Ardith Shirley, Director of Professional Development, NBTA, PO Box 752, Fredericton, NB E3B 5R6**

# 2007-2008 NBTA PENSION SEMINARS REGISTRATION FORM

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

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

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

- \_\_\_\_\_ January 12 - Fredericton, NBTf Building
- \_\_\_\_\_ January 26- Miramichi, Dr. Losier Middle School
- \_\_\_\_\_ February 2 - Sussex, Sussex High School

- December 21
- January 18
- January 25

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 2008 \_\_\_\_\_ 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**.

***I hereby authorize the NBTA to obtain information from the Compensation Employee Benefits Division pertaining specifically to my pensionable service records. This information will be utilized to prepare my individual pension estimates for retirement purpose only.***

YES  NO

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

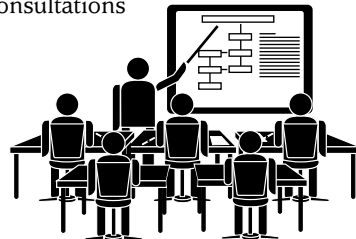
## SEMINAR GUIDELINES

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**  
**Director of Teacher Welfare Services**  
**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.**

# Gail Blanchette Receives G. Forbes Elliot Award for Educational Leadership



**G**ail Blanchette, English teacher at Sugarloaf Senior High School in Campbellton, NB, is this year's recipient of the G. Forbes Elliot Award for Educational Leadership, valued at \$5,000. This annual University of New Brunswick award was established in 1994 as a bequest of the late Dr. G. Forbes Elliot, a prominent Canadian educator, Saint John resident, and the first Vice-President of the University of New Brunswick in Saint John.

Mrs. Blanchette has been teaching for the past nine years and has distinguished herself in Education Leadership. "What struck the committee most was Mrs. Blanchette's particular leadership in literacy at her school," says Selection Committee Chair Paul-Emile Chiasson. "Her achievements embody the spirit of the G. Forbes

Elliot Award which is proven educational leadership." The Selection Committee also includes New Brunswick Teachers' Association representatives from District 6 and District 8.



Among her achievements, Mrs. Blanchette has formed a "think tank" to address specific literacy needs at her school and has taken the lead role on the Internal School Review Committee. In addition, she has represented her school at the district level on the Curriculum Mapping Committee, and at the provincial level has worked on two textbook pilot committees and the High School Reading Initiative.

A University of New Brunswick alumna, Mrs. Blanchette plans to complete her Masters of Education in Critical Studies at UNB. She was granted an educational leave to pursue full-time studies in the fall of 2007.

To be eligible for this award, an applicant must have taught a minimum of five years in the public schools of New Brunswick, have demonstrated leadership in the field of education and plan to pursue graduate studies in Education at the University of New Brunswick.

A first-class teaching and research institution, the University of New Brunswick is one of the oldest public universities in North America. Attracted by world-renowned programs and researchers, more than 10,000 undergraduate and graduate students are enrolled on our campuses in Fredericton and Saint John. UNB is the largest research institution in New Brunswick and plays a fundamental role in the economic, social and cultural well-being of the province and the region. (October 25, 2007, UNB Saint John News Release: 07-054)

Win Cash Prizes  
Classes and  
Groups are  
Eligible for  
Additional Prizes

## The Canadian ABORIGINAL WRITING Challenge

A Project of the Dominion Institute









Congratulations to the 2007 winners Kerissa Dickie and Chantelle Cheekineew

### What Story Will You Tell?

Are you between the ages of 14-18 and 19-29?  
Showcase your creativity and explore your heritage.

[www.our-story.ca](http://www.our-story.ca)

1-866-701-1867. DEADLINE IS MARCH 31, 2008.

Paid Advertisement

# Learning, Eating, Activity Programme (LEAP!) — Supporting Families with Overweight Children —

**A**s most of us know, rates of childhood obesity in New Brunswick have tripled over the last 25 years. Many parents of overweight children are looking for reliable information and support, specifically relating to the nutrition and physical activity behaviours of their family.

The Learning, Eating, Activity Programme (also known as *LEAP!*) provides this much-needed support. *LEAP!* is an evidence-based, comprehensive and affordable programme held at the University of New Brunswick. A team of interdisciplinary professionals inform, guide and support parents of overweight children to be their healthy best. Over a three-month period, parents meet weekly with team members to better understand their family's wellness patterns. Leisure educators, registered dietitians, nurses and physical

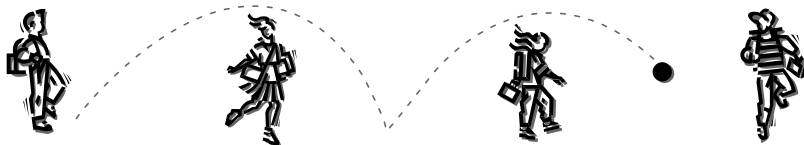
activity consultants work with parents from a family management perspective.

While a physician referral is required so that children involved in the programme can be monitored and supported by their physician, we also encourage public health professionals to refer families as well. School nurses are encouraged to refer children to the programme by contacting us at [leap@unb.ca](mailto:leap@unb.ca) or 452-6172.

**When?** Winter Information Session: Wednesday, January 9, 2008, 7 to 9 pm

**Where?** UNB Gymnasium, Room 210

**Cost?** \$75 + HST (\* financial support available to families requiring assistance)



## KIN Kids: Physical Activity Programme for 5 to 12-Year-Olds

This physical activity programme is designed to engage children in the simple pleasures and benefits of regular physical activity. Children are led by supervised kinesiology students through a variety of fun, interactive and non-competitive activities. While this programme appeals to a range of children, it will especially appeal to those not overly involved in organized sport.

**When?** Mondays and Wednesdays, 5:30 to 6:30 pm  
Monday, January 14 to Wednesday, March 28

**Where?** UNB Gymnasium

**Cost?** \$59 + HST (\* financial support available to children requiring assistance)

Includes cool LEAP! t-shirt and water bottle

### NBTA STAFF

**Bob Fitzpatrick** (452-1721) ([bob.fitzpatrick@nbta.ca](mailto:bob.fitzpatrick@nbta.ca))  
Executive Director

**Blake Robichaud** (452-1833) ([blake.robichaud@nbta.ca](mailto:blake.robichaud@nbta.ca))  
Director of Communications & Research

**Melinda Cook** (452-1839) ([melinda.cook@nbta.ca](mailto:melinda.cook@nbta.ca))  
Director of Curriculum & Finance

**Ardith Shirley** (452-1740) ([ardith.shirley@nbta.ca](mailto:ardith.shirley@nbta.ca))  
Director of Professional Development

**Larry Jamieson** (452-1722) ([larry.jamieson@nbta.ca](mailto:larry.jamieson@nbta.ca))  
Deputy Executive Director  
Director of Teacher Welfare Services

### PROFESSIONAL COUNSELLING SERVICE FOR TEACHERS

**Betsy Colwell-Burley**  
(634-2901), 1-800-563-3938, Coordinator

**Niel Cameron**  
(855-5243), 1-888-763-5050, Counsellor/Consultant

**Michael Ketchum** (462-0208), 1-800-561-1727  
([michael.ketchum@nb.aibn.com](mailto:michael.ketchum@nb.aibn.com)) Counsellor/Consultant

### NBTF STAFF

**Robert Gagné** (452-1741)  
Executive Director

**Kevin Sheehan** (452-1737) ([sheehank@nbnet.nb.ca](mailto:sheehank@nbnet.nb.ca))  
Deputy Executive Director

**Marilyn Boudreau** (452-1830) ([marilyn.boudreau@nb.aibn.com](mailto:marilyn.boudreau@nb.aibn.com))  
NBTF Labour Relations Officer

# The Many Faces of Leadership — Have You Looked in the Mirror Lately?

by Ardith Shirley, Director of Professional Development

I was recently preparing for a workshop on “sustainable leadership” when I came across an article by Charlotte Danielson entitled *Teachers as Leaders: The Many Faces of Leadership* (Educational Leadership, September 2007). In the article, Danielson (of Enhancing Professional Practice fame) reinforces the essential role of teacher leaders in schools, while also exploring some of the barriers to teachers in taking on leadership roles, as well as their motivation for making that professional commitment.

## What does it mean to be a leader amongst teachers?

Studies have shown that teachers do not subscribe to traditional definitions of leadership as “higher” or “superior” positions within the organizational hierarchy (Devaney, 1987). Instead, teachers view leadership as a collaborative effort, a “banding together” with other teachers to promote professional development and growth and the improvement of educational services (Troen & Boles, 1992).

Teachers typically define career satisfaction in terms of their ability to be of service to others and make a difference in the lives of their students (McLaughlin & Lee, 1988). Similarly, the leadership considerations of teachers are grounded in their desire to improve the quality of teaching and learning for all students.

Thankfully, teacher leadership roles have begun to emerge and promise real opportunities for teachers to impact educational change without necessarily leaving the classroom. Teachers are serving as action research colleagues, mentors to new teachers, curriculum coaches, facilitators of professional development, etc. (Livingston, 1992). In addition, teachers are forging a number of new and unique leadership roles through their own initiative by developing and implementing programs they personally believe will result in

positive change (Troen & Boles, 1992). **What qualities and/or behaviours distinguish teachers as leaders?**

The majority of researchers on the topic of teacher leadership, (Alverado, 1997; Crowther, 1997; O’Hair and Reitzug, 1997; Paulu and Winters, 1998; Wynne, 2001), seem to agree that teacher leaders:

- demonstrate expertise in their instruction and share that knowledge with other professionals,
- are consistently on a professional



- learning curve,
- frequently reflect on their work to stay on the cutting edge of what’s best for children,
- engage in continuous action research projects that examine their effectiveness,
- collaborate with their peers, parents, and communities, engaging them in dialogues of open inquiry/action/assessment models of change,
- become socially conscious and politically involved,
- mentor new teachers,
- become more involved at universities in the preparation of pre-service teachers, and
- are risk-takers who participate in school decisions.

## What are the barriers to teacher leadership experiences?

Research suggests that the bureaucracy of schools and systems, as

well as the attitudes of educational policymakers, stifle the possibilities for teacher leaders to be effective as change agents. Barriers such as too little time during the work day for reflection, rigid school schedules, unrelated instructional tasks, jealousies and/or lack of support from colleagues and administrators, and overemphasis on mandated high-stakes testing hamper the effectiveness of many teachers who, while teaching, step beyond their classrooms to lead. (Paulu and Winters, 1998).

*Tall Poppy Syndrome - It’s not only administrators who, on occasion, stand in the way of teacher leaders. Sometimes the teachers themselves resist taking on leadership roles, or make it difficult for their colleagues to do so. In Australia, this is called the tall poppy syndrome—those who stick their heads up risk being cut down to size. (Danielson, 2007).*

Many teachers need encouragement from administrators and colleagues to shift from their perception of isolation into recognition of themselves as active contributors in a larger context, outside classroom walls. A compelling example of teacher leadership, which seems also to summarize the most evolved concept in the Teacher Leadership research literature, is the work of Ella Baker who suggests that **“What is needed is the development of people who are interested not in being leaders as much as in developing leadership in others.”**

In light of Ellen Baker’s suggestion, I invite each of you to take a look in the mirror and see the teacher leader looking back at you!

## Become a teacher leader by recognizing leadership in a colleague!

Why not nominate a respected colleague for one of the several prestigious teacher awards that abound? An example of such an award is the **Prime Minister’s Awards (PMAs) for Teaching Excellence.**



This award honours outstanding and innovative elementary and secondary school teachers in all disciplines who instill in their students a love of learning and who utilize information and communications technology to better equip their students with the skills needed to meet the challenges of a 21st century society and economy.

Certificates of Excellence are awarded to the 15 top-ranked nominees, with at least one award designated for each of the following regions: British Columbia; Prairies; the North (Yukon, Northwest Territories and Nunavut); Ontario; Quebec; and Atlantic Canada. Up to 50 of the next top-ranked nominees each receive a Certificate of Achievement. The deadline for nominations is December 17, 2007. Further information and a nomination form can be accessed on the PMA website at [www.pma.gc.ca](http://www.pma.gc.ca).

#### May I recommend?

In November's *Phi Delta Kappan*, *The Failure of Failure* by Ben Levin, (Canada Research Chair in Educational Leadership and Policy at OISE), explores the idea of "failure" in school and what to do about students who are not "making the grade". Within the confines of two short pages, Levin uses data from across Canada to explore this idea and leaves the reader with four compelling points for consideration regarding the possibility of an "entrenched Canadian" attitude towards failure.

The November 2007 issue of *Educational Leadership* is titled "Making Math Count". While the entire issue is well worth a read for

any teacher of numeracy, I particularly recommend Marilyn Burn's article titled, *Nine Ways to Catch Kids Up*. In it, Burns outlines nine very practical and realistic strategies she considers to be essential to successful intervention instruction for struggling math learners. Another feature that makes this issue special is that it is sprinkled throughout with several of the western world's greatest mathematical minds sharing "a-ha moments" from their own reflections on learning as students.

*Pet Peeves About Parents: Turning Problems into Partnerships* by Patricia Duncan appears in October's *Education Digest*. The article highlights this 5th grade teacher's advice on how to prevent problems, prepare for problems and process problems with parents. An especially good read for early career teachers who may be struggling with how to approach those more challenging parent communications.

#### Recommended Websites:

*NB Certification Planning Tool* - [www.nbta.ca](http://www.nbta.ca) (Click on the "Certification" tab on the left side of the screen and gain access to our new "NB Teacher Certification Planning Tool"). There is a wealth of information for teachers with questions regarding certification as well as links to all the forms required by the Office of Teacher Certification (at the Department) for initial certification and upgrading.

*Resources for Teacher Leadership* - This site offers information and links to other sites for teachers on making

presentations, writing for publications, reaching out to the community, mentoring and coaching, providing professional development and supporting pre-service education. (<http://cse.edc.org/products/teacherleadership/default.asp>)

#### Happy Holiday!

A well-deserved break is on the horizon. I hope that you and your families will enjoy peace, laughter and a healthy measure of rest!



#### Sources:

*Leading Change from the Classroom: Teachers As Leaders* by Victoria Boyd, Kathleen M McGree, Leadership for Change Project, Southwest Educational Development Laboratory

*Teachers as Leaders in Education Reform* by Joan Wynne, ERIC Digest

*The Many Faces of Leadership* by Charlotte Danielson, Educational Leadership, Sept 2007.

#### Closing Quote:

"The greatest good you can do for another is not just share your riches, but reveal to them their own."  
—Benjamin Disraeli (1804-1881)

# IT'S NOT OKAY...



## ... to tell a "gay" joke in the classrooms, staffrooms or hallways of schools in New Brunswick!

If this is happening in your school, you have a professional obligation to address it. Contact the NBTA, your employer, or email NBTA Equity Committee members, Danielle Cormier ([cormidan@ned.nb.ca](mailto:cormidan@ned.nb.ca)) or Richard Blaquiere ([richard.blaquiere@ned.nb.ca](mailto:richard.blaquiere@ned.nb.ca)) if you have concerns or need help.

– Inserted by NBTA Equity in Education Committee

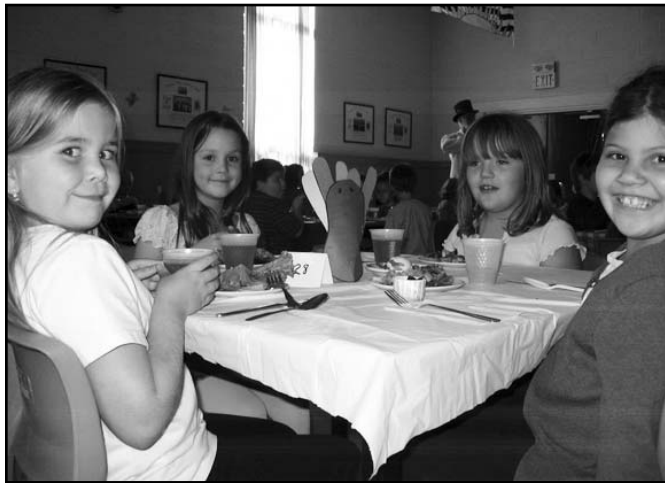


## **Chez Keswick**

**O**n Friday, October 5, 2007 Keswick Valley Memorial School's (K-8) cafeteria was transformed into "Chez Keswick", offering a fine dining experience for both students and staff. The waiters for this event even dressed up in black and white to give the feel of a real restaurant and included grade 8 students, staff and community volunteers. For many students this was their first real restaurant experience, as we are in an age where most children think eating out includes a drive-through and plastic utensils.

In preparation for this event, classes at all grade levels spent time reviewing basic table manners (i.e., not opening their mouths while eating, no elbows on the table, etc), how to set a table, what the various utensils are for, and basic restaurant etiquette (i.e., how to signal your waiter). Students were very excited about the whole restaurant experience and many dressed up in their party clothes for the occasion.

To make "Chez Keswick" have the feel of a real restaurant, they signed up the week before for tables (4 to a table). Once reservations were in place, each party was assigned a table number and when they arrived at



the door to the cafeteria, the vice-principal, Mr. Meesters, acted as the

host and had a member of the serving staff take each party to their table. Students were then treated to a three-course meal that included salad, a full turkey dinner with all the fixings, and apple crumble.

While the various courses were being served, students were treated to a musical experience as David Neilson played the violin throughout the restaurant. Overall, the meal was a smashing success and many of the students wanted to know when Chez Keswick would be open for lunch again.

Rona Howald, Past President

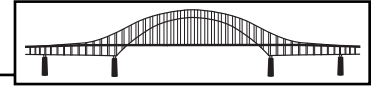


## **Mark Your Calendars! Council Day – May 2, 2008**



- Elementary/K-12 Art – Moncton
- Middle Level/K-12 Music – Moncton
- High School/K-12 Physical Education – Saint John





# Middle Level Teaching Treats

Every month we will feature a few teaching treats and a website that teachers across the province are using. Please share your teaching treat by e-mailing [lise.martin-keilty@nbed.nb.ca](mailto:lise.martin-keilty@nbed.nb.ca) and your teaching treat could appear here in the next months! We know there are lots of great ideas out there. Thanks in advance for sharing!

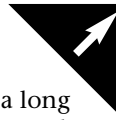
1. Have you ever played the LOOP game to review for a test? The loop game is a series of cards that each have a question and an



answer. The questions on the cards and the answers do not match. When a student reads a question on his/her card, another student has a card with his/her answer. The student who has the answer reads it aloud and then reads his question of which another student has the answer. The game continues in this fashion until the first student who read his question has the answer to the final question, thus creating a loop. A few tips: make sure that no 2 answers are the same as it will not work; I avoid this by combining the questions. Also, make sure you create a pattern in which the cards follow each other and the first card

becomes the last card. This is a great class warm-up leading up to the test. I play it several times at the beginning of each class and my test scores have gone up because of this game. You can sit your students in a circle, at their seats or make them stand to add movement. My students love this game.

2. CORNERS: Do you have a class where students are reading quietly or working for a long period of time and you need to give them a short 3-4 minute break? Try "Corners". Simply write 4 things on 4 pieces of paper such as 4 types of chocolate bars, 4 cities, 4 sports, etc. (1 thing per paper). Post these papers at the 4 corners of the room. Ask students to write in their agenda their favorite choice amongst the four. Once everyone

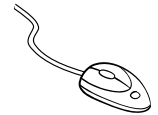


has chosen, get them to go to the corner that they chose and discuss with a partner for 1 minute why they chose that particular place/thing. After, they return to their seats and continue what they were doing. Again, by moving, you are creating more blood flow to the brain, making retention and learning much better.

3. WEBSITE: Has your school heard of United Streaming?

[www.unitedstreaming.com](http://www.unitedstreaming.com)

Ask your tech mentor to try and get your school a free trial period.



Over 70,000 schools worldwide belong to this website. It has thousands of educational videos, an image library, clip arts, audio library, and many more. Check this out, you won't regret it!

## Middle Level Conference May 2, 2008

The following hotels have agreed to block rooms for our Middle Level teachers for Council Day. The prices offered are group rates. Because rooms will be released on April 1, it is in your best interest to book early.

- Chateau Moncton – 100 Main St.  
870-4444 \$109
- Crown Plaza – 1005 Main St.  
854-6340 \$139
- Delta Beausejour – 750 Main St.  
854-4344 \$139 - \$159
- Future Inns – Mapleton Rd.  
852-9600 \$114 - \$134
- Holiday Inn Express –  
2515 Mountain Road  
384-1050 \$90 - \$100

- Ramada Plaza Hotel –  
499 Paul St. (Crystal Palace)  
858-8584 \$149.95
- Rodd Park House Inn –  
434 Main St.  
382-1664 \$105 - \$115
- Super 8 – 370 Dieppe Blvd  
858-8880 \$128 - \$138



## “Rebooting the System”



**Moncton,  
Friday,  
May 2, 2008**

**Make plans now  
to attend!**



## • High School Council • President's Message



**Derek Taggart**

December is here! Christmas and exam week are just around the corner and this year's High School Council (Friday, May 2 at St. Malachy's High School and the Imperial Theatre in Saint John) is approaching rapidly. The requests to present at Council Day have been pouring in. Anybody who would like to share unique ideas from his or her classroom, school or from a conference that he or she has attended is encouraged to contact me ([derek.taggart@nbed.nb.ca](mailto:derek.taggart@nbed.nb.ca)), our Program Chair, Angela Murphy, ([angela.murphy@nbed.nb.ca](mailto:angela.murphy@nbed.nb.ca)) or any other member of the Council

Executive. Remember, it is never too early to think about booking your hotel room in Saint John!

By the time you read this article, your High School Council Executive will have met for the second time this year. The agenda was packed with items concerning High School Council Day, teacher professional development, and curriculum assistance. In my next article in January, I will be providing details regarding Council Day registration and parking, the Thursday evening social event, and how to register for upcoming institutes and professional development opportunities.

The Council Executive has decided to slightly change the format of this year's program. Our new theme for this year's conference is "**Finding Our Way**". We will be

having eight keynote speakers this year (two for each of the four presentation blocks). Four of these keynotes will be speaking at the Imperial Theatre; four will be speaking simultaneously at the St. Malachy's High School theatre. We will continue to offer a limited number of smaller divided sessions for teachers in the various classrooms at St. Malachy's. We are very excited to try this new format and as always we will be seeking your feedback to determine whether or not it was a success.

I would like to conclude this

article by discussing a few reasons to visit the NBTA website ([www.nbta.ca](http://www.nbta.ca)) and especially the High School Council link on the NBTA website

(<http://highschool.nbta.ca>).

First of all, you will find valuable information such as the forms you need to nominate your fellow teachers for the High School Council Teacher Recognition Awards (10 Awards are presented each year at the May conference). Secondly, you will find the forms you need to apply for PD and High School Council grants to attend conferences in Canada and all over the world. Finally, you will soon find all of the updated registration and program information for the upcoming May Council Day, as well as for upcoming institutes.

Your High School Council Executive will be having its third meeting during the evening of Friday February 15 and the morning of Saturday, February 16 to discuss new business and plan for May 2 and the upcoming institutes. If you ever have any items you would like to see included on an agenda for these meetings, please do not hesitate to contact any of your High School Council Executive members. I would also encourage all of you to take the opportunity to brag about the great things that are happening in your schools. If you have any item throughout the year that you think would be interesting for other Council members to read about, contact our Communications Chair, Martin Daigle, ([daiglem@nbed.nb.ca](mailto:daiglem@nbed.nb.ca)) and he will make sure that it gets published in the *NBTA News*. On behalf of the High School Council Executive, I wish the best for all of you during the upcoming holiday season! Rest and relax with family and friends – you all deserve it!

Derek



### WIN a full YEAR'S TUITION at Memorial University of Newfoundland

**BECOME YOUR FUTURE ... IN 400 WORDS OR LESS** invites grade 12 students to leap ahead 10 years and tell us where they imagine what they will be doing in the year 2018 – after they've completed a degree program in the social sciences or humanities.

Memorial's Faculty of Arts offers a broad range of dynamic degree and diploma programs, many of which combine practical experience with academic learning.

**Eligibility:** The contest is open to Canadian grade 12 students who will graduate between January and July 2008.

Awards: Two winners receive one year's tuition voucher for full-time study in the Faculty of Arts at Memorial University. The 1st runner up will win one semester's tuition in Arts at Memorial; the 2nd runner up will be awarded \$ 700 toward tuition costs in Arts at Memorial.

**Information, entry forms and contest rules:**  
[www.arts.mun.ca/future](http://www.arts.mun.ca/future)

**Deadline to send submissions (postmark):** Tuesday, January 15, 2008.  
**Questions? Email** [deanarts@mun.ca](mailto:deanarts@mun.ca) or call (709) 737-8254

# Awards Presented at Remember When Physical Education Conference

The 2007 NBPES Remember When Physical Education Conference was held on Friday, November 16 in Fredericton at Fredericton High School and the Fredericton Inn. During the conference luncheon, the Annual NBPES Awards were presented.

## New Brunswick Physical Education Society (NBPES) School District Teacher of the Year Award

This award honors teachers across the province who are making a difference, teaching quality physical education to our children.

The criteria for this award states a teacher must:

- 1) be a member in good standing with the New Brunswick Physical Education Society.
- 2) conduct a quality Physical Education Program as defined by CAHPERD.
- 3) serve as a positive role model in personal health and fitness.
- 4) participate in professional development opportunities.
- 5) have a minimum of five years teaching experience in Physical Education; full-time, part-time, or on a regular basis as a classroom teacher.

In addition, the recipient must hold a full-time teaching contract and be currently teaching Physical Education full-time, part-time or on a regular basis to his/her classroom. Further, the recipient will have made a significant contribution to the field of Physical Education at the local level.

### School District 2

Cliff Steeves - Riverview High

### School District 6

Terry Wisdom - Lakefield Elementary

### School District 8

Pat Bastarache - District 8 PE Mentor

### School District 10

Tim Davis - Sir James Dunn

### School District 14

Gillian McIsaac - Tobique Valley High

### School District 15

Ann Landry - Parkwood Heights Elementary

### School District 16

Kimberley Bowes - Rexton Elementary

### School District 17

David Best - Minto Elementary/Middle

### School District 18

Katie Black - Harvey High



(l-r) Dist. 2, Cliff Steeves; Dist. 6, Terry Wisdom; Dist. 8, Pat Bastarache; Dist. 10, Tim Davis; Dist. 15, Ann Landry; Dist. 16, Kimberley Bowes; Dist. 17, David Best; Dist. 18, Katie Black. Absent: Dist. 14, Gillian McIsaac.

## New Brunswick Physical Education Society (NBPES) Dr. John Meagher Award 2007

The recipient of the Dr. John Meagher Award for 2007 is Mrs. Heather Neilson, Elementary Physical Education Mentor, School District 18.

Dr. John Meagher is one of the founding fathers of Health and Physical Education in our province. The Award recognizes an individual who has made significant contributions to the field of Physical Education at the local and provincial levels.

Heather graduated from the University of New Brunswick with a Phys Ed degree in 1972 and has been involved in different capacities since then. She has taught a Phys Ed course to education students at St. Thomas University, and has worked with Alumni activities and the student athlete awards committee for UNB.

She has been a member of the New Brunswick Physical Education Society and the *Remember When Conference* organizing committee since its creation. From 1998 to 2000, as part of the Department of Education's Curriculum Development Advisory Committee, Heather, with our own Diane Hoyt, was the lead writer of our Elementary Physical Education Curriculum Document. She was a member of the writing team in School District 18 that created the Curriculum Maps that now accompany the Document in many districts in our province.

In 2001, Heather was awarded the Fredericton Unsung Hero Award during International Volunteer Week, and in 2006 was awarded the prestigious Physical Education Teaching Excellence Award by CAHPERD.



Heather Neilson (l), 2007 Dr. John Meagher Award winner and Diane Hoyt, out-going President of the New Brunswick Physical Education Society

# Call for Nominations

## National Inclusive Education Achievement Awards 2007

(Fredericton, NB) The Canadian Association for Community Living, a Canada-wide association of family members and others, which works on behalf of persons of all ages who have an intellectual disability, is calling for nominations for the 2007 National Inclusive Education Awards.

The awards are presented to an individual or team who has made a positive and significant contribution to inclusive education within the public school system and in post secondary schools in their province or territory. The awards presentations are part of the activities planned for National Inclusive Education Week, February 17-23, 2008.

The National Inclusive Education

Award recipients are selected by Associations for Community Living in each province or territory. The NB Association for Community Living awards committee will select winners (one Francophone and one Anglophone) from the province of New Brunswick.

Two special awards, the *Partnership for Inclusion Award* and the *Progress Toward Inclusion Award* will also be presented. The *Partnership for Inclusion Award* is in recognition of individuals who, through their partnership, have made a positive impact on their



school or community by promoting inclusive education. The *Progress Toward Inclusion Award* is in recognition of a group or individual who has made great strides to improve inclusion within their school.

Nomination forms must be submitted to the NB Association for Community Living no later than **January 15, 2008, 5:00 pm.**

For more information and for a nomination form, contact:  
Dany Desjardins  
Email: ddesjardins@nbacl.nb.ca  
Tel: (506) 856-3249  
Toll Free: 1-866-622-2548

Nomination forms are also available on the NBACL website (**www.nbacl.nb.ca**).

## Skills for Administrators Series: A Workshop for School-Based Administrators

*Sponsored by the NBTA, School Districts and the Department of Education*

### Educational Leadership: Walking the Line Between Professionalism and Productivity

**Date:** January 22nd and 23rd, 2008 (9am – 4pm)

**Location:** NBTF Building, Fredericton

**Facilitators:** Bob Fitzpatrick (NBTA), Ardith Shirley (NBTA), others TBA

**Participants:** Open registration; Limit 40

**Registration Deadline:** January 15, 2008



This two-day workshop is a repeat of the popular program offered in the 2005 series. It will engage in-school administrators in reflection and dialogue centered around the challenge of being both a colleague and a leader within your school community. A focus on both Policies and People will be developed through case studies, interactive activities and sharing. Building collaborative cultures and reducing conflict will be highlights of the two days.

**Fax the registration form to: Ardith Shirley, Director of Professional Development, at 506-453-9795.**

## Skills for Administrators Series 2007-2008

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

School: \_\_\_\_\_

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

I wish to register for:

— **Educational Leadership: Walking the Line Between Professionalism and Productivity**  
(January 22-23, 2008)

**You will be emailed with a confirmation of your seat.**

# REMEMBER THESE DATES



## DEADLINE DATES

**Conference Grants** — Five weeks prior to opening day

**Certification Changes** — March 31, 2008

**Branch Nominations for NBTA Vice-President** — February 1, 2008

**Deferred Salary Leave Plan Application** — January 31, 2008

### Election Dates

- (a) Ballots mailed to Branch Presidents - On or before April 15, 2008
- (b) Voting to take place - April 21-25, 2008 inclusive
- (c) Ballots returned to Central Office by 5:00 pm - May 2, 2008
- (d) Counting of Ballots - May 7, 2008
- (e) Candidates notified - May 7, 2008

**NBTA/Beaverbrook/Hagerman Interest-free Loans** — March 31, 2008

**Centennial Award Nominations** — April 1, 2008

**Aliant Award Nominations** — April 1, 2008

**Outstanding Educational Leadership** — April 1, 2008

**Branch Resolutions for A.G.M.** — April 1, 2008

**A.G.M. Registration of Delegates** — April 1, 2008

**Employment Insurance Rebate Report** — June 1, 2008

**Registration of Branches** — June 1, 2008

**Report of Branch Meetings** — June 1, 2008

**Names of Branch Committee Chairpersons** — June 1, 2008

**NBTA Council Annual Reports** — June 13, 2008

## OTHER IMPORTANT DATES

**NBTA AGM** — May 30-31, 2008

**Retiring Teachers' Luncheon** — May 31, 2008

## 28<sup>th</sup> Annual NBTA Men Teachers' Curling Bonspiel

**Carleton Curling Club, Saint John, NB**  
**January 25, 26, 27, 2008**

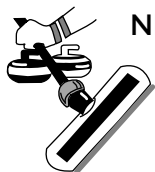
**Registration: \$120.00/team**

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)

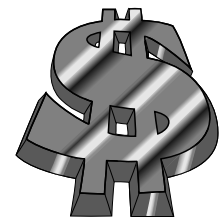
### Send entries and cheque to:

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



## Notice: June 2008 Retirees

Teachers who will be retiring at the end of June 2008 will receive any residual (summer) money owed to them on the July 4, 2008 pay date. First pension deposit will occur on July 23/24 as long as all necessary paperwork has been completed.



## New Seminar Series

# Transition To Life After Teaching Seminar

## Lifestyle Planning ~ The Social Side

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

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

\_\_\_\_\_ January 26 - Fredericton, NBTF Building

January 14

Name of Teacher: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

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

School: \_\_\_\_\_ District: \_\_\_\_\_

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

Number of Years of Teaching: \_\_\_\_\_

Forward registration form and cheque to:  
**Karen Vautour**, New Brunswick Teachers' Association, PO Box 752, Fredericton NB, E3B 5R6  
 Please make cheques payable to: **Professional Counselling Services for Teachers**

**This is NOT a Financial Planning Seminar.**  
**(see page 5 for more information on financial planning)**

## Seminar Guidelines

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

1. All participants must pre-register
2. A registration fee of \$33 for each participant to cover the cost of nutrition break, book "Life After Teaching" by Alan Roadburg and accompanying workbook. The workshop is based on this very practical guide: experiences and advice of retired teachers.
3. Travel and accommodation costs are the responsibility of the participants.
4. A nutrition break will be provided.
5. Any interested teachers are eligible to attend.
6. Workshops begin with registration at 9:15 and sessions from 9:30 - 12:30
7. Questions relating to these seminars should be directed to:

Michael Ketchum  
 Counsellor/Consultant  
 Phone: 462-0208 or 1-800-561-1727  
 michael.ketchum@nb.aibn.com

- What are New Brunswick teachers doing after retirement?
- How do I know that I am ready to retire?
- I'm scared to retire, is this normal?
- What will I do with my time?
- My friends are still at school, who will I socialize with?
- Come and hear first-hand from recently-retired teachers.
- Hear about the results of a survey to New Brunswick teachers in 2006.





# Prime Minister's Awards for Teaching Excellence

**F**or most of us, at least one teacher stands out in our memories – someone who encouraged, enabled and inspired us to do our very best. Teachers play a tremendous role, not only in the academic achievement of students, but in the attitudes and abilities they carry with them beyond the classroom.

The PMAs for Teaching Excellence honour outstanding and innovative elementary and secondary school teachers in all disciplines who instill in their students a love of learning and who utilize information and communications technology (ICT) to better equip their students with the skills needed to meet the challenges of a 21st century society and economy.

√The awards include • up to 15 Certificates of Excellence (national level), including a financial award of \$5,000; • up to 50 Certificates of Achievement (regional level), including a financial award of \$1,000. Certificates of Excellence are awarded to the 15 top-ranked nominees, with at least one award designated for each of the following regions: British Columbia; Prairies; the North (Yukon, Northwest Territories and Nunavut); Ontario; Quebec; and Atlantic Canada. Up to 50 of the next top-ranked nominees each receive a Certificate of Achievement.

Award funds may be used for professional development, equipment (such as computers, software, and audio-visual and laboratory equipment), resource materials, website development, teaching aids, or other tools to improve teaching and student learning.

All winning teachers receive a certificate, PMA pin and letter of congratulations from the Prime Minister.

Certificate of Excellence recipients may also be invited to participate in best practice sessions and attend a special event where the Prime Minister will formally announce the PMA recipients and present them with their award certificates.

Certificate of Achievement recipients are honoured at school or community events involving principals, peers, students and local members of Parliament, as appropriate.

Each recipient's school also receives a certificate, signed by the Prime Minister, recognizing its support and contribution to the teacher's achievement.

The deadline for nominations is **December 17, 2007**. More information, nomination guidelines, etc. are available on their website: [www.pma.gc.ca](http://www.pma.gc.ca)



## Educational Improvement Grant Funds Depleted

**T**eachers should note that due to high demand, the funds for NBTA/DOE Provincial and Elementary and High School Council Educational Improvement Grants (i.e., for conferences and other professional development) have been depleted for activities taking place between now and December 31, 2007.

Applications can be made at any time for NBTA/DOE Provincial and/or Council funding for activities taking place after January 1, 2008.

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**Paid Advertisement**

# Wellness Highlights

PROFESSIONAL COUNSELLING SERVICE  
FOR TEACHERS



## TEACHER COUNSELLING SERVICES

Betsy Colwell-Burley, Districts 6, 8, 10

1-800-563-3938

Michael Ketchum, Districts 14, 17, 18

1-800-561-1727

Niel Cameron, Districts 2, 15, 16

1-888-763-5050

## December – Gratitude “Everyday Blessings”

### Did You Know?

#### What Happy People Know

- Don't overdo it... Prioritize your tasks and your time... Simplify life.
- Invest in you... Do one thing for yourself every day... Take time for you - everything else will benefit only if you care about yourself, too.
- Be open... New people or activities can bring you simple pleasures that you never knew were possible.
- Make your own choices... Talk yourself calm... Talk yourself happy... Choose your response to life's situations.
- Doing good for others... Will do yourself good... Doing something nice for someone else will awaken your sense for harmony.
- You are more powerful than you think... Recognize your inner strength and beauty and confidently share the real you with others.
- Dismiss worrying concerns by summoning thoughts of love... You are lovable... Do this and see how your creative juices flow as a result.
- Enjoy good friends and family... Enjoy life... Be happy and healthy.



— Wellness Way Naturally Inc., [www.wellnessway.ca](http://www.wellnessway.ca)

### Suggested Activity from the Binder

Skating Party



### Suggested Website from the Binder

World Laughter Tour – [www.worldlaughter.com](http://www.worldlaughter.com)



### A Touch of Humour

#### Top 10 Ways to Keep a Sense of Humour Over the Holiday Season

10. Phone friends/relatives and tell them you're too busy to talk to them right now.
9. Dress up like an elf at least once. Failing that, dress someone else up like an elf. And failing that, invite an elf over to your house. Nothing says "boy, this is fun!" better than having an elf in the room.
8. When you buy egg nog, ask the grocery store clerk to explain what "nog" is.
7. Remember to blink periodically. (This is just good advice year-round)
6. Eat healthy and go light on chocolate. (I'm kidding, don't panic)
5. If you must go to the shopping mall, wear a hard hat, shoulder and knee pads and head lamp — I have found that people will give you a wide berth, especially if you laugh maniacally.
4. Double the amount of deep breathing you do for each in-law you invite home for the holidays.
3. Do the fun naked dance at least once.
2. Make an extra effort to laugh at yourself. Failing that, laugh at your in-laws.
1. Make a vow to bring joy with you everywhere you go. And if you can't do that, bring along an elf!



— [www.mikekerr.com](http://www.mikekerr.com)

# Announcements

## Grade 5 SnowPass Program

Children in Grade 5, or who are ten years old, can ski and ride for free at their favourite hills this winter, courtesy of the Canadian Ski Council and partner resorts across Canada.

The Grade 5 SnowPass booklet includes up to three ski-free coupons for each ski area, as well as coupons for discounts or rebates on lessons and equipment rentals. Some participating areas also offer a bonus Grade 6 coupon that can be used next season. For a chance to win fantastic ski and snowboard prizes, each SnowPass applicant can enter the "Tell a Friend" referral contest. If you tell your friend about the SnowPass program and they send in an application, you'll be entered in a draw for some amazing prizes like Sport Check gift certificates, lift passes, equipment, and more.

Grade 5 SnowPass applications are available online at [www.snowpass.ca](http://www.snowpass.ca). Applications are also available Canada-wide from Grade 5 elementary school teachers and at Sport Mart, Sport Chek, Sports Experts, and Intersport stores. The program begins December 1, 2007 and SnowPass booklets will be mailed out to applicants beginning November 19, 2007.

## Free Mission Nutrition Resources

At [www.missionnutrition.ca](http://www.missionnutrition.ca) teachers will find:

- Ready-to-use, curriculum-based lesson plans and student activities on healthy eating, active living and positive self-esteem for Kindergarten to Grade 8
- A fun intergalactic space theme to engage students in healthy living
- A family area with goal setting and food guide activities, healthy living tips, links to other helpful resources and more!

Mission Nutrition resources are free and easy to access in both English and French. They have been updated to reflect the new Canada's Food Guide.

The Mission Nutrition adventures in learning were created by Canadian Dietitians with input from teachers and leading health experts. The resources meet curriculum

expectations in Health/Physical Education/Language/Math/Art/Social Studies/Science/Information Technology.

## Professional Learning Communities at Work Institute

This Institute will be held August 25-27, 2008 in Moncton, NB.

The PLC at Work Institute is designed to help educators implement the most promising strategies for improving their schools in substantive ways. Every aspect of the program offers specific, practical strategies to help educators apply the powerful concepts of the PLC at Work model in their own school setting. The institute offers collective inquiry into best practices, reflection, renewal, networking, and planning for implementation. Application forms and further information are available on the website: [www.solution-tree.com](http://www.solution-tree.com)

## Cross-Country Geography Challenge

The Royal Canadian Geographical Society recently launched the second generation of its groundbreaking Canadian Atlas Online. To celebrate this event, they have created a "Cross-Country Challenge" that will test your geography I.Q. There are 13 skill-testing questions in all and the answers can be found within the pages of The Canadian Atlas Online.

Enter online at [www.canadiangeographic.ca/atlas/cc](http://www.canadiangeographic.ca/atlas/cc) and you'll automatically qualify for the Grand Prize sweepstakes — a trip for two to Québec. You'll spend four nights at the storied Château Frontenac, overlooking the St. Lawrence River in the heart of Old Québec and join the city's 400th anniversary festivities.

The Cross-Country Challenge closes on **January 31, 2008!**

## Right to Play Canadian School Program

*Right to Play* invites educators currently using the *Learning to Play. Playing to Learn* Canadian school program to its new web links page designed to enhance and supplement the material already

contained within its fun and informative, curriculum-based educational resource. Go to [righttoplay.com](http://righttoplay.com)

## CAPSLE Conference

The Canadian Association for the Practical Study of Law in Education 2008 conference will be held from April 20-22 in Halifax. Presenters and participants are invited to explore the theme of *Educational Leadership: The Law as Friend or Foe*. The conference will be of interest to all those interested in how law can affect leaders in education, including educators, lawyers, school board officials, board staff, faculty, students, parents and representatives of professional organizations, academia and government.

Presenters and participants will be invited to explore educational leadership and law by examining such concepts as:

- privacy rights
- freedom of expression
- special education
- school board governance
- occupational health and safety
- human rights
- student rights
- safety in schools; and how each of these affect the ability of various stakeholders to be the best possible educational leaders, for today, and tomorrow.

If you have any questions about the conference, please contact CAPSLE, Fax: (905) 873-0662  
E-mail: [info@capsle.ca](mailto:info@capsle.ca)  
[www.capsle.ca](http://www.capsle.ca)



New Brunswick Teachers' Association  
650 Montgomery Street,  
P.O. Box 752, Fredericton, NB  
E3B 5R6

Place Label Here

# Season's Greetings

from NBTA Credit Union

NBTA Credit Union would like to wish you and your family a safe and warm holiday season.

We would also like to remind you to not fall into the trap of unmanageable credit card debt this year. If your credit card debt is unmanageable, it is wise to use a Line of Credit to pay it off at a much more manageable rate of interest.

To get through the holiday season with fewer financial headaches, we're offering an opportunity to Skip-a-Payment in December and January - Contact NBTA Credit Union for details.

## Happy Holidays!



**CREDIT UNION**

**NBTA**

650 Montgomery St., P.O. Box 752, Fredericton, N.B. E3B 5R6  
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