

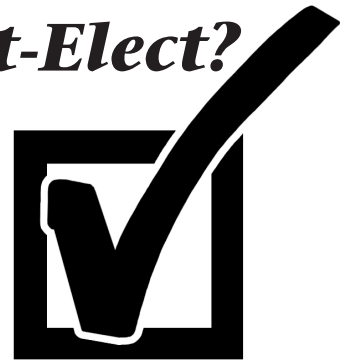


March 2018  
Election Supplement

NEW BRUNSWICK TEACHERS' ASSOCIATION

## *Who will be the next NBTA Vice-President/ President-Elect?*

**Inside:  
Candidates'  
Statements**



This spring will see candidates visiting as many schools and Branch/Rep Council meetings as possible, expressing their views and seeking input from teachers. Teachers and administrators should welcome candidates and take advantage of opportunities to discuss issues with them. We encourage teachers to access the NBTA website, which features contact information for all candidates and links to learn more about them.

**Candidate Information can be found at [www.nbta.ca](http://www.nbta.ca)**



**Rick Cuming  
Branch 1450**



**Wendy Peters  
Branch 1725**

**Voting for all members  
electronically at  
[www.nbta.ca](http://www.nbta.ca)**

**Monday, April 23 at 6:00 am -  
Friday, April 27 at 4:00 pm**

**On Back:**

**Voting Eligibility,  
Procedures and  
Confidentiality**



# Rick Cuming — Statement

[www.RickCuming.ca](http://www.RickCuming.ca)



**Rick Cuming**

How quickly a year passes! It doesn't seem that long ago that I was out visiting hard-working teachers in 173 schools across the province. During my campaign, and while serving as NBTA Vice-President this year, I had the opportunity to hear of the many challenges being faced by classroom teachers. I will use my **STRONG VOICE** to address these daily challenges: Violence, Inclusion, Funding, Stability, and Workload.

**Violence** – We know there are increasing numbers of teachers who are facing incidents of violence such as threats, harassment, intimidation, and physical injury on a daily basis. These acts are occurring with such frequency that violence in school is being normalized for a generation of learners and teachers. This is unacceptable.

**Teachers and students deserve a safe working and learning environment!**

**Inclusion** – This portfolio continues to be the number one priority of the association! We all recognize that the policy is woefully underfunded and inconsistently applied around the province, and therefore is failing to serve those that need the most support. While EECD has begun the work on clarification, much more work is needed! We need meaningful changes to address the classroom composition of extreme classes, to deliver on Alternative Sites for all levels, and increase classroom-based human resources and funding to meet the needs of all learners in the system!

**The INCLUSION POLICY and MODEL must be CHANGED to include continuous school-based support for teachers and students and Alternative Sites at all levels.**

**Classroom Funding** – This government claims to have invested more than any other in education. But, how much of this investment makes it to schools and classrooms? Teachers need to be *in classrooms working with students*, not just *available to schools*. Further, these investments should be targeted at making sure both French Immersion and English Prime classrooms are adequately resourced and ALL classrooms are staffed to ensure equity in their composition. Having previously worked as a District Lead, I recognize their value to the system. However, classrooms must be funded first.

**I will push to ensure that investments in Education are first directed to the classrooms, NOT to BULGING district offices.**

**Stability** – The government wants to make Education their main issue in the next election. I agree! The increases in teachers guaranteed in the last round of negotiations was a recognition that more school-based support is needed. Those increases once spread over all of the districts, did little to offset the reduction of teachers over the past 6 years. We need to return the hundreds of front-line professionals who are badly needed to strengthen and improve the stability of the system. The Integrated Service Delivery (ISD) model should not deplete the school-based front line supports children receive.

**A Ten-Year Plan needs to be made more concrete with predictable and increasing Ten-Year funding!**

**Workload** – EECD is increasingly obsessed with collecting and recording data, as evidenced by the K-2 Priority Unit. The collection of data is done by teachers and comes at a significant cost to us. Add to this our significant classroom composition issues, split classes, and the nearly endless paperwork, and we see an unreasonable impact on our work-life balance.

**I will continue to be the STRONG VOICE you need to defend the profession!**

It has been an honour serving you as your Vice-President this year, I am grateful for the confidence you have shown in me, and am hopeful that you will support me to be next year's Vice-President and the future President of NBTA.

## Contact Me:

Email: [Richard.Cuming@nbed.nb.ca](mailto:Richard.Cuming@nbed.nb.ca)

Email: [captfizzix@gmail.com](mailto:captfizzix@gmail.com)

Mobile: 506-481-0045

Twitter: @Capt\_Fizzix

THE INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS NOT NECESSARILY THE OFFICIAL POSITION OF NBTA

# Wendy Peters — Statement

*[www.wendypetersforNBTAVP.com](http://www.wendypetersforNBTAVP.com)*



**Wendy Peters**

I am honoured to have been nominated as a candidate for Vice-President/President-Elect for the second consecutive year. I have spent most of my career involved with the NBTA enjoying many opportunities to serve in leadership roles. Visiting schools and talking to teachers during my campaign last year was a highlight in my career. Although, I did not get to as many schools as I had hoped, I am looking forward to meeting many more of you this year.

Our profession is ever evolving and we need to anticipate and respond to the challenges we face. The following are some areas that I feel are priorities over the next few years.

## Behavioural and Mental Health Supports in the School

The ISD model is benefitting many schools by working with the highest needs children in our buildings. As it is a new program, in many areas, the reports of effectiveness vary from

location to location. Having qualified, full-time, Guidance Counsellors in each building can make a significant difference. Counsellors not only work with struggling students, they develop personalized and comprehensive school programs that are preventative in nature. Being in a school full-time would allow the counsellor to develop therapeutic relationships with students before they become a more serious behavioural issue. The current counsellor-to-student ratio is insufficient to meet the growing emotional and behavioural needs we are seeing every day in our classrooms. Counsellors are an important part of a well-functioning school. A positive learning and working environment is essential for students to do their very best. It is also an important step toward teacher wellness.

## Academic Supports in the Classroom

We all work in combined classrooms whether or not they are officially designated as such. Students have a variety of learning needs which we, as teachers, want to support on a daily basis. There is no denying that we value inclusion but it does bring challenges. While the coaching model from EST-Literacy and Numeracy helps us to improve our practice and grow as professionals, it does not provide us with more time or an extra set of hands to work directly with students. EA support is invaluable, and much needed; however, they are often allocated to students with behavioural issues while students struggling academically do not receive the

extra support they need and deserve. We need EST-Literacy and Numeracy in the schools on a consistent basis, experienced teachers that can work with small groups of students, long-term, to bring them to a point where they feel success. The 10-year plan states that literacy and numeracy are priorities. We must hold the government accountable by insisting on the human resources necessary to meet the needs of our students.

## Communication and Teamwork

I believe that the best way for us to move forward is to move as one collegial group. Whether we teach in a large urban high school or a small rural elementary school, we all have similar struggles and similar goals. We need to speak with one voice to deal with the issues that we face on a daily basis. This can only be achieved through consistent communication within our association, and with other stakeholders in Education.

While I cannot promise to know every issue facing teachers in every part of the province, I do promise to listen and to bring your concerns forward at every opportunity. The more we communicate and cooperate, the more we can accomplish. Please take some time to visit my Facebook page “Wendy Peters for NBTA VP” or my website [www.wendypetersforNBTAVP.com](http://www.wendypetersforNBTAVP.com). Feel free to send me any questions or concerns at:

[wendy.peters@nbed.nb.ca](mailto:wendy.peters@nbed.nb.ca) or  
[wpetern618@rogers.com](mailto:wpetern618@rogers.com)

# Voting will Take Place Electronically

## April 23-27, 2018

### at [www.nbta.ca](http://www.nbta.ca)

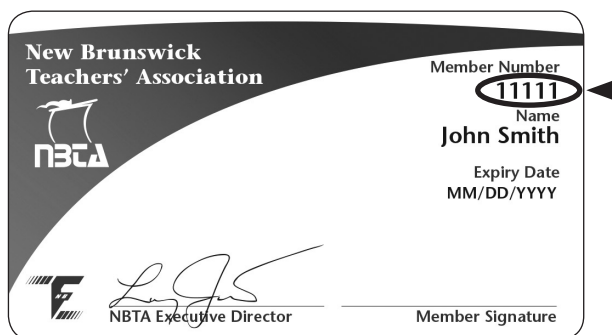
New Brunswick Teachers' Association  
 650 Montgomery Street  
 P.O. Box 752, Fredericton, NB  
 E3B 5R6

Place Label Here



**You will need your NBTA Member Number to vote. Please have it ready**

Your member number is located on the blue member card shown here:



### Who can Vote?

- NBTA Statutory (Contract) Members, including all those on maternity leave and any other teacher on leave who has paid at least 1 day of dues in the current school year.
  - NBTA Casual Members (certified supply teachers) who have (worked) paid dues at least one day during the current school year.
- \*Note:** Individuals must have appeared on a dues printout by April 15<sup>th</sup>.

### Who Cannot Vote?

- **Teachers who have not updated their electronic NBTA membership this school year cannot vote.** To register select "Registration" at [www.nbta.ca](http://www.nbta.ca) or contact [carlene.merrick@nbta.ca](mailto:carlene.merrick@nbta.ca).
- NBTA Statutory (Contract) Members on leave, other than those on maternity leave, who have PAID NO DUES to the Association during this school year.
- All Substitute Teachers on Local Permits.

### How to Vote?

- Go to the website at [www.nbta.ca](http://www.nbta.ca)
- Click the Election 2018 icon.
- Click to: Learn More Information about the Candidates OR Proceed to the Voting Process.
- If you proceed to vote, enter your NBTA member # and your birthdate.
- Confirm your identity.
- Choose a candidate.
- Confirm your vote.
- A screen will tell you that your vote has been submitted.

\*The process, although explained in detail, should take less than two minutes to complete.

\*\*Once a teacher has voted, their member # will be blocked out and they will be unable to vote again. However, a teacher can quit the voting process at any point prior to the "CAST YOUR VOTE" Step and start again at any point during voting week.

### Confidentiality of the Vote

All administration of the voting occurs off-site through an external service provider.

NO individual has access to the individual votes.

During voting week, the NBTA Executive Director will receive updates on the percentage of the membership that has voted, BUT no access to the amount of votes for each candidate.

### Release of Voting Results

After 4pm on Friday, April 27, NBTA Executive Director Larry Jamieson will be informed by the off-site administrator of the vote totals. Mr. Jamieson will then inform the candidates of the results. As soon as the candidates have been informed, an e-mail of the results will be sent to NBTA Branch Presidents and Directors for distribution to the membership through School Reps. An announcement will also be placed on the NBTA website at [www.nbta.ca](http://www.nbta.ca). Election results by branch will be published in the June issue of the *NBTA News*.

