

# NBTA News Release

## **For Immediate Release – Teachers Voice their Perceptions on Immersion Changes**

FREDERICTON (NBTA)— The message sent by NBTA to the membership on Monday, January 23, 2023, was in response to many inquiries from teachers uncertain about what they could and could not say during public consultations and was intended to empower teachers.

Those teachers that have already spoken at the EECD's consultations held to date provide an excellent example of how to share perspectives professionally and respectfully while being mindful to not speak to any specifics about individual students or families.

The Association reminds teachers that EECD's public consultation will occur at the Delta Fredericton at 6:30 pm this evening and that registrations are open for the virtual consultations next week. NBTA encourages teachers to continue to bring their critical voices to the sessions.

A recent poll of the membership indicates that 65% of teacher respondents stated 'dismayed' best describes their professional view on the Innovative Immersion Program. Nearly 9 out of 10 teachers do not believe the EECD is keeping them well informed about the changes. Survey comments suggest teachers are dismayed for different reasons.

"Teachers' comments in the poll also illustrate that the government's proposed Innovative Immersion Program is ignoring the findings of its own studies which state that the Inclusion model is not properly resourced, and more support is required in each school to respond to the diverse needs of students," stated Connie Keating, President of the New Brunswick Teachers' Association.

*The New Brunswick Teachers' Association is the respected collective of its members and works in collaboration with public education stakeholders to advocate for the teaching profession, influence public policy, and offer opportunities for professional growth.*

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