



# October News and Updates

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With the start of another school year Northside-Victoria Local Executive, and school representatives have been chosen and are already working for you and planning for the upcoming year.

•**Rep Retreat:** The school representatives, and executive members will be attending a Rep Retreat on the weekend of November 16-17th. This retreat, held at the Holiday Inn in Sydney, will include sessions on PD, Insurance, and member benefits. If you have any questions about such items, your reps will have more information after this event.

•**PDFC:** The Professional Development Fund committee usually meets on the 2nd Friday of each month. All applications (Career development, Educational Leaves, Peer Visitation etc.) must be completed and received before the monthly meeting prior to the event. Applications are available online from the CBVRSB website under Programs and Student services. The committee will meet on:

|                           |                           |
|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Friday, October 12, 2012  | Friday, November 16, 2012 |
| Friday, December 14, 2012 | Friday, January 11, 2013  |
| Friday, February 15, 2013 | Friday, March 8, 2013     |
| Friday, April 12, 2013    | Friday, May 10, 2013      |
| Friday, June 14, 2013     |                           |

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## Condolences from the Northside –Victoria Local

The local wished to express deepest sympathies to:

Mike Carrigan on the passing of his mother

Claudette Cordeau, and Ann Cordeau –Lavery on the passing of their mother

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## What's Your Reality ?

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The NSTU needs to know what is really happening in our classrooms today.

The Nova Scotia Government has taken \$65 million out of education in Nova Scotia over the past two years resulting in the loss of 700 teaching positions and programs. The NSTU needs to hear what your reality is so they can let Government know that the reduction in funding for education in Nova Scotia **IS** having a real impact in our classrooms and schools.

To complete an online form or download a PDF form go online to [www.nstu.ca](http://www.nstu.ca), select the communications page, and click on "My Reality."

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### Professional Association Conference

Friday October 26th is conference day, however the **deadline** for registrations is **October 12th**. There is no on-site registration this year. All registrations must either be online or mail-in.

Conference details for all Associations can be found online at the NSTU website. Check the Professional Development page at [www.nstu.ca](http://www.nstu.ca). There you will find a link to conference registration for each professional association.

### Credit Courses !!!!

Just a friendly reminder that the deadline for credit courses is **October 15, 2012**. The credit course binder must be signed and all transcripts must be in on or before the 15<sup>th</sup>.

**Please note: No late applications will be accepted.** Binders are located at Central Office, Northside Staff Development Center and Cabot High.

Please make sure your full name and mailing address is included on your transcript.

## NSTU NORTHSIDE-VICTORIA LOCAL

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## Notes from the President

On behalf of the Northside Victoria Local of the NSTU I would like to welcome all members back for the 2012-2013 school year. It is my sincere hope that your summer was a time for rest and relaxation and that you are ready to face the challenges and opportunities that you will experience this school year.

For there will be many challenges and opportunities this year. The cutbacks imposed on the education system by the NDP Government have had deep impacts. Class sizes are larger. Support for students has been reduced. Teaching loads have been increased. These challenges will force all our members to use their skills and training to continue to meet the needs of the students.

There will also be opportunities that we may avail ourselves of during this school year. Excellent Professional Development opportunities will be offered to help members enhance their teaching techniques. Opportunities also exist for mentoring to help our members learn from each other during these challenging times. I would like to encourage all members to consider using the Professional Development Funds that are available to help meet the increased demands that we currently see in our profession.

There will also be opportunities for you to become involved in generating solutions for some of the current difficulties we face. The NSTU is always in dialogue with both the Department of Education and the School Board to find ways to improve teaching and learning. Please consider coming to a Local general meeting, joining a local committee, or offering to serve on a Provincial NSTU committee. Your input and ideas are a valuable commodity and I would ask you to consider sharing with your colleagues to improve the school environment for all.

I have been very proud to represent the Northside Victoria Local as your President for the past three years. This will be my final year as the Local President and I sincerely hope that it will be the best year to date. If you require any information or assistance, please feel free to contact me by email : [pdmurphy@nstu.ca](mailto:pdmurphy@nstu.ca) or by telephone : 578-0303.

Yours in Union,  
Peter Murphy

## Northside-Victoria Local Executive 2012-13

|    | Position                       | Name                | School # | E-mail                     |
|----|--------------------------------|---------------------|----------|----------------------------|
| 1  | President                      | Peter Murphy        | 794-2492 | pdmurphy@nstu.ca           |
| 2  | Treasurer                      | Chris MacInnis      | 736-6233 | chrismac@staff.ednet.ns.ca |
| 3  | Secretary                      | Charmaine MacDonald | 736-6233 | ecmacdonald@nstu.ca        |
| 4  | VP Communication               | Chris Nicholson     | 736-6233 | nicholc7@staff.ednet.ns.ca |
| 5  | VP Social                      | Susan Spurrell      | 736-8140 | msspurrell@nstu.ca         |
| 6  | VP Economic Welfare            | Milton Bonnar       | 736-6233 | mhbonnar@nstu.ca           |
| 7  | VP Public Affairs              | Chad Hanrahan       | 736-8549 | hanrac@staff.ednet.ns.ca   |
| 8  | VP Professional Development    | Darlene Bereta      | 736-6273 | dybereta@nstu.ca           |
| 9  | Provincial Executive Member    | Jacinta Gracie      | 736-6233 | jmgracie@nstu.ca           |
| 10 | Member-at-Large Memorial       | Paul Bowne          | 736-6233 | leafpack@ns.sympatico.ca   |
| 11 | Member-at-Large North Sydney   | Garland Standing    | 794-2419 | gwstanding@nstu.ca         |
| 12 | Member-at-Large Sydney Mines   |                     |          |                            |
| 13 | Member-at-Large CB County      | Charles Yorke       | 736-6273 | yorkec1@staff.ednet.ns.ca  |
| 14 | Member-at-Large Victoria North | Mike Dunphy         | 336-2266 | mwdunphy@nstu.ca           |
| 15 | Member-at-Large Victoria South | Kim Dunning         | 295-2359 | kimd@staff.ednet.ns.ca     |