

**Professional Development Committee
Year End Report 2007-2008**

Mandate

The mandate of the Professional Development Committee is:

- to support and develop strategies and programs to promote professional development for the membership of the Nova Scotia Teachers Union at the individual, school, Local and provincial levels
- to provide advice to the Provincial Executive on matters relating to professional development and in-service education
- to monitor the professional development needs of the membership
- to liaise with the Local Professional Development Committees
- to meet annually to identify themes and topics for future issues of Aviso
 - to set editorial policy
 - to set advertising policy
 - to evaluate issues of Aviso
- to make recommendations with regard to future directions for the publication; and to prepare recommendations for the Provincial Executive
- to consider such resolutions as may be referred by Annual Council and make appropriate recommendations
- to participate as required in the NSTU Policy Review Process by providing recommendations for the Provincial Executive's consideration.

Activities of the PD Committee include:

- Administering the NSTU Summer Travel Fellowship Grant Program
- Administering the NSTU Educational Research Award Program
- Supporting and assisting Local PD Committees
- Offering professional development opportunities, in cooperation with Local PD Committees, to enhance skills at the Local PD Committee level
- recommending policy to the Provincial Executive on matters relating to the professional development needs of the membership

The NSTU Professional Development Committee for the 2007-2008 school year was comprised of the following members:

Lloyd Boutilier, Chair – Kings Local
Joan MacIsaac – Guysborough Local
Tony Kelly – Digby Local
Sheri Scott – Halifax County Local
Amanda Marchard – Antigonish Local
Cynthia MacKinnon – Pictou Local
Susan Noiles (Provincial Executive) – Halifax County
Danny Eddy, Staff Liaison
Betty-Jean Aucoin, Staff Liaison as of March 15, 2008

Meeting Dates

The Professional Development Committee met on the following dates during the 2007-2008 school year:

5 October 2007
11 January 2008
2 May 2008

The activities of this year's Professional Development Committee included the following:

- The committee organized and facilitated a very successful annual PD Conference on 2 – 3 November 2007. This conference, which is held on the first Friday evening and Saturday morning in November, was attended by over 40 teachers. The Friday evening keynote was presented by Jennifer Finlayson, NSTU Early Intervention Officer entitled “Exploring Teacher Wellness” and Saturday morning also included a presentation by Jennifer Finlayson entitled “Time/Stress Management” followed by six professional development bell ringer sessions which were entertaining and informative.
- The committee vetted applications for Summer Travel Fellowships, Education Research Awards, Out-Of-Province Conference Grants, and Full-time Study Grants.
- The committee reviewed existing policies as required under Policy Review Procedures.
- Committee met as the AVISO Editorial Advisory Board. The committee provided feedback on recent issues and selected themes and features for the 2008-09 year.
- The committee initiated the planning for the Annual Professional Development Conference to be held on 7 and 8 November, 2008 at the Delta Halifax.
- The committee reviewed Annual Council 2008 Professional Development Resolutions and made recommendations to Council on two of these resolutions.
- The budget for the committee was \$7,245.00. The actual cost of the committee's business was \$2,781.10.

As outgoing chair, I wish to thank all of the committee members for their commitment of time and their energy and expertise.

Respectfully Submitted,

Lloyd Boutilier, Chair
Professional Development Committee