

# NBTA News



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New Brunswick Teachers' Association

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### Summer Hours

For the period June 25, 2007 to August 24, 2007 inclusive, summer office hours will be in effect as follows:

Monday to Thursday  
8:30 am - 4:00 pm  
Friday  
8:30 am - 12:30 pm



## — Our Editor Retires —

**J**im Dysart, NBTA's Director of Communications and Research, will retire at the end of June following thirty-six years of service to this Association. Jim joined his Branch NBTA Executive in his first year of teaching in 1971, and has been a dedicated member, local president, director, provincial president, and for the last eighteen years, member of staff.



Jim Dysart

Over his eighteen years on staff with NBTA, Jim has distinguished himself as an articulate and knowledgeable advocate for, and servant of teachers. Jim has edited this newsletter, conducted research on education finances, maintained close relationships with many in the media, and has been largely responsible for NBTA's more efficient use of technology over the last few years.

However, it is Jim's unparalleled ability to calmly advise and work with teachers in complex, stressful situations which will be much more difficult to replace. Jim has an uncanny ability to take a highly-charged situation and ensure that discussions remain professional and constructive. He has been responsible for the application of, and hearings related to, the Code of Professional Conduct for the past twelve years and has done an outstanding job of giving life to the Code through his presentations to hundreds of teachers.

We take this opportunity to thank Jim, on behalf of all members, for his untiring and exemplary work for the Association and to wish him well in his retirement.

## Taking Care of Business — NBTA AGM Delegates Had Full Schedule

**O**ver 130 Delegates and Directors to the NBTA Annual General Meeting had a full schedule of business and related events as they met in Fredericton, May 25 and 26, 2007. In addition to the business meeting itself, participants also attended the NBTA Annual

Dinner, as well as the provincial Retiring Teachers' Luncheon. Both social events were venues for presentation of several prestigious awards, including the NBTA Centennial Award, the Aliant Award for Excellence in Teaching, the Vince Sunderland Memorial Award



(l-r) John Kershaw, Deputy Minister of Education; Bob Fitzpatrick, NBTA Executive Director and Kelly Lamrock, Minister of Education



(l-r) Erna Leger, NBTA Executive Secretary; Bob Fitzpatrick, NBTA Executive Director and Indu Varma, NBTA President

for Outstanding Educational Leadership, an NBTA Special Recognition Award, and four Honorary Life Memberships. *(Please see additional articles in this newsletter).*

#### **Branch Resolutions Debated**

Delegates discussed a total of 32 branch resolutions on topics ranging from student use of personal electronic devices in schools to the need for continued improvement in the number of teachers and other human and financial resources to meet the ever-increasing divergent needs of the students in New

Brunswick schools.

Delegates passed a resolution to lobby the Department of Education to develop a clear and restrictive policy regarding student use of personal electronic devices in schools. Issues such as right to privacy of teachers and other students, potential misuse of communication devices during exams, and the possibility of participation in cyber-bullying were among the concerns expressed by delegates.

The issues surrounding classroom composition and discipline continue

to be a priority for teachers.

Resolutions included a call for the establishment of alternative learning placements as an option for students continually disregarding the importance of having a safe and positive learning environment in the classroom for all students.

#### **Minister Addresses Delegates**

New Brunswick Education Minister, Kelly Lamrock, participated in an hour-long, closed-door session with the delegates, outlining his views on various aspects of

*(... continued on page 4)*

## **Class Composition Grant → Applications ←**

Application forms for  
**Class Composition Grants**  
will be available  
as of **October 1, 2007** on the  
NBTA website, **www.nbta.ca**.  
Only applications completed on this  
form will be accepted.

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Indu Varma

**T**he new dawn begins with you. If New Brunswick is to have the best education system in Canada, the creation of this system starts with teachers. As teachers we are passionate about teaching and strive to do our best. When we strive to do our best, we make miracles happen, as stated above.

Along with doing our best, we must also demand the best from our students, the school system, our Department of Education, our politicians, and our own institutions - NBTA and NBTF. It is only when each gives his/her own personal best, putting our children first, that we can create the best Canadian education system in New Brunswick.

Our challenges are numerous and varied. Among the top are: class composition, inadequate funding and resources, overwhelming number of curriculum outcomes, disruptive and at times violent student behavior, and standardized assessments that don't reflect diverse student needs.

We are fortunate to have a passionate and sincere Minister of Education in Hon. Kelly Lamrock. He ardently believes, just as we do, that children of our province must be not only his government's, but also everyone's priority. Our Premier, Hon. Shawn Graham, has also declared his commitment to our children by making education a key priority (one of the three Es) of his government. He acknowledges that our future largely rests on how we serve the present needs of our children, knowing fully well that education being the foundation of everything, will pave the way to self-sufficiency.

## Give Your Best and Demand the Best to Create the Best Education System

*"When we do the best that we can, we never know what miracle is wrought in our life, or in the life of another." — Helen Keller*

The positive news is that our governments have been listening and have been making a genuine effort to address our children's dire needs. Last year major class size reductions of a minimum of four over four years were announced beginning in September 2006. The Minister's Excellence in Teaching Awards were instituted. Every teacher in the province was given a laptop computer, two curriculum delivery days were reinstated in the school calendar, along with five million dollars allocated for implementing the MacKay Report recommendations. This year education has received a 5.7% increase (one of the largest in years) in the operating budget - 283 additional teachers, \$10 million for implementing the MacKay Report recommendations, and \$1.2 million for training of resource teachers and autism support workers.

While the above shows that our governments have begun to address the needs of our children by beginning to close the funding gap and finally starting to provide the much-needed resources, we are still a long way from where we ought to be. We remain the second lowest in Canada in per pupil operating funds according to the latest Statistics Canada figures (2003-04). To catch up to the Canadian average, we needed an additional \$105 million and an additional \$50 million to catch up to the Atlantic average. This continued funding deficit has taken its toll on our children. It must be addressed in order to create the best education system.

Creating the best education system will require a blue print that ventures to think outside the box and aims to transform the system by empowering and supporting teachers, while engaging all stakeholders to be on board with education. We must be given the professional autonomy, be freed up to teach, to engage in innovative and creative teaching and learning endeavors in an effort to

energize, challenge, and motivate our students to attain their personal best. Our best efforts must also be supported with adequate financial, material, and human resources.

Fortunately, Hon. Kelly Lamrock wants to do just that. His government's new education plan has measures in place to support creative and innovative teaching practices to improve student learning. Timely and effective interventions at all levels, coupled with adequate classroom resources, experiential learning approach, hands-on courses such as elementary Art, Music, Phys Ed. and vocational courses, will all help us address class composition-related issues.

Effective implementation of the new education plan will also require concrete measures, policies, and procedures in place to ensure a safe, positive, productive and caring learning and working environment for all.

On a personal note, after 35 years of continuous teaching in New Brunswick at the elementary, middle and high school levels, and two years as NBTA President, it is now time for me to say farewell to the teaching profession. I am proud to be a teacher. I am equally proud of your teaching efforts through which you touch lives profoundly, and shape our collective future.

My two-year term as NBTA President is quickly coming to an end. Much has been accomplished, and more remains to be done as you gear up to create the best education system in New Brunswick this fall. Continue demanding excellence, first of yourself, and then relentlessly from all quarters.

**With grateful thanks for the opportunity to serve you and the children of our province!**

**Our children are worth it!**

(... continued from page 2)

education, and responding to questions raised by delegates from throughout the province. It was noted that the recent provincial budget included an increase of 5.7% for the Department of Education Ordinary Account, the most significant operating increase in several years. The Minister also discussed the imminent release of his Education Plan in which he hopes to set the stage for continued improvement of support for programs and practices to address many of the issues facing teachers and their students in the system.

### **NBTA Budget**

Delegates accepted the NBTA Budget for 2007-2008 as distributed to teachers. The dues will remain at the current level for next year, due in part to the careful overview of expenditures, and in part to the increasing number of teachers in the system.



### **Retiring Teachers' Luncheon**

A highlight of the Annual Meeting activities is the provincial Retiring Teachers' Luncheon. This year, approximately 140 of NBTA's 205 retiring teachers and their guests were honoured at the event.

### **Post AGM Board of Directors' Meeting**

Following the AGM, the 2007-2008 Board of Directors met briefly to elect an Executive Committee for the coming year.

*(...see the following page)*

## **Blake Robichaud Named NBTA Director of Communications and Research**

**B**lake Robichaud, Vice-Principal of Alexander Gibson Memorial School in Fredericton, has been appointed to the position of Director of Communications and Research of the New Brunswick Teachers' Association.

Blake brings a wealth of experience to the position, from the media and public relations perspective, as well as the organizational and educational leadership perspective.

A graduate of Mount Allison University (B.A. Honors, B.Ed.) and the University of New Brunswick (M.Ed.), Blake began his career as a Radio News Journalist in Moncton, working at CKCW-CFQM for a period of six years. He also served for six years as a Public Affairs Officer



**Blake Robichaud**

for the Canadian Forces Reserves. His teaching career has spanned

sixteen years, having taught Media Studies and Journalism at the high school level for eleven years, followed by five years in his current position as Vice-Principal.

In addition to his media, teaching, and educational experiences, Blake has a strong background in the NBTA as a representative for two different branches during his career. He has served a total of nine years on the Board of Directors, three years on the NBTA Executive Committee, and one year on the NBTF Executive Committee. He has also served in other capacities, locally and provincially.

Blake takes up his duties as NBTA Director of Communications and Research August 1, 2007.

# — The Last Word —

By Jim Dysart, Director of Communications and Research

**W**ho would have predicted, in the summer of '69, when I was asked by my high school Vice-Principal if I wanted to teach Physics for a year, that it would lead to the career with which I have been blessed. You see, I had just graduated from university with a Bachelor of Science degree. I had no particular plans. In those days, you didn't really worry about finding a job; there would be lots of options. I had never even considered teaching until I got that phone call. I met with the Principal, took a few summer courses, and the rest, as they say, is history. One year led to another, and then another.

In my second year of teaching, the local Branch President approached me to offer for a position on the local executive. I agreed, and found myself elected to the position of Branch President. Two individuals, with a few words of encouragement at the right moment, set me on a journey of a lifetime.

Throughout my career as a teacher and teacher advocate, I have had the opportunity to work with, and for, thousands of teachers and others in education, including parents who are dedicated to creating a better society in New Brunswick through the education of our youth. There have been numerous battles regarding philosophies, priorities, programs, and even politics, but the one constant has been the commitment to improve the service we provide to students, to improve their quality of life and that of their families.

I worked in a school environment where a teacher's opinion was important, new ideas were encouraged, and everyone was considered a valuable contributing member of the school team, committed to high standards of service to students.

That same team approach also greeted me as I served as President of NBTA and then as an NBTA staff member, with elected teacher representatives and the staff

committed to the high standards of service to teachers.

I have been honoured to work

with many icons in the development of the education system in New Brunswick. I have served under ten NBTA Presidents, with ten AEFNB Presidents, and hundreds of

teacher volunteers on boards and on committees. I have worked with four Premiers, countless Ministers and MLAs; community, parent and student representatives, and talented staff members of teacher organizations across Canada, NBTF and AEFNB, the Group Insurance folks, the NBTA Credit Union and, of course, the NBTA.

I have been very fortunate to have strong and unwavering support from my family, my colleagues, and my friends.

It has been an honour and a privilege to be able to serve the students and the teachers of this province in so many different ways. If I have made any difference, it is because of the support and professionally tactful constructive criticism of people with whom I worked.

I have learned much more than I have ever taught, most of that from those I was

teaching. I have had my 15 minutes of fame many times over — sometimes in public, often in

private. I have had the pleasure to work with some of the greatest education leaders in Canada — all here in New Brunswick — and all the time blessed with a supportive family (who basically have lived the NBTA

experience with me) and colleagues I am proud to call friends. You are too numerous to mention, and you know that even writing these thoughts brings tears to my eyes.

I shall miss you all!

Now I have more time for my family — Donna, Stephanie, Adriaan, Kevin, Lucas, Melissa, and Harold.

Thank you!

*“...but the one constant has been the commitment to improve the service we provide to students, to improve their quality of life and that of their families.”*

# WELCOME NEW TEACHERS!

**Mark  
Your  
Calendars!**



**Saturday,  
September 29, 2007**



**NBTF Building  
650 Montgomery Street  
Fredericton, NB**

# NBTA Board Elects 2007-2008 Executive

Six members of the NBTA Board of Directors were elected to join the table officers — President Brent Shaw, and Vice-President Noreen Bonnell in forming the 2007-2008 NBTA Executive Committee. Returning to the Executive are Grant Hendry - Branch 1608 and Paul-Émile Mallet - Branch 0215. Newly elected are Dawn Beckingham Noel - Branch 1536, Jill Beaulieu - Branch 0618, Wayne Coburn - Branch 1827. Heather Smith was elected to the position of Acting Past President in a special election to replace Indu Varma on her retirement.



Grant  
Hendry



Paul-Émile  
Mallet



Dawn  
Beckingham-Noël



Jill  
Beaulieu



Wayne  
Coburn



Heather  
Smith

## Outgoing NBTA Board Members

The NBTA wishes to recognize the contribution of members of the Board of Directors who are completing their term. These individuals have volunteered many hours of their time representing teachers in their branches at meetings in Fredericton and locally. We thank them for their commitment to service in their professional organization.



Emily  
Daigle



Brian  
Greig



Ivan  
Keirstead



Blake  
Robichaud

### → “Tomorrow’s Leaders” Conference ←

- **Interested in finding out more about your professional organization?**
- **Curious about how you can contribute to the decision-making process?**

If you haven’t been involved with NBTA, or have recently developed an interest in becoming involved, we extend an invitation to TLC, August 13-15 in Fredericton. Each Branch will be looking for teachers to attend the conference. Please contact your Branch Director or Branch President to submit your name. It promises to be fun and informative and will provide attendees with TLC.

# 2007 Centennial Award Recipient

## — Penny Matthews —

*“...we were young, confused, and unmolded minds with complex personalities and a need for acceptance. When other teachers saw mischief and immaturity, she saw creativity and uncertainty in need of guidance.”*

The NBTA Centennial Award is the highest honour bestowed by the New Brunswick Teachers' Association. Established in Canada's Centennial Year 1967, the Award is presented each year to an individual in recognition of having made a significant contribution to education in New Brunswick.

“If the intention of this award,” writes one supporter, “is to honour a teacher who exemplifies the finest possible mix of old-school professionalism and knowledge, with the infusion of modern practices, you have found your person.”

Another supporting letter states the recipient “has the human touch — the vital element for the growing plant and for the soul of a child.” Yet another ascribes the personal attributes of tolerance, acceptance, compassion, and empathy to our recipient — traits she models in her own teaching, allowing her students to embrace them as their own.

The recipient of the 2007 NBTA Centennial Award is Miramichi English teacher, Penny Matthews.

Penny teaches at James M. Hill Memorial High School, having taught most of her career in the Chatham area at the middle and high school levels.

Ms. Matthews' unofficial motto, “Everyone is different. No one is the same” is the basis for her approach to teaching, using many creative ways to reach her students. She jokes that she has always used differentiated instruction, but simply called it “letting them do what they are good at!”

Students are provided with opportunities to be creative, to approach the learning process with the reassurance that Ms. Matthews

respects each student as a unique person, an important contributor to the class. She allows each student to showcase his/her strengths, rather than forcing all students to fit the “one-method-fits-all-English-students” mold.

A school administrator reflects on why Ms. Matthews has so much success in meeting the specific



**NBTA President Indu Varma presents the 2007 NBTA Centennial Award to Penny Matthews.**

*(Photo by Harry Mullin)*

learning styles of her students. “Regardless of the students Ms. Matthews encounters, they come away from her class not only with very competent literacy skills, but with a love for literature and the English language as well. The most dominant factors that characterize Ms. Matthews are her caring, her compassion, and above all, her understanding of teenagers. She is very astute at meeting and dealing with students at their level, while at the same time maintaining an

exemplary level of professionalism.”

A former student, now a teacher, agrees. “One of the first things I remember about being one of Penny's students is that she talked to us like we were actual people. To her we weren't names on an attendance sheet, or numbers on a report card; we were young, confused, and unmolded minds with complex personalities and a need for acceptance. When other teachers saw mischief and immaturity, she saw creativity and uncertainty in need of guidance.”

Another student reminisces about the impact of his first day in Ms. Matthews' English class. “I really felt as if I were in a warm environment. I can remember Ms. Matthews entering the classroom and introducing herself. But then she sat on a desk and told us how much she loved her job and loved seeing all the students having a great time while learning, and that's what she was there for ... This first day of class will go down in my books as one of the most memorable “Penny moments” that I can recall.”

There have been many “Penny moments” for hundreds of students, as well as numerous colleagues throughout her career.

Whether using the music of Pearl Jam or the lyrics of Dylan to explore the power of language; using the most recent technology to create interesting and motivating learning experiences; arranging variety shows to showcase talents often ignored in day-to-day classes; or providing a guiding and encouraging comment to a new teacher, Penny Matthews has instilled a sense of pride, self-worth, and confidence in all those blessed with the opportunity to experience her compassion,

professionalism, and friendship.

But perhaps the most touching example of the respect her students and their parents hold for Penny Matthews is the faith and trust they place in her at times of personal stress or crisis. Several years ago,

when a student's mother was terminally ill, the student often dropped by Penny's class to talk. Finally, just before her death, the mother called Penny and asked her to continue to be there as a support for her son. Both the student and

parent recognized something special in Penny Matthews.

The selection committee agrees. There certainly is something very special about Penny Matthews. She is a most worthy recipient of the NBTA Centennial Award.

## **Aliant Award for Excellence in Teaching 2007 — Peter McLaughlin —**

Each year the Aliant Award for Excellence in Teaching is presented to a deserving NBTA member perceived by peers and the community as a teacher who exhibits excellence through ongoing commitment to students and the profession.

"Boundless energy", "tireless work ethic", "positive attitude", "tremendous impact on students, families and community", "always giving to the community"... These are but a few of the accolades used to describe the professionalism, enthusiasm, dedication, and commitment of this year's Aliant Award recipient, to students, schools, and community.

Described as a real people person, our recipient recognizes the importance of a whole life experience that includes the Arts for everyone, regardless of a social status. Our recipient is a master at creating opportunities for students and the community to access a wide variety of artistic experiences.

This year's recipient of the Aliant Award for Excellence in teaching is 'The Music Man of the Valley', Carleton North High School teacher, Peter McLaughlin.

Peter McLaughlin dedicates his professional and personal life to the enhancement of the Arts experience for his students, their parents, students throughout the province,



**Ron Forsythe, regional manager of Aliant in Fredericton, presents Peter McLaughlin with the Aliant Award for Excellence in Teaching.**

*(Photo by Harry Mullin)*

and the community at large. Whether in the classroom or Music Room providing encouragement to budding band members, on stage directing one of several bands, ensembles, and choirs he conducts, or on the phone organizing field trips for his students or booking talent for community concerts, Peter has put the Upper River Valley area on the provincial Arts map.

Numerous writers, supporting the nomination, reference the impact Peter has had on their lives through his genuine interest in individuals, his inclusive approach, his encouragement, and his "giving attitude". He strives for excellence, creates an environment for all to succeed, and uses only positive reinforcement, never negative

criticism. He finds ways to allow maximum participation, ensuring students have the opportunity to become important contributors to his programs, while maintaining other interests such as sports or other activities. Peter reduces all barriers to participation.

One contributor reflects on her first encounter with Mr. McLaughlin as an elementary student, watching him conduct a band concert at the high school. "Some memories are skewed by childhood perception and realizations that come with age, but... one has remained an accurate portrayal of an

enthusiastic Mr. M., a man passionate about music and the Arts, and excited to do something about it." Now a teacher and colleague, the writer continues, "He understands that music is an avenue through which to engage students who might not otherwise find their place in school or class. Further", she concludes, "as a new and very young teacher, he made me feel important and supported, and is definitely the main reason for my success with the music program."

Another former student, also now a music teacher, comments about the impact of participation in Peter's music program on her life. "He found unique ways to motivate and inspire us to reach our full potential. Because we lived in a very small



community, he promoted the exploration of the world around us by organizing annual trips for the band and choir.... My dream to move to Montreal and to attend McGill University was born during one of Peter's trips."

But the Arts experience of that "very small community" has also been enhanced in other ways. Peter not only takes his students on life enriching field trip experiences, he dedicates much of his personal time to bringing enriching Arts experiences to the community. Through his efforts personally, as well as through his leadership in the Carleton-Victoria Arts Council, members of the community have been afforded numerous opportunities to experience professional level performances and presentations.

Indeed, through his enthusiasm,

hard work, vision, personal commitment to his profession and his community, Peter continues to provide enriching Arts experiences

***"He strives for excellence, creates an environment for all to succeed, and uses only positive reinforcement, never negative criticism."***

to generations of people. • Whether a young child in an elementary classroom seeing a live band performance for the first time; • a hesitant music student feeling the nurturing encouragement of Mr. M., sensitive to all the pressures on youth today; • a proud parent

attending a school concert, or perhaps performing as a member of the "Tuesday Night Singers"; • a young teacher empowered by the confidence gained from having Peter as a former teacher and/or a mentor: • or all the students and their communities impacted by those protégés, Peter's vision and enthusiasm continues to spread.

A colleague, when first hired by the district a number of years ago, received some advice from the Fine Arts Supervisor in the Department of Education. The Supervisor said, "You will have to meet Peter McLaughlin. He's amazing!"

That statement was made seventeen years ago, and the selection committee recognizes that it is still true today. Peter McLaughlin is "amazing", and a most worthy recipient of the Aliant Award for Excellence in Teaching.

## **Vince Sunderland Memorial Award for Outstanding Educational Leadership 2007**

### **— Barbara Corbett —**

The Vince Sunderland Memorial Award for Outstanding Educational Leadership, established in 2006 and sponsored by the Department of Education, is presented each year to honour an NBTA member who is a principal or vice-principal, or to honour an in-school administrative team who demonstrates the qualities of a successful educational leader and fosters a positive school climate. The Award is named in memory of Vince Sunderland, a Vice-Principal at Riverview High School and the first recipient. Vince embodied all of the characteristics recognized by this Award. He was well-liked and highly-respected by all those who had the good fortune to know him.



(l-r) Vince Sunderland's wife, Jane; award recipient, Barbara Corbett; Vince's daughter, Kelly; and Deputy Minister of Education, John Kershaw  
(Photo by Harry Mullin)

"Her energy is endless; her enthusiasm is contagious; her contributions to her profession are countless. She fosters excellence and

promotes high standards." These are the words used to describe this year's recipient of the Vince Sunderland Memorial Award for Outstanding Educational Leadership for 2007.

Stuart McLean often quotes the motto of Dave's Record Shop on CBC's Vinyl Café. The motto for this mythical establishment is, "We may not be big, but we are small".

The school that prospers under the educational leadership of our recipient has a similar but much less mythical motto. It is "Small School Working in a Big Way".

This year's recipient of the Vince Sunderland Memorial Award for Outstanding Educational Leadership is Keswick Ridge School principal and teacher, Barbara

***“Her energy is endless; her enthusiasm is contagious; her contributions to her profession are countless. She fosters excellence and promotes high standards.”***

Corbett...

Keswick Ridge School certainly does things in a big way. The small rural community school of approximately 200 students from Kindergarten to Grade 8 is continuously pushing the innovation envelope. The dedicated staff, under the mentoring guidance of Barb Corbett, continues to develop nationally acclaimed initiatives to ensure each child has every opportunity to reach his/her full potential in all areas of interest.

Based on a multi-aged classroom approach, the school has removed any superficial barriers to allowing each child to work at the appropriate skill level, always encouraged in a supportive environment.

Barb's skill as an effective communicator is often noted as a key attribute to her success as a principal.

A former student, in emphasizing the importance of Mrs. Corbett's role

in her own school life, writes: “She takes the time to get to know her students personally. When talking to her, you feel like you matter, rather than being just another student she has to deal with. When discipline is in order, she does her best to relate to the student, talk to him/her about the situation rather than assign a punishment and send the student off. She sets aside the time to work out the problem with the student.”

The theme of having time for people appears throughout the statements of support for the nomination. One teacher contributor notes: “Barb is a people person and always has time for everyone. One of her abilities is to make time for staff. No matter how busy she is, she takes time to listen. This has been very important to me as a teacher and it builds a strong, safe and positive working environment.

Through communication, Barb

provides encouragement for staff members to develop personally and professionally. New teachers feel validated as important contributors to the success of the school.”

Among the achievements of Keswick Ridge School achieved under the guiding hand of Barb Corbett are:

- The successful implementation of Multi-Age classrooms;
- The successful pilot of the provincial Health curriculum that included a controversial module on Sex Education;

- Numerous initiatives to support effective inclusionary practices, including substantial community partnerships to establish cooperative placement experiences;
- The development of the Keswick Ridge School Community Association, emphasizing education is a shared responsibility, and establishing the importance of the community to the school and vice versa.

In 2006, Keswick Ridge School was named by Today's Parent Magazine as one of the top thirty schools in Canada for Innovative Core programming, in recognition of the multi-aged approach used there.

Mrs. Corbett's knowledge and advice are also sought nationally. In 2006 she was selected to serve as a member of the Library of Parliament Teacher Advisory Committee.

Whether negotiating the staff requirements to preserve the effectiveness of multi-age instruction; helping new teachers find their way as they begin an exciting career; providing opportunities for the entire school to learn about the richness of native culture; providing in-service leadership in the school, or at the local, provincial or national levels; or assisting a child finding the way through a rough spot on the road to success, Barb Corbett epitomizes the values and attributes envisioned as indicators of outstanding educational leadership.

Just as every record in Dave's Record Shop is valued for its uniqueness and the qualities it brings to those who listen, so does every person with whom Barb comes in contact feel unique and valued as a contributor to a better society.

Keswick Ridge School truly is a “Small School Working in a Big Way”, and Barbara Corbett, the principal and educational leader in the school is, indeed, a worthy recipient of the 2007 Vince Sunderland Memorial Award for Outstanding Educational Leadership.

## Honorary Certificate



**Deputy Minister of Education, John Kershaw, presents the first Honorary Certificate to Branch 1610 retiring teacher Frank Allard.**

*(Photo by Harry Mullin)*

# NBTA Honorary Life Memberships Awarded

*The NBTA presents Honorary Life Memberships to past presidents of the Association retiring on pension and to any person deemed acceptable by the NBTA Board of Directors. This year four Life Memberships were conferred.*

## Brian Bawn

Brian Bawn served as the eighteenth full-time President of the NBTA from August 2003 to August 2005, a service he rendered with perseverance and professionalism.

He was the first president to have the dubious honour of dealing with a protracted and often vitriolic round of bargaining for virtually all his mandate.

Faced with a constant barrage of media requests throughout his two-year term as President, Brian represented the public image of teachers with a professional demeanour, even when constrained by the nature and sometimes nasty tone during negotiations. It was clear to media and public alike that Brian Bawn is a proud teacher, representing a proud and dedicated profession.

During his presidency, he stayed firmly rooted in the classroom through continued close contact with his staff at M. Gerald Teed School in Saint John where he is Vice-Principal.

Throughout his teaching career, Brian has been a tireless advocate for the rights of teachers to work in a supportive environment, and for the rights of students to have access to a well-resourced school system that reflects the needs of the whole child.

As a Physical Education specialist, he recognizes the importance of a balanced curriculum that includes not only the three R's, but also specialty programs such as Music, Art, Physical Education, and hands-on vocational arts.

The NBTA recognizes Brian's contribution to his profession by presenting him with an Honorary Life membership.

## Jim Dysart

NBTA's Director of Communications and Research will retire at the end of June.

Jim Dysart served as the ninth full-time President of NBTA from August 1985 to August 1987. During



(l-r) Nancy Roach, Jim Dysart, Ann Kennedy and Brian Bawn

*(Photo by Harry Mullin)*

his term as President, Jim led teachers through a very difficult round of bargaining which was characterized by a fairly lengthy work-to-rule campaign and a student march on the Legislature. Through it all, Jim was a calm and articulate spokesperson for teachers.

Over the span of his thirty-six years in education, Jim Dysart worked tirelessly and with distinction for students, his profession, and his community. Jim was an outstanding classroom teacher and school administrator for a period of 18 years. In addition, Jim's devotion to the NBTA began early. He served on his local teachers' executive in his first year in teaching, became the local President in his third year of teaching, and the rest is history.

Following a stint as Vice-President of the Canadian Teachers' Federation, Jim came on NBTA staff in 1989, and he has since garnered a reputation as a skillful and hard-working advocate for teachers. Ten NBTA Presidents have benefited from Jim's sage advice on a myriad of issues over the years and countless

teachers have sought his wise counsel.

With this Honorary Life Certificate, NBTA acknowledges with thanks Jim's hard work and tremendous dedication to education, to teachers, and to our Association over his long and distinguished career.

## Ann Kennedy

Over a career that spans 35 years, Ann Kennedy has contributed in numerous ways to the education system in New Brunswick — as a classroom teacher loved and respected by her pupils, an extremely successful school administrator, and for the last 10 years (until her retirement in December), as a teacher counselor and the Coordinator of the Teacher Counseling Program.

It takes a very special person to be able to assist teachers and their families when they are faced with difficult life situations. To have the patience, the wisdom, the assertiveness, and the compassion to deal with a myriad of circumstances requires a powerful inner strength, a total commitment to providing

services, and a strong personal belief system. It also requires a great deal of physical and emotional strength.

But Ann, along with the other counselors, recognized that a gram of prevention is worth a kilogram of cure (actually she isn't that metric!) As a result, the meeting rooms in the NBTF Building were often filled with hyperactivity, and just plain fun, as Ann, with a red clown nose or a purple feather boa, costume jewelry tiara, sometimes with magic wand in hand, entertained her wellness mentors to gales of laughter.

Many hundreds of teachers and thousands of students have benefited from Ann's dedication, professionalism, and guidance.

NBTA recognizes Ann's steadfast support to her profession and its members with the presentation of an Honorary Life Membership.

### **Nancy Roach**

After having spent over 25 years as a teacher, vice-principal, and principal in District 18, Nancy joined the NBTA staff as Director of Professional Development in 2000. She retired from that position in December 2006. Despite her relatively brief tenure in the PD position, Nancy established herself as a powerful advocate for the expansion of opportunities for teachers and administrators to pursue professional development and academic interests.

Her dynamic presentations on a wide range of professional topics became her trademark, but it was her tenacity, enthusiasm, and professional acumen that created an environment in which she could forge coalitions to meet the professional objectives of the

organization and its members. Most notable among her accomplishments were the development and recognition of a series of NBTA-sponsored Courses, the Skills for Administrators series, and an expansion of the Beginning Teachers' Induction Program.

Over one-third of our current membership would have participated in the Beginning Teachers' Induction Program while Nancy served as Director of PD. Add these young teachers to the many students who benefited from her guidance while she was at George Street, and the range of her influence may be understood.

NBTA expresses its gratitude to Nancy for the impact she has had on education in the province by presenting her with an Honorary Life Membership.

## **Special Recognition Award Presented to Home and School Organizer - Patricia Lee**

The NBTA Special Recognition Award symbolizes the appreciation of the Association for specific services given by individuals to education provincially, to the objectives of the Association, and to the service of teachers. This award is bestowed under the authority of the NBTA Board of Directors. It is only awarded in those circumstances where an individual has made an impact in some particular way on the lives of teachers and their students.

We are pleased to award an NBTA Special Recognition Award to Miramichi education advocate and Home and School organizer, Patricia Lee.

Patricia's school involvement has been extensive locally, provincially, and nationally.

Patricia began her "Home and



**NBTA President, Indu Varma; award recipient, Patricia Lee; and NBTA Executive Director, Bob Fitzpatrick.**

*(Photo by Harry Mullin)*

School Career" in 1992 when she helped form, and became President of, the first Home and School Association at Ian Baillie Primary School in Chatham. One year later, in 1993, she became President of the newly-formed District Council of

Home and Schools, which also made her a board member of the New Brunswick Federation of Home and School Associations Inc. (NBFHSAI).

At the local level, Patricia held many different executive positions at several Home and Schools, as her children moved on to different schools. She was the driving force behind many programs involving parents at the various schools, including Breakfast Programs, Hot Lunch Programs, Spring Flings, etc. She is a strong believer in educating parents and has brought many guest speakers to local meetings to speak on

such topics as Literacy, Math, and Safe Grad.

Patricia has served many years on both the District and Provincial Home and School executives.

She has traveled throughout the province assisting local Home and

School Associations in creating effective local organizations, recently developing a presentation titled "Seven Guiding Principles for an Effective Home & School".

As a provincial Home and School board member, she sat on several provincial committees, including the Provincial Curriculum Advisory Committee, which she joined in 1997, and has also chaired for the last eight years.

At the national level she was invited to sit on The Integration Network Project Committee and also helped organize the Canadian Symposium - The Unhurried Day: Learning and Caring Seamlessly - held in Toronto in 2005.

In 1996, when School Boards were replaced with a new governance system of School Parent Advisory Committees (SPAC) and District Parent Advisory Committees (DPAC), Patricia was quick to become involved. She joined two SPACs and the DPAC, and became

chairperson of all three. When governance changed again, to Parent School Support Committees (PSSC) and elected District Education Councils, she was there again to volunteer her time and expertise.

She was elected to the DEC and has been chairperson of District 16 Education Council since 2002. She also represents James M. Hill Memorial High School and Nelson Rural School as a DEC member.

Patricia is also active in other community programs, as well as in her church.

Throughout her many years of working to improve the educational opportunities for children, Patricia has been an articulate advocate for a high quality education system in the province, one that is properly funded, based on a partnership between parents and educators, and one that respects the unique needs of various communities in the province. She has been a strong supporter of and advocate for

teachers and has always acknowledged the difficult yet caring role played by teachers.

Representatives of NBTA have had the opportunity to participate beside Patricia on numerous occasions, and have established a strong working relationship. Whether meeting as part of the Partners in Education coalition trying to maintain a manageable change process, or facing the challenge of encouraging meaningful curriculum development, Patricia is an active team player... And all this as a volunteer!

The NBTA takes pride in awarding a Special Recognition Award, dated the 25th of May, 2007 to Patricia Lee in recognition of the invaluable contribution she has made to the improvement of our education system, and through her we say "thank you" to all those parents who volunteer their time to enhance the education system.

## 2007 Recipients of the Minister's Excellence in Teaching Award

**T**he Minister's Excellence in Teaching Award is

presented annually to one teacher in each of the nine anglophone school districts. The Award is designed to:

- recognize and honour teachers who help promote excellence in their schools;
- demonstrate the high calibre of teachers working in the province's schools;
- enhance the image of education in general, and teaching in particular;
- encourage creative, innovative, renewed, and effective teaching;
- educate the general public about excellence in



**Minister's Excellence in Teaching Award Recipients: (front row, from left) Toby Daigle, District 16; Dan Duguay, District 17; Kimberley McCormick, District 8; Donna Seymour, District 14; (back, from left) Belinda Oram, District 6; Robert Griffin, District 10; Minister Lamrock; Adam Rogerson, District 2; David DeLong, District 15; Jacqueline Fortner, District 18.**

schools, and encourage members of the public to participate in school

life. The recipients of the 2006-2007 Minister's Excellence in Teaching Award are:

— Adam Rogerson, Gunningsville School (District 2)  
 — Belinda Oram, Hampton Middle School (District 6)  
 — Kimberley McCormick, River Valley Middle School (District 8)  
 — Robert Griffin, Grand Manan Community School, (District 10)  
 — Donna Seymour, Nackawic Senior

High School (District 14)  
 — David DeLong, Dalhousie Middle School (District 15)  
 — Toby Daigle, Rexton Elementary School (District 16)  
 — Dan Duguay, Coles Island School (District 17)  
 — Jacqueline Fortner, Garden Creek School (District 18)

Award recipients were presented with a sculpture designed and produced by New Brunswick artists Jennifer Macklem and Kip Jones, a framed certificate of appreciation, and a \$1,000 professional development bursary.

## Retiring Teachers of 2007 – Congratulations!

1538	Adair, Douglas	0214	Coulter, Janet B.	1536	Hickey, Vivian M.
0619	Allan, Aubry A.	1428	Crandlemere, Steven W.	0215	Hill, Virginia
1610	Allard, Frank M.	0215	Crawford, Elizabeth M.	0820	Horgan, Barbara Anne
1826	Allen, Pauline S.	1428	Cummings, Lori D.	0215	Humphrey, Holly A.
1826	Amos, Nancy G.	0215	Cunningham, Patricia A.	1826	Hunter, Richard M.
1430	Arbeau, Lynn R.	1430	Davenport, Kathryn J.	0820	Inman, Susan M.
1430	Arbeau, Ronald E.	1826	Davis, Donna R.	0619	Irvine, Pansy
1431	Arbeau, Gail E.	1538	Daye, Micheline	1542	Jacobson, Martha H.
1536	Arsenault, Michel	0619	Dearno, Frances M.	1429	Johnston, E. Burdette
1542	Arseneau, Alfred J.	0820	Delano, Ann F.	1826	Julien, Gisèle G.
0214	Ayer, Connie	1536	DeLong, David J.	1450	Kavanaugh, Constance
1431	Baker-Johnston, Paula L.	0215	Dennis, Jerome J.	0619	Kaye, Judy L.
0215	Bamford, Sandra L.	1725	Doerr, Uta M.	1826	Keenan, Sabina M.
0820	Barker, Gregory L.	0216	Doiron, Bernadette E.	1826	Kelly, Linda M.
0215	Bateman, Linda L.	1608	Doran-Smith, Roxanne E.	1725	Kennedy, Blake
0820	Bawn, Brian F.	1542	Doucet, Helen M.	NBTA	Kennedy, Ann L.
0215	Belliveau, Linda O.	1724	Duguay, Daniel	0820	Kusch, Patricia M.
1724	Bernard, Spencer J.	NBTA	Dysart, A. James	1826	Lange, Jane C.
1826	Berry, Kathryn J.	0216	Eaton, Margaret P.	0820	Lawson Lynch, Joan M.
0618	Bishop, Michael J.	1429	Estabrooks, Barbara J.	1542	LeBlanc, Charles J.
1724	Bishop, Jacqueline	1610	Estabrooks, Frederick S.	1640	LeBlanc, Joan A.
1450	Bourgoin, Allain A.	0820	Fouchere, Merrill F.	1826	LeBlanc-Haley, Joanne E.
1536	Bourque, Richard	1826	Fournier, Charles Yves	1023	Lee, Jeanne A.
1608	Bowes, Elizabeth A.	1724	Fraser, Wendy I.	0618	Leland, Ann C.
1610	Bowes, Robert L.	0216	Fullerton, Linda T.	1826	Lenahan, Mary A.
1826	Bowie, Ferne M.	0217	Fullerton, Heather	0619	Lenihan, Janis A.
1428	Bradley, Lois D.	0820	Fulton, Nina M.	0619	Libbey, Carol E.
1428	Branscombe, Winston W.	1021	Gagnon, Roger L.	1023	Lindsay, Jane E.
0619	Brett, Patrice G.	0215	Gallant, Elzear J.	1430	Lindsay, Sherrill A.
0215	Brison, Annette-Louise	0217	Gillis, Elaine M.	1430	Lindsay, William I.
1724	Brown, Roger D.	1725	Gilmore, Carol A.	1826	Liston, Brenda M.
1608	Bunnell, David A.	1826	Glendenning, Joy N.	1610	Loggie, Brian A.
0618	Caines, Daryl A.	1724	Glenn, Myrna R.	1610	MacDonald, John C.
0619	Caldwell, Ann K.	0820	Gorman, Michael J.	0215	MacDormand, Carol A.
0216	Campbell, Dawn L.	0216	Graham, Nora M.	1429	MacNally, Robert W.
1431	Campbell, Ann E.	0820	Grant, Joan M.	1640	MacPhee, Francis W.
1450	Campbell, D. Maxine	0820	Griffith, Elizabeth A.	1826	MacTavish, Richard D.
1023	Carter, Katherine E.	0619	Gunter, Michael H.	0215	Maguire, Karan B.
0619	Caskey, Clare I.	0215	Halley, Michael P.	1431	Mailhiot, Pierre
1724	Chase, Jean A.	1536	Hamilton, Bonnie E.	1428	Martin, Mary Jean
1826	Christian, Linda D.	0619	Hansen, M. Bernetta	1430	Matthews, Jeannie B.
0619	Church, Marie J.	0215	Harris, John L. C.	1610	Matthews, Penny L.
0619	Colpitts, Beverly A.	0820	Harris-Peiser, Deena M.	1826	McBride, Kathy J.
0619	Corby, Edward J.	1724	Hartt, James E.	0619	McCarten, Joseph A.
1538	Cotterell, Michael D.	1608	Henry, Joan E.	0619	McCarthy, Twyla J.
0618	Coughlan, Margaret R.	1536	Hickey, Thomas J.	0820	McCaustlin, Michael G.

0619	McDermott, Deborah A.	0820	Ough, Brenda J.	1826	Steele, Nicole A.
0619	McDonald, Rennie J.	1023	Parker, Larry D.	1542	Sweet, Barbara A.
0820	McGraw, Patricia M.	1021	Parks, Mary Lou	0820	Taylor, Lorna M.
0820	McInerney, Terrence D.	0820	Perry, P. Lorraine	1536	Therault, Nancy E.
1826	McIntosh, Mary Jo	0820	Peters, Dale L.	0215	Thomas, Gerald A.
0215	McIntyre, M. Sharon	1431	Pickett, Rosanne O.	1429	Thorburn, James C.
0618	McLaren, Linda A.	1023	Pollock, Wanda M.	1809	Tingley, Wesley P.
1431	McLaughlin, Lucy A.	1826	Pond, Terry H.	1725	Tozer, Beverley R.
1450	McLaughlin, Aline B.	0215	Prosser, Diane J.	1724	Trebble, Janie D.
0820	McLeod, Debra M.	0618	Rammage, N. Lee	0820	Van Wart, J. Arthur
1826	McNeill, Sandra H.	0216	Reade, Arlene B.	1536	Watson, Andrew J.
1725	Miller, Marilyn F.	1826	Reeves, E. Elaine	1826	Watt, Katherine E.
1023	Mitchell, Jennifer G.	0820	Riordon, Martina M. M.	1023	West, Greg
0215	Mitton, Heather A.	1826	Rioux, J. Harolyn	1429	Wetmore, John D.
0820	Montague, Shawn K.	NBTA	Roach, Nancy L.	0215	White, Irwin C.
0619	Morin, Susan A.	0619	Rowe, Pamela M.	0820	White, C. Douglas
1826	Morrison, William V.	1542	Roy, Phyllis	1542	White, Jeannine
0619	Muir, Donna B.	1023	Schom, Janet K.	0820	Williams, David A.
1725	Murray, Margaret A.	0619	Scully, Nilah L.	1021	Williams, Susan J.
1431	Nugent, Margaret F.	0820	Sears, Mary Ann	0820	Wilson, Bernice L.
1429	O'Brien, Antoinette P. M.	0619	Seely, David L. G.	1608	Wood, Michael V.
0820	O'Leary, Michael W.	0820	Stackhouse, Dianne L.	0820	Yeo, Roberta L.

*Best Wishes on your Retirement!*



## The Sanofi-Aventis Biotalent Challenge

The 2007 New Brunswick Regional challenge, coordinated by BioAtlantech and Science East, took place April 19-20, 2007 at the Crowne Plaza Lord Beaverbrook Hotel and Science East.

Begun in the Toronto area in 1994, these annual science competitions are intended to raise awareness among students, educators and the public about the emerging science of biotechnology and its applications in health care, agriculture and the environment. The supporting organizations hope to encourage more students to pursue studies and careers in biotechnology.

Tim Beatty, Science SPR from Riverview High School was



Riverview High School Entrants (l-r) Tyler Valdron, Charles Cook, Hillary Cook and Katie Bourque with Tim Beatty

recognized by the organization for generating the most student participation from 2002 to 2007.

In addition, the team of Hillary Cook and Katie Bourque from RHS received an award for their project

that was deemed to be the most prepared to become a commercial endeavour.

### **NB Regional winners were:**

**First Place:** Jennifer Randall and Brent Webb, Leo Hayes High School

**Second Place:** Trina Du, Laura Michaud, Jane Yoon, Fredericton High School

**Third Place:** Logan Demmings, Zoe Kennedy, Keif Godbout-Kinney, Suwimol Rukwongtrakool, Southern Victoria High School

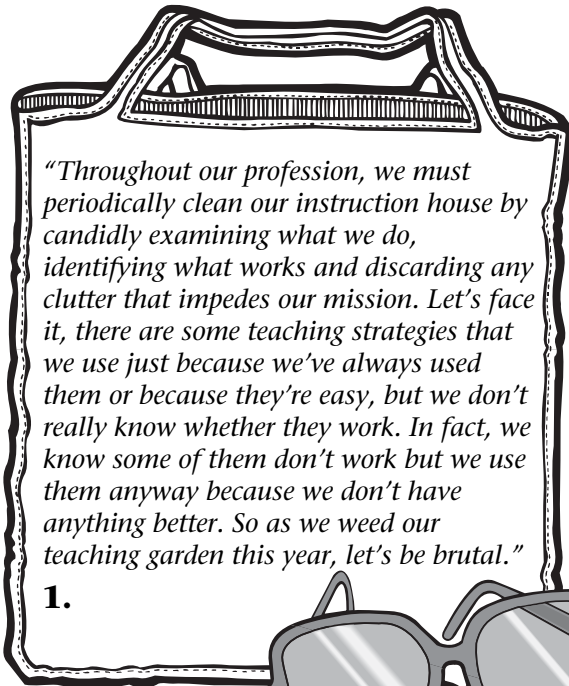
**Fourth Place:** Nicole Butler and Sarah DeBay, Bathurst High School

**Fifth Place:** Melissa Mulherin, Danika Gagné, Lea Jeanne Ringuette, John Caldwell School.

# Spring Cleaning Our Teaching

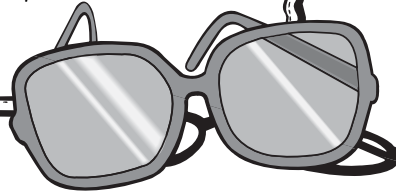


**JUNE!** My second favourite month of the school year! As you complete those final report cards and begin to tidy your classroom for the summer holidays, you will no doubt spend some time reflecting on the countless interactions that have taken place within the walls of your classroom over the past 10 months. Seems no better time to stop and do some “spring cleaning” to our teaching. Here are a few quotes from some articles that may help with that chore. Should any of them tweak your interest, I would be happy to share them with you as you prepare for your summer reading and rejuvenation! Remember - don’t get so caught up in the “spring cleaning” process that you forget to take that well-deserved rest. September, (my first favourite month of the school year), will be here again before we know it!



*“Throughout our profession, we must periodically clean our instruction house by candidly examining what we do, identifying what works and discarding any clutter that impedes our mission. Let’s face it, there are some teaching strategies that we use just because we’ve always used them or because they’re easy, but we don’t really know whether they work. In fact, we know some of them don’t work but we use them anyway because we don’t have anything better. So as we weed our teaching garden this year, let’s be brutal.”*

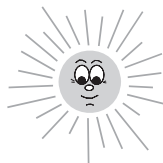
**1.**



*“In my eighth month of being an assistant superintendent, I was plowing full steam ahead when I hit a wall. I felt like I was mentally paralyzed and could not function at my maximum capacity. Even making the most simple of decisions, such as which report to read next, was simply overwhelming. I knew I had to conquer the wall and I knew I had to do it quickly.”* **2.**

**Take care and have a wonderful summer holiday!**

*Adith*



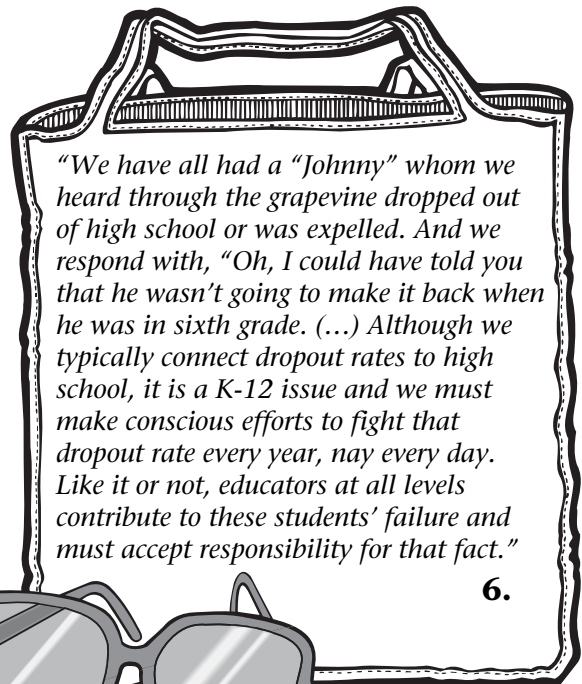
**Closing Quote**

*“If we are going to demand more from our students and teachers, then it is our obligation to provide them with the support they need to meet the challenge.” – Bill Gates*

*“As content-area teachers, our passion is to share with students our knowledge about a specific subject matter. It is why we chose to become science teachers or history teachers or art teachers. Today, we must also be literacy teachers. So the question becomes: How are we to continue teaching our beloved subject and incorporate an entirely new subject?” (Article includes eleven classroom activities that can be used to promote literacy.)* **3.**

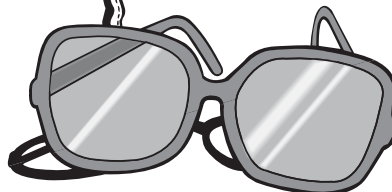
*“Many educators mistakenly think that a differentiated classroom functions like a dinner buffet.”* **4.**

*“A learning progression is a carefully sequenced set of building blocks that students must master en route to a more distant curricular aim. (...) The best learning progressions are fashioned according to a less-is-more model. (...) Our colleagues down under refer to learning progressions as progress maps. You can learn more about these Aussie efforts at [www.acer.edu.au](http://www.acer.edu.au)”* **5.**



*“We have all had a “Johnny” whom we heard through the grapevine dropped out of high school or was expelled. And we respond with, “Oh, I could have told you that he wasn’t going to make it back when he was in sixth grade. (...) Although we typically connect dropout rates to high school, it is a K-12 issue and we must make conscious efforts to fight that dropout rate every year, nay every day. Like it or not, educators at all levels contribute to these students’ failure and must accept responsibility for that fact.”*

**6.**





## Sources for Summer Reads:



1. "Spring Cleaning Our Teaching"  
– Middle Ground, April 2007
2. "Conquering the Invisible Wall"  
– Principal Leadership, April 2007
3. "Welcome to the Literacy Lab"  
– Middle Ground, April 2007
4. "Differentiation: Lessons from Master Teachers"  
– Educational Leadership, February 2007
5. "The Lowdown on Learning Progressions"  
– Educational Leadership, April 2007
6. "Fighting that Ole Dropout Rate"  
– Middle Ground, April 2007

## May Council Day 2007 Sets New Standard for Teacher Participation!

**O**n Friday, May 4th, over **eighty per cent** of our teacher membership attended one of the three provincial conferences organized by our Councils. Elementary Council Day took place in Saint John, Middle Level Council in Fredericton, and High School Council was held in Miramichi. While each of the days was unique in the format and orchestration of the day's specifics, the quality of all three programs was consistently second to none!

This year's programs included a PILOT specialist strand model that attempted to serve specialist teachers more effectively. (*A "specialist" is defined as a teacher who is probably the only person who teaches that particular subject in a school. The teacher may be teaching across many grades and often has no network of colleagues with whom to share ideas and resources.*) Each Council hosted a "strand" for K-12 "specialty" teachers. An Art strand was hosted by Elementary Council, a Music strand by the Middle Level Council, and High School Council hosted a Student Services strand.

The Councils will meet early in the fall to evaluate the effectiveness of this pilot model. As always, teacher input is essential to this evaluation process. If you haven't already taken the opportunity to share your feedback via one of our onsite surveys, feel free to forward any ideas for improvement to me via email and I would be happy to share with the appropriate Council.

A very special **THANK YOU** goes to the three Council Executives for the countless hours they spend on evenings and weekends throughout the year to make these conferences happen.

## PD Chairs' Workshop

On April 19th & 20th, the annual workshop for the leaders of Professional Development was held at the NBTF building. In attendance were the 28 NBTA Branch PD Chairs, Council Presidents, NBTA Provincial PD Committee, as well as the District PD Supervisors.

Over the course of the two-day workshop, Marcy Emberger, faculty member for the Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development (ASCD), Dawn Weatherbie, NB Department of Education, and Ardith Shirley, NBTA Director of Professional Development, led the group as they shared ideas regarding embedded professional development and set goals for future PD opportunities for NB educators.



## Skills for Administrators Series Grading for Learning: What Should It Look Like in YOUR School?



On May 8th & 9th, Middle and High School administrators from around the province took part in this very worthwhile professional development opportunity under the direction of Ken O'Connor.

Ken has presented many assessment workshops and authored two books: *How to Grade for Learning: Linking Grades to*

*Standards* and his most recent, *A Repair Kit for Grading: 15 Fixes for Broken Grades*. Such assessment gurus as Rick Stiggins often cite his work.

Over the course of the two days, participants were encouraged to question and reflect upon their school's current assessment and grading practices. Feedback from participants was extremely positive and our NB administrators can easily attest to the validity and practicality of his work.

*Either or both of Ken's books would be a worthwhile addition to any teacher's summer reading list.*



## Take a deep breath and hang on, we are in the final days of the school year 2006-2007!



**Council Day 2007 - Changing the Tide of Learning-** It was the largest Elementary Council to date; 2001 registered. Your Elementary Council

Executive worked very hard to provide members with a positive, professional conference. **Heather Little, Jean White, Karla Roy, Moira Armstrong, Natalie Leger, Nathalie Graham, Peter**

**Gorham, Rona Howald, Kelly Gorham Gaines, Alyssa MacIsaac, Donna Losier and Kevin Rioux are to be commended for their tremendous work organizing and implementing an awesome council day. HATS OFF TO YOU!**

The Elementary Council AGM was also very well attended. The AGM is your opportunity to discover how the Council operates, review the year, and approve both the

budget and the slate of officers for the upcoming year. Elementary Council is pleased to have **Joanna Gallant** joining the executive. The report that follows will give you an overview of Council activities and work carried out this year. Remember to check the website and contact any of us should you have a question or concern.

Have a wonderful summer!  
Sandy Tingley

## Elementary Council President's Report — May 4, 2007 —



**"Changing the Tide of Learning"** has been a key mandate for your Elementary Council Executive. This group has worked diligently to provide the following services to you, the members:

- Council Day May 4, 2007 – *"Changing the Tide of Learning"*
- Institutes
- Professional Improvement Grants
- Curriculum concerns
- Handbook
- Website
- Communication to Members

### **A. Council Day May 4, 2007 – "Changing the Tide of Learning"**

This day continues as we hold this meeting. Thus far it seems to be a success! The committee has worked very hard to bring a wonderful slate of speakers, an excellent venue and an impressive array of publishers. The registration was discussed, planned and implemented for an easy, calm morning. Please let the committee know how you enjoyed the day and appreciate all their hard work and effort. This day would not have happened without: Heather Little, Moria Armstrong, Peter Gorham, Nathalie Graham, Natalie Leger, Kelly Gorham Gaines, Rona Howald, Donna Losier, Jean White, Alyssa MacIsaac, Kevin Rioux & Karla Roy. God Bless each and every one of you!

### **B. Institutes**

Elementary Council offered a variety of institutes in a number of different localities:

Art in Fredericton & Bathurst, Resource & Methods in Saint John, and still to come Science in the Miramichi.

Also in conjunction with Council Day, Dorothy Hall will conduct a one-day workshop on Four Blocks Literacy on Saturday, May 5, 2007.

### **C. Professional Improvement Grants**

As usual the PIG's monies were depleted quickly. The application for these grants is available on the website or in the handbook. There were many varied conferences attended this year. It is exciting to know these monies are being used by members to improve their professional wishes. Keep attending conferences/workshops and applying for grants to help you out!

### **D. Curriculum**

The Elementary Curriculum Committee met several times this year to explore and discuss issues that concern you, the members. At our February executive meeting, the committee's report was shared with Darlene Whitehouse-Sheehan from the Department of Education. The report is available for you to take with you or you can read it on our website.

## E. Handbook

Once again this year the handbook was distributed this year. This resource is informative about Elementary Council and grant applications are available there. We are looking at having the handbook only available on the website next year and perhaps a couple of hard copies sent to each school. Please feel free to give us your feedback on this matter.

## E. Website

Elementary Council has revamped the website and is excited with all the new features offered. You really should check it out --- <http://elementary.nbta.ca>.

## F. Communication to Members

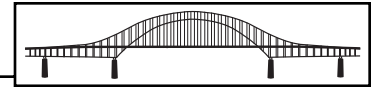
You are what we are all about. It is important to let you know what is happening. We have collaborated on the Policy 701 Pamphlet, shared with you throughout the

NBTA News, posters about the website, website, email, handbook and conference/workshop grant summary pages about your event (some to be shared in the NBTA News). Should you wish to contribute anything to any of these communication sources, please let one of the committee members know and we will be sure to help you out.

As the Elementary Council President, I am overwhelmed with the energy, support and dedication that this Elementary Council Committee has put forth. It has been a pleasure to be part of this team. I can only imagine what next year will hold for you the members with a team like this working for you.

Keep in touch,  
*Sandy Tingley*  
Elementary Council President

## Middle Level Council News



### “Making Sense of Adolescence”

The Middle Level Council held a conference at the Fredericton Motor Inn on May 2-3, 2007. Dr. Gordon Neufeld, a developmental psychologist from Vancouver, BC, was the keynote at the 2-day conference in which 150 participated.

Middle and high school teachers, social workers, psychologists, learning specialists, and youth care workers listened to an encouraging message based on his research and practice, and book *"Hold on to Your Kids"*. The response was overwhelmingly positive.

The essence of information presented was that adults matter in the lives of children. We must take seriously the need to be their compass points, even in adolescence, versus them turning to peers as their leads.



### Middle Level Council Teacher Awards Presented

On May 4, 2007, Kendra Frizzell presented the awards to this year's recipients Kyle McDavid (Sussex Middle) and Kathy Davenport (Centreville Community School).



# Middle School Summer Institute

## July 11-13, 2007 – Holiday Inn, Mactaquac, NB

- Conference will focus on supporting best practices for middle school model. We will have a mix of delivered sessions, cooperative opportunities to problem solve, as well as a Learning Fair session.
- **Learning Fair session:** Participant teams will have the opportunity to share a topic/idea/initiative of interest in a display board format. These display boards will be viewed during a poster board session (occurring on the 12th, in the afternoon). Display boards would consist of a visual display (likened to a science fair exhibit) and would only require that one person be present to answer potential questions. Other support materials may be included if desired (a written handout, other artifacts, visuals, audio).  
All topics are welcome. We encourage participants to share what is important to their own context. Some examples of topics may be: **small school struggles/strengths, looping, ASAP, school-wide fitness, technology, science, literacy initiatives, laptop projects...**
- We are encouraging schools to send a group of teachers to the conference. Groups of 4 are optimal. Also, it is important to attempt to include an administrator in the group. The applications are for groups to fill out. We are anticipating a great response to this conference, so encourage you to put thought into the team, into the Poster session, and get in the application ASAP. Larger schools may submit more than one group application, and small schools with minimal interest (2 or less) may submit an application as well. Selection will be based on as many schools as possible being represented. We will encourage a mix of past as well as new participants.
- We will have room for 100 participants again this year, thanks to the Middle Level Council, the Dept of Education, and the Superintendencies for sponsoring. **Registration is only \$40 per participant.** Conference includes lodging and all meals. Any questions, please contact [Tanya.whitney@nbed.nb.ca](mailto:Tanya.whitney@nbed.nb.ca).

**Schedule:**

<b>Wednesday, July 11</b>	12:00 - 2:00 pm — Registration and arrival 2:00 - 4:00 pm — Afternoon whole group session (Teaming/Community Schools) 6:30 - 8:00 pm — Evening whole group session (Seeking Solutions Session)
<b>Thursday, July 12</b>	9:00 - noon — Morning divided sessions (Math, TRIBES, Middle School Model, Assessment, Behavior Support) 1:00 - 2:15 pm — Whole group session (Literacy Across the Curriculum) 2:30 - 4:00 pm — Learning Fair: Participant Poster Sessions
<b>Friday, July 13</b>	9:00 -11:00 am — Whole group Seeking Solutions Session, Teaming, and Wrap Up

### Middle Level Summer Institute, July 11-13, 2007

School Name \_\_\_\_\_ District \_\_\_\_\_

Participant Names (schools must choose 2-4 per team, an administrator is suggested, but not necessary):

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Summer Contact Information (designate one person and indicate if nbed email is not adequate):

\_\_\_\_\_

Learning Fair Topic \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Registration Fee to be included: \$40 per participant. Only cheques accepted, made payable to:  
Middle Level Council. All registrations must be forwarded to  
Kelly Stackhouse, Sussex Middle School, 49 Bryant Dr., Sussex, NB, E4E 2P2, Fax: 432-2612**

**\*\*\* Registration Deadline June 20, 2007 \*\*\***

# Career Exploration Day

"What will I be when I grow up?" That age-old question was on the minds of many students at Harry Miller Middle School as they explored various careers during the Career Fair held on Friday, April 20th. Harry Miller Middle School was the host to over 45 presenters from the trades, medicine, sports, fitness training, therapy, police, fire, music, military, radio, technology, law, real estate, hair styling, florists, journalism and private business. The Career Fair was the idea of 3 teachers at the school- Anne Marie Duguay, Diane O'Connor and Todd Robertson. Since a section of the Comprehensive Guidance program deals with career exploration, the idea of a career fair, which would bring the community into the school as a form of career exploration, was developed and planned.

Originally thinking there would only be about 15 presenters, it quickly mushroomed to over 40 presenters with the response from

the Saint John and Kennebecasis Valley communities being overwhelming. The day was divided into 5 sessions for which all the students had previously signed up. Presenters spoke about their careers for about 30 minutes, about the training, education and skills needed, and then fielded

questions for the remaining 15 minutes of each session. Students came with prepared questions, about such essential skills as reading, math, technology and teamwork needed in each career. The students took notes about the information they learned which they used to develop career brochures as a follow-up to the



Andrew Tidby, an independent film maker/producer, speaking to students at Harry Miller Middle School in Rothesay about his career during the Career Exploration Day held in April this year."

career exploration day.

Judging from the extremely positive reaction of students during that day and in the week to follow when asked what they learned, Career Exploration Day 2007 was a resounding success!

## High School Council News



## President's Message



Derek Taggart

I would like to begin this article by thanking a number of very deserving groups for a very successful High School Council day on May 4, 2007.

The High School Council Executive worked extremely hard to provide a diverse and appealing program for the day and I personally feel they succeeded on every level. The new Specialists Services Pilot Project was a tremendous success and we certainly hope to continue this in the future.

The on-site committee and the staff and students at both James M. Hill High School and Miramichi Valley High School did a simply incredible job of representing their province and profession. I have

heard nothing but positive feedback regarding the enthusiasm that was displayed on Council Day from all organizers, presenters and participants. Thanks to the hard work from everybody involved, over 1100 educators attended this wonderful professional development opportunity.

The next item I would like to deal with involves congratulations. Three Teacher Recognition Awards were handed out at this year's High School Council Day. I would personally like to thank **Adrienne Tomilson, Ann Leland, and Robin MacDonald** for their dedication to this profession. Each of you goes above and beyond what is expected of you and is a very deserving recipient of the award. Look for details regarding each of the winners in upcoming issues of the *NBTA News*.

I would also like to congratulate

the four new members of the High School Council Executive: **Shelly Stairs, Paul Bossé-Lenarczyk, Sheridan Mawhinney, and Celinda Van Horne**. All four have already proven to be enthusiastic supporters of teacher professional development in New Brunswick and I welcome them. I would also like to thank the three members of the Council Executive who are leaving to embark on new challenges: **Mike Gunter, Nancy Vessie and Shane Hoyt**. Your tremendous dedication and hard work has not gone unnoticed and I will miss all of you!

Plans are already underway for next year's Council Day. The 2007/2008 High School Council Day will be held in Saint John. Every year the Program Committee attempts to address all subject and grade levels within the sessions being offered at Council Day. This is a tremendous

challenge and **we need your help.** The High School Council Executive will be meeting in the fall (October 12 and 13 in Fredericton). If you are interested in presenting at next year's Council Day, please check out our website at (<http://highschool.nbta.ca>). There you will find the form you need to fill out to become a presenter, along with information you need on where to send it. In order to meet the early January program print deadline, the deadline for presenters will be December 14th, 2007.

While I am on the topic of the website, I would like to encourage all of our members to check out our new and improved High School Council website at the above address. It is here that you will find information regarding the Council Executive, our constitution and by-laws, and forms to apply for the Teacher Recognition Awards. You will also find the application for the Vocational Bursary. The deadline for this bursary is rapidly approaching (September 28, 2007).

The High School Council Professional Development Committee sponsored or co-sponsored four very successful institutes during the 2006/2007 school year. Next year we are looking to match or better this number. We are always looking for new ideas for institutes and teacher professional development. If you would like to offer an institute in your specialty area (we are already planning ahead to next fall!) or you know someone who would be interested, please contact any member of your High School Council Executive and they will explain how you can make it happen! We are more than happy to assist you with the financial and

organizational elements of your institute.

If you ever have any items you would like to see included on an agenda for a High School Council Executive meeting, please do not hesitate to contact me (**derek.taggart@nbed.nb.ca**) or any of your other High School Council Executive members. We are here to serve you!

Well folks, we have almost made it! June is here, the sun is shining, and we are all ready for a vacation. I sincerely hope that each of you has a wonderful and relaxing summer and I look forward to working with all of you during the 2007/2008 school year! See you in the fall!

Derek

**Hurry!**  
**Only A Few**  
**Spaces**  
**Left!**

**CONTACT**  
**2007**

## Attention Teachers!

Are you interested in better health, tax write-offs and doubling your pension or salary?



If you would like to learn more, please contact:

**Pat MacNeil**

(retired teacher)

**Phone: 506-386-2700**

## Teachers Work ✓

A Unique Professional Development Opportunity for Teachers of Atlantic Canada

**August 7-10**

**Mount Allison University, Sackville, New Brunswick**

Please send application form to **Ardith Shirley**,  
 NBTA Director of Professional Development,  
 P.O. Box 752, Fredericton, N.B. E3B 5R6  
 (Fax) 506-453-9795

**Do not send any fees.**

**Successful applicants will be contacted.**

**First-come, First-serve!**

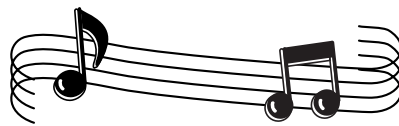


# Musical Instrument Grants Available to Schools



Band Aid, a component of MusiCan, provides \$10,000 musical instrument grants to schools whose music programs have great potential, yet are in need of funding to ensure their sustained growth.

Schools are selected by CARAS' MusiCan Committee based on the greatest need in keeping with criteria that include: economic need; inventory and condition of instruments; number of students; dedication of school staff; and overall impact the grant would make within the school and the



community.

Selection criteria and downloadable application forms are available online at MusiCan's website, [www.musican.ca](http://www.musican.ca).

All completed Applications, including Official Application Form,

Instrument Inventory Form, supplemental information, support letters and documents must be **mailed** or **couriered**.

If required, you may Fax the Application Form only.

Grant Applications should be sent to: Michael Hurley, Coordinator, MusiCan/CARAS, 345 Adelaide Street West, 2nd Floor, Toronto, ON M5V 1R5, Tel: 416.485.3135 ext 230, Fax: 416.485.4978  
mike@junoawards.ca

**Submission deadline: August 1, 2007 (in the office).**

**School District 17 presents:**

## "A Morning with Alan November"

**Topics of Discussion:**

- "Creating a New Culture of Teaching and Learning"
- "Cultivating a World Class Work Ethic"

**When:** Thursday, August 30, 2007  
(Keynote commencing at 8:30 am)

**Where:** Fredericton Inn

**Cost:** \$100/person (Limited to the first 150 registered educators outside of School District 17)

**Registration Deadline:** Friday, August 3, 2007



### Alan November Registration Form

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

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Postal Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: (Office) \_\_\_\_\_ (Home) \_\_\_\_\_ Fax: \_\_\_\_\_

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

Position: District Office ( ) School Administrator ( ) Teacher ( ) Other ( )

Registration Fee: Cheque \$ \_\_\_\_\_ (Please make payable to School District 17 and/or The Minister of Finance)



**Please send cheque and completed registration form to:  
Rick Demmings, Learning Specialist, School District 17  
17 Miramichi Road, Oromocto, NB, E2V 2P6**

If you have any questions: [rick.demmings@gnb.ca](mailto:rick.demmings@gnb.ca)  
Registration confirmation will be sent to each registered guest by email.



# STUDY YOUR MASTER OF EDUCATION ONLINE!

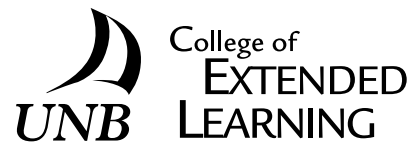


The **online Master of Education** program in Curriculum Studies will enhance and refine the instructional skills and leadership abilities of teachers and administrators.

The courses are offered in a rotation, one per term, and applications are being accepted for the May 2008 and September 2008 cohort. The MEd consists of 30 credit hours of courses, all offered online. Participants will be able to complete the program within three years and work with others in an online community cohort.

**Application deadline: January 31, 2008**

For more information please contact Terri MacLean.  
Tel.: 506-458-7541 Toll Free: 1-866-599-4646  
E-mail: [tmaclean@unb.ca](mailto:tmaclean@unb.ca) Web: [cel.unb.ca/profdev](http://cel.unb.ca/profdev)



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# Character Development Through Global Citizenship: Exploring the Millennium Development Goals

*A Project of School District 15, Campbellton – Dalhousie – Bathurst, New Brunswick*

**F**or the past school year, the 14 schools in District 15 have united to study the HIV/AIDS pandemic as it has evolved in the tiny African kingdom of Lesotho. In doing so, they have attempted to raise awareness among staff and students about our responsibility as Canadians to understand the situation and to support the relief effort. Between September and May, approximately \$25,000 has been raised by district and community stakeholders through a project called “District 15 Helps Lesotho”.

George Daley, a teacher at Bathurst High School, has chaired the organizing committee, and he believes that great things can happen when people set their minds to achieving goals such as this. In addition to raising funds, the schools have embraced the notion of “character building through global citizenship”, and this has led to a new project which has recently received the support of the Canadian

International Development Agency (CIDA).

District 15 educators believe “Citizenship” should be taught in a deliberate and strategic manner, and next year they will develop Language Arts study units which will explore the United Nations’ Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). The project has received funding in the amount of \$68,000 through CIDA’s Global Classroom Initiative. In short, students in Grades 6 through 12 will study a different MDG every year, and these will be contextualized within the Lesotho experience. The school district will continue to partner with Help Lesotho as it embarks on this new educational project.

“We believe social action emerges when people have knowledge,” says District 15 Superintendent John McLaughlin. “When we began talking to our staff and students about the AIDS pandemic, they told us they felt a need to take action. It makes sense to us that when they

are aware of the Millennium Development Goals, they will see opportunities to get involved either as individuals or as contributing members of our district relief team.”

The project has received the support of Help Lesotho, the School District 15 District Education Council, the Department of Education and the New Brunswick Teachers’ Association. HL is a registered Canadian educational charity working with approximately 7,500 AIDS orphans and vulnerable children in a network of 15 impoverished mountain schools in Lesotho. Its foci are education, gender equity, HIV/AIDS, poverty reduction, governance and building leadership among AIDS orphans and youth.

For more information, please contact:  
John McLaughlin, Superintendent,  
School District 15,  
Dalhousie, NB  
Phone: (506) 684-7545  
Email: john.mclaughlin@gnb.ca

## → 44<sup>th</sup> NBTA Annual Bowling Tournament ←

**Where:**

Moncton Fairlanes

**When:**

October 13-14, 2007

**Why:**

To have as much fun as possible

**Limit:**

20 teams (Max. 3 males per team, no limit for females)

**Cost:**

\$45.00 per player

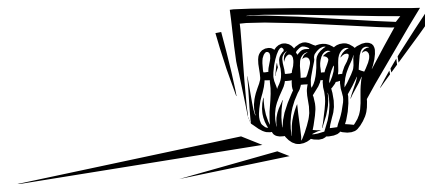


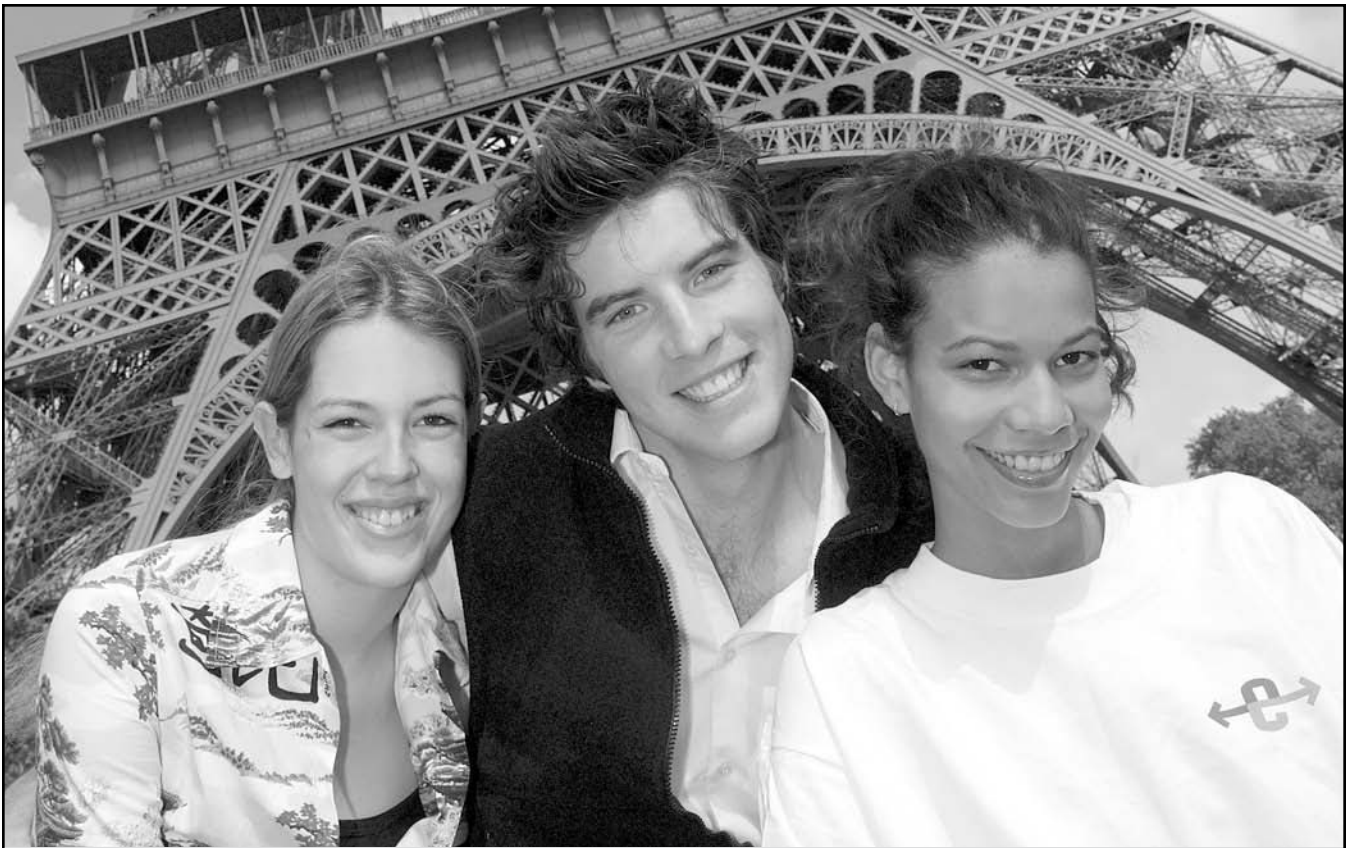
**Registration:**

Make cheque for \$45.00 payable to “NBTA Bowling Tournament” - Larry Lunney, and forward, with a list of your team members to:

**Larry Lunney**  
**29 Charyl Court**  
**Riverview, NB E1B 4C5**

Hotel rates will be sent at a later date.





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for details, or call 1.888.378.8845.

# District #18 Physical Education Mentor Recognized by National Health and Physical Education Association

The Canadian Association for Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance (CAHPERD) has bestowed its greatest honour, the R. Tait McKenzie Award of Honour, on three leading Canadian health and physical education professionals for their commitment to ensuring that Canadian children and youth live physically active and healthy lives.

## Norman G. Russell

Norman G. Russell has devoted his entire career to working in his home province of New Brunswick. His dedication to his profession is second to none. His continued passion for the promotion of quality health, physical education, physical activity, and sport can be seen in his work and daily life.

Norm obtained his Bachelor of Physical Education, Bachelor of Education and Master of Education in Administration from the University of New Brunswick. He has been a Physical Education Mentor in School District 17 and 18. As the Physical Education Specialist at Sunbury West School, he ensured that students in a rural area received a highly skilled physical education program that supported the developmental needs of students. He built solid athletics programs that enabled students to play on high school and provincial teams. As Mentor, Norm has helped schools achieve the recommended 100 minutes of physical activity per week and set program guidelines, which remain the foundation for programs in schools. He strives to teach children and teachers skills that

ensure their success in becoming physically educated.

Norm is a leader who has shared his knowledge, expertise and skills both provincially and nationally. He has served as the President for the New Brunswick Teachers' Association's Health and Physical Education Council and has been on its Board for several years. Norm has also served on the CAHPERD Council of Provinces and on the CAHPERD Board of Directors.

Norm has shared his talents with the wider community. He is a dedicated volunteer with the Fredericton Speed Skating Association and a coach of Fredericton High School Women's Volleyball Team. Earlier in his career,

he was very involved with the Oromocto community as Industrial Hockey League President, Co-founder of the Youth Choir, Winter Carnival Chair, and a Board Member of the Oromocto Community Residences. Norm Russell is a professional who cares and acts on a daily basis to promote the health and well-being of Canadians.



Norm Russell, Grant McMannes (President of CAHPERD) and Garth Wade (R. Tait Winner 2003)



# IT'S NOT OKAY...

... to allow your students to remain uninformed by avoiding sexual orientation issues in the curriculum and classroom.

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@nbed.nb.ca) or Richard Blaquiere (richard.blaquiere@nbed.nb.ca) if you have concerns or need help.

- Inserted by NBTA Equity in Education Committee



# Literacy and Learning in the 21st Century

By Dawn Lamb and Mary-Jo MacRae, e-Learning Programs and Services New Brunswick Department of Education

"I want to live a hundred years so I can figure it all out!" These were the words uttered by a veteran educator leaving the keynote address of David Warlick at the Crowne Plaza in Fredericton. As part of The Learning Symposium Series offered by the New Brunswick Department of Education, Warlick was one of several presenters who left teachers challenged and enthused. Over 240 teachers, school and district administrators, and department of education staff attended this event.

The March 22 and 23 conference included daily keynote presentations by David Warlick: "Literacy and Learning in the 21st Century" and "Flat World, Flat Web, and Flat Classrooms." On the afternoon of day one there was a buzz of excitement in the air as participants viewed the showcase of 25 innovative projects from around the province,

enthusiastically explained by the lead teachers, mentors and students. On day two, provincial technology mentors, learning specialists and innovative teachers shared their expertise in 20 divided sessions offered on a variety of topics including SmartBoards, Internet safety, geocaching, blogging, wikis, RSS readers, E-library, and PodCasting, among others.

Mr. Warlick is a 30-year educator who has been a classroom teacher, district administrator, and staff consultant with the North Carolina State Department of Public Instruction. For the past ten years, Mr. Warlick has operated The Landmark Project, a consulting and innovations firm in Raleigh, North Carolina. Mr. Warlick is also the author of three books on

instructional technology and 21st century literacy, and has spoken to audiences throughout the U.S., Europe, Asia, and South America.

Warlick made a tremendous impact on the attendees of the conference. Throughout his presentations, he reiterated that, as educators, we are futurists. We are inventing the future through what we are doing in our classrooms. As educators, we are not preparing students for our future. "We are preparing them for their future. We

and by sharing with each other.

The best thing we can teach our kids today is how to teach themselves. Warlick's overall conclusion is that he believes that we need to stop integrating technology and start integrating literacy. To be literate in the 21st century is to be willing, able, and encouraged to ask questions about the answers that you find. Students need to ask questions such as who wrote this, who published it, and why did they publish it? Students

have to learn to investigate to become what Warlick calls a "digital detective." We now have a global electronic library and almost anyone can publish to it. As a society, we can grow knowledge now at a faster rate than ever before because of open communication. We have to teach kids how to read and expand the notion of being a reader. Students must learn how to uncover the truth by finding validity and reliability in information. Their



Keynote presenter David Warlick

are preparing them for the future they are going to choose, the future they are going to invent, the future that they are going to pay for." We need to be paying a lot of attention to these kids because there are clues there that will help us uncover what may lie down the road. "We are preparing children for a future we cannot describe. For the first time in history, we cannot predict what kids will be doing in 10 to 20 years because things are changing so rapidly in our world. The dialogue we should be having as educators, communities, and nations is what do children need to be learning today to be ready for an unpredictable future." Warlick claims that we, in the 21st century, learn through conversations with each other, by teaching each other

range of skills is going to have to include how to find information, decode it, and critically evaluate it.

Warlick also foresees that students will have to learn the language of numbers. "All information is made of numbers and students will have to learn how to process information." Again, he claims, we have to expand our notion of being a processor of information. We have to expose the truth and employ information. In the 21st century, we will be communicating with multimedia, such as sound, images, video, and animation. Therefore, Warlick believes music and art are crucial to students' success in our schools, and claims that if they are not found there, schools have become factories.

Warlick also stresses the

importance of teaching our students ethics, particularly how to love and protect the truth. "Educators need to ensure children learn the ethical use of information and this needs to be explicit in the discussions. The message should be to do no harm with information and be accountable for the information you express. We have to change schools and reform schools. Today, the world is the curriculum and it is changing every day. Teachers can no longer teach the same thing every day, year after year." Warlick feels that teachers will become more of a consultant to help students ask the right questions. Students need

teachers to show them how to work the information. Overall, his message to the audience is that we need to modernize today's classroom for students of tomorrow.

Prior to the conference, Warlick spent a day touring two 1:1 notebook schools in Fredericton: Nashwaaksis Middle School and Leo Hayes High School. He claimed that he had rarely been so impressed. "There is a unique convergence starting to happen here—a formula that consists of parts opportunity, professional freedom, visionary leadership, and a willingness to step aside and let the kids go to it. This is certainly not going on throughout

the Province, and is currently labelled as exploratory, but I see things going in a direction that leads students into their future, rather than into our past."

For more information on David Warlick, you may go to the following web addresses: <http://landmark-project.com/> and <http://davidwarlick.com/2cents/>. You can also access some of the presentations from the divided sessions by going to the Portal, specifically Professional Development for Educators at: <https://portal.nbed.nb.ca/C8/Literacy%20and%20Learning%20in%20the%202/default.aspx>.

## Canada's Outstanding Principals™ Awards 2008

Nominations for Canada's Outstanding Principals™ are now being accepted. Anyone, from across the country, may nominate an outstanding principal in a publicly-funded school in their community, including parents, colleagues, community members, local business people or social agency partners.

Winners from across Canada are recognized for the unique and crucial contributions to their schools and to public education. Thirty winners will be announced in mid-January and will participate in the fourth annual Canada's Outstanding Principals program, running during

the last week of February, 2008 in Toronto.

**Deadline for nominations is October 31, 2007.**

To learn more and to nominate outstanding principals in your community, please visit **www.thelearningpartnership.ca** and follow the links; or contact Jon Powell, Tel. 416-440-5112, e-mail: [jpowell@thelearningpartnership.ca](mailto:jpowell@thelearningpartnership.ca).

*Canada's Outstanding Principals program was developed in the fall of 2004, as a partnership endeavour between The Learning Partnership and the Canadian Association of Principals' member organizations, in collaboration*



*with the University of Toronto's Rotman School of Management Since being launched, 91 exceptional leaders from across the country have been selected as Canada's Outstanding Principals and inducted into the National Academy of Canada's Outstanding Principals™.*



### Great Job!

Three wonderful teachers from District 8 received Excellence in Teaching Awards from their peers in the local NBTA branch. Pictured from left to right are: Peter Woytiuk, Michael McCaustlin, Elva Lacey, Shannon Hodder and Vicki Trecartin.

# Johnson Scholarships and Academic Grants

Applications for Johnson Scholarships and Academic Grants are now available for the 2007/2008 academic year.

**Scholarships** are to assist students beginning post-secondary studies following the completion of high school.

**Academic Grants** are to assist those returning to full-time studies following an absence of two or more years and for those beginning full-time studies as a mature student.

NBTA members/employees and their dependants (who are enrolled in either the NBT Group Insurance Plan or the Johnson Inc. Home or Auto Plan) are eligible to apply.

Scholarships and Academic Grants are valued at \$1,000 and there will be a total of 100 awarded across Canada.



Forms are available by:

- **Calling toll-free:** 1-877-328-7878
- **E-mail:** [scholarshipsandgrants@johnson.ca](mailto:scholarshipsandgrants@johnson.ca)
- **On-line:** [www.johnson.ca](http://www.johnson.ca)

Completed application forms must be submitted by **September 15**.

## Work as a teacher in the U.S.A.

Teacher: Emily  
Home Country: Canada  
U.S.A. Placement: Virginia  
Professional Goal: Complete my master's degree  
Personal Goal: Learn to kayak  
**How She Got Started:** [www.vifprogram.com](http://www.vifprogram.com)

Hundreds of teachers like Emily are teaching in the U.S.A. and gaining experience that will advance their careers. You can, too. Visit [www.vifprogram.com](http://www.vifprogram.com).



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# NBTA Professional Courses Available

## — Fall —

Below is a partial list of NBTA Professional Courses which will be available in the coming months.

- All courses are applicable to a Certificate 5 (or if you already hold a Masters degree, the courses may be used towards a Certificate 6). Courses may be taken also for professional or personal interest.
- Fee for all courses is \$375 payable by cheque dated the first day of the course. Make all cheques payable to NBTA.
- All courses require 36 hours of instruction.
- Full description of each 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).

### COURSES AVAILABLE

#### **TLC07FCAB — Teaching Through Learning Channels™**

**Dates:** Mondays (6:30-9:30) September 24; October 1, 15, 22, 29; November 5, 19, 26; December 3, 10; plus one Saturday, to be determined

**Location:** Superior Middle School, Bathurst

**Instructor:** Christopher Aube

**Description:** Teaching Through Learning Channels trains educators to use brain compatible strategies that reach students' natural learning channels.

#### **MAGIC07FDOSJ — Meaningful Activities to Generate Interesting Classrooms**

**Dates:** Fridays (6:00-9:00) September 21, 28; October 12, 19; Saturdays (9:00-3:00) September 22, 29; October 13, 20

**Location:** Saint John (facility to be announced)

**Instructor:** Derek O'Brien

**Description:** 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.

### **NBTA Sponsored Professional Course Registration Form**

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

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

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

Phone Number(s): Home: \_\_\_\_\_ School: \_\_\_\_\_ 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 NBTA Mixed Curling Bonspiel

*The 2007 NBTA Mixed Curling Bonspiel was held at the Carleton Curling Club in Saint John on March 31 & April 1. The fourteen teams from around the province that participated had a great weekend of fun, trophies, prizes, and lots of good food added to the enjoyment.*



**Section A Winners (l-r):** Stan Curran, Barb Hutton, Mona Train, Sterling Ferguson



**Section A Runners-up (l-r):** Gary Sullivan, Colleen Sullivan, Jane Buck, Peter Woytiuk



**Section B Winners (l-r):** Michael Butler, Jill Muise, Rob MacMurray, Roberta Yeo



**Section B Runners-up (l-r):** Tom Gillett, Carol Harned, Bob Brannen, Marilyn Graham



**Section C Winners (l-r):** Sarah Mawhinney, Joel Jelinek, Eileen Holmes, Mike Holmes



**Section C Runners-up (l-r):** Mary McAuliffe, Trina Whipple, Bob Whipple, Mark McAuliffe





**Section D Winners** (l-r): Harry Moore, Joan Moore, Jane Robertson, Kevin Robertson



**Section D Runners-up** (l-r): Jackie Clark, Terry Dickson (Sorry Terry, looks like the zoom was on!) Anne Levasseur, Jim Morris (missing)



**David Taylor Memorial Award** (l-r): Leo Sheehy, Richard Brogan, Shauna Plummer, Kellie Simon, Tom Gillett (presenter)



# NBTA Golf Tournament

Saturday, September 22, 2007

"Shotgun" Start - 10:00 am

Rockwood Park Golf Course, Saint John



Open to all NBTA members as well as all retired NBTA members.

**Fee:** \$55.00 per golfer (includes green fees, meal, gratuities, HST, prizes).

Make cheques payable to:  
**NBTA Golf Tournament and mail to:**

**Ed Lester**  
407 Molson Ave.,  
Saint John, N.B.  
E2M 5L9  
Telephone (506) 674-1541  
Fax (506) 635-3330  
Email: ed.di@rogers.com

## Entry Form

### 4 Person Scramble

35 golf carts reserved through **Ed Lester**  
(\$29.00 tax included)

### Four Names:

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_

**Contact Person:** \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone (H) \_\_\_\_\_ (W) \_\_\_\_\_

*If you have not received confirmation, please call by September 20, 2007.*

# Wellness Highlights

PROFESSIONAL COUNSELLING SERVICE  
FOR TEACHERS



## TEACHER COUNSELLING SERVICES

Mike Ketchum, Districts 14, 17, 18  
1-800-561-1727  
Betsy Colwell-Burley, Districts 6, 8, 10  
1-800-563-3938  
Niel Cameron, Districts 2, 15, 16  
1-888-763-5050

## June – Outdoor Activities

# “Breathe in the Outdoors”

## Did You Know?

### When out in your garden, keep these wellness tips in mind:

- **Begin with a warm up.** Start with easy raking, or go for a five-minute walk to warm up your muscles. Follow this with all major muscle groups to help prevent injury. Give your back, neck, hands and fingers some extra time when stretching. Ask a physiotherapist to show you some stretches that will be beneficial when you garden.
- **Be aware of your posture and body mechanics.** Move your feet instead of twisting at your waist when sweeping, raking, mulching or potting. If you can't avoid twisting, tighten your stomach muscles in order to protect your back. Use your legs rather than your back when lifting or unloading heavy bags or pots. Bend your knees, keep your back straight, and hold the object close to your body to prevent unnecessary strain on your back.
- **Use ergonomically correct tools.** Buy tools with long handles to help with weeding. Build or buy a potting bench that is high enough to prevent unnecessary bending. Sit on the ground to trowel without bending over. When kneeling use a knee pad to avoid putting too much pressure on your knees. Wear gardening gloves to protect your hands from blisters, cuts and dryness.
- **Pace yourself.** We tend to do everything all at once. Take breaks throughout your work and do some gentle stretching to keep limber. Vary your tasks to make sure you allow different muscles to be used, not overworking one particular muscle. Repetitive use of a specific muscle or muscle group can cause pain or injury.
- **Be smart in the sun.** Wear a hat and use sunscreen to protect yourself from sunburn or heatstroke. Drink lots of water and try to work in the shade as much as possible to prevent dehydration.

– Canadian Physiotherapy Association, [www.physiotherapy.ca](http://www.physiotherapy.ca)

## SunSense Guidelines

It is possible to enjoy healthy outdoor activities while in the sun. The Canadian Dermatology Association and the Canadian Cancer Society recommend that Canadians:

- Reduce sun exposure between 11am and 4pm. The sun's rays are at their strongest between these hours. It's easy to remember – during these hours your shadow is shorter than you are.
- Seek shade or create your own shade. When you are outside (especially between 11 am & 4pm), try to stay in the shade. Be prepared for places without any shade by taking along an umbrella.
- SLIP! on clothing to cover your arms and legs. Covering your skin will protect it from the sun. Choose clothing that is: loose fitting; tightly woven; and lightweight.
- SLAP! on a wide-brimmed hat. Most skin cancers occur on the face and neck. This area needs extra protection. Wear a hat with a wide brim that covers your head, face, ears and neck. Hats without a wide brim, like baseball caps, do not give you enough protection.
- SLOP! on sunscreen with SPF 15 or higher – SPF 30 if you work outdoors or if you will be outside for most of the day. Look for “Broad Spectrum” on the label. This means that the sunscreen offers protection against two types of ultraviolet rays, UVA and UVB.
- Apply sunscreen generously, 20 minutes before outdoor activities. Reapply often – at least every 2 hours (and after swimming or exercise that makes you perspire). No sunscreen can absorb all of the sun's rays. Use sunscreen as a backup in you sun protection.
- Keep babies under one year out of the direct sun. Babies need extra protection because their skin is very sensitive. Keep your child's stroller, playpen or carriage in the shade.
- Tanning salons and sunlamps are not a safe way to tan. Tanning salons do not give you a “safe tan without burning.” No tan is a safe tan. A tan is evidence of sun damage.

– Canadian Dermatology Association, [www.dermatology.ca](http://www.dermatology.ca)

## Suggested Activity from the Binder

Garden/Plant Swap – Flower party or garden/tool party

## Suggested Website from the Binder

Trails Canada – [www.trailpaq.ca](http://www.trailpaq.ca)



**Note: Additional information is found in your School-Based Wellness Program Monthly Themes Binder.**

# Announcements

## Atlantic Teachers' Forestry Tour

This tour will take place in St. Andrews, N.B., August 13-16, 2007.

The Canadian Woodland Forum hopes that this tour will help foster business-education partnerships between the forest sector and educators, by allowing teachers to make informed choices on sustainable forest management and possible career options for their students.

Interested forestry companies and organizations sponsor and cover all costs to educators.

For more information, visit [www.teacherstour.com](http://www.teacherstour.com)

## FSL Education Podcast Series

The Canadian Association of Second Language Teachers (CASLT) is releasing a series of 14 bilingual audio podcasts for French as a Second Language (FSL) teachers.

Each podcast will outline an issue and provide related research-based strategies and recommended resources from leading Canadian FSL experts. The series includes innovative practices and solutions to FSL education issues, recognizes leaders and innovators in the field, supports new teacher graduates and encourages FSL teacher retention. Teachers will benefit from listening to research-based ideas applicable in the classroom in each audio program. The series will also be connected to the CASLT Web site through related fact sheets, articles and researcher contact lists.

Podcasts are available in both English and French and will be posted monthly in the online newsletter found on the CASLT website at [www.caslt.org](http://www.caslt.org).

## Openings on CASLT Board of Directors and CASLT National Council

The Canadian Association of Second Language Teachers is currently seeking applications to fill openings on its Board of Directors and National Council.

To express interest or for additional information, please contact the Chair of the Nominating

Committee through the CASLT National Office by **July 31, 2007**. Tel: 1-877-727-0994, Fax: (613) 727-3831, E-mail: [admin@caslt.org](mailto:admin@caslt.org).

CASLT members in good standing who would like to serve on the CASLT National Council for a term are invited to forward an expression of interest by email to the national office at [admin@caslt.org](mailto:admin@caslt.org) by **June 29, 2007**.

For more information about CASLT and to download the Expression of Interest form, visit our website at [www.caslt.org](http://www.caslt.org).

## National Character Education Conference

The Character Education Committee of Huntsville High School and the Trillium Lakelands District School Board are pleased to announce "Schools that Shine with Character", the third annual National Character Education Conference for teachers, counsellors, consultants, administrators and those in private industry. The conference will take place on November 5 and 6, 2007 at Deerhurst Resort in Huntsville, Ontario.

Stephen Lewis, Micah Jacobson and, Dr. Michele Borba, experts on Character Education, will provide the keynote addresses. As well, we are offering a pre-conference again this year with keynote speakers Robin Sharma and Craig Kielburger. There is also an opportunity to attend two workshops as a participant at the conference.

Register on-line at: [www.ncec.ca](http://www.ncec.ca) or contact Ian McTavish, (705) 789-5594 X237, [ncecregistration@tidsb.on.ca](mailto:ncecregistration@tidsb.on.ca)

## NBACL to Host 50th Anniversary Conference and Celebration

Join the New Brunswick Association for Community Living at the Fredericton Inn on September 7 and 8, 2007 as they celebrate 50 years of inclusion for children and adults with an intellectual disability, and their families.

On Friday, September 7, NBACL will be holding a pre-conference

session entitled *Inclusive Education: Why Should Parents Care?* Join us as we discuss why inclusive education is important for children with disabilities and for society in general. We will also share current best practices for inclusive education, including practices for inclusion in both the academic and social life of schools and the important roles of families in the education planning process for their child.

For more information and to register, contact: Sarah Cross – Program Coordinator, NBACL, Tel: 453-4412, Email: [scross@nbacl.nb.ca](mailto:scross@nbacl.nb.ca) or visit [www.nbacl.nb.ca](http://www.nbacl.nb.ca).

## PD Opportunity for Science/Chemistry/Physics/Biology Middle Level and High School Teachers

The Canadian Light Source's Synchrotron Summer workshop is being held August 13-15, 2007 in Saskatoon, SK. The workshop gives teachers the knowledge and tools needed to use synchrotron research to stimulate student interest in science. Funding is available and applications are now online, along with registration forms at:

<http://www.lightsource.ca/education/teacherworkshop/>

## "Kids Who Care" Classroom Resource

Plan is one of the world's largest international, child-centred development organizations, working in more than 45 developing countries providing long-term community programs that benefit 1.3 million children and impact the lives of 13 million people. Plan Canada's website offers educators a variety of classroom resources, "Kids Who Care" program, video, teachers' guide and student action guide. Further information is available online at: [www.plancanada.ca](http://www.plancanada.ca).



# The Staff at NBTA Credit Union Wishes You a Safe and Happy Summer!

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

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Place Label Here



**CREDIT UNION**

**NBTA**

**Summer Hours Begin June 25, 2007  
 9:00 AM – 4:00 PM**

650 Montgomery St., P.O. Box 752, Fredericton, N.B. E3B 5R6  
 506-452-1724 • 1-800-565-5626 • 506-452-1732 (fax)  
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