

NBTA News



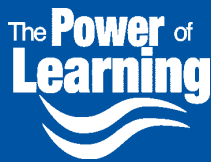
November 9, 2004
Vol. XLVII, No. 3

New Brunswick Teachers' Association

INSIDE:

NBTA Sponsored Professional Courses	4
Students and Teachers Visit China	6
Eighty Percent of Learning Involves Vision	8
FAQs – Purchase of Service	9
Pre-Retirement Seminars	11
Certification Update	18

**Next Final Copy Deadline
For NBTA News:
Friday, November 19**



Atlantic Teachers Support “Girl-Child in Uganda” Project

Three teacher representatives from the Atlantic Provinces are participating in a unique project entitled *Girl-Child in Uganda* to encourage the educational development of girls in that country.

The Canadian Teachers' Federation (CTF) has been responding to the needs of teacher organization partners in developing countries for forty-two years. Nearly sixty countries have now benefited from direct cooperation with Canadian teachers, and over thirty more have participated in regional initiatives in Africa, Asia, the Caribbean and Latin America.

The Ugandan project is funded through CTF's Social Development Education Program (SODEP). This project developed from the April 2000 World Education Forum in Dakar. CTF supports the international “Education for

All” (EFA) targets, with an emphasis on equitable access to quality public education.

The Uganda National Teachers' Union (UNATU) has the dual SODEP aim of addressing the significant barriers, challenges, and abuses many female students face, while

also encouraging government and civil society organizations to take coordinated measures to support and safeguard female students.

Paulette Moore is one of the team of three teachers from Atlantic Canada who are giving

their energy and experience as Interaction volunteers to support UNATU-led research and teacher training to improve the plight of the girl-child. Initial research and planning occurred in May and September 2003; Ugandan educators and representatives of civil society organizations then prepared a



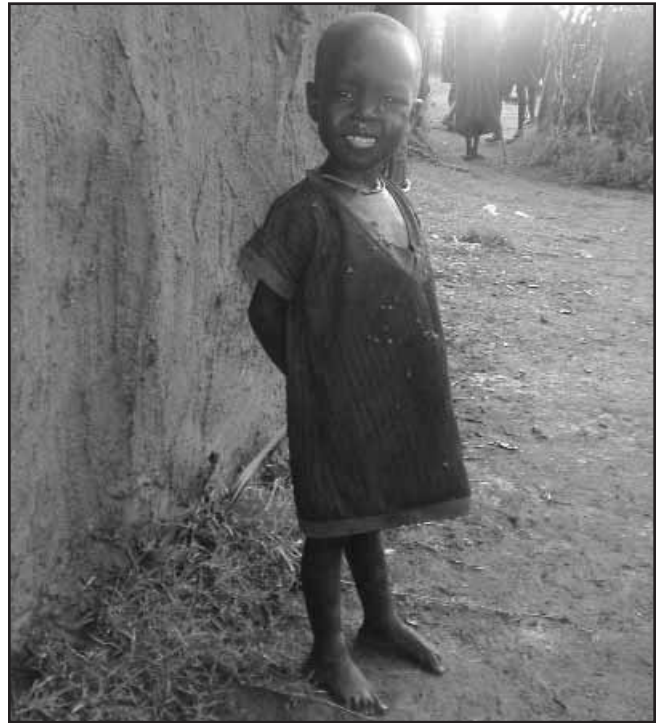
Teachers in Atlantic Canada Support Girls' Education in Uganda

teacher training manual. Paulette (NBTA), along with Beverley Park (Newfoundland & Labrador Teachers Association) and Carolyn Francis (Prince Edward Island Teachers Federation), returned in March 2004 and co-facilitated a practical and thorough pilot workshop in the eastern region of Uganda for over forty senior teachers. The team will return in November to complete the

final phase of the program.

Paulette made a presentation to the October NBTA Board of Directors giving background of the program and the work accomplished to date. In a future issue of *NBTA News*, Paulette will give more insight into the ongoing work of this program and share her experience with the membership.

Together is an annual collection of images and voices that span CTF International Cooperation. The 2003-2004 report highlights teacher organization cooperation and networking made possible by the support of Canadian Teachers, CIDA and Education International members. Further information on CTF's International Programs is available from this report.



ISSN 0317-5227

NBTA News is published ten times a year. Opinions expressed are those of the authors, not necessarily the NBTA.

Editor: Jim Dysart

Editorial Assistant: Loretta Clarke

Graphic Artist: Christy Price

Printed By: NBTF Printing Services

Member: CEPA

Address all correspondence to:

The Editor

P.O. Box 752, Fredericton, N.B.

E3B 5R6

Telephone: (506) 452-8921

FAX: (506) 453-9795

E-mail: nbtanews@nbnet.nb.ca

Web: www.nbta.ca

President's Message



Brian Bawn

Brian Bawn

I am assuming everyone survived Halloween and is now concentrating on the first home reports.

I want to begin this newsletter by thanking everyone who chooses to attend the Combined Council Conference in Moncton. A special "thank you" to Nancy Roach and the local organizing committee who have volunteered many hours to work on your behalf. At the time of writing this article, we have about 4000 teachers who have pre-registered for the conference. I look forward to seeing everyone in Moncton on the 11th and 12th of November at the social and conference.

Working in your NBTF Building is a wonderful experience and very much like working in a small school environment. All of the staff are assigned to specific roles but each person is a department of one. Like a small school, everyone is always on duty of some sort and has a wonderful ability to support each other and cover for each other so that there will always be someone available to attend your branch representative meetings, AGM's and retiring teachers' functions.

As time-consuming as it is, I think

the best change that has happened over the last few years, in NBTA, is the assigning of staff to liaise with our branches and to be there to answer their questions and offer support in running your branch meetings. I know from comments that I have received that branches really appreciate the personal contact and truly value their liaison person.

The negotiating process is moving along. We have completed the conciliation board meetings and we were able, in that process, to reduce the number of outstanding issues to a manageable number. You should have received a communiqué detailing those items. The chairman of the conciliation board has 30 days to write his report on the outstanding issues. We expect to receive the report mid to late November. At that time we will set up branch meetings to explain the report and to seek a vote on the report and binding arbitration. By NBTF policy, both the report and the vote on binding arbitration will be presented to members with a recommendation. Please watch for these branch meetings where you will receive the findings of the Conciliation Report and be able to ask pertinent questions before you vote.

We had some very good discussions at our October Board of Directors meetings on the attendance of student teachers at our Combined Council Conference in Moncton and the board supported the idea that student teachers should be able to attend the conference at no charge. This information will be communicated to all schools and refunds will be arranged.

We also had approval by the Board of the Ad Hoc Committee on Inclusionary Practices that the Executive Committee recommended striking. This action resulted from concerns raised by teachers, at both our Board of Directors meetings and AGM, of the growing concern in

teacher workload related to the servicing of the ever-increasing number of special needs students in our schools. The discussion centered around gathering information from teachers through both focus groups and a survey of members. The government is supposed to be reviewing the whole area of special needs services this school year. This information will help us in expressing your concerns to the person reviewing these services about class composition, teacher workload, underfunding of education, and lack of resources to adequately meet the needs of our students. We hope that when you are asked to participate that you will take the time to raise your concerns and express your opinions.

There was also a concern raised by some Board members that the additional funding to districts to add additional resources at the classroom level does not seem to be filtering down to the classroom. We will raise this concern at our next meeting with Department officials.

In a recent national public opinion poll commissioned by the Canadian Teachers' Federation (CTF), of which we are a member, it was reported that 76% of those surveyed agreed that class sizes in public schools were too large. The poll revealed what we, as educators, already know, but it is encouraging to see that the public believes that this should be the number one spending priority in education. It is interesting to hear the argument that reducing class size is too costly and doesn't have much effect on student performance, yet whenever other provinces have an opportunity to lower class size they do it. What do they know that New Brunswick doesn't?

To all my friends at MGT, I only have nine months remaining in my term of office. Before you know it I will be back home and you will have to suffer with my return. I look forward to seeing you soon.

NBTA Sponsored Professional Courses

NBTA Sponsored Professional Courses will be offered after Christmas. Please see the NBTA website www.nbta.ca for full details re course costs, registration form, etc.

Please register by December 1 to ensure that courses will have sufficient numbers to proceed. Cheques may be post dated to the first day of class.

These courses are approved toward Certificate 5 and are also excellent for professional growth. Our teachers have consistently applauded their value. Register early to avoid disappointment!

Course No.	Course Name	Instructor	Location	Start Date/Time
STAR-05W	Successful Teaching for Acceptance of Responsibility	Shelley Ward-Cain	Dist. 16 Office Miramichi	12 Wednesdays (6-9) Start Jan. 5
MAGIC-05W	Meaningful Activities to Generate Interesting Classrooms	Derek O'Brien	St. Stephen Elem.	8 Weds. - Start Jan. 5, Plus 2 Sats. - Jan.22, Feb.19 (9-4)
CL-05W	Achieving Student Outcomes Through Cooperative Learning	Joy Hanson	NBTF Building Fredericton	Fri. (6-9), Sat. (9-12) Start Jan.7/8 6 alternating weekends
LR-05W	Learning to Read: Beginning Reading Instruction	Anne Senechal	Carleton North High Bristol	Tues. & Thurs. (4-5:30) Jan.4, Jan. 6, through to March 31
DM-05S	Designing Motivation for All Learners	Julie Kilcollins	Southern Victoria High Perth-Andover	8 Tuesdays (6-9) Start Mar. 22 Plus 2 Sats. - Apr 2, May 14 (9-4)
DM-05S	Designing Motivation for All Learners	Jill Beaulieu	KVHS - Quispamsis	Fri. (6-9) Mar 18, Sat.(9-12) Mar. 19 5 Tuesdays - Mar. 29 - Apr. 30 (6-9) 2 Sats. (9-4) Apr. 30, May 7
DM-05S	Designing Motivation for All Learners	Pam Sheridan	MacNaughton High Moncton	10 Thursdays (6-9) Start Mar. 17 Plus 2 Sats (9-12) Mar. 19, Apr. 23
TLC-05S	Teaching Through Learning Channels	Cheryl Miles	Oromocto High Oromocto	12 Tuesdays (6-9) Start March 15
LR-05S	Learning to Read: Beginning Reading Instruction	Kathy Prosser	School TBA Rexton	6 Sats. - Mar. 19, Apr. 2, Apr 9, Apr. 16, Apr. 23, Apr. 30 (9-4)
LR-05S	Learning to Read: Beginning Reading Instruction	Philip Sexsmith	Dist. 08 Office Millidgeville North	6 Saturdays (9-4) May 7 - June 11

NBTA STAFF

Bob Fitzpatrick(452-1721) (fitzpatr@nbnet.nb.ca)
Executive Director

Jim Dysart(452-1821) (dysartj@nbnet.nb.ca)
Deputy Executive Director
Director of Communications & Research

Melinda Cook (452-1839) (cookm@nb.aibn.com)
Director of Curriculum & Administration

Nancy Roach (452-1750) (roachn@nbnet.nb.ca)
Director of Professional Development

Larry Jamieson (452-1722) (jamiesonl@nbnet.nb.ca)
Director of Teacher Welfare Services

PROFESSIONAL COUNSELLING SERVICE FOR TEACHERS

Ann Kennedy (462-0208), 1-800-561-1727
(kenneda@nbnet.nb.ca) Coordinator

Betsy Colwell-Burley
(634-2901), 1-800-563-3938, Counsellor/Consultant

Niel Cameron
(855-5243), 1-888-763-5050, Counsellor/Consultant

NBTF STAFF

Robert Gagné (452-1736)
Executive Director

Kevin Sheehan (452-1737) (sheehank@nbnet.nb.ca)
Deputy Executive Director

Marilyn Boudreau (452-1830)(marilyn.boudreau@nb.aibn.com)
NBTF Labour Relations Officer

2005 Toyota Earth Day Scholarship Program

Cultivating Tomorrow's Environmental Leaders

Canadians who share a passion for the environment are doing their part to make a difference. Every day, thousands of teenagers who share this deep commitment are stepping forward to take on environmental issues in their communities by organizing or volunteering for school and community initiatives. Many of them will become tomorrow's environmental leaders.

To help cultivate and nurture this environmental leadership, Toyota Canada and Earth Day Canada established the Toyota Earth Day Scholarship Program. This entrance scholarship encourages and rewards graduating high school students and Québec junior college students who have distinguished themselves through environmental community service, extracurricular and volunteer activities, and academic excellence.

Because environmental issues are increasingly being tackled by people in different occupations, future

environmental leaders will come from a broad range of academic backgrounds. The Toyota Earth Day Scholarship is unique, in that it is offered to students entering their first year of post-secondary studies in the discipline of their choice, to

of \$5000 each. Regional panels of community, business and environmental leaders will select the winners who best meet the selection criteria. Awards will be granted in five geographic areas:



- Atlantic Canada – 2 awards
- Québec – 4 awards
- Ontario – 4 awards
- Western Canada /Northwest Territories/Nunavut – 3 awards
- British Columbia/Yukon – 2 awards

prepare themselves for the career of their choice.

Toyota Canada and Earth Day Canada are extremely proud of this scholarship and the 25 outstanding recipients over the past two years. The Toyota Earth Day Scholarship Program is now accepting applications for its third annual scholarship awards. **The deadline for applications is January 31, 2005.**

The Toyota Earth Day Scholarship Program annually grants 15 awards

A national winner – selected from the 15 regional winners – will also be awarded an Outstanding Environmental Achievement Award and a Panasonic CF50 Toughbook™ notebook computer. The National Award Ceremony will be held in Toronto on **Earth Day (April 22), 2005.**

For applications and more information, please visit earthday.ca or email scholarship@earthday.ca.

Teaching Astronomy?

Skyways Makes it Easy!

Skyways Astronomy Handbook for Teachers is the best classroom astronomy resource you can buy.

Skyways is:

- Canadian curriculum-specific • Hands-on & fun activities
- Geared for grades 4 – 9 requirements

Skyways contains:

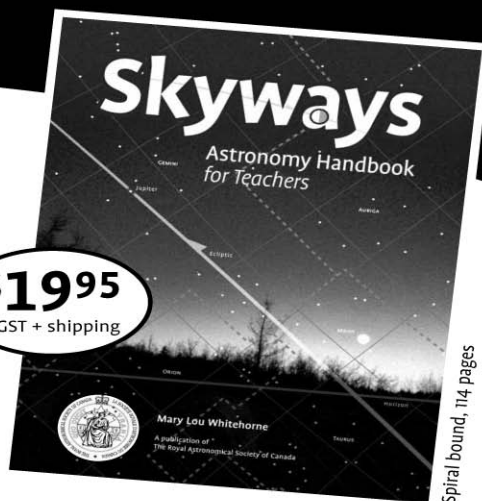
- Concepts
- Teacher info
- Worksheets
- Resource lists
- Canadian astronomy contributions
- FAQ's & more

Skyways has:

- Seasons
- Moon Phases & Tides
- Sun
- Stars
- Constellations
- Distance
- Milky Way, Galaxies & the Universe

\$19⁹⁵

+ GST + shipping



Spiral bound, 114 pages



TO ORDER:

Internet: www.store.rasc.ca
(Up to 4 copies can be ordered through the RASC e-store with a credit card)

or **Telephone:** 416-924-7973 (toll-free in Canada 888-924-RASC)
Fax: 416-924-2911 **E-Mail:** orders@rasc.ca
Mail: RASC Orders, 136 Dupont Street, Toronto ON M5R 1V2 Canada
Bulk orders (10 copies +) please call 416-924-7973

Paid Advertisement

High School Students and Teachers Visit China

As part of the ongoing educational partnership between New Brunswick high schools and UNBSJ and Beijing Concord College of Sino Canada, five high school teachers and several students travelled to China this past summer. Following are highlights from three of the teachers' experiences.

Janet Cooper

Following a 1997 Canadian Trade Mission, New Brunswick entered into an educational partnership with Beijing Concord College of Sino Canada that involved high schools and the University of New Brunswick - Saint John Campus.

The 2003 - 2004 school year was the first time that School District 15 was a participant in the Enhanced Program, even though Bathurst High School had been involved in Winter Camp for several years. From February 2004 to June 2004, Dalhousie Regional High School and Sugarloaf Senior High School hosted 19 BCCSC Grade 11 students. They were billeted with local families, attended school and were accompanied by a group of Chinese

teachers who were also billeted in the area. It was truly a community and school altering experience, one that we hope to continue this year. We will know by November if a second group will come to our school this winter.

The reciprocal part of the exchange program is Summer Camp. Summer 2004 was the 5th Annual. Twenty-eight New Brunswick students and 5 chaperones went to China for 17 days from July 28 to August 14,



Janet Cooper with students from Dalhousie Regional High School and Sugarloaf Senior High School.

2004. The picture in Tiananmen Square is of me and the 10 students from DRHS and SSHS. Every student who applied to attend camp got to go. With the financial assistance of the schools and with a little bit of creative fundraising (a special *thank-you* to the Dalhousie Rotary Club), we were able to minimize the cost of the trip for the students and what an adventure it was!!

The summer camp activities were at two campuses and

alternated between classroom days and field trip excursions. The classroom activities included music classes, seal carving, calligraphy, Chinese language classes, martial arts and folk dancing. The excursions included all of the historical sights, many wonderful meals and the company of new Chinese friends who truly understand the meaning of the word "hospitality."

I came back to Canada with great memories and beautiful souvenirs of silk, amber and pearls. The group of students that we travelled with represented communities from around the province. They were a pleasure to travel with and great ambassadors for the Province of New Brunswick!

Gary Anderson

During July 29 - August 13, 28 New Brunswick high school students and five high school teachers visited China. The teachers involved were: Janet Cooper from Dalhousie High, Colleen Ramsay from Bathurst High, Jeannie O'Neill from Miramichi Valley High, Reg Bonnell from Leo Hayes High, and Gary Anderson from J.M.A. Armstrong High.

They visited two schools: the

TEACH IN THE SUNNY SOUTHERN STATES!

VIF places qualified teachers in the U.S. You'll receive round-trip travel, a competitive salary, benefits, a full orientation and unparalleled support. It's the best way to enrich your professional career while enjoying fantastic weather and international travel. Minimum requirements include teaching or related professional experience and teacher certification. E-mail us at canada@vifprogram.com and visit us at www.vifprogram.com. It'll change your life - as well as the students' - forever. ★ ★ ★ ★



Paid Advertisement

Concord College of Sino-Canada in Beijing and in Shenzhen.

The Beijing school was visited until August 9, then everyone boarded the train for a 24 hour trip to southern China and the city of Shenzhen.

Areas visited in Beijing were: The Great Wall, The Forbidden City, Tia Square, The Temple of Heaven, The Summer Palace, and lots of shopping venues.

Also, during the stay in Beijing, the school graduation was held and attended by the teachers. This was held in The Great Hall of the People. During the weekend of the graduation, the students were hosted in the homes of their Chinese buddies and their families.

Two highlights for me were: walking on the Great Wall and experiencing its magnitude, and meeting some wonderful, new friends who were eager to learn about Canada and the English language.

One unfortunate experience for me was receiving a counterfeit 50 yuan bill.

Some facts re population: Beijing



This is the group departing Shenzhen to go to Hong Kong airport to return home.

- 15 000 000 and Shenzhen (The Florida of China) 8 000 000.

Jean O'Neill

The only opportunity we had to e-mail news back home was early in the morning - before breakfast, so I had an early rise. July 31 was spent in class, with 32 degrees and high humidity. That evening, while showering, I encountered the first wildlife in my room — a huge silverfish (about 1 1/2" long) which ended up down the drain. August 1 was the same when we visited the Great Wall. I made the trek up with one of my students for 2 hours, but opted to take a ski lift kind of ride

down.

I was responsible for teaching eight Chinese students English. I taught them twice a day for five different class days. They were fun and eager to learn. One lesson was about snack food and I collected all the Canadian food we had — Jelly Belly Jellybeans, Twix bars, Rice Krispie squares, crackers and peanut butter. They brought lots of interesting foods for me to try. After class I went to a seal

carving class where you carve your name in Chinese characters into a soft stone. Hard work, but the teacher made it look so easy.

On Wednesday evening, August 4, we had a ladies' night out on "Beijing" town. We hired local drivers who sit outside the school gates waiting for staff who need transportation. That's how they make a living. We enjoyed a delicious meal — I even tried Sushi. Then we drove around town in a rickshaw. It was an enchanting journey around tree-lined streets, canals and even Tiananmen Square and Forbidden City. Beijing is such a friendly city.



These are the eight English students that Jean O'Neill taught in China.



(L-R) Reg Bonnell, Jean O'Neill, Education Minister Madeline Dubé, Janet Cooper, Colleen Ramsay and Gary Anderson in Beijing.

Eighty Percent of Learning Involves Vision

In cooperation with the New Brunswick Association of Optometrists, NBTA News will be providing information to teachers as to what signs might indicate a vision problem with a child. The first of three appears here with the following two in December and January.

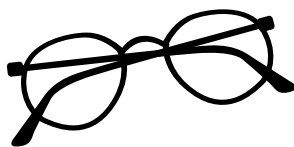
It can be hard for a teacher or parent to spot vision-related learning problems

As important as it is to detect them, it is often very difficult for a teacher to spot some vision difficulties in a student. Some vision conditions, such as myopia, can come with obvious symptoms such as squinting or inability to see at far, for example. Other vision problems can interfere with learning, yet are difficult for teachers or parents to identify as vision-related.

Significant farsightedness can produce short attention span when dealing with near tasks, fidgeting, disruptiveness and an inability to concentrate all can be mistakenly be blamed on non-visual causes. Similar symptoms can arise with astigmatism, a condition which can allow a child to see fairly well, but makes detail difficult to focus on. Also, significant phorias (eye muscle imbalances), can allow a child to see well, but maintaining focus on details at either far or near become

uncomfortable. This is because an unusually large amount of effort is required to keep the eyes aligned, leading to fatigue, blurred or double vision and difficulty concentrating.

Another vision problem which can produce such symptoms is anisometropia, or inequality of



power of the two eyes. This can result in the two eyes continuously being out of step with each other, causing eye fatigue and inability to sustain detailed vision tasks. The additional risk with unequal vision in the two eyes is the danger of permanently reduced vision in the weaker eye, known as amblyopia, or lazy eye. With amblyopia it is said that "eight can be too late". In fact, the earlier it is detected, preferably

before age three, the more easily it can be permanently reversed by use of eyeglasses and patching.

Vision and ocular health conditions are not always accompanied by recognizable symptoms, which makes you, the educator, an ideal candidate in identifying 'visually at risk' children.

Your classroom is a sight to see.

Look around your classroom. It's full of information, stimulation and inspiration! There's information to be seen on the chalkboards, walls, written on books and handouts and on posters. As an educator you recognize the importance of vision, but did you know that over 80% of learning involves vision and that every student benefits from regular eye health exams?

Children who are suspected of having vision problems need to receive a comprehensive evaluation by an optometrist, to ensure they are seeing clearly and comfortably, and learning to their full potential.

Students Design 2005 Anti-Litter Calendar

Thirteen winning entries were chosen from close to 400 anti-litter design submissions from across the country for inclusion in the 2005 Anti-Litter Calendar, sponsored by the Environment and Plastics Industry Council (EPIC). The contest asked elementary students from kindergarten to grade eight to create a poster with a strong anti-littering message. The contest launched in September 2003 and closed on June 15, 2004.

"We were amazed at the number of entries that we received," comments Cathy Cirko, Director General, EPIC. "Students all across Canada rose to the challenge and created some really imaginative designs that help illustrate the need for anti-littering behaviour."

The calendars will be distributed



to the winning students, as well as to government officials and the educational community. An electronic version of the calendar has also been posted to the Anti-Litter web site <www.plastics.ca/anti-litter> and the EPIC web site <www.plastics.ca/epic>

"The idea is to get everyone on side in helping in the fight against litter," adds Cirko. "We think this calendar is one way of reminding people that there's no time like the present. All of the students are very much aware of the fact that we need to stop littering, as is demonstrated in their very convincing submissions."

EPIC is an industry initiative dedicated to the responsible use and recovery of plastics resources. EPIC is a council of the Canadian Plastics Industry Association.

The front cover design was done by Mirella Jupic, a Grade 5 student at Royal Road School, Fredericton, N.B. The NBTA congratulates Mirella on being one of the 13 winning entries.



FAQ's about Purchase of Service

1. What is a 'purchase of service'?

The purchase of pensionable service is available to employees on an optional basis through the Teachers' Pension Act (TPA). The TPA allows employees to purchase qualifying periods of employment while they were not contributing to a pension plan.

2. What are the advantages of purchasing service?

- your retirement pension will be increased
- you may become eligible to retire earlier
- you may purchase service through a variety of payment methods

3. Who can purchase service?

As a teacher, you can purchase pensionable service if you are currently under contract and participating in the Teachers' Pension Plan AND you have an eligible type (period) of service. If you DO NOT meet these criteria, your application will be refused.

4. What types of service can be purchased?

If one of these types of service applies to you, it may be an eligible period that you can purchase:

- up to a maximum of two (2) years of leave of absence (must immediately follow a period of full-time teaching)
- up to a maximum of one (1) year of leave to return to school full-time to upgrade teaching qualifications
- periods of maternity/paternity/adoption leave without pay
- service for which you have received a refund from the Teachers' Pension Plan
- any service while under contract as a local permit teacher
- any service (after 1991) in public and Native schools in Canada and in Commonwealth schools
- supply teaching service accumulated in NB public schools

5. What are the financial

constraints?

If you wish to purchase pensionable service, you should be aware that provisions of the Income Tax Act limit your purchase:

- some rules limit the amount you can deduct from taxable income
- some rules limit the amount of service you can purchase
- purchase of service periods after 1989 limit the amount of money you can contribute to RRSPs

6. How much does it cost per period of service for each plan?

Costs for eligible periods of service are based on your current biweekly salary, the number of years you want to purchase, and the contribution rate of the recognized plan. The cost of purchasing pension service is always based on your salary and contribution rate at the time you apply to purchase the eligible service.

7. How can I pay if I decide to purchase service?

You can choose between any combination of the following payment methods:

- lump sum (personal cheque, post-dated cheques, money order)
- retirement allowance (only at the time of retirement)
- direct transfer of funds from a personal RRSP (no tax deducted)
- payroll deduction

8. How do I apply to purchase pensionable service?

If you are interested in a purchase of eligible service, you should contact your School District Human Resources Officer and request an Application to Purchase Pensionable Service. You can apply to purchase pensionable service at any time of the year.

9. If I submit an application, then decide not to proceed, can I apply in the future?

You can reapply but you have to take the following points into consideration:

- if you anticipate an increase in

salary, the cost will be based on that new salary, which means it will cost you more to purchase the service

- the eligibility and cost will be determined based upon rules at time of your new application

10. How can I decide if I want to purchase service?

You can start by accessing the on-line Purchase of Service Estimate Calculator available at the following addresses:

<http://www.gnb.ca/0163/pension/1/poseca/posecaIntro-e.asp>

<http://www.nbta.ca>

This will give you an estimate of the cost of purchasing the eligible service you are interested in. If you are seriously considering a purchase, complete a purchase of service application and have your human resource or payroll officer forward it to the Public Service Employee Benefits Division (PSEBD), Office of Human Resources.

11. How long will it take to complete a purchase of service?

If you send a purchase of service application to PSEBD, you can expect it to take 4-6 months before you will receive the cost of the purchase. Why? Within the last two years, demands for purchasing service have increased dramatically because pension plans have been amended to offer the opportunity of a purchase to employees.

For more information on purchase of service, you can contact:

Larry Jamieson
Director of Teacher Welfare Services
New Brunswick Teachers' Association

Tel: 452-1722

Email: jamiesonl@nbnet.nb.ca

OR

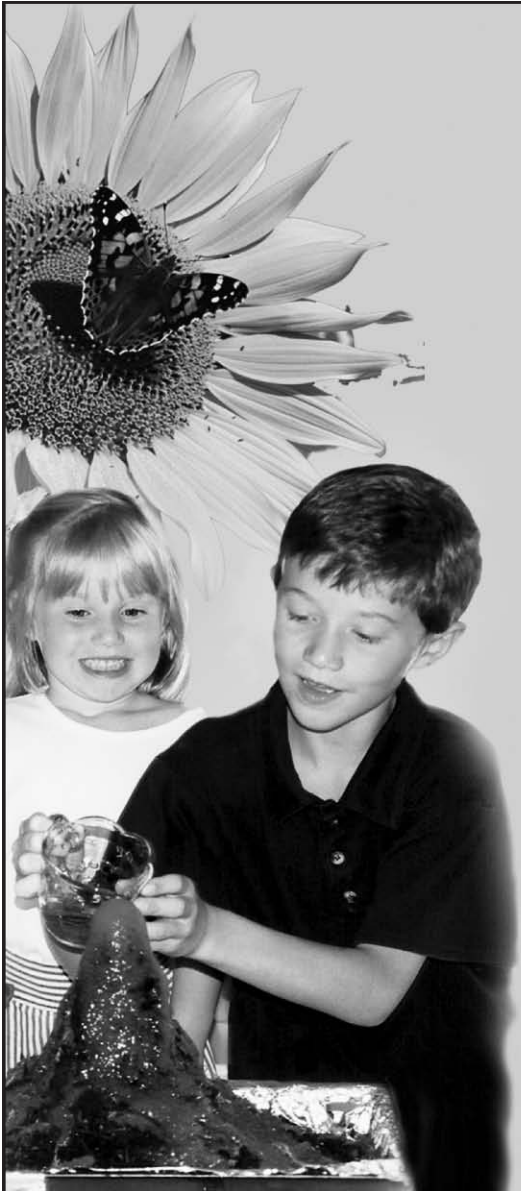
Public Service Employees Benefits Division (PSEBD)

Office of Human Resources

Tel: 453-2296 or 1-800-561-4012

OR

your School District Human Resources Officer



Upgrade Your Teaching Certificate Classification Level!

Distance Education Courses For Busy Teachers

- Choose from 9 courses, each offering 3.5 Graduate Level semester credits
- Acquire up to one extra year of University Grad Credit (31.5 semester credits)
- All courses are fully accredited through Portland State University. Travel is not required.

- **CONVENIENT**
- **AFFORDABLE**
- **MANAGEABLE**

**Call or visit our web site
for further information:**

Toll Free: 1.877.531.6665

info@montessoritraining.net

**www.montessoritraining.net/
psucourses.asp**

2004-2005 NBTA PRE-RETIREMENT SEMINARS REGISTRATION FORM

Please accept my application to attend the NBTA Pre-Retirement Seminar to be held on (check one):

DATE OF SEMINAR _____

DEADLINE FOR REGISTRATION _____

- | | |
|--|--|
| <p>_____ November 24 - Bristol, Carleton North Senior High →</p> <p>_____ December 4 - Saint John, Simonds High</p> <p>_____ January 8 - Fredericton, NBTF Building</p> <p>_____ January 22 - Chatham, Dr. Losier Middle School</p> <p>_____ February 5 - Sussex, Sussex High School</p> | <p>November 16 →</p> <p>November 26</p> <p>December 17</p> <p>January 14</p> <p>January 28</p> |
|--|--|

**Date & Time
Change**

for Bristol Session Only!

Registration @ 5:00 pm
Session @ 5:30-8:30 pm

Name of Teacher: _____ S.I. No. _____

Mailing Address: _____ Dist. _____

_____ Name of Spouse (if attending) _____

No. of pension years you will have accumulated to June 2005 _____ Certificate Level: _____

Are you planning to buy back time? _____ If "yes", how much time? _____

Do you have Responsibility Allowance? Yes _____ No _____ (If "yes", contact your payroll officer at your District Office and have your last 5 years' salary history faxed to Karen Vautour, 453-9795)

I am enclosing a cheque in the amount of \$5.00 / \$10.00 (please circle one) to cover the cost of registration; nutrition break, and materials to be supplied. Please make cheque payable to *New Brunswick Teachers' Association*.

I hereby authorize the NBTA to obtain information from the Public Service Employee Benefits Division pertaining specifically to my pensionable service records. This information will be utilized to prepare my individual pension estimates for retirement purpose only.

YES NO

Signature: _____

SEMINAR GUIDELINES

The following guidelines should be noted for participation in these seminars:

1. All participants must pre-register.
2. A registration fee of \$5.00 for each participant must accompany the application; however, cheques will not be cashed until after the workshop.
3. Travel and accommodation costs are the responsibility of the participant.
4. A nutrition break will be provided.
5. Questions relating to these seminars should be directed to:

Larry Jamieson
Director of Teacher Welfare Services
New Brunswick Teachers' Association
P.O. Box 752
Fredericton, N.B. E3B 5R6 (Tel. 452-1722)

6. Any interested teachers are eligible to attend.
7. All workshops begin with registration at 8:30 am and sessions at 9:00 am until 1:00 pm.
8. Detach and return the registration form as soon as possible.

PROGRAM

- Teachers' Pension Act
- The Canada Pension Plan
- Pension Records (will be available at meeting if possible)
- Pension Calculations
- Old Age Security
- Retirement Allowance
- Pre-retirement Vacations
- Deferred Salary Leave Plans
- Financial Planning for Retirement:
 - RRSPs
 - Annuities
 - Registered Retirement Income Funds
- Individual Consultations



PLEASE NOTE: YOU WILL RECEIVE CONFIRMATION WITHIN ONE WEEK OF CONFERENCE.

Making Meaning

By Nancy Roach
 Director of Professional Development
 roachn@nbnet.nb.ca

*"We've taught you that the earth is round,
 That red and white make pink.
 And something else that matters more -
 We've taught you how to think!"*
 —Dr. Seuss

In the wonderful book, *Hooray for Diffendoofer Day*, which I have shared with many of you in presentations throughout this past year, the students of Diffendoofer School perform marvelously on a 'special test' that they were not aware they would be taking. Of course, as always, the fanciful poetry of Dr. Seuss is grounded in both fantasy and reality. It does, however, send a message to teachers that is reinforced by research.

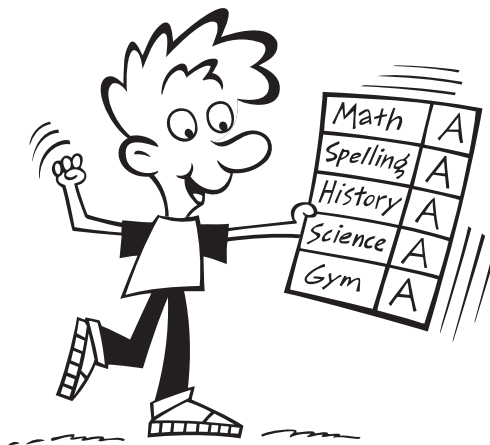
Does teaching kids to 'think', to make meaning from their lessons, actually result in higher achievement on test scores? The answer is "yes". The National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) is a series of comprehensive tests conducted by the U.S. Department of Education. "A clear pattern emerges from the data: across subjects, teaching for meaning is associated with higher NAEP scores" (*Facts or Critical Thinking: What NAEP Results Say*, Educational Leadership September 2004).

The NAEP findings are backed up by the Trends in Mathematics and Science Study (TIMSS 1999) which also suggests that teaching to the test is not the best way to achieve higher test scores.

Not only does teaching for meaning produce better results, it also "is more apt to engage the learner and yield meaningful, lasting learning" (*You Can Teach For Meaning*, Educational Leadership September 2004). The authors dispel another myth, that teachers

have too much content to actually take the time to get students to think, ask critical questions and make meaning. They suggest that 'uncoverage'...that is, focusing on fewer topics and core understandings is a better approach to real learning.

Maybe it's time to go back to the old Blooms Taxonomy chart. Those of you in my vintage will have spent time with the steps of knowledge, comprehension, application, analysis, synthesis and evaluation. Are you stuck with teaching knowledge? Asking for factual recall? Can you create opportunities



for your students to grapple with real world problems, see the relationships between their curriculum and their world, use old ideas to make new ones, make choices, judge ideas?

This is a great activity for a teaching team or partnership. Why not take a unit of study you have planned and examine it together for higher order thinking skills? If they are not present, perhaps you can reduce the content and allow for the time it takes to really have students question, challenge and apply concepts in ways that will be meaningful.

How do you do it? One teacher

wrote about reducing his explanations and turning instead to demonstrations, metaphors and stories. When explaining seemed absolutely necessary, he employed other students to assist in those explanations. He recognized that their brain connections matched what the students needed in better ways than his brain did! Food for thought, isn't it? (*The Art of Changing the Brain*, also in EL September 2004)

It isn't easy changing classrooms from fact focused to meaning making. The three articles I have referenced have good ideas that can form a starting place for teachers who think it is worth the effort (in fact, the entire September issue of EL is terrific!). Why not try a few steps in this direction. Like the students at Diffendoofer School, your students may respond with Hooray, Hooray, Hooray (and who knows, your test scores may improve too!)

More on Assessment

Last month I wrote a lead piece titled *Assessing Our Assessment* that encouraged teachers to give some thought to how we approach the entire challenge of assessing our students. After writing it, I was pleased to encounter two excellent articles in the September issue of **Phi Delta Kappan**. *Working Inside the Black Box: Assessment for Learning in the Classroom* is a great article based on extensive research in England. While it is a bit long, the various sections could be really useful for staffs as they contain many examples of the 'how' of this work....how did real groups of teachers in schools in England attempt to change their practice to make their assessment more authentic. It is worth reading.

The second article in the same issue is by Rick Stiggins, one of the leading gurus in this field. Written in straightforward language, *New Assessment Beliefs for a New School*

Mission” challenges a number of beliefs that have been mistakenly accepted in education systems around the world. Stiggins endorses a balanced approach that makes use of both classroom assessment and standardized tests, but for different purposes. Schools that are working on making assessment more meaningful would benefit from both of these articles.

Learning to Think as Scientists

An article by the same name appears in the Fall 2004 issue of *JSD*. The theme of the issue is Science and Math. This first article shares the progress of a district of schools as they attempted to change from ‘content science’ to ‘inquiry science’. (I guess that’s more teaching for meaning again!) In *Students’ Ideas About Math* (also *JSD* Fall 2004) the authors also explore an approach to Math that involves students writing as a means of exploring their ideas. Elementary Science/Math teachers and mentors would benefit from these readings.

Asperger Syndrome and Social Skills

I always have many requests from teachers when I reference articles related to Asperger Syndrome. I learned a lot from “*Teaching Social Savvy to Students With Asperger Syndrome*” (*Middle School Journal* September 2004). Not only does it provide an excellent summary of the uniqueness of the condition, but also it shares an approach that one Middle School found particularly successful for increasing social adeptness with students who are coping with the syndrome.

Debate: Another Way to Teach Thinking!

When I recall my Language Arts teaching days, I have fond memories of the units on Debate that my teaching partner and I incorporated into our middle school curriculum. Debate offers an approach to meeting numerous outcomes required at both the middle school and high school levels. I applaud the efforts of Debate/Debat NB, a

volunteer organization that organizes debating tournaments and encourages the use of debate in schools. Check their website <http://www.debatenb.freervers.com/> for more info. The NBTf also has copies of several videos which the organization has provided to help teachers understand more about this rich teaching and learning opportunity. You and your students will be glad you explored it!

Closing Quote:

“Humans are meaning seeking individuals. We need to make meaning - to make sense of our lives - just as we need to breathe. We would be wise to put that need at the center of the work we do in schools.”

—J Ancess “Snapshots of Meaning Making Classrooms”

Fredericton Lakeview
Inns & Suites
NBTA Weekend Getaway!

Take you and your family away for the weekend and enjoy our spacious suites for a special rate of \$75.00 plus tax. Included with your two-room suite is a Continental Plus breakfast, free movie rentals and complimentary wireless access. It’s a great way to get ahead on Christmas shopping.

This offer is only valid at the Fredericton location to NBTA members for Friday, Saturday, and Sunday nights, during the months of November and December. Present your NBTA membership card at check-in to receive this weekend rate.



Graduate Courses for
Teachers

Upgrade your teacher certification through

- Distance Learning
- Summer Institutes
- Evening and Weekend Classes

Programs include

- Educational Technology
- Curriculum Studies
- Leadership
- Special Education
- Counselling

Beginning Online 2004

- Philosophy of Education
- Introduction to Educational Tech.
- Research Literacy
- Curriculum Foundations
- Theoretical Developments in Curriculum Studies
- Principles of Assessment
- Community Perspectives on School and Society

Summer Institutes 2005

- Inclusive Education (July 7-21)
- Learning and Technology (July 28-August 11)



Wolfville, Nova Scotia B4P 2R6
<http://conted.acadiau.ca>
continuing.education@acadiau.ca
(800) 565-6568 (902) 585-1434
Fax(902) 585-1068

ACADIA
UNIVERSITY

Continuing and Distance Education

Elementary Council News



Can you believe that it is November already? I certainly can't believe how fast the past two months have flown by. Elementary students and staff throughout our province have been working hard and I would like to take this opportunity to say "keep up the great work!"

Your Elementary Council Executive will be having its first meeting of the 2004/2005 school year on Thursday, November 11th at 2:30 pm. We will be meeting in Moncton the day before our joint council day, *Learning Today - Teaching Tomorrow*. We hope that everyone enjoys this exciting day full of important presentations, interesting displays and wonderful friends.

We hope that you have all checked out our web-site! It is pretty easy and full of lots of interesting tidbits of information. Simply go to the NBTA website at www.nbta.ca. Once there, click on the Councils button, click on Elementary Council and you are there! The site is full of information about your Council and it has lots of good ideas for your classroom. If you have any ideas or suggestions for this site, please feel free to contact Lisa Kerr at kerrlisa@nbed.nb.ca.



Children from Port Elgin School at Capitol Theatre.

Students in District 2 enjoyed a wonderful day of theatre on October 6th. Many elementary students from across this district went to the Touring Players Theatre production of "The Velveteen Rabbit" at Moncton's beautiful Capitol Theatre. The play was a mixture of song and story-telling and was very well received by all students who attended.

Grade K-3 students from Port Elgin Regional School enjoyed a beautiful picnic lunch at Centennial Park in Moncton after the play. It was a beautiful, crisp fall day and everyone certainly enjoyed the wonderful display of fall colours at the park!

Staff and students of Port Elgin Regional School are proud to report that their school is currently in Phase 3 of its Community Park project. The school has been going through many changes throughout the past few years. A new soccer field, new playground equipment for grades K-3 and 4-8, baseball field, paths and a new parking lot are only a few of the many wonderful things that have happened in and around our school.

Trees have been planted throughout the school grounds, two outdoor classrooms are currently in use and plans for an outdoor



Children from Port Elgin School at Centennial Park.

amphitheatre are underway! Mrs. Pat Legere's Grade 3 class also spent some time planting a butterfly garden on the K-3 end of the school. The plants they planted were specifically chosen to attract butterflies and other wonderful insects to the park. The Park project has certainly taken a lot of time to plan and prepare, but the results are beautiful!

As promised in the last issue of the *NBTA News*, this column will also feature information about the members of the Elementary Council

Executive. This month we are learning a little more about my partner in the Communications world, Debbi Sloan. Debbi has been teaching at Port Elgin Regional School for the past 11 years. She is currently teaching a Grade 1 class and Kindergarten Physical Education. Debbi has been a member of the Elementary Council for the past three years. She has served as a Member-at-Large, she co-writes the Elementary Council News



Debbi Sloan

and she is also our current Second Vice-President. She recently purchased a beautiful property along the shores of the Northumberland Strait where she, her daughter and her fiancé enjoy sailing their catamaran and raising their lambs.

As November 11th approaches, please take the time to teach students about the importance of

this day. Remembrance Day is a special day and students and staff should discuss the meaning and significance of this day to ensure that our Veterans are properly acknowledged.

Please feel free to write to us with any news from around the province. We love to hear about exciting field trips, fun lessons and cool classroom

projects. Our email addresses are natalie.richardson@nbed.nb.ca and deb Sloan@nbed.nb.ca . We hope to hear from you soon. Have a wonderful Council Day!

Sincerely,
Natalie Richardson
Port Elgin Regional School

President's Message

I am looking forward to seeing you at Council Day. I know I will find the sessions informative and the renewal of friendships uplifting. I've been teaching for so long now that I remember when not every teacher had the opportunity to attend. So, I still consider being able to attend a privilege, even though the Department of Education doesn't allow us nearly enough opportunities for professional development within the school calendar. The quality of the sessions and the great way the day was organized are things we pretty much take for granted from an organizing committee of volunteers. A mere *thank you* does not express the gratitude that I send their way. If you are interested in helping organize our next Council Day in

May 2006, please contact me.

Thank you for taking time to respond to our survey. Please be sure to bring it with you on the 12th. This information will help our curriculum committee prepare the report we will present to the Department in February. Our curriculum committee is composed of Ralph Williston (Council Liaison), Angela Ralph (02), Linda McCarten (06), Sylvie Gagnon (14), Beth Szymiest (15), Charlene Richardson (16) and Lisa Kerr (17). Each has agreed to represent the varied areas of our province with his/her expertise and insights into the local working environments.

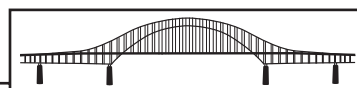
Our institutes committee has been busy planning workshops that we hope will benefit you in your daily teaching. Sandy Tingley is in

the process of organizing the first institute for this year. It will be of interest to primary French Immersion teachers. Although we had hoped for this to be held in early December, it will not happen until the new year. As well, the NBTA Elementary Council is a proud sponsor of the upcoming New Brunswick Physical Education Society's "Remember When" conference to be held in February.

I wish you well as you head into the busy reporting period and search for just the right words to express what you know needs to be said. All teachers, myself included, share the anxiety that comes with this very important opportunity to bring home and classroom together.

Rona Howald

Middle Level Council News



Bath Middle School Students Engage in School-wide Activities

Come to Bath Middle School any Wednesday afternoon and you will find students engaged in activities such as sign language, martial arts, building a birdhouse, biking or kite-making. These are just some of the activities students can choose during *Exploratory*, a 75-minute block

Each *Exploratory* session runs 3-4 weeks with school-wide events such as cooperative games or a career expo being planned between the start of a new group of sessions.

Exploratory allows students at each

grade level to interact with each other while sharing a common learning experience. It taps into the multiple intelligence of students and allows them to choose an activity that interests them, resulting in all students experiencing success in at least one component of school. This has proven to build a more collaborative school population and stronger teacher-student relationships.

Exploratory not only benefits student learning, but has also

encouraged teachers to share their hobbies and special talents with students and has opened the doors to community members interested in sharing their time and interests with our middle school students.

Bath Middle School encompasses grades 5-8, with a student population of 118 and 7 teachers. An exciting academic year is certainly in store for this small rural school.

Katie Saunders
Bath Middle School

Combined Council Conference November 12

Middle Level Council is a proud supporter of this upcoming *amazing* conference. The speakers promise to be phenomenal, the opportunity to network will be useful, and the socials are bound to be loads of fun!

Please make sure and look for our **Middle Level Council Booth** in the publisher display area. We will be drawing for some awesome prizes and we want to make sure that *your* name is included in the eligible ballots.

Ballots will be available at our



booth, OR you could save time and bring the ballot included in this *NBTA News* along with you, already filled out. Only completely filled ballots will be picked. We are including a question on "**Your #1 Choice/Need for PD**" so as to gather information that we can use in

offering future conferences.

Winning entries will be drawn at 2:00 pm that day and will be posted on the general prize board. Prizes will be:

- **First:** Handmade/homemade quilt
- **Second:** Basket of Teacher "Stationary Items"
- **Third:** Todd Whitaker's book "What Great Teachers Do Differently"

Hope to see you at Council Day!

Tanya Whitney, President
tanya.whitney@nbed.nb.ca

NAME: _____

PHONE: _____

LEVEL: ELEMENTARY MIDDLE HIGH OTHER

WHAT WOULD BE YOUR #1 CHOICE FOR PD IN-SERVICE?



"Caught in the 'Middle' Thought"
Standardized Assessment?

Nancie Atwell (Middle Level literacy/writing guru) suggests that we treat "test text" as a genre of its own and teach it within this context. Our personal/political slant on standardized testing would be immaterial as we critiqued/explored/deconstructed this genre as we would any other genre (media, narrative, poetry, persuasive text, etc). Agree/disagree? Always hopeful to hear from a teacher with an opinion.

With comments on this thought or any other provoking thoughts, please contact: tanya.whitney@nbed.nb.ca

Middle Level Language Arts Conference

Plan to attend our council-sponsored conference for teaching Middle Level Language Arts in the spring — date to be confirmed shortly!! Location will be Fredericton and the conference will be sure to provide some timely support and ideas for our teachers.

Deadlines for submission of news to *NBTA News*

• November 19 • December 10 • February 4
• March 11 • April 8 • May 13 (Newsflash - 4p) • May 30

Inclusive Education Awards

Call for Nominations

The Canadian Association for Community Living, a Canada-wide association of family members and others, which works on behalf of persons of all ages who have an intellectual disability, is calling for nominations for the National Inclusive Education Awards.

The Inclusive Education Awards are presented to an individual or team who has made a positive and significant contribution to inclusive education in their province or territory.

The National Inclusive Education Award recipients are selected by Associations for Community Living in each province or territory. The New Brunswick Association for Community Living awards committee will be selecting two winners (one Francophone and one Anglophone) for the province of New Brunswick.

The awards ceremony will be held for the New Brunswick recipients during National Inclusive Education Week from December 6th to the 10th in Fredericton.

Nominations must be submitted to the New Brunswick Association for Community Living no later than Friday, November 12th.

For more information about the awards, contact : Christy Bennett, Communications Coordinator, NBACL/ANBIC, Toll free: 1-866-NBACL-4U (62225 48), Direct: (506) 453-4404, Email: cbennett@nbacnlb.ca

25th Annual NBTA Men Teachers' Curling Bonspiel

Carleton Curling Club,
Saint John, N.B.

January 21, 22, 23, 2005

Registration:
\$120.00 per team

Not more than 24 teams will be accepted on a first-come, first-served basis. Entries must include skip's name, address, telephone number, and team members.

(If you want to participate, but aren't on a team, contact Terry)

Send entries and cheque to:

**Terry Kilfoil, Chairperson,
NBTA Men Teachers' Curling
Bonspiel,
21 Meadow Drive,
Rothsay, N.B. E2H 1K9,
Tel: 847-5429, Fax: 847-5424
email: kilfoilt@nbnet.nb.ca**



A relationship you can trust.

At Johnson Inc., our service staff offer "best friend" advice on all of your home and auto insurance inquiries.

For a home and/or auto insurance quote, call or visit us online today.

When requesting your quote, please identify yourself as a NBTF Member and provide your Group ID Code: 63.

1.800.563.0677 or www.johnson.ca/nbtf



Paid Advertisement

Certification Update



Working Toward Certificate 5

If you are a teacher who graduated a number of years ago from a four-year B.Ed. program or if you were educated out of province and were granted a Cert 4 when you came to New Brunswick, you may want to consider upgrading to a Cert 5.

With new regulations now effective, the opportunities to complete a Cert 5 have never been greater. Here is a summary of what you need to move from a Cert 4 to a Cert 5:

- 36 credit hours (12 courses) of approved coursework (approved means that Yves King, the registrar of Teacher Certification at the Department of Education, has given you written approval before you take the course)
- 18 of these credit hours (6 courses) must be university courses at the 3000 level or higher
- the other 18 credit hours (6 courses) may be a combination of 1000 level university courses, AICE courses, NBTA courses or District courses that have been

approved by the Minister's Advisory Committee on Teacher Licensing and Certification (of course you may choose to do more 3000+ level university courses if you wish).

- Of these 18 credit hours, you may have no more than 4 of any of the listed types. For example, you may have 3 AICE courses and 3 NBTA, or perhaps 2 AICE, 3 NBTA and 1 1000-level university course. You could not have a combination of 1 AICE and 5 NBTA because that is more than 4 of one category.
- Courses you acquired in an earlier program that were not credited toward your B.Ed. may be applied, even if you took them a number of years ago (for example, you began a forestry degree then switched to Education. If there are Science or Math courses, that were not counted toward your B.Ed, they may be considered for your Cert 5). Yves King will determine this.
- You may take as long as you need to complete the Cert 5 and you may choose your university

courses from any universities. Your courses must be either Education courses or 'teachables', i.e., Mathematics, History, etc. Adult Ed courses are not accepted.

Where do you find information on AICE and NBTA courses?

Check the websites www.aiceonline.com and www.nbta.ca or watch for announcements in the *NBTA News*.

How do you get started?

Contact Yves King's office (yves.king@gnb.ca) and tell him you want to begin the work on your Cert 5. He will open your file. Each time you get approval for a course, he enters it. Once you have all 12 courses, you apply for the certificate upgrade. The application form for this is available on the NBTA website, www.nbta.ca.

By the way, the difference in salary from Cert 4 to Cert 5 (after 11 years of teaching) is approximately \$5000 per year! You deserve it (and you will have been exposed to a lot of new learning in the process)!

Directions to the Moncton Coliseum and Agrena

1. From Fredericton and Saint John

Take the Moncton Center exit, continue straight, through the lights to Coliseum on left.

2. From Prince Edward Island and Nova Scotia

Take 15 East to Killam Drive Exit, continue on Killam until Coliseum on left.

3. From Delta Beauséjour Hotel

Turn left onto Main Street, continue on Main until Causeway Traffic Circle. Turn right onto Wheeler Blvd and take Killam Exit.

4. From Crystal Palace

Turn left on Paul Street, continue to underpass, take left onto 15 East and continue to Killam Drive Exit.



“REMEMBER WHEN” CONFERENCE
ON HEALTH, PHYSICAL EDUCATION AND RECREATION
FEBRUARY 3 & 4, 2005

Keynote: “Lucien” Marshall Button

Thursday, February 3 – Fredericton High School
6pm Registration
7pm Welcome / Opening Remarks
7:15pm - 8:30pm “Lucien” Marshall Button
8:30pm NBPES Business Meeting
8:40pm - 10pm Carrousel & Social

Friday, February 4 – Marshall d’Avray Hall – University of New Brunswick
8am Registration (cont.)
8:30am – 9:10am Opening session – **Dr. Dennis Furlong**



Some sessions of note:

- **Marian Rose** - “Step Lively” Dance Program
- **Speed Stacks Inc.** (Cup Stacking with Speed Stack)
- **Marc Beaulé** - Tchoukball (a fast-growing sport)
- **Ted Temertzoglou** - Exercise Science and Healthy Active Living
- **Dr. Gabriela Tymowski** - “The problem of childhood obesity in Canada”

“Remember When” Conference 2005 – Registration Form

Name: _____

Address: _____

_____ Postal Code: _____

Telephone: _____ Email _____

School: _____

District #: _____

Please check off the following:

student PE teacher Classroom teacher Recreation

Health Professional Other (please indicate: _____)

Thursday only (\$15) Friday Only (\$40) Full Registration (\$50)

University Student : Thursday (\$10) Friday (\$5)



Please send form along with a cheque to:
“Remember When” Conference
c/o Shannon Ward

35 Maple Leaf Drive, Lincoln, N.B. E3B 7J1

*** Please make cheque payable to “Remember When” Conference ***
(receipts will be issued at registration)



For additional information contact:
Diane Hoyt (506) 444-3095 diane.hoyt@nbed.nb.ca or
Garth Wade (506) 444-4403 garth.wade@nbed.nb.ca

National Science and Technology Week (NSTW'04) — a fun and learning experience

The 15th annual National Science and Technology Week (NSTW'04) was held from Oct. 15 to 24, with the University of New Brunswick (Engineering, Science, and Forestry faculties) playing a key role during the 10-day national celebration. The main goal of this national event is to create an innovative culture that values entrepreneurship, fosters scientific research, aggressively applies new technologies, and creates awareness for the contribution that science and technology helps the economy and our way of life in Canada.

The family-oriented events held at the UNB Fredericton and UNB Saint John campuses, as well as at Science East, highlighted the diversity of impacts Science and Technology has on our lives from within and outside our communities. The Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada (NSERC), Natural Resources Canada, the New Brunswick Department of Natural Resources, and many other community science and technology companies

supported many of the events with UNB that were held over the week-long celebrations. Fredericton Member of Parliament and Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development, Andy Scott, kicked off the NSTW'04 celebrations at the UNB Wu Centre that was followed by public presentations from a diversity of UNB's key researchers in a variety of fields as follows:

- Dr. Rick Cunjak: The Science of Rivers; Life in the Fast Lane
- Dr. Esam Hussein: Research at UNB on Threat Detection
- Dr. Peter Kyberd: Biolithic Man (opposite of Bionic Man)
- Mr. David Foord: Commercialization of Research at UNB; Models and Examples
- Dr. Marc Schneider: Commercialization of Wood Polymer Technologies

There were twelve Science and Technology displays also at the event, as well as Science East participating that evening.

Although rain dampened the Science East event on the weekend, several hundred kids crammed the

centre with their parents, with Engineering and Science faculties having specific demonstrations and gifts (NRCan posters, pencils, tattoos, rock samples, etc. and NSERC hats for those answering skill-testing questions) for the children.

This was followed by a public-oriented Open House with the UNB Science, Engineering, and Forestry faculties at the UNB Science Library Complex with numerous neat displays, Science East demonstrations, and several highlighted research laboratory tours, including the Magnetic Resonance Imaging Research Centre, the Microanalysis and Microscopy Unit, the Laser Research Laboratory, and the Aquaculture Research Facilities.

To a packed lecture hall at Science East, Dr. James Whitehead presented a public talk entitled "Meteorite Impacts and Their Effects on Life on Earth" followed by an impact demonstration with video simulations of impact processes.



Left to right: Esam Hussein (UNB - Mechanical Engineering), Yves Gagnon (Regional Director NSERC Atlantic), Stephen Fox (NB Research and Productivity Council - Chief Financial Officer), The Right Honourable Andy Scott (MP, Fredericton), Peter Kyberd (UNB - Biomedical Engineering), Greg Kealey (UNB Vice President Research), Al Sharp (Dean of Science), Rick Cunjak (UNB - Canadian Rivers Institute), Mark Schneider (UNB - Forestry & Environmental Management), David Foord (UNB Office of Research Services)



Prof. Karen Sullenger (UNB Education Faculty) enjoys the displays including NSERC's booth at the Wu Centre kick-off event. Interestingly, Karen is the lead applicant for the multi-university NSERC CRYSTAL application to support Education research in the Science and Technology fields.



Michael Edwards of Science East demonstrates how to make a "big impression" with kids visiting the UNB Open House at the Science Library.



Martha Ross, a graduate student in the Dept. of BioMedical Engineering (UNB), demonstrates the robotic aspects of the artificial limbs designed in their lab.



Prof. Alan Adams (UNB Chemistry) demonstrates the excitation of gases (glowing bright orange) using his Argon Laser system (bright green laser beam) to a keen group of young scientists.

Top Ten Reasons to Attend the NBTA Combined Council Conference in Moncton on November 11th and 12th:

10. It is a professional responsibility and opportunity.
9. Dynamic displays!
8. It is a chance to hear five internationally renowned speakers in one place.
7. Terrific prizes!
6. Great entertainment!
5. You will have a real lunch hour (actually, an hour and a half!)
4. No supervision or duty!
3. It is your chance to be a student for a day.
2. You can network with colleagues and meet with old friends.
1. You will leave inspired and rejuvenated!



*Remember:
Learn Today - Teach Tomorrow!*

"Learning Today - Teaching Tomorrow" Reminders

- Bring your name tag and lunch ticket!
- Get there in lots of time to park and be seated by the 8:45 start!
- Take time to visit the more than 85 booths at the display area.
- Drop into the best social in town: Barnacle will rock the Delta Beausejour starting at 8:30 on Thursday night!

Marvelous Experiences of a Teacher Exchange to New Brunswick

Sue and Tony Naughton and their three children are in New Brunswick on a teacher exchange for the calendar year 2004. They have taken the time to share their experiences and impressions to date in NBTA News. Because of space limitations, we will do part of their article in this issue and the remainder in No. 4 issue in December.

It is fall here now as we observe the awesome colours and contemplate lots of snow before we leave for New Zealand in December. We have had the most marvelous experiences over the whole year in New Brunswick. We take with us many fond memories, of the -47C, the long summer vacation and the friends that we have made.

We would like to express our thanks to the staff, parents and pupils of Garden Creek School, Keswick Ridge School, Fredericton High School, and the New Maryland Children's Centre, who have made us feel so welcome and helped us in so many ways.

We would also like to acknowledge Nancy Roach - NBTA, both for professional help and neighbourliness, Mike Gardner/Mary McKean and the Exchange Teachers' Organization for their welcome and many functions, and also the Fredericton Army Cadets, Holy Family Church, and Brownie Unit and 1st Springhill Guides and Beavers.

We've all had a great time.

The New Brunswick Education System and New Zealand System have many similarities and some of our observations/comparisons between the two countries are as follows:



1) **Special Needs:**

New Zealand has a system (SN2000) that provides Special Needs Teachers and Teacher Aides for each child who is classified as having Special Needs, and my school also employs two general Teacher Aides for children who need some additional assistance. Both New Brunswick and New Zealand provide Literacy Support Teachers. New Zealand also provides Reading Recovery Teachers and Resource Teachers for Learning and Behaviour. These specialist teachers provide advice for teachers with children who have learning needs or are a behaviour concern. New Zealand also has a Behaviour Support team who provide immediate assistance to schools with severe behaviour problems. New Zealand also provides additional Teacher Aides for children who have high health needs, as well as support for hearing and visually impaired children.

2) **P.E.:** Each New Zealand teacher is trained and expected to take P.E. New Brunswick provides P.E. Mentors. When we left New Zealand my school was providing: 10 minutes of fitness per day, 20 minutes of P.E. Skills per day, 1 hour of sports per week, (a total of



210 minutes per week)

Now we see that the New Zealand Minister of Education has decreed that all schools have to provide 1 hour of additional P.E. per week from 2006!

3) **Class Levels:** New Zealand teachers generally teach multilevel classes as children are grouped in a class according to ability. We have observed a climate of one Grade Level per class here – of course within that grade there are many varied ability levels.

4) **Resources:** My Canadian school appeared to be as well resourced as my New Zealand school except perhaps in the area of reading resources. We note many of the early readers are from New Zealand.

5) **Terms:** New Zealand operates a schooling system of 194 days of instruction, split into 4 by 10 week terms. There are 2 week holidays breaks between each term and 6 weeks holiday at Christmas (our summer!) i.e., the school year starts around Feb 1 and runs to mid Dec. Although we found the terms here very long, we loved the 2 1/2 month summer holiday.

6) **Starting Age:** New Zealand children start school at age 5 and

start on their birthday; staggered starting facilitates the forming of ability groups straight away.

7) **Sickness at School:** New Zealand schools provide a sick bay for children who fall ill at school. Staff are trained in First Aide and generally have a First Aide certificate.

8) **Handwriting:** New Zealand teaches linked script compared to New Brunswick where I had to relearn cursive writing.

9) **Specialists:** New Brunswick offers children specialist teaching in French, Music and Library; this provides classroom teachers with planning time – a valuable resource. In New Zealand teachers are trained to teach all subjects and all planning is done after school hours.

10) **ERO:** New Zealand schools are inspected every 3 years by a Central Government Organization (Education Review Office) to determine if the schools are meeting required standards.

11) **Early Childhood:** In New Zealand, Early Childhood teachers



(0-5yrs) are trained in teacher training colleges and universities to the same standard as all other teachers. There appears to be a basic philosophical difference with New Brunswick centres providing care and New Zealand Early Childhood Centers focusing on education. The New Zealand early childhood sector has a curriculum and is subject to the same inspections/checks as other sectors by ERO. We have found that Kindergarten classes in New Brunswick schools offer a very similar programme to that available in Early Childhood Centres in New Zealand, but in New Zealand the children are 3 to 4-years-old. The New Zealand Government is committed to further improving the quality of programmes offered, as

well as improving the access for children; at the moment more than 70% of children attend an Early Childhood Education Centre. The rate of attendance at centres across Canada is 12.5%.

The above would appear to be the main differences between our two systems. The actual teaching, attitude and behavior of children would be very similar in most aspects.

Reports: My school in New Zealand has 3 'Meet the Teacher' nights (where parent and children come and meet the teacher to discuss individual goals and needs. As well, we send home each term a 'Sample Portfolio' of the child's work. The principal in New Zealand also signs each child's report.

Principals: Principals and deputy Principals in New Brunswick receive training before they can apply for positions, whereas in New Zealand anyone can apply and be appointed without specific training. The Principal's role in New Zealand is to manage the school in all aspects of school finances, property, curriculum, and supervise teachers' timetables, work plans etc.

Results of NBTA Bowling Tournament Bathurst, October 15-17, 2004

1st place	Kingswood Park	
2nd place	Minto Coal Cats	
3rd place	1/2 and 1/2 (Atholville, Val D'Amours)	
4th place	If Only (Riverview)	
5th place	DRHS (Dalhousie)	
6th place	Chipman Fireballs	
7th place	Saint John Hi-Rollers	
8th place	Gutter Girls "Not" (Atholville, Val D'Amours)	
9th place	Linda's Leprachawn's (Moncton)	
10th place	Pin diggers	
11th place	Oromocto Blue Mooners	
12th place	Gutter Girls (Atholville, Val D'Amours)	
13th place	K-OHS	
14th place	Nola's Annihilators	

Individual Prize

High Average: (M)	Doug Geldart	122	(F) Bev Calabresse	106
High Triple	Doug Geldart	406	Bev Calabresse	347
High Single	Larry Lunney	154	Martine Maltais	134
High No Mark	Bob Brannen	89	Alice Delaney	90
	Alden Randell	89		

Next year's tournament will be in Fredericton, on the 14th, 15th and 16th of October 2005. Hope to see you all, plus more. Gary DiPaolo (Minto Coal Cats team) will host the event.

From the organizing committee
Ola Cormier



6000 Level Course for Certification

St. Thomas University is opening up this course to a limited number of NBTA members who are interested in taking the course for a 6133 credit. Classes are from 3:00 pm to 5:00 pm on Tuesdays and Thursdays only, from January 4 to February 24, 2005. Note: The graduate level course (EDUC 6133) requires additional readings and an extra assignment beyond those of the undergraduate course (EDUC 5133).

EDUC 6133 – Shared School Leadership

Rationale:

The history of school leadership has focused on the role of principals and the skills and practices they need to administer public schools. This definition of school leadership is predicated on the organizational theories of the bureaucracy. Capacity building theories developed in the

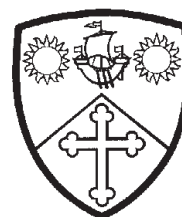
1970s are now being used to provide a basis for teachers to work together to build professional communities that eliminate the need for autocratic leadership and provide greater success in developing sustainable school-wide professional growth. Mobilizing the energy of entire teaching staff provides a more stable and politically more powerful force to lead schools and better ensures long-term school improvement. Many social, cultural and institutional norms hinder shared leadership. This course will examine the traditional role of principals as school leaders and provide an alternate model based on building the leadership capacity of all teachers.

Course Description:

This course begins with an examination of the leadership theories associated with organizational bureaucracies and

their impact on the traditional role of the principal as a school leader. Students will then examine the requirements for school improvement and the disjunction between current leadership and improvement goals. The cultural, social and institutional barriers that prevent teachers from building leadership capacity in schools will be discussed and students will analyze reciprocal learning processes that build the authentic relationships required to develop sustainable, self-renewing schools.

For further information, contact Ray Williams, rwilliam@stu.ca, St. Thomas University.



Introducing

BOLDPRINT

"Cool books kids ask to read" Grades 4-12

Exciting NEW Literacy Resources

from Joan Green, David Booth & Jack Booth

BOLDPRINT

... cool books designed for reluctant readers, or students struggling with traditional grade appropriate texts.

LITERACY
EXPERTS



Joan Green Educator Consultant
David Booth O.I.S.E / U of T
Jack Booth Author, Consultant

COOL



Shredder Steve

LOVE OF
READING



BOLDPRINT

Each **BOLDPRINT** Title focuses on a **high interest** topic, and includes:

- Age-appropriate content with below-grade reading levels
- Warm Up, Check Point, and Wrap Up activities for every section to scaffold comprehension
- A Teacher's Resource Binder with literacy and assessment strategies, blackline masters, and more!

Call for a free sampler
1-866-767-4152

www.harcourtcanada.com

BE BOLD. GET BOLD. BE BOLD. GET BOLD. BE BOLD. GET BOLD.

Paid Advertisement

School of Graduate Studies Award

The G. Forbes Elliot Award for Educational Leadership

Value: \$5,000 in 2005

Duration: One year

Description

The award is to encourage experienced teachers who have demonstrated leadership qualities related to their educational field to return to university to undertake postgraduate studies at the Master's or Doctoral level at the University of New Brunswick.

It is funded from the estate of the late Dr. G. Forbes Elliot, first Vice-President of the Saint John Campus.

Eligibility

Recipients must have taught for a minimum of five years in the public

schools of New Brunswick. They must have been accepted unconditionally into the graduate program in education and normally be in full-time attendance at the time of receipt of the award. If in any year, in the opinion of the Selection Committee, there are no full-time graduate studies candidates who satisfy the eligibility criteria, all or part of the award may be granted to one or more suitably qualified part-time graduate studies candidates.

Application Deadline

February 15 of the year in which the

studies are expected to commence.

Awarding Agency

The University of New Brunswick, upon the recommendation of the Selection Committee.

Application forms
available from:

The Elliot Award Selection
Committee Coordinator
P.O. Box 5050
Saint John, N.B. E2L 4L5
E-mail: pchiasso@unbsj.ca

NBTA 2004 Golf Tournament

The annual NBTA Fun Golf Tournament was again held in Saint John at the Rockwood Park Golf Course, September 25.

We would like to thank the following sponsors: • NBTA • NBTA Credit Union • Johnson Inc. • Moosehead Breweries (Mike Harroun) • O'Leary's Pub • Ganongs Chocolate • Rockwood Park Golf Course • Quizno's (Brunswick Square).

The 2005 Golf Tournament will be held at the Rockwood Park Golf Course, Saturday, September 24, with a 9:30 am shotgun start.

Hope to see you there.

Ed Lester/Peter Murray



#1 Fun Team: Rick Demmings, Shaun Davis, Pat O'Brien, Ed Lester, Dan McMorran

Counselling Services

- **Anger and Stress Management**
- **Self - Esteem**
- **Relationship Counselling**

Yvonne Vaughan

MA M.ED CCC

Phone:
1-506-454-2216
or
1-506-461-8440
(cell)

* Insurance Coverage *

Paid Advertisement

Wellness Highlights

PROFESSIONAL COUNSELLING SERVICE
FOR TEACHERS



TEACHER COUNSELLING SERVICES

Ann Kennedy, 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

“All to do’s are created equal.”
— *Stephen Covey*

Myth: If it’s worth doing, it’s worth doing right.

Fact: Not every task needs to be done to perfection. Abandon the expendable.

Since you have only 168 hours each week, everything you do will not be able to be done to perfection. Your job may demand accuracy, but there are some activities in other areas that don’t have to be done perfectly every time.

As you prioritize your list, remember that you will get 80 percent of the value from the top 20 percent of your priorities.

Try this:

- Look at your “Things to do” list, prioritize it, and then focus on the top 20 percent.
- Look for ways to delegate tasks at work or at home.
- Fight the “perfectionist” attitude. Give yourself permission to let some things be “good enough”.
- Scrutinize your list!
- Decide in tasks “quick and dirty”.
- Allow some tasks to die a natural death.
- Review your schedule and consider what isn’t on your list that should be there.



Why Things Don’t Get Done Typical Reasons:

- Clouded Vision
- Overwhelming task
- Fear of end result
- Unpleasant/boring task
- Indecision
- Lack of confidence
- Not enough time
- Distractions
- Not allowing adequate time



How to Handle Procrastination

- Ask yourself why you are procrastinating.
- Review your priority framework.
- Break the task into small steps.
- Set a deadline for completing the task.
- Evaluate the reasons why you procrastinate and take steps to change your behaviour.



If you treat every situation as a life-and-death matter, you’ll die a lot of times.

—Dean Smith

They say time changes things. Actually, you have to change them yourself.

—Andy Warhol

Announcements

Call for Paper/Presentation for Congress on Rural Education

Interested people are invited to submit a proposal for presentation to the 10th National Congress on Rural Education. The Congress will take place April 6-8, 2005 in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan and represents a decade of Congresses focusing on various aspects of rural education in Canada. Saskatchewan celebrates 100 years as a province in 2005.

The theme for the Congress is "Pillars of the Past Become the Foundation of the Future". The presentations should reflect on the theme and the place of rural education in the larger scheme of things.

The deadline for proposals is November 30, 2004. For updated information, check the website at <http://www.usask.ca/education/ruraled>

Environmental Teaching Resource

Teaching Green — The Middle Years is designed for those who work with young people in grades 6-8. It offers 50 kid-tested teaching strategies that promote interdisciplinary hands-on learning about natural systems and fosters critical thinking about environmental issues, both local and global. Readers will find accessible background information and suggestions for practical projects and activities on a diversity of topics. More than 60 educators from across North America have contributed to the book — the majority of whom are Canadian.

For further information, e-mail: info@greenteacher.com, tel. (416) 960-1244, fax (416) 925-3474, www.greenteacher.com.

Biology Challenge

BioAtlantech and Science East are coordinating the Aventis Biotechnology Challenge. Each year, Aventis, a worldwide leader in the development of pharmaceuticals and human vaccines, sponsors 12 Canadian regional biotechnology competitions, with the regional first place teams advancing to the

national competition. Up to \$6,000 in cash prizes is shared between the winners and their schools.

Student research proposals are due by November 30, 2004. Research takes place between February and April 2005. For more information, visit the website: <http://www.aventisbiotechchallenge.ca> or contact Karen Matheson, (506) 457-2340, kmatheson@bioatlantech.nb.ca.



UCCB to Visit Southwestern NB

Once again the University College of Cape Breton (UCCB) staff is coming to NB to share information with teachers about their on-line Graduate Diplomas in Technology and Guidance. These UCCB courses have been approved towards New Brunswick's Certificate 6.

This time they are concentrating on the Saint John area and District 10.

Schedule of Information Sessions

Monday, November 15	
Saint John High School	7:00 p.m.
Tuesday, November 16	
Fundy High School	4:00 p.m.
Tuesday, November 16	
St. Stephen Elementary	7:00 p.m.

There is no obligation for teachers who choose to attend, but the information may be of interest to teachers who are considering working on their Certificate 6 and want to know about an on-line option.

Science East School Programs

For 2004-05, Science East has developed a new series of demonstrations and workshops for students, professional development workshops for teachers, and expanded outreach programs.

Programs are available Tuesday-Friday, 9am - 4pm. Workshops are 90 minutes in length, including time to explore Science Centre exhibits. Demonstrations are 1 hour long.

Traveling Exhibits

Science East has 3 tours — elementary, middle, and high school, that travel around the province. Each tour comprises numerous hands-on exhibits that develop an awareness of science or problem-solving skills. The tour can be borrowed free of charge for a 2-4 week period.

For further information, contact: Science East, 668 Brunswick St., Fredericton, N.B. E3B 1H6, Tel. 457-2340, e-mail: science@scienceeast.nb.ca

Located in the former York County Jail, the Science Center is home to more than 100 interactive exhibits. Each exhibit has a bilingual label which provides brief directions and descriptions. All programs are aligned with the specific curriculum outcomes of the New Brunswick Science Curriculum.



As we age and move through various stages of life, we learn first-hand the importance of having the right financial vehicles and plans to help us along the way. Your Credit Union has been growing with you and as such we have available to you all the financial services and products you require.

Hi, my name is Dave Gorman and I have been helping people achieve financial success for the last 14 years. When the Credit Unions opened their own wealth management division in May of 2000, I was delighted to join them. We are able to offer investment and insurance products and services at no cost to you.

How to Plan for Your Children's Education

For most people, financial planning means investing for the future. That can involve anything from purchasing a home or car to ensuring a comfortable retirement. But post-secondary education has now also become a major item in any family's budget. In fact, besides saving for retirement, saving for your children's education has now become one of the most important elements in any family's financial planning activity.

Consider the facts. According to Statistics Canada, the total cost of an average four-year degree, including living expenses, is now almost \$62,000. Currently, tuition fees at Canadian universities average \$3,738, more than double the corresponding \$1,872 in 1992/3.

It's easy to see why it's essential to add "educating my children" to your list of financial objectives and integrate it into your overall financial plan.

Two Financial Planning Strategies That Make Dollars and Sense

As with anything else, starting early and saving regularly are key:

- 1) Start saving early (and don't stop); and
- 2) Put something away regularly like clockwork and don't try to time markets.

The Start Saving Early approach to financial planning pays off through the magic of compounding. As your education savings nest-egg increases in value, income and capital gains are earned and then reinvested – the return on the return, if you like. In this way, your savings base grows and your ability to generate increased growth and income grows accordingly. You might be surprised to learn that, at the end of the day, your original principal investment will comprise only a fraction of the total value of your plan.

The Put Something Away Regularly approach is based on the tried-and-true idea of buy more of something when the price is lower and less when the price is higher. It's the same with investing. If you commit the same amount to your education savings plan each month consistently over a long-term time horizon, you will end up having a very favourable average cost for your investments. That's because you'll have purchased more fund units when the price was lower and fewer when the price was higher. When you cash out your investments, you'll have locked in solid gains. This strategy also helps take some of the volatility out of investing. Ask any child where these ideas come from: the early bird gets the worm; slow but steady wins the race.

Implementing Your Plan

You have a range of structures and investment options that can be tailored to your needs and budget. Among the most popular are Registered Education Savings Plan (RESPs) and In-Trust Accounts (ITAs). With an RESP, for example, you can contribute \$4,000 annually for each child. Like an RRSP, your savings accumulate on a tax-deferred basis. Unlike an RRSP, you do not receive a tax deduction for your contribution. The Government of Canada also makes a maximum \$400 contribution annually for each child's plan through a program called the CESG (Canadian Education Savings Grant). That's called *saving made easy*.



Dave Gorman meets with Michael and Charlene McLeod and their daughter Madeline.



650 Montgomery St., P.O. Box 752, Fredericton, N.B. E3B 5R6
506-452-1724 • 1-800-565-5626 • 506-452-1732 (fax)
E-mail: nbtacu@nbnet.nb.ca • Web: <http://www.nbtacu.nb.ca>
Hours: Monday to Friday, Telephone Service 8:30 am - 4:30 pm
In-Branch Service: 9:00 am - 4:30 pm