

## **President's Report: May 17, 2018**

***Share your smile with the world. It is a symbol of friendship and peace. – Christie Brinkley***

HAPPY SPRING!!!!

Our entire executive Committee is very active and continues to work hard on your behalf. As we increase our membership we should have a better chance of being heard. Those teachers that are not members will not get whatever we do because the powers that be don't believe we represent enough retired teachers to initiate change. Keep whispering in non - members' ears!

I thought I would be able to give each of you here today an updated NBTA Group Insurance Booklet. After first agreeing, I was told they would not provide, even when I offered to go pick up. SO..... I have placed a sheet at everyone's place with the name and contact information so you can have them send you individually, a copy. Insist on the copy. Reading on - line for some things is fine but we want information related to our health coverage at our finger tips!!

Our 1<sup>st</sup> VP, Brian Greig, served as our Returning Officer, over-seeing our first ever Provincial Election. Although turn- out was light, we were happy to see many different faces. A special congratulation goes out to our Past President, Barry Harbinson, who is the newly elected 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President of our provincial association.

We extend a big thank you to our own Margaret Urquhart, who just finished her term as the provincial president of NBSRT.

We have placed the Executive Committee Reports on the table.

We will continue to work on your behalf and seek your advice and suggestions going forward.

Respectfully,

Judy Braman

## School Days Museum

If you have any items to donate or loan to the School Days Museum, please contact:

Melody Hamm at 738-3244 or melody.hamm@bellaliant.net or

Dianne Stackhouse at 738-2657 or diannestackhouse@rogers.com

We will gladly arrange a time to pick up and deliver these items to the museum.

## NBSRTSJ **Wellness Report** May 2018

The Wellness Committee met 6 times this year and two members of the committee attended two NBSRT Provincial Wellness meetings.

During the first social function of the year (Breakout Brunch) attendees submitted ideas for wellness activities. Most of the nine ideas put forward were already available in the area. It was encouraging for the committee to be made aware that the community events being offered fulfilled many of the membership wellness needs.

The main function of the committee is to inform members of the wellness events happening in the area. To that end, local events were posted regularly on the NBSRTSJ Facebook page, website and newsletter. Information handouts were also provided at NBSRTSJ gatherings.

Two wellness events were organized this year.

The first was a workshop "Introduction to Facebook ". Ellen Palmer led the twenty-two people in attendance through Facebook basics. Many joined the NBSRTSJ Facebook page during the workshop.

The second event was a bus trip to Elmhurst Outdoors. Thirty-one participants enjoyed a guided tour of the sugar bush followed by a pancake breakfast. This event was partially funded by a Provincial Wellness Grant and by NBSRTSJ.

The committee met on April 25<sup>th</sup> and started planning for next year.

Respectfully submitted,

Wellness Committee

Marilyn Lester, Paula Mathieson, Bill Mahaffy, Debbie McLaggan

## **NBSRTSJ TELEPHONE COMMITTEE REPORT MAY 2018**

The mandate of the Telephone Committee is to call members without email when so directed by the President. Normally such calls would be made for significant events or concerns.

The committee consists of 12 callers. Some of them were previous committee members, others volunteers who willingly agreed when asked to serve. Each caller was provided with a call list and guidelines. No caller has more than 11 calls to make.

NBSRTSJ members who did not wish to receive calls were asked to advise the chair, however no such requests were received. To date no calls have been made, however the committee members stand ready to serve when asked.

Respectfully submitted  
Margaret Urquhart

### **NBSRTSJ AGM Branch Report May 2018**

The NBSRT AGM was held in Moncton May 2, 2018 at the Windgate Hotel in Dieppe hosted by GMART. The AGM was well attended and special thanks to the organizing committee for a well-organized, fun event. Tuesday evening was a fun night listening and singing with "Simply Done Band" and participating in a Wellness activity. Wednesday morning started with another Wellness activity great morning walk with scavenger hunt included! Greetings to begin the morning business meeting were brought from the mayor of Dieppe, Linda LeBlanc president SERFNB, James MacAulay vice-president of the Canadian Association of Retired Teachers and Marilyn Matthews president of GMART.

Merit Certificates were presented to Harry Palmer for his dedication to School Days Museum, Bruce Robertson for his many years as NBSRT treasure and Betty Smith for her years of service on the executive and our Past President.

Armand Doucet a Global Educator nominee from Riverview High School gave a very informative talk on teaching in the 4<sup>th</sup> Industrial Revolution: A Glimpse into a Teaching Embracing this New Age. Book is available at Chapters/Indigo certainly a very interesting topic and read!

Reports were presented from the three AD-HOC committees Scholarship and Membership.

**Scholarship:** Pat Murray. The mandate was "To investigate and make recommendations regarding the viability of establishing a provincial NBSRT scholarship: this would include , but not be limited to, determining practices already in place in branches, as well as promotional, financial and operational considerations." The recommendations were passed and if you are interested in serving on this committee with a target implementation date spring 2019 please give your name to Pat Murray [donovanm@nbnet.nb.ca](mailto:donovanm@nbnet.nb.ca)

**Membership:** June McNairn/ Bob Fitzpatrick. "The committee members are convinced that it is essential to increase our membership so we can better represent NB retired teachers and be seen as the legitimate voice of NBTA retired teachers in our province." The NBSRT is a

professional organization dedicated to the needs of retired teachers to protect and promote the interests of retired teachers with the NBTA and NBTF in areas of pensions, group insurance and wellness. **Membership in NBSRT currently stands well below at less than half of the eligible retirees. THIS IS A CONCERN.**

**Wellness Committee:** Ann Kennedy/Garth Wade/Kelly McLean Haley: Now have representation from all branches and goals for this committee are on the web-site as well as any updated information.

**Group Insurance:** Kathy Dalling. Kathy is looking for new members for the committee, seeking representation from all branches and members may submit their names to [NBSRT.GroupInsurance@gmail.com](mailto:NBSRT.GroupInsurance@gmail.com). Also anyone may email concerns, questions, opinions, make suggestions and comments using the above site. If you do not have email, you have the option to mail your requests to **NBSRT Group Insurance Committee, 10 Spring Garden Road Saint John, NB E2N1K3.** Kathy presented a motion for the NBSRT to pursue proportional representation on the NBTFGI Trustees. The new executive will investigate this during the coming year. The new booklets were available at the meeting and Dale Weldon invites you to contact Johnson's with any concerns as well as going to the web-site for updated information. If you would like to have a booklet sent to you contact Nadia Roze at [nadia.roze@johnson.ca](mailto:nadia.roze@johnson.ca)

Claims Administration 1-800-442-4428 [fredericton@johnson.ca](mailto:fredericton@johnson.ca)

Benefit Administration 1-888-851-5500 [pbadminnb@johnson.ca](mailto:pbadminnb@johnson.ca)

**Wellness Committee:** Ann Kennedy/Garth Wade/Kelly McLean Haley: Now have representation from all branches and goals for this committee are on the web-site and we look forward to plans to enhance wellness of retirees around the province.

All reports and information are on the NBSRT web-site and I encourage you to visit the site. The NBSRTSJ web-site also has a wealth of information. This is your organization continuing to work for you as retirees we can still have a powerful influence.

**NBSRT New Executive 2018/2019:**

President	June MacNairn
1 <sup>st</sup> Vice President	Wayne Spires
2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice President	Barry Harbinson
Recording Secretary	Jeannie Matthews
Treasure	Paulette Moore
Membership	Dale MacRae
Past President	Margaret Urquhart

Respectfully Submitted, Nancy Steele Director NBSRTSJ

**NBSRT – SAINT JOHN BRANCH - MEMBERSHIP REPORT MAY 17, 2018**

TOTAL NUMBER OF MEMBERS = 595

No. WITH EMAILS = 410

No. WITHOUT EMAILS = 185

Please note that any members who receive snail mailed Newsletters have not registered their emails with us. Should you wish to do so, you may do so online through our local website at

<http://www.nbsrtsj.nbta.ca/>

by selecting the MEMBERSHIP, followed by selecting UPDATE YOUR INFO option and completing form.

This form may also be used to change your address or phone number. Hit SUBMIT and changes will be forwarded to the Membership Secretary. You will receive notification when changes have been made.

NOTE: currently we have 13 members who have no active phone number, no address or email. These would be members who have moved and we no longer have any way of contacting them. If perhaps you suspect you may have info on any of such cases, you could provide info via this online option.

As you are aware, our total number of members fluctuates as new members join and others pass away. In this past year, we have lost 9 retired teachers who were members of the Saint John Branch.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy Dalling

Membership Secretary

**Report from the Publicity Co-chairpersons May 2018**

Over the past year, 2017-2018 the publicity committee has collected information from the various committees of NBSRT SJ and prepared three newsletters; Fall 2017, Winter and Spring 2018. We use the newsletter as a means of communicating to our membership all the activities the Branch provides throughout the year. It is distributed by mail to 175 members and by e-mail to 409 members.

If you are aware of any retired teacher who does not receive the newsletters please contact us so that we may update our files.

Respectfully submitted

Mary Ann Patterson 672-1926

Pat Murray 847-8758

### **Scholarship Report for the 2018 AGM**

The 2017-2018 Scholarship recipient is Miss Rylee A. Kinsella, a graduate of Simonds High School. She is enrolled in the 1<sup>st</sup> year Bachelor of Science program at UNBSJ. Rylee's photograph and thank you letter for the \$2,500 she received are posted on the NBSRT Saint John website.

NBSRT Saint John Branch Scholarship Fund memorial cards are available at local funeral homes and at the fall and spring luncheons. We have cards to mark special occasions also. Official tax receipts are issued for all donations made to the NBSRT Saint John Branch Scholarship Fund. Please make your cheque payable to the University of New Brunswick. Mailing address: University of New Brunswick, Development Office, NBSRT Saint John Branch Scholarship Fund, P.O. Box 4400, Fredericton, N.B. E3B 5A3.

For the reporting period May 1, 2016 – April 30, 2017 our fund received \$ 890.00 in donations.

In late 2017 the scholarship fund received a large donation so we are now able to create a second scholarship at UNBSJ. Marion Williams, Senior Development Officer, Development and Donor Relations, our contact with the university will assist us.