

NBSRT Biennial Report May 2015

The NBSRT Biennial Meeting was held in Grand Falls at the Quality Inn Pres du Lac Conference Center from May 5-6, 2015 and hosted by the Victoria-Tobique Branch. Great social time with entertainment opened the conference on Tuesday evening. Wednesday the conference began with greetings from the mayor of Grand Falls followed by a minute of silence for our departed members. The following is brief overview.

Membership: Vernon Harding membership chair will be retiring and was recognized by receiving an Honorary Life Membership. Dale MacRae will replace Vernon for one year until nomination are announced in 2016. Dale has developed a new membership flow chart which will allow for better collection of data and current enrollment numbers for NBSRT. As of April 2015, our organization has 2692 members registered. We still need to encourage those who are not members to join.

Johnson Insurance: A letter from SERF(our French partners) requesting the life Insurance plan be increased to age 75 from the current 70 as well as increasing the benefits from 15,000 to 20,000 was read and supported by the NBSRT. The trustees will be meeting later this month and this item is on the agenda for discussion. Dale Weldon gave a presentation, basically stating the plans are stable. He did stress again the 90 day pre-existing medical condition clause. This could be as simple as a change in medication. Make sure you call and ask before leaving the province as well as checking for travel insurance, trip interruption etc. Don't get caught!

Trustees are looking at the caps on the para medical insurances. There will be further discussion at the May 22 meeting. At present the caps are \$600.00. A survey will be sent out to all active NBTA and retired teachers asking your opinions on the present insurance guidelines. This will give you an opportunity to express your views on items such as “caps” etc. **IT IS IMPORTANT YOU RESPOND TO THIS SURVEY!** It will be sent electronically as well as a mail out. Strongly suggest you CALL and give the correct information as to your email address/contact information as many have changed and Johnson does not have the current update. Phone # (506) 454-4654 or 1-800-442-4428 or email Fredericton@johnson.ca. The survey will be completed by the end of August.

The BOOKLETS have been completed and will be ready after the Trustees meeting May 22. The booklet will be available on the website and some upon request from the office.

Reflections: Costing more each year to mail out. Suggestion would be to notify Barry Rigby to have it sent electronically. rigbybp@rogers.com

Coalition for Seniors and Nursing Home Residents Rights: Deborah Ellison gave a brief report on the current governments recent statements regarding assets. The coalition is going province wide giving presentations against the government’s stance. They would strongly like all to hand write letters to your MLA stating your disapproval. MLA addresses are found on the gnb.ca/legislature website. More information about this issue and others are found on the coalition website: coalitionnb@gmail.com or coalition.nb.blogspot.ca.

ACER-CART: Mildred Urquhart introduced Dr. James MacAulay, Eastern Regional Representative for ACER-CART who gave a very informative

presentation of the organization and the value it serves as our representative for retired teachers across Canada. Mildred Urquhart gave a brief presentation highlighting certain aspects of her report which can be viewed on line at www.acer-cart@rogers.com.

The agenda allowed for presentations from the ELF Program and if interested in becoming a volunteer register at www.elfnb.com or 1-855-898-2533. Anne Rideout Cote & Denise Koroscil presented an interesting talk on the Grand Falls Museum supporting this with a rich history lesson.

A special thanks to the organizing committee as this was a very successful Biennial meeting. The Saint John Branch supported this event with the largest attendance.

Reminders: Keep checking the website <http://www.nbsrtsj.nbta.ca>

for updates and events: Bus trip to St. Andrews June 4, \$55.00, Sept. 8 Drop-Out Brunch Assumption Centre \$15.00. Also a special thanks to Brian Walker & Associates for the Financial Seminar on April 22, 2015 great turn out and refreshments from Stone Soup Catering.... check it out! <http://www.stone-soup-catering.com>

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Respectively Submitted,

Nancy Steele Director Saint John Branch

Linda Perrin Alternate Director

