



Saint John Branch New Brunswick Society of Retired Teachers

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

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Happy 2019 NBSRT-SJ Members!

Retirement means doing whatever we want to do. It means having a choice. (Dianne Nahirny)

Your Executive Committee hopes you find some things being offered this year that you would choose to attend.

This year the Provincial NBSRT AGM is being held in Bathurst May 7th and 8th. If you have never been....it's far more than a meeting. The organizing committee always works hard to provide a fun time for all. "Reflections" next edition will have the full itinerary and the registration form. Your local Branch provides subsidies to offset your costs. Members who drive their car are eligible for \$200 and Members going but not driving are eligible for \$150. Gather your friends and plan a road trip!!! (there is a great golf course... Gowan Brae). Send in your registration form and pick up your expense form while in Bathurst!

This is Election Year for NBSRT-SJ. We will be electing a new slate of officers and committee chairs at our AGM on May 17th at the Hope Center. If you are interested in joining our merry group as a member or serve on one of our many committees please contact Barry Harbinson.

The New Brunswick Museum is presenting an exhibit on cursive writing between February 28th and June30th. Your local Branch is a sponsor of the Cursive Conundrum Exhibit.

I hope to see many of you at the various events planned by our committees and explained in this newsletter.

"The key to retirement is to find joy in the little things." (Susan Miller)

Judy

NBTF Group Insurance

Annually, in late fall, you receive a Communique/Newsletter from the NBTF Group Insurance Trustees advising you of any changes in your coverage and/or premiums. The Communique of Nov. 13, 2018 advised us of changes coming for 2019 which included increases in the rates for Dental Insurance and a change in the age grouping (previously called Tiers) for the retired teachers.

This new age groupings will result in increases in premiums for the under 60 retired teachers, a decrease in premiums for between 60 to 65 retired teachers and no change in premiums for the over 65 retired teachers.

[This chart below lists new age groups and rates for 2019 with the 2018]

<u>Comparing 2018 & 2019</u>	NEW 2019 ALL RETIRED TEACHERS < 65		RETIRED > 65			
	<u>TIER 2</u>		<u>TIER 3</u>		<u>TIER 4</u>	
Health & Drug Plan	Retired under 60		Retired 60 TO 64		Retired 65 and OVER	
	2018	2019	2018	2019	2018	2019
Single/month	\$159.85 \$178.69		\$185.96 \$178.69		\$225.53	\$225.53
Couple/month	\$319.71 \$357.44		\$371.95 \$357.44		\$451.07	\$451.07
Family/month	\$374.82 \$394.44		\$416.03 \$394.44		\$467.88	\$467.88
Change 2018 to 2019						
Single	11.79 % increase		3.91 % decrease		NO increase	
Couple	11.80 % increase		3.90 % decrease		NO increase	
Family	5.23 % increase		5.19 % decrease		NO increase	

Also, as of January 31, 2019, the Care Path – Cancer Navigation will be discontinued due to its minimal utilization. Johnson Inc. Senior Consultant has informed us that there is much useful information on the Canadian Cancer Society website.

HAVE YOU FILED AN INSURANCE CLAIM TO JOHNSON INC. AND BEEN REFUSED COVERAGE?

If this has happened to you and you believe the benefit claim should have been honored, you should **first** call and speak to a Claim Specialist at Johnson Inc. Discuss the claim and find out why your claim has been denied. If you still are denied coverage, you have the option of filing an appeal.

The Appeal [Benefit Entitlement Review] will be sent to and reviewed by the NBTF Group Insurance Trustees. Johnson Inc. simply administers the plan. The APPEAL FORM [Benefit Entitlement Review] can either be obtained by requesting one from Johnson Inc. OR you can go online and access the form (three pages) from the following address:

<https://www.nbtffenb.ca/benefit-entitlement-review/>

You may complete the form online and submit OR you may print it off, complete and mail to the address given. Read the form before you call Johnson Inc. to speak to the Claim Specialist as you will need to note specific information from them as well as information from your NBTF Group Insurance Card.

Your NBSRT Group Insurance Committee may be reached through this email:

NBSRT.GroupInsurance@gmail.com

OR

Mail to: NBSRT Group Insurance, 10 Spring Garden Rd., Saint John, NB E2N 1K3

Cursive Writing Exhibit

“Cursive writing has been taught in schools for hundreds of years, but with the advent of technology such as typewriters, word processors, personal computers and texting, schools began to eliminate cursive writing from the curriculum. The result is that today, not only can some people not write, but they also cannot read cursive writing. The exhibition, through a wide array of examples, will explore the history of cursive writing, how it was taught, the artistic aspects, what it reveals about a person, and why this dying skill continues to be important. The exhibition will include a preliminary listing of artefacts/specimens indicating NBM-sourced or those to be borrowed from private individuals or public institution (possibility of borrowing from individuals or other museums) such as Cross letters, Exercise books, Genealogical charts, Cards, Postcards, Incunabula, Signatures of famous people Correspondence demonstrating various types of handwriting, Correspondence on various mediums eg. birch bark, parchment paper, Documents written in languages other than English, Ads for ink / writing tool and possibly other artifacts)

The Exhibit will be open from February 28th until June 30th at the New Brunswick Museum. (NBSRT-SJ is a sponsor)

NBSRTSJ Wellness Committee Report

Information Session Retired Teacher's Benefit Plan

Date: March 27, 2019 (Rain date: April, 2019)
Time 10:00 am
Place: Portland United Church, 50 Newport Crescent
Registration Deadline: March 1, 2019
Registrar: Marilyn Lester (davelester@rogers.com) or 652-3124

Please leave your name and contact information.

The presentation will provide an overview of the benefits plan and changes that have been made since the last renewal. It will be followed by a question and answer period. Copies of the Johnson Group Insurance plan are available on the NBSRT and the NBTF websites or by an e-mail request to Johnson Insurance.
(pbadminnb@johnson.ca)

LUNCHEON

AGM Luncheon

This notice is to all NBSRTSJ Members. You are all invited to join us for a delicious Turkey dinner luncheon to hear about what is going on with our organization.
When?.... Thursday, May 16th...doors will open at 10:45am and lunch will be served at noon
Where?.... The HOPE CENTRE on Loch Lomond Rd. Just past the airport on the left hand side of the Road
Cost?.... \$15 for members will buy you a lovely turkey dinner, which includes dessert and tea or coffee.

Please register by May 9th with Laura by phone at 738 2604 or through her email
....lwheaton@rogers.com

Games Day

St. Patrick's Day Games Day

The NBSRT Social Committee is hosting a "Wearing of the Green," Games Day! Prizes for guests who are showing their love for the Irish by wearing as much green as possible!

WHEN?...Thursday, March 14th
WHERE?.... Assumption Centre, Chapel St. West...parking in behind the centre
COST?..... \$10 for members, \$12 for non members...a light lunch of fruit, sandwiches, sweets and tea/coffee will be served
TIME?...12:30 - 3:30pm

Please register by March 7th with Norma by phone at 659 2553 or through email
at...ngmurphy51@yahoo.com

The New Brunswick Society of Retired Teachers' Saint John Branch Scholarship Fund

Good news retirees! Now we have two scholarships to offer to graduates from our four local high schools. The original scholarship is open a student entering the 1st year of a degree program at UNBSJ. The new scholarship starts in the fall of 2019 and is open to a student in the 3rd, 4th, or 5th year of the B.A./BEd. program at UNBSJ. Both scholarships are administered by the university and are awarded based on academic achievement and financial need.

Lauren J. McKinley, our 2018-19 scholarship recipient, is a graduate of HVHS, and is enrolled in the 1st year Business Administration program at UNBSJ. Lauren attended our fall luncheon, and her photograph and delightful thank you letter are posted on our website. She became a UNBSJ volunteer with the mentorship program at Hazen White St. Francis School since starting university. Please continue to give to our scholarship fund at funeral homes, our luncheons, or online at the UNB website. Thank you for your donations. Netta Chase (netta@nb.sympatico.ca)

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 in Fredericton.

Visit our Websites

Our websites – both the Provincial and Local – contain a wealth of information for Retired Teachers.

If you are looking for **local events**, just go to our Saint John site – www.nbsrtsj.nbta.ca and look under *Events* for information dealing with social opportunities such as our *Fall AGM*, *Games Day* or the *Christmas Social*.

It gives details about the event, how to sign up, dates and the cost. Also our site gives you information about your **local NBSRTSJ Board** and what it accomplishes.

This can be found under *Minutes* and *Reports*. If you have a friend who is a retired teacher but not a member of our association, encourage them to join:

– you can find an application form under **Membership**.

Want to know what **NBSRT** branches and the provincial bodies have been doing in the last year? Visit the **Provincial website** www.nbsrt.ca (Members Only) and click on the *Reports* button. Or click on Reflections to view the online version.

Check us out!