

Highlights / Key Points: NBSRT Board of Directors Meeting

NBTA / NBTF Bldg., Fredericton, NB

Tuesday, 18 September 2018

1. NBSRT members are encouraged to check out the provincial website, with links to CART and other retired teachers' organizations, across Canada. There are some very pertinent and interesting articles, for not only retired teachers, but also dealing with priority issues potentially affecting all retirees, in an aging population.
2. George Daley, President of the NBTA, spoke to the importance of retired teachers and making their voices heard, regarding educational issues and proposed policies put forth by government. As retirees, we are not obligated to remain silent, as those who are employed must do.
3. George also indicated a trend in teaching whereby male teachers in the profession have been steadily declining since 1985. At that time, there was a 55% composition of female teachers and 45% male teachers. If the current trend continues, the profession will manifest an 80 / 20 split, in the not-too-distant future. He called upon retired teachers to entice more young males they know to consider entering the profession, as more positive male role models are needed for students. The NBTA has made this issue one of their priority focuses, on a go-forward basis.
4. Membership Update: NBSRT total number of members – April 2018: **2701**; September 2018: **2719**.
5. NBSRT Scholarship Committee Report: Cochaired by Lynn Coy and Jill Craig. Dave Barker, of our branch, has kindly agreed to serve on this newly formed committee. Thank-you, Dave! The formalized committee has taken the recommendations of last year's Provincial Ad Hoc Scholarship Committee and is developing them into a permanent policy for release and ratification by members, at the NBSRT Spring AGM, May 8th, 2019. The intent is to have one scholarship and one bursary, each of considerable sum, to be issued to recipients, in 2020.
6. New Wellness Grant Application forms now available on provincial NBSRT website. New, detailed criteria is also outlined on site, for Branch Wellness Chairs to access and inform themselves. More money available to branches this year, up to a potential sum of \$600.00
7. NBSRT Membership Committee: Chairperson- Bob Fitzpatrick. The focus of the committee this year is how to assist each branch in obtaining / gaining new members. He would like each of the ten branches to submit to him and the provincial committee some effective or very interesting speakers, who may entice more non-members to come out to an event, and hopefully sign on as new members. The idea is to have a general group of retirees attend such a function, not just registered members. Bob and his committee will compile a master list of potential speakers, from the suggestions submitted from each branch, and distribute this final list to all ten branches for their consideration.

8. NBSRT Online Media Committee: Branches are requested to submit photos taken at their events, social and otherwise, throughout the year, to the provincial committee for posting on the NBSRT website. This provides a great visual representation of retirees being active and enjoying themselves and hopefully, it will entice more people to join the organization via their respective branches.
9. 2018 NBSRT Election Report: John Wetmore gave a report of last spring's election results, the first time whereby all members had the privilege of voting for a new provincial executive. Dale MacRae provided the visual demographics to augment John's report. The MARTA Branch had the highest percentage of members who turned out to vote. (Typical Miramichi!)

Respectfully submitted: A. Clark, 04 October 2018

(Complete minutes are available under members-only section of NBSRT website.)