

Message from the Chair

We are pleased with the outcome of the Affiliation Vote on February 27th. With a clear 93% of our voting members choosing to remain affiliated it gives the Board of Directors a clear mandate to move forward with all that was discussed in the regional meetings, while continuing to value and strengthen a collaborative relationship with the NSTU.

Personally I have to say that the very best part of the process has been to get out into the regions and connect with you as members. The questions were always thoughtful and meaningful, I hope our answers were heard the same way.

As of today, Friday March 1st 2019, PSAANS is delivering its own independent member services. We heard a clear endorsement for this as we travelled around the province. This month's newsletter is designed to give you quick access to information about who to contact, and lists the service providers that are linked to our guaranteed benefits through legislation.

With spring and the March Break around the corner we are well aware of all the work that our members have put into this school year for the betterment of students and communities. It is our hope that our work on your behalf is a key support. It is truly our privilege to serve the 815 leaders in our membership.

PSAANS Coordinator of Member Services

PSAANS members now has the support of a Coordinator of Member Services (CMS). The CMS position is dedicated to supporting PSAANS members in employment related matters, and providing direction and information related to pension and benefits. Harvey Beaton, former HRCE principal and Supervisor of School Administration, has been seconded on an interim basis for this role until June 30th, 2019.



Effective March 1st, members can contact the Coordinator of Member Services regarding matters such as: disciplinary matters; workplace investigations; interpersonal workplace disputes; requests for leaves of absence or accommodations; and matters pertaining to promotion, demotion or compensation.

Benefits and Services for PSAANS Members

PSAANS members continue to receive the same benefits they did as unionized teachers. This provision is outlined in Legislation under section 17 of Schedule B: *An Act Respecting the Employment Relations of Public School Administrators*.

Section 17 states "An administrator is entitled to participate, on the same terms as a unionized teacher, in any benefit plan or service established, sponsored or administered or otherwise provided by the Union for the benefit of unionized teachers".

Questions pertaining to benefits or services can be directed to the service provider directly, or to the PSAANS Coordinator of Member Services (contact information to the right). The following pages contain an overview of benefits and services along with service provider contact information.

Save the Date: Thursday October 24th (evening) and Friday October 25th: **2nd Annual PSAANS Conference and AGM**

Contacts

General Inquiries can be made via:

Phone: 902-491-2856

Email: info@psaans.ca

Mail:

PSAANS/AAEPNE

Suite #395,

3 Spectacle Lake Dr.

Dartmouth NS, B3B 1W8

Ford Rice, PSAANS

Executive Director

execdir@psaans.ca

Harvey Beaton – PSAANS

Coordinator of Member

Services

cms@psaans.ca

Upcoming Dates

March 7th and 8th 2019

Board of Directors Meeting

April 3rd and 4th 2019

Board of Directors Meeting

Member Hub

The Member Hub (a secure area on the PSAANS website), is now open. Here you can find foundational documents related to PSAANS (e.g. legislation, terms and conditions of employment, association bylaws, member information related to affiliation and other matters).

To access the Member Hub you will need your unique identification code (ex. 0518smithjoh)

Pension Information

The following information may be helpful to members in seeking accurate information about the TPP.

NS Pension Services Corporation

www.novascotiapension.ca

Pensions Services provides general and member specific information about the Teachers Pension Plan (TPP).

The “Resources” section of the website contains various publications including Annual Reports.

Resources



Publications

Annual Reports and Corporate Scorecards



Financial Statements

Corporate Financial Statements for years ended March 31...



Corporate Policies and Strategy

Communications and Disclosure Policy for the Board...



News

Read our latest news releases here



Canadian Public Pension Leadership Council

Nova Scotia Pension Services Corporation is a founding member...

In addition to the website, NS Pension Services Corporation has 3 consultants who manage calls and respond to inquiries related to the TPP. You can reach them using the following contacts:

pensionsinfo@nspension.ca

902 424 5070 (main line), or, 1 800 774 5070 (toll free in NS)

Suite 400, 4th Floor, Purdy's Landing, 1949 Upper Water Street, Halifax, NS B3J 3N3

You can also get detailed information about YOUR OWN pension contributions and financial planning resources by logging in to “My Retirement Plan”. Don't wait for a retirement seminar... Get access 24/7.

My Retirement Plan

My Retirement Plan offers active plan members secure access to their personalized pension information online. Members can:

- View their Annual Member Statement;
- Use the Pension Projection Tool; and
- View helpful retirement and financial planning resources.

[Learn More](#)

[Sign In](#)

Nova Scotia Teachers Pension Plan (TPP) and Teachers Pension Plan Trust Inc.(TPPTI)

<https://www.nstpp.ca/>

In 2006, the NSTU and government agreed to a joint trusteeship of the TPP (NSTU and government). The trustee of the fund is the Teachers Pension Plan Trust Incorporated (TPPTI). The TPPTI is responsible for TPP and is responsible for its operations and manages its investment assets.

The “About” section of the website provides general reports and information about the plan.

Teachers' Pension Plan Trustee Inc. (TPPTI)

Teachers' Pension Plan Trustee Inc. is the trustee of the Nova Scotia Teachers' Pension Plan...

Investments

The primary goal of the Teachers' Pension Fund (Fund) is to invest Plan assets...

Plan Performance

Annual Reports, Quarterly Investment Reports, Annual Scorecard of NSPSC...

Plan Governance

The Nova Scotia Teachers' Pension Plan was created by an act of the Legislative Assembly in 1949...

TPPTI Policies

Privacy and Confidentiality Policy, Statement of Investment Policies and Goals

Check out the “Member” section of the website.

Members



New to the Plan

Your TPP overview, membership, contributions...



Mid-Career

Pension benefit, life events, retirement planning...



Your Retirement

Life events, cost of living adjustment, pension plan news...



Newsroom

Twitter, media releases, newsletters...



Forms

Retirement, designation of beneficiary, direct deposit...



External Resources

Nova Scotia Teachers' Union, NSTU Retired Teachers Org...

Teachers Pension Plan: Quick Facts

Many PSAANS members are wondering about the Teachers Pension Plan (TPP). **As per legislation, PSAANS members continue to be members of the Teachers Pension Plan (TPP).** Below are a few facts that provide some context regarding the TPP.

- At the end of 2017, the Pension Plan was 78.4% funded, with an unfunded liability of \$1.4 billion (this liability is shared 50/50 by the members of the plan and the government)
- One challenge is there are more retired members than active members (in 2017 there were 13 311 pensioners and 12 894 active members)
- Active members are currently paying the maximum contributions allowed by the Canada Revenue Agency (CRA)
- Members who retired after 2006 have not received indexing. The plan must be funded at 90% in order to receive indexing
- The 2018 Annual report is expected at the end of April 2019

Group Insurance Information

The following information may be helpful to members in seeking accurate information about Group Insurance Benefits and Services.

<p>Johnson Inc www.johnson.ca Johnson Inc. is the Plan Administrator for Group Insurance Benefits.</p>	
<p>Group Policies administered by the NSTU Insurance Trustees include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Total Care — Medical and Dental • Provincial Master Life/ Accidental Death & Dismemberment • Long Term Disability • MEDOC® Group Travel Plan • MEDOC® Trip Cancellation / Trip Interruption • Optional Life Insurance / Spousal Life Insurance • Voluntary Accidental Death & Dismemberment <p>A comprehensive document outlining details about each of the insurance benefits can be found at: http://nstu.ca/images/pklot/insurance%20profile%202011%20web.pdf</p>	<p>Members can reach Johnson Inc. using the following contacts: Local: 902-453-1010 Toll Free: 1-800-588-3885</p> <p>Medavie Blue Cross contact information: Box 2200 Halifax, Nova Scotia, B3J 3C6 Local: 902-468-9700 Toll Free: 1-800-565-8785 Fax: (902) 468-3967 (Total Care Medical/Total Care Dental)</p>
<p>Johnson Inc. maintains a “MembersOnly” option where you can view and interact with your Group Insurance Plan. To access your insurance information through the Johnson Inc. Website, you will require a Confidential username and password. This may be obtained by contacting Johnson Inc. at the following address: nstu@johnson.ca. Be sure to include your name, address, telephone number, professional number, and e-mail address.</p>	

<p>Medoc Group Travel Plan www.johnson.ca A Travel Insurance Program through Johnson Inc.</p>	
<p>MEDOC travel insurance provides complete coverage for your travel needs. The annual base plan provides coverage for an unlimited number of trips, up to 35 consecutive days per trip. The supplemental plan provides coverage for trips longer than 35 days, to a maximum of 210 days of continuous travel.</p>	<p>Medavie Blue Cross (Canada) 1-800-667-4511 or travel.claims@medavie.bluecross.ca</p> <p>Travel Assistance Lines (out of province emergencies). From Canada or the US: 1-800-563-4444 From anywhere else: 1-506-854-2222 (collect)</p>

CAREPath

www.carepath.ca

Health Care Assist and The Cancer Assistance Program; Senior Care Assistance Program;

Health Care Assist, is a comprehensive health care navigation program that will guide you and your family members through any serious or chronic illness. The **Cancer Assistance Program** is one example of this service where those recently diagnosed with cancer or a cancer recurrence receive ongoing, one-on-one, telephonic counseling, guidance and support by a personal Oncology Nurse, backed by oncology physicians.

The **Senior Care Assistance Program**, is provided by Bayshore HealthCare and connects you and your family to a registered nurse who specializes in senior care assistance.

Members can contact CAREPath™ to be connected to any of the following services (Cancer Navigation, Senior Care Assistance, Health Care Assist):

Email: admin@carepath.ca

Phone: 1-866-883-5956 or 1-844-453-6788

Resilience: Employee and Family Assistance Program (Resilience EFAP)

www.myresilience.com

Counseling services and Plan Smart and Career Smart services provided through Manulife and Homewood Health. Services are available 24 hours/7 days a week, 365 days a year.

Counselling Services can be provided in-person, by phone or through a secure online service. Counselling can help members deal with such things as stress, psychological disorders, alcohol and drug abuse, anger management and conflict resolution.

Plan Smart and Career Smart services gives members support in such things as childcare, eldercare, legal, financial, nutritional support and 12 weeks to wellness.

Members can access an online resource of healthcare related material through **Health eLinks**. This provides members with an interactive health risk assessment and comprehensive library of medical information.

Online counselling is available at the website above.

(to create a Member Account you will need the contract code #39146 and your professional number)

The toll-free number is 1-877-955-6788 or 1-800-663-1142 or in French 1-514-875-0720.

Education and Professional Excellence: Upcoming Professional Learning Opportunities

PSAANS members may be interested in the following upcoming PD opportunities. Members are entitled to apply for PD Funding available through Article 60 in accordance with Regional PD committee guidelines.

Annapolis Valley Regional Centre for Education

LEADING INNOVATIVE TEACHING & LEARNING

A day with George Couros for Educational Leaders

MAY 14, 2019
ACADIA UNIVERSITY
WOLFVILLE, NS

Register by April 19, 2019
<https://bit.ly/2SBNPCE>
\$200 per person
902-538-4600/
1-800-850-3087

DO YOU WANT TO...
Empower learning?
Unleash talent?
Lead a culture of creativity?

ARE YOU...
A Principal or Vice Principal?
A Regional Education Centre leader?
A Department of Education and Early Childhood Development or university education leader?

WHAT PEOPLE ARE SAYING...
"Bait speaker that I've seen in 18 years in education!"
"Never have I been more inspired in my professional career."

More About George Couros:
<https://georgecouros.com/blog/>

Places to stay in Wolfville:
www.wolfville.ca/3-accommodations.html

n s e l c

Module 16: A Restorative Approach In Schools

March 29th & 30th 2019
Best Western, Truro NS

\$260.00 + HST = \$299.00
Includes Mid-Morning snack and Lunch each day
Register at: www.nselc.ca

Be One Of The First To Participate!	2019
This 2 day module will focus on:	\$260.00 +HST
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Taking a Restorative Approach in Schools (Why? How? and What?) Working restoratively with Students, Staff and Community The Role of Restorative Educational Leaders in School Communities 	= \$299.00

NOVA SCOTIA EDUCATIONAL LEADERSHIP CONSORTIUM

n s e l c

Leadership In A Time Of Change

August 15 and 16, 2019
9:00am - 4:00pm
Best Western Plus Dartmouth Hotel & Suites

Back by popular demand, Dr. Mike Rutherford will lead this leadership conference.

Conference Focus
The conference is crafted to build on the professional learning needs of instructional leaders (for example, graduates of the Instructional Leadership Academy or other leadership programs) who desire to take leadership skills to the next level.

Conference Leadership Lessons (Lesson Descriptions on page 2)

- Creating Clear, Compelling Direction
- Designing and Leading Change
- Communication, Influencing, and Persuasion Skills

We have 20 rooms available at the Best Western Plus at \$135.00+HST
To make a reservation, call the hotel directly at 1-902-463-2000 or 1-866-674-9846, and ask for the room block for NSELc. Reservations can also be made online using the following link: https://www.bestwestern.com/en_US/Book/HotelDetails/45013.html?groupid=9C016G5
Reservations must be made by July 12, 2019.

Cost	Registration available on the NSELc website
\$499.00 + hst	www.nselc.ca
= \$573.85	Space is Limited to 60 seats! Register Early

SUMMER 2019
SPACE IS LIMITED