

## COVID-19

PSAANS continues to communicate regularly with the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development regarding the plans and procedures that are being put in place in response to the novel coronavirus (COVID-19). Schools and school communities are on the front line of these preparations and are therefore most directly affected by the effect of this situation as it quickly evolves and changes.

In light of these challenges, we strongly recommend that you reference the most up to date resources available through the Government of Canada ([www.canada.ca/coronavirus](http://www.canada.ca/coronavirus)) Government of Nova Scotia ([www.novascotia.ca/CoronaVirus/](http://www.novascotia.ca/CoronaVirus/)) and education entity websites, in addition to any direct communication from these sources. A complete list of these links is available through the [psaans.ca](http://psaans.ca) homepage.

For you as an individual member, pursuant to today's announcement by the Province of Nova Scotia, if you are expected to self-isolate or are quarantined, you should receive paid leave pursuant to Section 13(6)(i) of the *Major Terms and Conditions of Employment for Public School Administrators* as follows:

13(6) No administrator employed in a permanent, probationary or term basis shall suffer a loss of salary when absent:

(i) because the administrator has been placed in quarantine by a medical officer or other person authorized by law, or other situations where the administrator is advised by a medical practitioner, or medical officer, to leave their teaching and/or administrator duties and the leave is not provided under any sick leave or other leave provisions, and further provided that the Employer may require the administrator to be examined by a medical or health practitioner agreeable to both the administrator and the Employer;

Sick leave itself is captured in the regional or board sections of the *Major Terms and Conditions of Employment*. These terms would come into effect if you were to develop an illness while being self-isolated, or under quarantine.

Over the course of the coming week it is expected that further details and planning will occur to meet the requirements that have been communicated today by the government of Nova Scotia. We encourage you to share specific concerns and challenges with the appropriate staff in your regions.

**In order to capture the broad perspective of members, we encourage you to also share your concerns with us through [info@psaans.ca](mailto:info@psaans.ca)** . We will be actively communicating with the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development throughout March Break in preparation for the next steps post March Break.

Remember that this is an evolving situation and that there are many changes that can occur over a 24 hour time frame. It is essential that the most up to date relevant information and instructions will come to you directly from your Region or Board, and the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development, as part of a cohesive response to this public health issue.

On behalf of the Staff and Board of Directors thank you for all you do for the safety and wellbeing of the students and your staff.

Sincerely,

Tim Simony  
Chair