

**RTO Executive Meeting Minutes
January 19 - 20, 2015
NSTU**

In Attendance: Jim Kavanaugh, President Bill Berryman, Vice-President

Gary Archibald, MAL	John Donovan, MAL
George Landry, MAL	Peter Lewis, MAL
Herb Seymour, MAL	Bill Wagstaff, MAL
Dorothy Smith, MAL	Fred Jeffery, Treasurer
Al MacKinnon, Pension Rep.	

Regrets: Randy Holmesdale, Past President

Membership Numbers – End of December, 2014 – 7096

1. Call to Order/Welcome

President Jim welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m.

2. Agenda: Addition/ Approval

**MOTION: THAT THE AGENDA BE APPROVED WITH THE ADDITION OF K. AND L. IN NUMBER 8. AND C. IN NUMBER 10.
BILL BERRYMAN/HERB SEYMOUR. CARRIED.**

3. Conflict-of-Interest

None declared.

4. Minutes of Previous Meeting

**MOTION: THE EXECUTIVE MINUTES OF DECEMBER 4-5, 2014 WERE ACCEPTED AS PRESENTED.
BILL BERRYMAN/PETER LEWIS. CARRIED.**

5. Business Arising:

Executive Action Sheet

President Jim reviewed the December Action Sheet and noted items completed and those still pending.

Several email queries were answered by President Jim.

Allan MacLean, the Assistant Executive Director of the NSTU, is the new Liaison Officer for the RTO.

6. Correspondence: In-Out

President Jim and Members at Large answered several emails from RTO members.

7. RTO Timeline

President Jim reviewed the January, February and March Timelines and noted items needing attention. He will have a discussion with Joan Ling to ascertain which NSTU staff member(s) will be providing services to the RTO.

8. Reports:

a. Table Officers

President Jim reported on the Insurance Trustees Meeting that was held with the full Executive in attendance. Allan MacLean will make a presentation to the Presidents on the Health initiative Care Path at 11:30 on March 11, 2015.

The dates for the 2015 AGM are: Wednesday, May 20 – Executive at the NSTU.

Thursday, May 21 –Executive, a.m. and Presidents, p.m. at the NSTU. AGM Dinner at Brightwood Golf Course.

Friday, May 22 – AGM Meeting at the NSTU.

There was discussion on having an orientation session for Presidents in the fall. Strategic Planning will look at logistics for this session. The following motion ensued:

**MOTION: THAT THE EXECUTIVE APPROVE AN ORIENTATION SESSION FOR BRANCH PRESIDENTS IN THE FALL
BILL BERRYMAN/FRED JEFFERY. CARRIED.**

The RTO will participate in the scoring of the Lieutenant Governor's Teaching Award again this year.

b. Finance

Treasurer Fred Jeffery presented the Financial Monthly Comparison Statements of September, October, November and December 2014 depicting the revenue and expenses.

**MOTION: THAT THE FINANCIAL STATEMENT BE RECEIVED AS PRESENTED.
PETER LEWIS/HERB SEYMOUR. CARRIED.**

After some discussion on the RTO Recognition Guidelines the following motions ensued:

**MOTION: THE FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS TO THE EXECUTIVE THAT THE RETIRING GIFT TO THE EXECUTIVE MEMBERS BE CHANGED FROM \$50 TO \$100.
GEORGE LANDRY/JOHN DONOVAN. CARRIED.**

MOTION: THAT THE WEBMASTER'S FEE FOR SERVICES BE INCREASED TO \$900 PER ANNUM.

FRED JEFFERY/BILL BERRYMAN. CARRIED.

MOTION: THAT THE 2014 GRANT TO THE LEGACY FOUNDATION BE \$500.

FRED JEFFERY/JOHN DONOVAN. CARRIED.

MOTION: THAT THE INTEREST AVAILABLE THIS YEAR FOR THE LEGACY FOUNDATION BE ROUNDED OFF TO \$800.

FRED JEFFERY/BILL BERRYMAN. CARRIED.

c. Communication

Chair, Gary Archibald presented his report which included updates for the Newsletter, Curling and Golf information and a list of items for discussion.

d. Research and Review

Chair, Bill Wagstaff presented his report and reported on the collation of data in the Survey of Branch Presidents and their Locals.

Vic Fleury gave the committee an overview of the Schools Plus Program in AVRSB.

The Research and Review Committee will be collating the ECRTO survey.

Break at 12 noon
Reconvened at 1 p.m.

e. Membership

Chair, George Landry presented his report on Membership. The major concern is the operation of our database. Discussion followed on how best to resolve this dilemma. President Jim will have more information for us after meeting with Joan Ling to ascertain which NSTU staff member will be managing our database.

The Committee will be contacting the Pension Services Corp. to determine the number of retirees to make up packets of materials for new retirees.

A number of items were suggested to promote the RTO.

A break time of 10:30 was suggested for all committees to promote collegiality.

f. Pension and Benefits

Chair, Al MacKinnon and the committee will be making a chart of what happens at age 65 for our members.

There was discussion on the upcoming meeting of April 17 while attending the NSTU Pension Symposium at the Delta and due to time constraints the following motion was put forth:

**MOTION: THAT THE EXECUTIVE APPROVE AN EXTRA NIGHT STAY ON APRIL 18TH FOR THE PENSION AND BENEFITS COMMITTEE MEMBERS WHO WISH TO USE IT.
AL MACKINNON/JOHN DONOVAN. CARRIED.**

g. Programs

Chair, Peter Lewis reported on the Program Committee Mandate that is in the December 4-5, 2014 Executive Minutes and the Conscious Aging Workshop held in October.

At 2 p.m. **Colleen Cash, Executive Director of Nova Scotia Hospice and Palliative Care Association**, gave a presentation regarding Advance Care Planning with the objective of forming a partnership with the RTO to recruit and train teachers to be presenters.

After some discussion it was decided to train 4 to 5 people in the various geographical areas. 5 tentative names were put forth. January 31 is the deadline for the submission of names. The training session would last for 3-4 hours and would occur before March 31 at the NSTU Building. The RTO and the Nova Scotia Hospice and Palliative Care Association would share costs.

Program Chair, Peter Lewis, will be coordinating this event.

The following motion ensued:

**MOTION: THAT THE RTO RECRUIT FOUR OR FIVE RETIRED TEACHERS WILLING TO BE TRAINED AS ADVANCED CARE PLANNING PRESENTERS AND THAT THE RTO WILL PAY, AS PER RTO GUIDELINES, EXPENSES NOT COVERED THROUGH COLLEEN CASH.
PETERLEWIS/JOHN DONOVAN CARRIED.**

h. Foundation and Community Transit

Chair, Herb Seymour reported that he has completed assembling the Memorial Card packets and has more packets on hand when needed. The application form for the Foundation Grant will be in 'The Retired Teacher' and 'The Teacher' newsletters. There is still difficulty with communications with Community Transit Nova Scotia.

i. Nominations

Bill Berryman reported there will be nominations for:
Treasurer and Pension Rep. at the 2015 AGM.
Nominations close on February 28, 2015.
The nomination deadline for Members at Large is April 15, 2015.

j. Resolutions

Chair, Bill Berryman presented a draft resolution paper. There are 9 resolutions. Changes were made to the document and will be reviewed at the next Executive meeting.

**MOTION : THAT THE EXECUTIVE APPROVE THE RESPONSE FROM THE FINANCE COMMITTEE FOR RESOLUTION #9 FROM THE LUNENBURG BRANCH.
BILL BERRYMAN/JOHN DONOVAN. CARRIED.**

Herb Seymour abstained from this motion.

January 20, 2015 – 9:38 a.m.

k. Group of IX

Bill Berryman reported that the Group of IX will be meeting at the NSTU on Thursday, January 22. The Premier's Deputy Minister, Bernie Miller, is scheduled to attend. The Group of IX response to the "Ivany Report" will be discussed. There will be a nomination report from Jim indicating that Bill Berryman has been nominated as Chair of the committee.

l. ACER/CART

Bill Berryman reported on the different items being worked on in the 2015 Federal Election Pamphlet such as:
Health Care
Health Care Plan
National Pharmacy Plan

Pensions

There is difficulty getting approval from the government on these plans. It continues to be a work in progress.

9. Other/New Business

a. Insurance Trustees Meeting.

Discussed under Table Officers (8. a.)

b. Curling Tournament

The Curling Tournament will be held February 20, 21, 2015 in Barrington sponsored by the Shelburne Branch coordinated by Wayne Mullins. A notice of the Tournament and an application form has been sent out to all Presidents. Herb Seymour will represent the RTO at this tournament.

c. Pension Symposium Retiree Panel

Allan MacLean, RTO Liaison Officer, has requested that the RTO recruit 3 retired teachers willing to sit on a panel at the Pension symposium in order to discuss their retirement experience. The 3 retired teachers are requested to be at different stages of their retirement, e.g. one newly retired, one retired for a long time and one in between. Dorothy will look after recruiting these retired teachers. The Symposium will be held April 17 -18 at the Delta Halifax.

d. NSTU Services for RTO

President Jim has not yet met with Joan Ling on this matter. There is still an ongoing problem with our database that has to be resolved.

10. Round Table

There was discussion to honor long standing, loyal and dedicated retired teachers. These teachers could be recognized as a 'Feature Teacher' by the Branch.

11. Lunenburg resolution:

7

MOTION: TO RECOMMEND THE FINANCE COMMITTEE LOOK AT SETTING UP A CONTINGENCY FUND TO ALLOW BRANCHES TO APPLY FOR BRANCH INITIATIVES/PROGRAMS FUNDING.

GARY ARCHIBALD/GEORGE LANDRY. CARRIED.

12. In-Camera - No discussion.

13. Adjournment - 12:10 p.m.

**Recorded by
Dorothy Smith
January 19-20, 2015**