



Saint John Branch New Brunswick Society of Retired Teachers

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



Fall Newsletter 2019

President's Message

Retirement only means it's time for a new adventure.

Welcome to our new members. We enjoyed meeting seven of you at our opening day Brunch.

There were over 80 at the Brunch and it is important to note that the usual event planner for Assumption had a sick wife and unable to be there. He has apologized profusely for what he felt was substandard fare (cold coffee, not enough bacon, no pancakes etc). We hope you will support us in giving Leo and his crew another chance next year.

Over 50 of our members spent a relaxing day cruising the river. The day was perfect, the scenery of our rivers spectacular and many met up with friends and colleagues they hadn't seen in ages. Check on line as Barry Harbinson has posted some great pictures of our day. Thanks to our outgoing wellness chairs Marilyn Lester and Debbie McLaggan for organizing.

Be sure to check on what the Social committee has in store. Christmas this year should be a "don't miss" event at RKYC!!!!

Our executive committee has had one meeting and many will be meeting with our AGM 2020 committee to continue our planning to host the provincial event May 5 and 6. Interested in helping? Barry Harbinson is chairing the organizing committee. Plan to come and meet old friends from across the province.

Our website and the provincial web site are being updated with new information, events being planned and links to help you find information.

We hope to see many of you at our Roast Beef dinner at the Hope Center in Loch Lomond Oct 17. There will be a short demo at that event to show members how to access our web pages.

If you have questions or suggestions, be sure to speak to me or any of our executive committee.

Judy Braman

GROUP INSURANCE

The latest report of the NBSRT Group Insurance Committee to the NBSRT Board of Directors on Sept. 18, 2019 in Fredericton passed on information concerning a motion which had been passed at the May AGM in 2018 requesting proportional representation of retired teachers to active teachers on the NBTF T Group Insurance trustees. A letter was recently received from the NBTF Executive Committee informing the NBSRT Executive denying the request for proportional representation of retired teachers as Trustees. The Committee was disappointed but have focused on aspects of the letter sent to the NBSRT Executive. Two items mentioned in their letter are of particular interest. The committee has requested our liaison person report these verbally to the NBSRT Executive. These issues will also be forwarded to the NBSRT Executive formally for discussion.

Other ISSUES the committee is currently working on:

- (1) - examining and compiling list of items retired teachers may want the Trustees to look at having included in our plan next time the Trustees go to market – 2021/2022
- (2) - have an article on Pharmacies prepared for Reflections Fall issue, working on another one on VACCINES COVERED BY OUR PLAN for the Winter Issue and compiling a list of topics for future Reflections Articles. If you have any suggestions, please email them to nbsrt.groupinsurance@gmail.com to be added to the list.
- (3) - Cannabis... Senior Consultant for Johnsons informed the committee coverage of cannabis products are not currently covered and will not be for the near future. Not enough medical evidence was available to support this, at this time. However, it is not a dead issue and certain medical conditions were being followed such as rheumatoid arthritis, specific cancers, anxiety/depression. He expected this coverage will be considered again in the future. He mentioned that Shoppers Drug Mart covers medical marijuana for their employees in their health plan. We will be following other coverages and reporting on them as they evolve.
- (4) - Filing your claims online: The Senior Consultant for Johnsons advised us that there is more work being done re the filing of claims online to make the process more efficient. When this new process is complete, the GROUP INSURANCE committee will be making plans on how to best get this process demonstrated to our membership. OVER-ALL IMPACT, money will be deposited into your banking account immediately upon claim approval while you are inputting info online. When all kinks are worked out, process will be fast and efficient. Johnsons hope to have this added feature up and running by end of January 2020.

Scholarship Committee report- fall 2019

This is a special year for our NBSRT Saint John Branch Scholarship Fund. It is the first time we have awarded TWO scholarships to students attending UNBSJ!! The 2019-2020 scholarship recipients are: Kiera Logan, a graduate of SMMHS, who is enrolled in the 1st year of a BA program; and Rachel Mary Ingersoll, also a graduate of SMMHS, who is enrolled in the 3rd year of a concurrent BA/Bed. Program. Rachel is the first person to receive this scholarship.

Retirees can support future scholarships by using our memorial and special occasion cards available at local funeral homes and at our fall and spring luncheons, or by making a donation online at the UNB website.

Wellness Opportunity:

Anyone interested in signing up for this event please call the number below for further information. Only a few seats left so don't delay !

McAdam Train Station Christmas Tour and Turkey Dinner

November 16, 2019

\$125 per person/ Room for 25 people :

-Deluxe motor-coach, leaving at 8am returning 6:30 pm

-First stop Fredericton (Market)

-Arrive at noon for Turkey Dinner

-Tour of Station

Call Freedom Tours and Travel (506)632-1012 to get into the Christmas Spirit!

NBSRT Provincial News

The provincial board of directors of the NBSRT met on September 18th in Fredericton.

A new procedure for applying for Branch Improvement Grants was presented. Branches only, not individuals, may apply for up to \$1000 per year by completing the application form located on the web site under the "Form Section". The application is to be completed as a Word document.

The membership committee is working on several initiatives to increase overall membership in the NBSRT. One of these ideas is providing web access to a travel organization so that NBSRT members could access a wide range of travel opportunities. The details of this are still in the planning stages.

Spring elections for positions on the provincial NBSRT will take place across the province from April 1-10. The Past President Marg Urquhart, urged interested members of our local branch to consider offering.

Canadian Red Cross is Looking for Volunteers

Want to get involved? Learn more about volunteering with us at redcross.ca/volunteer.

Website

Looking for the next **Event** with the Saint John Retired Teachers? Maybe looking for **Opportunities**, the latest **Newsletter** or some **News**? Look no further than our Retired Teachers Saint John website. With just a couple of steps, you are on your way.

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

Look to the right for Events, Opportunities, News or Newsletters

Click on what interests you.

Also place your mouse above the menu bar at the top of your page and find other interesting information. Click on any topic.

We do our best to update the website but if you see something that should be added, deleted, changed or just want to say hi, please feel free to contact me.

Ellen Palmer ellen.marie.palmer@gmail.com
Website Committee Chair

Fall Luncheon

When? Thursday, Oct.17th

What? Roast Beef Dinner with all the fixings, dessert and tea and coffee included.

Price? \$15 per person (\$20 for non-members)

Where? ... H.O.P.E. Centre on Loch Lomond Rd.

Time? ... Doors open 11:00am and lunch will be served by noon.

Please register with Anne by phone at 214-9332 or through email at...alevasseur1@hotmail.com by Oct.10th. Please note that if you register by phone be sure to leave your name and number so that we can contact you if necessary.

First Games Day 2019

The NBSRT Social Committee will be holding the first “Games Day” of this year on Thurs. Nov. 14th at the Assumption Centre on Chapel Street. The time for this fun filled afternoon will be 12:30-3:30 pm and the cost will be \$10 for members and \$12 for non members. . Please feel free to bring a friend(s) to complete your table! A lunch of sandwiches, fruit, sweets and tea /coffee will be served. Doors open 11:45.

Please register with Norma by phone at 659 2553, (if you register by phone please make sure you state your name and phone number) or through email...ngmurphy51@yahoo.com...Please register by Thursday, Nov.7th.

“Celebrating Christmas” Event

Time has come for our Christmas Social!

Where? Royal Kennebecasis Yacht Club.. 1042 Millidge Avenue

When? Wednesday, Dec. 4th.....7-10pm...doors open 6:15pm

Cost? Will be determined at a later date.

Please accept this invitation to come and join us for an evening of food, fun and music that will get you into the “Christmas Spirit”. Guests are welcome! A lovely lunch of hot and cold Hors D’oeuvres, an assortment of different cheese/ crackers, deli meats, fruit and veggies with dips will be served.

Please register with Laura by Nov.28th by phone at 738 2604 or through email...lwheaton@rogers.com....If you leave Laura a message on the phone could you please state your name/ name of guest and a phone number.