



Saint John Branch New Brunswick Society of Retired Teachers

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

FALL EDITION #4 2021

President's Message,

“ It is the best of times; it is the worst of times ”

This quote from the opening of Dicken's A Tale of Two Cities is brought to mind when thinking of what is happening in New Brunswick, and the effects on our membership. How can it be both the best and the worst? The “worst” is easiest to explain – all things because of Covid and its variants plus the CUPE strike.

The “best” has more items. From the Vestcor Zoom update, held October 13th:

- Our pension as of March, 2021, is 106% funded
- The fund has over \$6,289 million in Assets and less in Liabilities
- Monthly pension payment will increase 1.01% (75% of the CPI) starting in January.

It was mentioned that our plan has done better financially than the defined benefit pension plans. The Trustees are “very pleased with how the plan is doing”.

As we head into the Christmas Season, I extend to you and yours, on behalf of myself and the Executive Committee, best wishes that you have as happy a Holiday Season as Covid will permit.

Finally, a big ‘Thank You’ to all the Committees who have done as much as possible working on/for the Branch Membership during these trying times.

Brian Greig, NBSRTSJ President 2021-2023



NBSRT SJ Budget and Account 2021-2022

<u>Description</u>	<u>Budget 2021-2022</u>	<u>Actual 2020-2021</u>
Revenues	May 1, 2021 - April 30, 2022	May 1, 2021 - May 31, 2021
Membership Dues - Prov.	\$6,960.00	\$3,387.00
Membership Dues - Local	\$36.00	\$0.00
50/50, Door Prizes (net)	\$100.00	\$0.00
Wellness activities	\$500.00	\$0.00
NBSRT Surplus	\$0.00	\$0.00
Maturing Investments	\$0.00	\$0.00
Total Revenues	\$7,596.00	\$3,387.00
Expenditures		
Social Committee		
Dropout Brunch (net)	\$500.00	\$0.00
Fall Luncheon (net)	\$700.00	\$0.00
Christmas Social (net)	\$1,500.00	\$0.00
Card Parties (net)	\$500.00	\$0.00
Annual Meeting (net)	\$1,500.00	\$100.00
Celebration for lifted Covid Restrictions	\$8,500.00	\$0.00
Social Committee - Total	\$13,200.00	\$100.00
Governance		
Bank Charges	\$65.00	\$23.70
Executive Barbecue	\$200.00	\$0.00
Executive Committee	\$400.00	\$331.43
Meeting Facilities	\$200.00	\$0.00
Staledated Cheque	\$0.00	\$0.00
Governance Total	\$865.00	\$355.13
Committee and Activities Expenses		
Membership Committee	\$500.00	\$293.03
Standing committees	\$300.00	\$62.31
Newsletters	\$1,400.00	\$510.99
Other Provincial Travel	\$500.00	\$0.00
Wellness Activities	\$1,500.00	\$375.00
Workshops	\$200.00	\$0.00
Committee and Activities Expenses Total	\$4,400.00	\$1,241.33

Various Categories		
Donations, Memorials	\$1,000.00	\$50.00
Memberships Dues (Local)	\$24.00	\$0.00
Miscellaneous	\$100.00	\$0.00
Contingency Fund	\$500.00	\$0.00
NBTA District Retirement Dinner	\$0.00	\$0.00
NBSRT Election	\$0.00	\$0.00
NBSRT AGM	\$0.00	\$0.00
Transfer to G.I.C.	\$0.00	\$6,000.00
Various Categories	\$1,624.00	\$6,050.00
Total Expenditures	\$20,089.00	\$7,746.46
Surplus/ Deficit	(\$12,493.00)	(\$4,359.46)
	approved AGM May 20, 2021	
Bank balance (Oct. 31, 2021)		\$21,972.55
Uncleared cheques	Wellness & Postage	\$201.43
Added Income		\$0.00
Current balance		\$21,771.12
Investments	Value as of Oct. 31, 2021	\$17,500.51
Membership Shares		\$2,327.53
Total assets		\$41,599.16



What is an Ironing board?

A surf board which *gave up on its dreams* and went to work.

We are having a Holly Jolly Christmas Party!



Join us on December 8, at 7pm for our Virtual Holiday Party!

We invite everyone to a fun -filled hour jammed pack with the Christmas Spirit, virtually!

Come re-connect with familiar faces and relax with a glass of bubbly and your tasty holiday treat in the comfort of your home. You could win one of the Gift Cards (up to 12 gift cards will be issued depending on eligible members joining the festivities) just by attending the on-line party! The Gift Cards will be drawn randomly throughout the night.

Do you enjoy Christmas Carols? Our merry little elves encourage you to come Sing-along to a few led by our very talented head elf, Ellen Palmer, and crew!

We will be making 5 draws for our **Honor a Teacher Draw** contest. (See details of the contest in this Newsletter) Hang on! Just before our last toast we have a grand prize draw, a \$100 gift card for one lucky winner just for joining our delightful party! Missing a fellow retired colleague? Call or e-mail them and rekindle the friendship and tell them about the Virtual Party. Let's Celebrate!

Contact Barry Harbinson by December 5, to pre-register at bharbins@nb.sympatico.ca. He will confirm your registration along with easy directions to join the Zoom meeting/party. Looking forward to seeing you!

Let's Walk Down Memory Lane

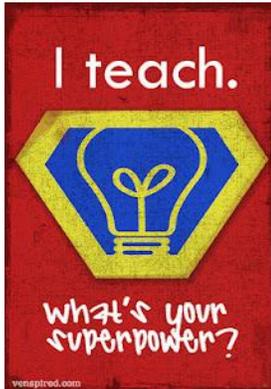
Time for Reflection

A year last November we began creating the Monthly Wellness Calendars. We hope they have helped you. We would like to thank all participants who took the time to share your personal recipes and photos this past year. You shared more than the recipe or photo. They were treasured



experiences, a love of a family tradition, hobby, pet, or a meaningful moment. They were gems that sparked a memory, brought a smile to faces, and inspired someone. Again, we thank you for connecting with fellow retired teachers. We are now trying something new.

Honor your Favorite Teachers Draw!



Many retired teachers have made huge impacts on their students' lives over their careers. Name a teacher who inspired you as a student. Explain why. Name as many teachers you felt helped you become the educator you were or person you are today.

Each teacher you submit gives you an entry into the draw. Four \$25 gift cards and one grand prize gift card for \$50 will be drawn at the virtual Christmas Party on December 8th.

In a future newsletter we will Honor the retired members who were reminisced. Send each entry to rosethe@nb.sympatico.ca by December 7th, 2021.

Membership Sign up Team

Greetings Fellow Retirees!!!!

This Covid 19 with Circuit Breaker can certainly challenge our patience and our ability to do things for you our members. We have 8 new members from the 48 retirees from 2020 and 2021.

Our committee is open to ideas and suggestions on how to encourage new retirees and those who retired with us but didn't join to see the value of a united voice. (It is obvious from today's mess that a very large number must be united to gain ground).

Our committee will work with the whole Executive Committee to plan a celebration to meet, laugh, sing, dance and eat with each of you as soon as it is safe for us to gather.

Stay safe and enjoy the contests Wellness organizes for us all to participate and maybe win a prize! We look forward to seeing everyone face to face.

Judy Braman

Chair of the Membership Committee

Working to sign up retirees and swell our numbers.





ASSOCIATION CANADIENNE DES ENSEIGNANTES ET DES ENSEIGNANTS RETRAITÉS
CANADIAN ASSOCIATION OF RETIRED TEACHERS

As the voice of the retired education community, ACER-CART focuses on priorities evolving from issues affecting the well-being of seniors all across Canada.

acer-cart.org

ACER-CART President Gerry Tiede wrote a letter to the newly appointed Minister for Seniors, Kamal Khera. The letter introduced ACER-CART, emphasized the need for a National Seniors Strategy, including pharmacare, regulations for retirement and long - term care homes and aging at home. As well, being optimistic, the letter invited her to speak at ACER-CART's June 2022 AGM.

ACER-CART's Political Action Committee, which includes NBSRT President Bob Fitzpatrick and Past President June MacNairn, is gathering information to flesh out a strategy to promote 'aging at home'.

In the coming weeks the East Coast Retired Teacher Organizations (ECRTO) will be meeting by zoom to "catch up" and share ideas. This group traditionally meets face to face every second year and each organization takes turns hosting. Our 2020 gathering, scheduled for Montreal, had to be cancelled for obvious reasons and in our upcoming meeting one item on the agenda will be should we consider planning for the fall of 2022, perhaps in New Brunswick?

To stay current with ACER-CART, check to see what is happening with other Canadian retired teacher organizations and familiarize yourself with the priorities for 2021-22, visit the webpage at acer-cart.org

THINKING OF OTHER JOBS AFTER YOU

RETIRE? Did you ever consider these? **Tutor** in Music, Math, Science or coding; **Test Scorer** – universities and colleges are constantly seeking people to help grade students' test; **Writing coach** – lots of people are unsure of their own writing skills; **Author**-you may have many stories to tell ; **Fitness instructor**; **Camp counselor**; **Coach**; **Proofreader**



Visit your Public Library online!

Our Saint John Free Public Libraries have a variety of access to world knowledge at your fingertips. All you need is a Library Card. Here are some items available.

- eBooks and Audiobooks

- **Canadian Reference Center:**(English, some French) newspapers, newswires, and reference books. (Text-to-speech, English only)

- **Press Reader:** access to more than 7,000 world top newspapers.

- **ProQuest:** Canadian News streams. (Some French)

- **Eureka:** Newspapers and periodicals including French language titles, L'Acadie Nouvelle, L'Actualite, Le Devoir, Le Droit and La Presse.

- **Rosetta Stone:** Learn a language.

- **Tumblebooks:** Watch and listen to animated stories online. (English/French)

- **Universalis Junior:** Online encyclopedia for children and young teenagers. (French only)

- **National Geographic Kids** (English)

- **Career Cruising:** Canadian specific. (English/French)

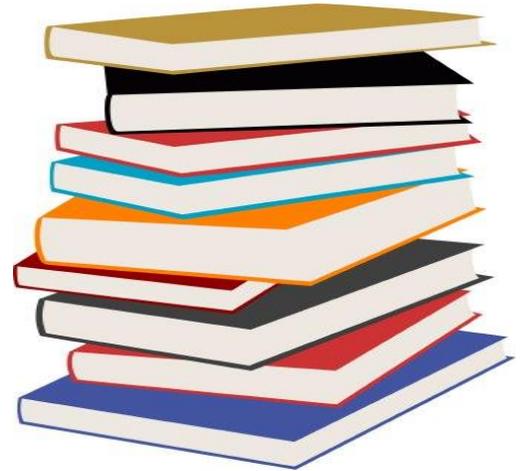
- **Gale Business Plans Handbook** (English)

- **Grant Connect Delta** (English/French)

- **Auto Repair Service** (English)

- **Cochrane Library:** Reviews of Health Care Treatments. (English)

- **Nineteenth Century Collections Online:** Primary source materials from the Nineteenth Century. (English, French, some Western Languages)



Accessible Collections & Services:

- Audiobooks on CD & Playaway
- Large print books
- Described videos
- Braille and print/Braille
- DAISY CDs (Talking Books)
- E-text, E-audio, E-braille
- Access to the [Centre for Equitable Library Access \(CELA\)](#) and to Bookshare
- Access to the [Service québécois du livre adapté \(SQLA\)](#) (French only)
- Adaptive Computer Workstations and CCTV Units

Contacts for the Library: Call 643-7236, Email sjfpl@qnb.ca, Website saintjohnlibrary.com, Facebook facebook.com/sjfpl/, Twitter twitter.com/SaintJohnFPL

November

2021

Walk Down Memory Lane

Time for Reflection

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Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3	4	5	6
Enter the Honor Your Favorite Teacher Draw	All Saint's Day World Vegan Day	Plan your holiday sending Canada Post	Change your tires	Diwali New Noon	Get Home ready for Winter.	Book Lovers Day
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Daylight Savings Time ends Renforth	Cook Something Bold Day	NB Indigenous Veteran Zoom @ 2pm	Write to the Troops!	Remembrance Day First Quarter	How to Look Forward to Things	World Kindness Day
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
Operating Nurse Day	Clean your Refrigerator	Tips to a Better Sleep	Homemade Bread Day	National Vichyssoise Day	Play Monopoly Day	Go on a Hike & Take Photos
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
Painting with Knives	Mindful Eating	Read "North" by Brad Kessler	Ways to feel awake without caffeine	Tips to Refresh your Home on a Budget	Black Friday	Get your flu shot or COVID-19 booster
28	29	30				
Hanukkah begins	Cyber Monday	Giving Tuesday				

December Wellness

2021

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Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 * Visit a Public Library on-line	2 Make a Holiday cookbook and send as gifts.	3 Uptown Sparkles	4 New Moon
5 Watch Oct.13, Pension info meeting.	6 Go Public Skating	7 Deadline Honor your Favorite Teachers Draw!	8 Virtual Christmas Party	9 Send a cheerful note to a patient .	10 Human Rights Day	11 Watch A Christmas Story
12 Play Pickleball	13 Thank a Health Care worker	14 Grocery Shop online Voila	15 Easy Christmas Crafts	16 Barra MacNeils	17 Ask a friend to join NBSRT	18 Full Moon
19 Watch an online Church Service	20 Grow a Christmas Herb Garden	21 First Day of Winter	22 Need a Meal or want to Volunteer?	23 Go for a ride to see holiday decorations!	24 Christmas Eve Eggnog Day	25 Christmas Day
26 Kwanzaa begins Boxing Day	27 Find Calm	28 Delete old e-mails and cookies	29 Try Curling	30 Make an appt. to give blood	31 New Year's Eve Plan: Polar Dip	