

Annual Report for NBSRT Saint John Branch Scholarship Committee AGM 2024

In 2023, we awarded two scholarships of \$3000 each.

The NBSRTSJ Education Scholarship was awarded to **Grace E. LeBlanc**, of Grand Bay-Westfield, a graduate of Harbour View High School. Grace is a fourth-year Dean's List student on the Saint John Campus working on a concurrent Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Education.

The NBSRT Saint John Branch Scholarship was awarded to **Zachary S. Henry**, of Saint John. Zachary is a graduate of St. Malachy's Memorial High School and a first-year Bachelor of Arts student on the Saint John Campus. He is involved in Army Cadets and works with Cadets Canada during the summer.

Our contact person at UNB for all information on scholarship recipients and accounts is Marion Williams, Senior Development Officer, Development & Donor Relations. The latest accounting report from UNB came out in October 2023:

Beginning balance as of May 1, 2022	\$144,505.47
Additions to Capital:	
New Gifts - May 1, 2022 to April 30, 2023	\$6,375.00
NBUOF Allocation	\$325.00
Income/Loss (Net of Investment Management Expenses)	\$8,765.40
Less Expenditures:	
Scholarship/Prize Disbursement	(\$5,000.00) *
Ending balance as of April 30, 2023	\$154,970.87

*We have been advised that this number represents the scholarships awarded in the previous year. This year's scholarships in the amount of \$6000 will be included in the next statement.

Donations can be made either at local funeral homes or to the university. Rather than our own memorial cards, Brennan's now uses generic ones that allow donors to fill in the charity of their choice, but they do have our information in their system and are still able to accept donations on our behalf. Contributions can also be made directly through either the UNB website, unb.ca/giving/, or through the mail: University of New Brunswick, Development Office, NBSRT Saint John Branch Scholarship Fund, P.O. Box 4400, Fredericton, N.B. E3B 5A3. Income tax receipts are issued by the university.

Although I have enjoyed holding the position of Chair of the Scholarship Committee for the past few years, my involvement has, of necessity, been minimal. As my family's circumstances continue to evolve, I find it impossible to remain in the position and am grateful to turn things over to Mary Power, who will replace me as the of the AGM.

Respectfully submitted,



Susanne Sutton

REFLECTIONS
ANNUAL REPORT TO NBSRTSJ
MAY 2024

Since last reporting there have been 3 submissions to Reflections on behalf of NBSRTSJ. Each includes Branch News (pictures and information about our events) and In Memoriam obituaries of NBSRTSJ members. As well, NBSRTSJ member Bev Harrison contributed an article for the Fall 2023 issue.

All NBSRTSJ members are encouraged to suggest individuals who should be featured as well as to submit articles that would be of interest to retired colleagues around the province. Those could be articles about travels, special projects or involvements or experiences. And, when appropriate, members recognized for community/contributions and leadership can be acknowledged.

Branch News's ability to reflect our branch is possible thanks to those who plan and organize events, share their talents, take and share pictures and give suggestions for inclusion. Without them, and without your support of our activities. there would be no "Branch News".

The next submission date is the end of May.

The NBSRT May Annual General Meeting received 2 resolutions regarding Reflections submitted by NBSRTSJ. They were:

1. Be it resolved that the NBSRT investigate the possibilities and implications of printing Reflections in color and report to AGM 2025
2. Be it resolved that effective with the September 24th, 2024 deadline the format for the "In Memoriam" in Reflections be standardized and that it include NBSRT members only

As 2024 – 2025 ends my term as Reflections Correspondent concludes. The coming year provides an opportunity for you, or someone you know, to participate in preparing our submissions, be active in the leadership of our organization and, hopefully, consider becoming our Reflections Correspondent for 2025-2027.

Respectfully submitted

Margaret Urquhart

NBSRT SJ Card Committee Guidelines & Report
June 2023 – April 2024

The purpose of the NBSRT SJ card committee is to send cards or notes to members of the retired teachers group and their families to acknowledge significant events, such as deaths, illnesses, hospitalizations, and congratulations.

These have traditionally included sympathy cards to the family of deceased members , or the acknowledgment of the death of family member of a present member of the NBSRT- SJ . Many of the earlier retirees did not join the Saint John retired association, however obituary notices often include information of a teaching career, so a sympathy card from our group acknowledges their contributions.

The card committee relies on newspaper obituary notices as well as information received from members in case we miss someone. If you are aware of anyone in need of a card from our group, please let us know.

Pat Murray donmur23@outlook.ca

June 2023 – April 2024

22 Sympathy cards sent

16 Get Well / Thinking of You cards sent

2023-24 NBSRT – Saint John Branch DIRECTORS’ REPORT
“Life is a great big canvas; throw all the paint you can on it.” — Danny Kaye

To the delight of our membership, Saint John Branch saw a primarily full return to in-person events and meetings in 2023-24, and members certainly threw themselves into the myriad of activities organized by a creative and dedicated group of volunteers. Led by our Social and Wellness committees, members enjoyed indoor and outdoor activities to fill the body, mind, and soul.

In June of 2023, the Executive agreed to request to host the NBSRT AGM in 2024, (a continuation of our efforts which were cancelled by the pandemic in 2020), and this was approved by the provincial body. A Planning Committee was formed, and monthly meetings were held over the year under the leadership of our esteemed branch treasurer, Barry Harbinson. Saint John branch is excited to host members of the NBSRT at the Delta Hotel, May 13-14. Many pre-conference activities are planned as well as a fun-filled social Monday evening.

On August 24, 2023, the Executive met to review plans for the year, including those of the social and wellness committees. Ann Stone and Pat Dugay, chairs of the Social committee, and Paula Scott and Rose Theriault, chairs of Wellness, confirmed several dates and activities: September 5th for the Annual Brunch at Assumption Center, October 25th for the Semi-annual Meeting and Luncheon at the Hope Center, Nov. 15th for the Card Party at the Assumption Centre, and Dec. 8th for the Christmas Gathering at the Saint John Marina; other activities included monthly hikes at Rockwood Park, Sept. 25th guided Kayak tour, Oct. 4th Painting workshop, and Nov. 29th Christmas crafts. In addition to all these events, a special Thank You Luncheon was organized at the YMCA Glen Carpenter Centre for the NBSRT SJ Executive Committee and their committee members.

At the January 18th, 2024 Executive meeting, the Social and Wellness committees confirmed Jan. 18th for the SJ Alehouse and Seadogs game, dates of the monthly hikes at Rockwood Park, Mar. 20th Glass Blowing demonstration, Mar. 14th St. Paddy’s Games Day, and April 3rd - 4th, Sgraffito Pottery at River Valley Rink. In addition, our committee members were hard at work planning pre-conference activities for the provincial AGM.

One of the primary focuses for Saint John Branch, this year and in past years, is communication with members and potential members. To this end, our Membership committee, chaired by Judy Braman, attended a school representative meeting of the local NBTA to discuss our role, particularly as it relates to group insurance and pension, and to express our support for current teachers. The Website, under the auspices of Ellen Palmer, our branch contributions to Reflections headed by Margaret Urquart, and the four Newsletters produced by Marijke Blok, are significant in our efforts to get information to members.

Other priorities this year included a thorough review of the Constitution, lead by Rena MacGregor, and a succession plan for various positions on our executive committees; there is a pressing recognition of the need for younger members to take up the charge, just as there is both provincially and, indeed, nation-wide.

Finally, we honor and remember two of our NBSRTSJ long-time volunteers – Brian Greig and Mary Ann Patterson – who, sadly, passed away this year. Their legacy is immeasurable, and we miss them greatly.

Thank you to all of our volunteers - the executive, lead by President Robert Bonner, our committee chairs, and their members – and all who work tirelessly on behalf of our association. Our increased membership and participation is thanks to you and your dedication to this organization.

Respectfully Submitted,

Frances Butler

Rena MacGregor

Directors, NBSRT-SJ

Membership Annual Report

AGM May 23, 2024

NBSRTSJ Membership was represented at all provincial Zoom meetings during the 2023-2024 year. The committee worked well together and shared many ideas and worked hard to increase the overall number of retirees across the province.

Our discussions included ideas on including members in outlying areas of Branches and ensuring that social, wellness activities were inclusive and varied to accommodate different interests.

Some Branches are offering Fall Back to School Brunches for Retirees at more than one venue.

The number one key way for us to increase our numbers to increase our voice at Pension and Insurance discussions is through individual members encouraging friends and former colleagues to join.

Our local Branch attended NBTA Saint John Rep Meeting again this year (we supplied treats). We continue to support our local teachers and they in turn are ensuring that potential retirees get the information they need to help in decision making.

At the registration table there are application forms for each member to take with them.... You never know when you could encourage a retiree to join us.

Judy Braman (Chair)

MEMBERSHIP DATA SECRETARY REPORT

MAY 23, 2024

Current Enrollment: 593

Deceased year 2023: 13

PAST HISTORY MEMBERSHIP

YEAR	MEMBERS	YEARS	MEMBERS
2023	593	2018	594
2022	555	2017	594
2021	563	2016	600
2020	602	2015	597
2019	601	2014	592

DECEASED

Feb. 20, 2023	Wade	Anne M.
Feb. 23, 2023	Harkins	Bill T.
March 13, 2023	Wall	Joan
March 25, 2023	McAuliffe	Mark
March 21, 2023	Ryan	Martina
July 21, 2023	Steen	Joan
Aug. 18, 2023	McKinney	Robert
Aug. 24, 2023	Taylor	Malcolm
Sept.. 6, 2023	Campbell	Patricia
Nov. 4, 2023	Fulton	Laughlan
Nov. 29, 2023	Scott	Dianne
Dec. 18, 2023	McKinney	Janet
Dec. 27, 2023	McCarthy	Carmelita
Jan. 2, 2024	Gray	Gordon
Jan. 23, 2024	Morris	Trevor
March 11, 2024	King	Tom B.
April 2, 2024	Mills	Margaret A.
April 5, 2024	Campbell	Bruce
April 10, 2024	Greig	Brian

Respectfully submitted

Kathy Dalling

Membership Data Secretary

NBSRTSJ Wellness Committee Report 2023-2024

Wellness Committee Members: Ellen Palmer, Elizabeth Donnelly-Nelson, Rachel Malone, and Pat Bastarache. Many hands make light work! Thank you to the great Wellness Committee members who gave of their time and talents this past year. We appreciate all that you do!

Activities:

- Oct. 4 Explore Paint Workshop with Elizabeth Donnelly-Nelson in her studio.
- Oct.10 River Bay Adventures Kayak Guided Tour Part 2: Kennebecasis River & Beamer's Creek.
- Oct.11 Hiked Rockwood Park with Paula Scott
- Nov. 8 Hiked Rockwood Park with Paula Scott
- Nov. 29 Get Hooked on Christmas rug hooking craft at River Cross with Rachel Malone.
- Dec. 13 Hiked Rockwood (sadly we could not hike the lake trail at Camp Glenburn.)
- Jan. 10 No Hike-Snow Storm
- Jan. 18 Celebrated Hockey Day in Canada with dinner at Ale House & Sea Dogs hockey game.
- Feb. 14 Hiked at The Little Reservoir "The Rez". A 45 min. hike with grippers!
- Feb. 5 A fun-filled evening of Bowling & Pizza at the Saint John Bowlarama.
- Mar. 13 Hiked at Rockwood -always a great outing with Paula Scott.
- Mar. 20 Fabulous Glass Blowing Demo at Glass Roots for 20 min. then shopped the Gallery.
- April 3/5/24 Sgraffito Pottery at River Valley Rink with Elizabeth Donnelly-Nelson.
- Apr. 10 Hiked Irving Nature Park with Paula Scott and Rachel Malone.
- May 8 Last hike at Rockwood Park with Paula Scott. Lunch in the park.
- May 13/14 NBSRT AGM Location: Delta Hotels by Marriott Saint John. Wellness Activities include Walking, Hiking, Driving Tours, Reflexology, and Golf.

Thank you, Ellen Palmer for registering all the members for the wellness activities, posting all the events on our website, and keeping us organized. Thank you, Paula for organizing, registering, and posting on Facebook the outdoor activities.

The Wellness Committee will be meeting in May to draft a new year of wellness activities and proposing the list of scheduled events in September at the TGIR Brunch.

If you would like to be apart of the Wellness Committee, or have a great idea for an activity, we would appreciate your help! Contact a wellness committee member listed above or one of the Co- Wellness Committee Chairs, Paula Scott at paula.scott@nbed.nb.ca , 506-608-3857 or Rose Theriault at rosethe@nb.sympatico.ca , 506-721-5383).

Join the fun and help us keep our members WELL!

Paula and Rose

Newsletter Report

NBSRT Saint John Branch – May 2024 AGM

Since May of 2023, our committee has sent out 5 newsletters:

June 2023

August 2023

November 2023

February 2024

April 2024 – Please note: this would normally have been circulated in June but in order to allow members a last opportunity to register for the Provincial AGM, this was sent earlier than usual.

The executive committee determined that the physical newsletter would be done in black and white in the interests of cost-effectiveness. Photocopying in black and white versus colour is approximately one quarter of the cost.

In addition, the number of mailed newsletters has dropped from 104 in the summer of 2023 to 99 for our most recent issue.

Marijke Blok

Chair, Newsletter Committee

Social Committee Report

NBSRT Saint John Branch – May 2024 AGM

As teachers, our Year will forever run from September to June.

On Tuesday, Sept. 5 2023, our TGIR (Thank Goodness I'm Retired) Brunch was held at Assumption centre. This is always a well-attended event (96 registered, 89 attended) where teachers can socialize with colleagues and old friends. We also welcomed our new retirees (June 2023) with a free brunch. Members \$10 and non-members \$15

The Fall Luncheon was held on Wednesday, October 25th at the HOPE Centre. NBSRT SJ subsidized a delicious chicken dinner; cost to the organization was \$29.50 pp, with cost to members at \$20 and non-members at \$25.

The next event was our Games Day, on Wednesday November 15th at Assumption Centre. A fun afternoon with teachers and friends. Cost: Members \$10, Non-Members \$15. This too was subsidized by the organization. 58 people attended.

Our Christmas Social was held at the Saint John Marina on Friday December 8th. A Chinese Buffet, in the form of a sing-along led by fellow musical teachers, was most enjoyable. Subsidized cost: Members \$20; non-members \$25.

The Annual St. Paddy's Games Day was held on Thursday, March 14th, 2024. In addition to the regular 50/50 draw and door prizes, gift cards were awarded to those Wearing the Most Green. Members: \$10; non-members \$15. Attended by 40 people at the Assumption Centre.

The final function for this school year is the AGM, Thursday, May 23rd. The HOPE Centre will again provide a Chicken Dinner. NBSRT SJ will subsidize the cost of \$31.50 pp. Members: \$20 Non-Members \$25.

Each Social Committee function includes a tasty meal, Door Prizes and a 50/50 draw. This year saw an increase in price for the caterers at each location. We also increased the Door Prizes from \$15 each to \$20 each for the TGIR Brunch and both Games Days. For the Fall Luncheon, Christmas Social, and AGM events, the increase was from \$15 to \$25 per card.

Respectfully submitted by:

Ann Stone

Patricia Dugay

Co-Chairs