



NBTA

New Brunswick
Teachers' Association

Virtual Council Day



Virtual Program

Friday, May 3, 2024

Schedule

Friday, May 3rd - Council Day

9:00 - 10:00 am	Divided A Sessions
10:30 - 11:30 am	Divided B Sessions
11:30 am - 1:00 pm	Lunch
1:00 - 2:00 pm	Divided C Sessions
2:30 - 3:30 pm	Divided D Sessions

The NBTA Councils would like to acknowledge, respect, and remind that NB public education takes place on the **unceded, unsurrendered** territories of the Wolastoqiyik, Mi'kmaq, and Peskotomuhkatiyik people. The Wolastoqiyik, Mi'kmaq, and Peskotomuhkatiyik welcomed English and French speaking settlers and taught them how to survive in their territory based on their relationship with the land, nature, and mankind that continues to this day. The Wolastoqiyik, Mi'kmaq, and Peskotomuhkatiyik Nations, who have inhabited this land since time immemorial, signed Treaties of Peace and Friendship with the British Crown beginning in 1725, which were upheld by the Government of Canada in the Constitution Act of 1982. These treaties did not deal with the surrender of land but established the rules for ongoing coexistence and partnership between nations.

Registration

To register, please visit the NBTA website at www.nbta.ca on **April 1st** and click on the Council Day button and follow the registration instructions.

You will need your NBTA member number to register. If you have forgotten your number - there is a member number retrieval system on the site. Once you enter your member number, all of your personal information (name, school, address, etc.) will be entered automatically.

Council Day registration costs is a benefit of membership.

Fees for Non-Members — School-based:\$40; Non-School-based: \$75.

Refund Policy — Due to the fact that many of our costs are incurred in advance, there will be no refunds.

Student Interns — Although non-members, all student interns are provided complimentary on-line registration.

A conference link will be provided prior to the conference date.

Awards — NBTA believes that all teachers do a wonderful job, however, there are always those teachers in each school who are considered to be exceptional by their colleagues. The Councils wish to acknowledge these extraordinary teachers with Teacher Recognition Awards. Winners will receive a certificate/plaque, an honourarium and their picture in the ConnectED. Please consider nominating teachers who have shown a substantial positive contribution to any or all of the following: School Environment; School Spirit; Student Learning Opportunities; Teacher Morale; Individual Student Development; Professional Activities. **Nominations close April 1, 2024.** If you wish to make a nomination please go to www.nbta.ca and click on the Council Day button and then the NBTA Awards button.

Virtual A Sessions 9:00 - 10:00 am

AV-01 Creativity, Potential and the Art of Teaching

David Myles

Keynote Speaker

Virtual

To me, teaching is the art of potential: recognizing potential and working towards realizing that potential. And in every case, for every student, it looks a little different. That is a massive challenge, and I commend teachers enormously for taking it on day after day. In this session, I want to talk about how that process of discovering the unique path towards the realization of potential holds essential similarities to how I view the creative process and, in particular, songwriting.

AV-02 Perfectionism – The Desire to be the Perfect Teacher

Ronna Gauthier

Teacher Counsellor

Virtual

Many teachers struggle with perfectionism. The inability to attain perfection as an educator can lead to feelings like inadequacy, frustration, and a lack of fulfillment. Attend this session with teacher-counsellors Ronna Gauthier & Amanda Shortall. Learn more about perfectionism, why the profession attracts perfectionists & how they are impacted, and what you can do to take some of the pressure off.

AV-03 Introduction and Overview of the New Professional Learning Hub

Nick Good

EECD

Virtual

Explore professional learning opportunities and resources from Anglophone School Districts, NBTA, EECD, AEI, and other educational partners. The PL Hub is designed to provide you with access to a wide range of professional learning opportunities, resources, and tools to help you enhance your professional practice. <https://plhub.nbed.ca/> **repeated in BV-03**

AV-04 Violence Threat Risk Assessment - Refresher Session

Darren Oakes

EECD Acting Director of Integrated Service Delivery

Andrew Culberson

EECD School Counselling and Mental Health Education Support Services

Virtual

Participants will review VRTA protocol and discuss various areas from the provincial, community, and school lenses. We will discuss the role of the school VTRA team and advancements to the process.

Virtual B Sessions 10:30 - 11:30 am

BV-01 The Knowledge Gap: What Is It and How to Narrow It

Natalie Wexler

Keynote Speaker

Virtual

We hear a lot about the Science of Reading, but most of it focuses on problems with phonics instruction. That's important, but science tells us that if we want students to become fully literate, we need to change our approach to reading comprehension as well. Instead of test prep and drilling on skills like "finding the main idea," schools can engage kids in deep dives into topics, building the knowledge and analytical abilities that fuel comprehension—ideally as part of content-rich curriculum that also builds foundational reading skills. An increasing number of schools are doing just that, with promising results.

BV-02 Teacher Pension Information Session

Michael Butler

Director of Member Services and Benefits, NBTA

Virtual

This session will provide an overview of the Teachers' Pension Plan including contribution rates, retirement eligibility rules and pension calculations. There will be time provided for Q&A within the session.

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BV-04 Course Selection in myBlueprint

myBlueprint Representatives

Virtual

myBlueprint follows a comprehensive education and career planning process that meets the learning needs, interests, and aspirations of all students. Participants in the session will learn how to leverage myBlueprint in the course selection process.

Virtual C Sessions 1:00 - 2:00 pm

CV-01 L'importance de l'humour dans les écoles (session delivered in French only)

Hughie Batherson
Keynote Speaker

Virtual

L'Importance de l'humour dans les écoles, et surtout pendant les moments de stress! Hughie partage son vécu vis-à-vis l'insécurité et la sécurité linguistique. Il présentera des trucs de valorisation de la langue française. Il abordera le grand sujet de culture collective et individuelle. Hughie explique qu'en rendant la salle de classe un lieu positif où le rire est invité; cela raiera le stress et incitera les élèves à prendre des risques, et à moins avoir peur de s'exprimer! Il fait recours à ses observations tirées de sa recherche de Maîtrise (L'Humour dans la salle de classe et au travail). Il fait valoir l'impact d'une ambiance humoristique positive sur les individus à l'école. Hughie se sert de son expérience professionnelle plutôt bizarre (Professeur, Vice-recteur universitaire, humoriste) pour vous amener sur une aventure de bonheur!

CV-02 Fostering Psychological Safety: Building Stronger Educational Communities

Ardith Shirley
Executive Director, NBTA

Virtual

This session explores the profound impact of psychological safety within educational settings. In this interactive workshop, teachers and administrators will delve into the principles, strategies, and practices necessary to cultivate environments where all members feel safe to take risks, express themselves authentically, and collaborate effectively. Through interactive discussions, case studies, and experiential activities, participants will gain a deeper understanding of psychological safety's role in fostering creativity, innovation, and resilience among students and staff alike. Practical techniques for nurturing trust, promoting open communication, and addressing conflicts constructively will be shared, empowering educators to create inclusive and supportive learning communities where everyone thrives. Whether you're a seasoned educator or an early career teacher, this session offers valuable insights and tools to enhance your ability to cultivate psychological safety and unlock the full potential of your educational community.

CV-03 Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder 101

Courtney Fournier and Jillian Nason
Aboriginal Liaisons with NB FASD Centre of Excellence

Virtual

FASD 101 provides an overview of how fetal alcohol spectrum disorder occurs, its prevalence in this province, common symptoms associated with an FASD diagnosis, and strategies that can help! This presentation will clear up some common myths about FASD, provide information on how to make a referral to the NB FASD Centre of Excellence, and start a conversation on how you can get involved and spread awareness on FASD.

repeated in DV-03

CV-04 Inclusion and Social Emotional Learning (SEL)

Mark Nicholson

Virtual

EECD School Mental Health, Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity

This session will focus on digging deeper into the social awareness skill competencies of SEL, including perspective taking, empathy, appreciating diversity, and respecting others. Mark will offer hands on activities to use in small groups or with individual students to support inclusion within your school environment.

Virtual D Sessions 2:30 - 3:30 pm

DV-01 Unlearning: A Practical Guide to Great Leadership

Drew Dudley

Keynote Speaker

Virtual

Called one of the most dynamic speakers in the world, Drew Dudley is on a mission to help people unlearn some dangerous lessons about leadership. Drew is the bestselling author of *This is Day One: A Practical Guide to Leadership That Matters*. It debuted at number six on the Wall Street Journal best-seller list. His passion for personal leadership has inspired millions of people worldwide to embrace the belief that leadership is something we can and should aspire to.

DV-02 Post Graduation Gap Year: What Are the Options?

Michelle Dittmer

CanGap <https://www.cangap.ca/>

Virtual

Canadian Gap Year Association (CanGap) is an inclusive non-profit organization supporting families and students in making purposeful post-secondary decisions. They do this by introducing and providing resources to support an alternative, experiential opportunity known as a gap year. Students have options post-graduation and one of them is a Gap Year! Learn from Michelle Dittmer, from CanGap, about the benefits of promoting this option to your students. She will also discuss a new virtual course for students to plan and prepare for a gap year.

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repeated in CV-03