



# Branching Out

news from the public schools branch



On April 22, the National Film Board launched its new NFB Space School Website at the Discovery Centre in Halifax with Minister Ramona Jennex and Canadian Space Agency Astronaut Chris Hadfield, live from space!

Almost one-hundred Nova Scotia junior high-school students were on hand for the conversation and to ask Chris Hadfield questions about his time in space.

**NOVA SCOTIA**  
Education and Early Childhood Development

# A Message from the Senior Executive Director



It is with great pleasure that I write to you as the new Senior Executive Director of Public Schools. I am most excited to be part of the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development. This is the second time in my career that I have the opportunity to join the provincial team, having been a member of French Program Services many years ago. While there are increasing challenges facing public education, there are also many opportunities. I look forward to collaborating with provincial and board staff as we provide innovative leadership and support to students and all who serve them.

Schools are increasingly called upon to serve the whole student and to provide continuous support to children and youth and their families. While daunting at times, educators are viewed as leaders in interagency cooperation and collaboration, as resources are pooled to provide efficient and effective service.

Kids and Learning First recognizes the potential of stronger collaboration and productive partnerships. We are working hard with colleagues in other government departments, school boards, schools, community agencies, and other partners to improve communication, co-ordination, and collaboration in delivery of programs and services for children, youth, and families. Examples include the strengthening and expansion of SchoolsPlus, Options and Opportunities, cooperative education, after-school physical activity programs, and the new Personal Development Credits program, as well as the implementation of Well Beings: The Nova Scotia School Mental Health Framework.

Effective engagement of the broader community is essential to help schools fully support the development of children and youth. Through collaboration with a range of partners, we're working to help students and communities reach their full potential and ensure that they can access and benefit from all the resources available.

*Nancy*

Nancy Pynch-Worthylake  
Senior Executive Director  
Public Schools Branch  
Department of Education & Early  
Childhood Development



## DEPARTMENTS *contact page*

Public Schools Branch consists of the following Divisions:

Divisions	Phone	Email	Website
African Canadian Services	902-424-3151	<a href="mailto:acsd@ednet.ns.ca">acsd@ednet.ns.ca</a>	<a href="http://acs.ednet.ns.ca/eps">http://acs.ednet.ns.ca/eps</a>
English Program Services	902-424-8945	<a href="mailto:eps@ednet.ns.ca">eps@ednet.ns.ca</a>	<a href="http://eps.ednet.ns.ca">http://eps.ednet.ns.ca</a>
Evaluation Services	902-424-7746	<a href="mailto:testeval@ednet.ns.ca">testeval@ednet.ns.ca</a>	<a href="http://plans.ednet.ns.ca">http://plans.ednet.ns.ca</a>
French Second Language Program Services	902-424-6646	<a href="mailto:fsl@ednet.ns.ca">fsl@ednet.ns.ca</a>	<a href="https://fsl.ednet.ns.ca">https://fsl.ednet.ns.ca</a>
Learning Resources & Technology Services	902-424-2462	<a href="mailto:lrt@ednet.ns.ca">lrt@ednet.ns.ca</a>	<a href="http://lrt.ednet.ns.ca">http://lrt.ednet.ns.ca</a>
Mi'kmaq Liaison Office	902-424-3428	<a href="mailto:macissma@gov.ns.ca">macissma@gov.ns.ca</a>	<a href="http://mikmaq.ednet.ns.ca">http://mikmaq.ednet.ns.ca</a>
Student Services	902-424-7454	<a href="mailto:studentsvcs@ednet.ns.ca">studentsvcs@ednet.ns.ca</a>	<a href="http://studentservices.ednet.ns.ca">http://studentservices.ednet.ns.ca</a>
Senior Executive Director	902-424-5829	<a href="mailto:pynchne@gov.ns.ca">pynchne@gov.ns.ca</a>	

## Branching Out - How Do You Like Our *New Look?*

Let Us Know How You Like the New Format and be eligible for a prize. Prize draws will take place on June 1, those who have their name drawn will be notified.

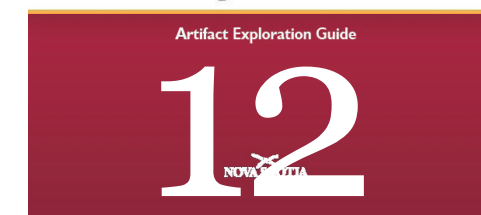
[Click here to go to the survey.](#)



Nova Scotia Department of Education & Early Childhood Development  
website: <http://www.ednet.ns.ca>  
Toll Free Access to Department 1-888-825-7770





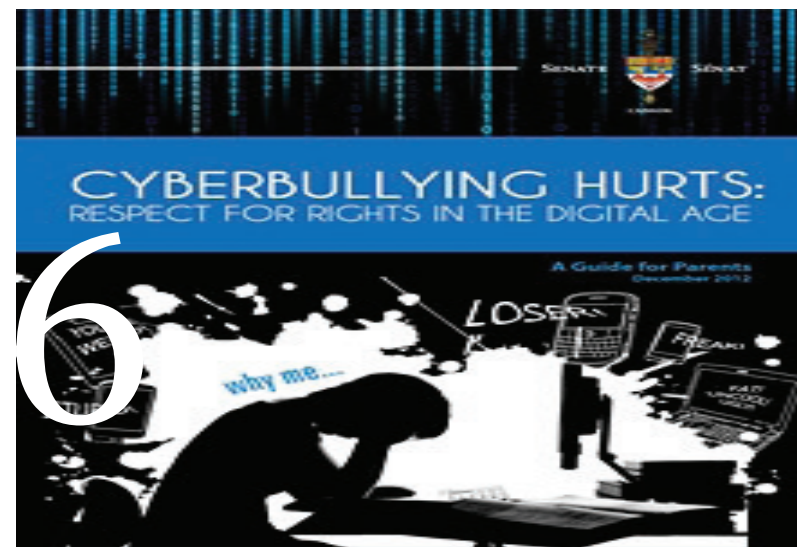


Watch the Award's Ceremony live via livestreaming!  
Friday, May 10 / 10am  
Find the link on the Hackmatack website.



### Social Studies:

NS Heritage Fair, New Local History Video Series, "Learning With Objects" Artefact Kit



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# Summer Learning Opportunities for Teachers: EDUFest 2013

<https://edapps.ednet.ns.ca/SummerSession>

This summer the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development staff are offering over 45 workshops for teachers. EDUFest is not only a wonderful opportunity to upgrade your skills and knowledge, it is a chance to connect with colleagues from around the province.

Most sessions are scheduled during EDUFest Week, August 19–23, 2013. Nova Scotia Community College has once again agreed to host EDUFest Week at their newest site, the Waterfront Campus. To find out more about sessions, locations and to register please visit our website . There are a few sessions offered outside of EDUFest week. All summer learning opportunities are listed in our online booklet.

We highly recommend teachers use the online registration. It is quick, easy and secure. Deadlines for registration vary according to the workshop.

All of our high quality sessions are developed with the Nova Scotia educator in mind. We have a wide variety sessions under the following headings:

Arts Education	Information Technology
Autism	Science
Duke of Edinburgh	Special Education
Diversity Education	Student Services
English Language Arts	Mathematics
Family Studies	Technology Education
French Second Language	Youth Pathways and Transitions
Health/Physical Education	

## EDUFest Kids is back!

EDUFest Kids is a hands-on, minds-on learning opportunity for children, ages five through twelve, during the week of August 19–23 at NSCC Waterfront campus in Dartmouth. Participants at EDUFest may register their children for these well organized sessions designed to run concurrently with the summer learning opportunities for teachers. The EDUFest Kids will participate in activities related to science, technology, engineering, design, physical education, and the arts. Please go to our online EDUFest Booklet for further details on how to register your children by the deadline of August 10, 2013.

<https://edapps.ednet.ns.ca/SummerSession>



Photos from EDUFest 2012



## IT Integration Summer Institute 2013

August 7–9, 2013

Antigonish – St. Francis Xavier University

This Year's Theme: **"Blended Learning"**

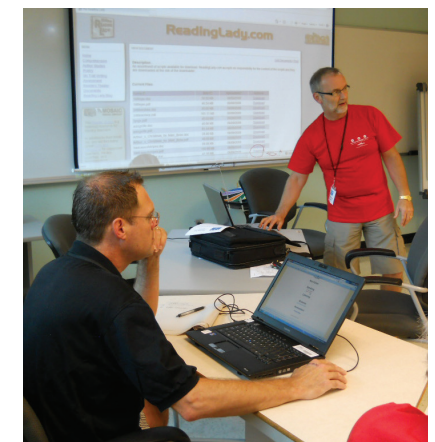
This year's theme is "Blended Learning," don't miss it! All sessions will be designed around this theme with special emphasis on providing instruction to teachers in the new Moodle 2.4 that will be launched this summer.

IT can be integrated into any curriculum at all levels. This three-day PD session will provide a mix of learning and working to develop ideas and activities that will fit IT into your classroom next year. Use technology to engage your learners and to help transform teaching and learning opportunities in your classroom.

Contact your Board Technology Coordinator for more information, or Ray Fernandes, IT Summer Institute Coordinator: [fernandr@gov.ns.ca](mailto:fernandr@gov.ns.ca)



Photos from IT Integration Summer Institute 2011





Contact the Education Media Library ([lrt@ednet.ns.ca](mailto:lrt@ednet.ns.ca)) for more information or to find out your school's username and password.



## Respectful and Responsible Relationships: There's No App for That

The Report of the Nova Scotia Task Force on Bullying and Cyberbullying

Click here to view the [Report of the Nova Scotia Task Force on Bullying and Cyberbullying](http://www.parl.gc.ca/Content/SEN/Committee/411/ridr/rep/rep09dec12-e.pdf).

# Cyberbullying Hurts

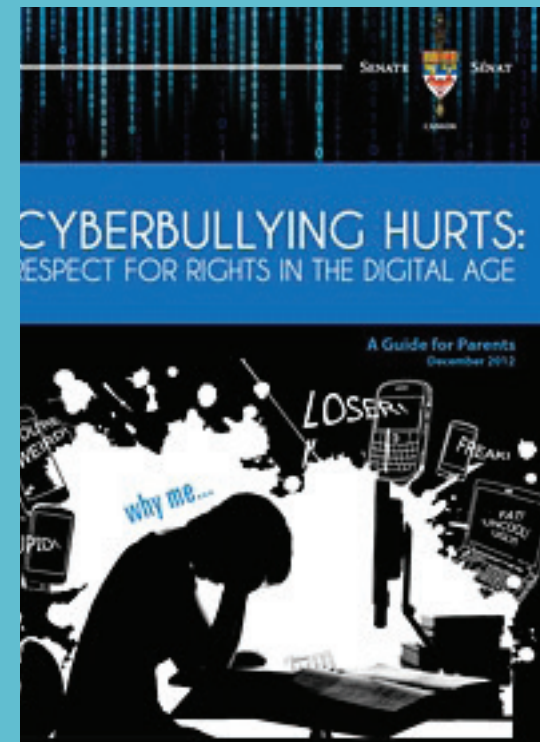
## Cyberbullying Hurts: Respect for Rights in the Digital Age Standing Senate Committee on Human Rights

Senate committees conduct in-depth studies on topics related to their mandates. On November 30, 2011, the Standing Senate Committee on Human Rights was given the mandate to examine the growing issues of cyberbullying and its impact on young Canadians. The mandate was examined and reported on under Article 19 of the United Nations' Convention on the Rights of the Child.

In essence, this article requires all countries who have signed the convention to protect children under 18 from all forms of physical and mental violence. It is of interest to note that all UN member states, with the exception of the United States and Somalia, have approved the convention.

Of particular note is the study examined cyberbullying as a violation of the human rights of children under the UN Convention. Senator Patrick Brazeau, deputy chair of the committee stated "When a child has been bullied, or cyberbullied, his or her right to be free from violence has been violated. If the child's studies suffer or he or she fears going to school, his or her right to receive an education and to develop to her full potential may also have been violated".

The standing committee released its findings in December 2012, in a report entitled Cyberbullying Hurts: Respect for Rights in the Digital Age. A copy of this report can be found at

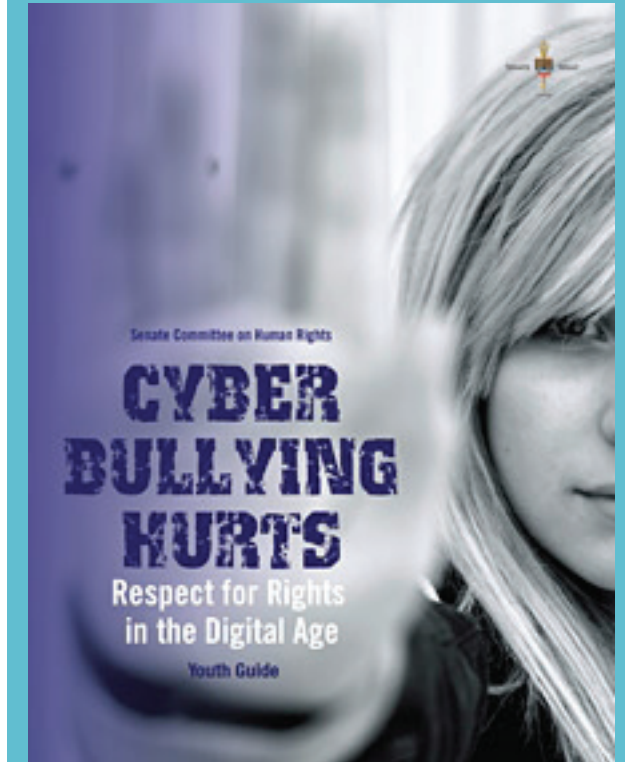


<http://www.parl.gc.ca/Content/SEN/Committee/411/ridr/rep/rep09dec12-e.pdf>

The Committee's seven chapter report closely examines the issues and complexities of cyberbullying and its harmful effects on young people, and presents six recommendations that promote societal or whole community approach to understanding and responding to the complexities associated with cyberbullying. This coordinated and collaborative approach engages young people, parents, schools, and governments.

The committee also developed guides for youth and for parents. The informative guide for parents, guardians, and caregivers, summarizes some of the key tenets of the report. It suggests how you can help your child understand and deal with cyberbullying, and how you can work with the school and the community to encourage positive relationships and promote inclusive climates and cultures. A copy of the guide can be found at this site <http://www.parl.gc.ca/Content/SEN/Committee/411/ridr/rep/CyberBullyingParentGuide-e.pdf>

The guide for youth encourages youth to make a difference by becoming a model for positive behavior online and promote "digital citizenship". It stresses to youth how they can make a positive impact on their school climates



and cultures by collectively working together to promote tolerance, respect, and inclusion. A copy of the guide can be found at the following site:

<http://www.parl.gc.ca/Content/SEN/Committee/411/ridr/rep/CyberBullyingYouthGuide-e.pdf>

## Resources to Support Appropriate Online and Anti-Bullying Behaviours and Digital Citizenship

The Education Media Library has a number of P-12 videos available for loan/dubbing and online (through the Online Video Library for streaming/downloading), that can assist in teaching students how to act ethically and with critical understanding while using information and communication technology in the context of local and global communities.

Click here to view the list of resources available to teachers and educators to use in their schools and classrooms. Resources include: digital videos, websites, journal articles, and books available on the ALR.

### Anti-Bullying Resources:

[http://lrl.ednet.ns.ca/media\\_library/express/Anti-Bullying.shtml](http://lrl.ednet.ns.ca/media_library/express/Anti-Bullying.shtml)

### Digital Citizenship Resources:

[http://lrl.ednet.ns.ca/media\\_library/express/Digital-Citizenship.shtml](http://lrl.ednet.ns.ca/media_library/express/Digital-Citizenship.shtml)





The Student Services Division provides direction and leadership to school boards regarding the development, implementation and evaluation of policies, programs and services in the areas of Comprehensive Guidance and Counselling, English as a Second Language, Multicultural Education, Special Education and other support services to students.

The Division consults, liaises and communicates with its partners and the public to ensure a coordinated and collaborative approach in implementing its mandate.

<http://www.studentservices.ednet.ns.ca>



The autism in education website supports the effort of building and sustaining capacity in the area of Autism Spectrum Disorders among educators in the Atlantic Provinces.

<http://www.apsea.ca/aie>

## Supporting Transgender & Transexual Students in Schools

The Nova Scotia Human Rights Act (the Act) has recently adopted legal reforms that specifically incorporate the protection of transgendered persons from discrimination. Under the Act, it is illegal to discriminate with respect to gender identity and expression. It is required by law that transgendered persons be treated with dignity and respect.

The many policies and guidelines that inform the work of the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development speak to the advancement of equity, human rights, and fundamental freedoms as central to the full development of the person. So too, our Education Act states that "students should have a right and a responsibility to participate fully in learning opportunities, contribute to an orderly and safe learning environment and, in appropriate circumstances, participate in decisions that affect their schools".

Based on these new amendments, the Student Services Division (in collaboration with the Nova Scotia Human Rights Commission, the Nova Scotia Teachers Union and other partners inside and outside government) is beginning work around developing guidelines for supporting transgender and transsexual students in schools

Beyond merely following mandated human rights legislation by avoiding overt discrimination, schools have an important role to play in fostering environments that allow transgendered students and staff to feel included and safe in their schools. Our schools should provide opportunities for continuous learning related to better supporting the diversity, both appropriately and respectfully, of all those who work, learn, and teach there.

The Student Services Division, along with African Canadian Services Division and the Mi'kmaq Liaison Office, is working tirelessly to facilitate Cultural Proficiency Training throughout all eight (8) schools boards in the province. Cultural Proficiency is an inside-out transformational approach to change for educators. This reflective process allows participants to examine critical issues, including transphobia, from across the diversity spectrum. The development of these new guidelines will help to continue support this crucial work which helps build school environments free of discrimination.

## APSEA Autism in Education

### APSEA Autism in Education Professional Development Opportunity, April 10-11, 2013

The APSEA Autism in Education Project is overseen by an APSEA project director, Sheila Bulmer with a working committee composed of provincial ASD consultants. The mandate of the project is to disseminate the latest research in evidence-based practice for Autism Spectrum Disorder and to provide professional development opportunities to support school based services for student with ASD.

A two day conference was held April 10-11th, on site at APSEA, entitled Translating Research into Practice: Applying Evidence-Based Practices to Address Challenging Behavior in School. Over 50 Autism Specialists/Consultants and ASD Lead Team members from the four Atlantic Provinces met to discuss common issues in service delivery to students with ASD and to hear Dr. Cathy Pratt, Director of the Indiana Resource Center for Autism at the Indiana Institute on Disability, speak on managing behavioural challenges in an educational setting.

This professional development opportunity was a highly anticipated event as it was the first time that ASD specialists from all four Atlantic provinces have come

together to share their experiences and practice in supporting students with ASD. The first day of the conference included presentations from each of the Provincial ASD Consultants followed by roundtable discussion which addressed topics in Sensory Issues and ASD, Vocational and Life skill Programming and Functional Behavioural Assessment in School Settings. The feedback for this networking opportunity was excellent.

Dr. Pratt is a well-recognized leader in the field of Autism. She was a lively and engaging presenter and the audience appreciated her examples from school experience. She provided a very accessible framework for Functional Behaviour Assessment to address challenging behaviour and her emphasis on positive effective behavioural support was very much in keeping with practice current in the Atlantic Provinces. Her straightforward approach to intervention and data collection was appreciated by the group.

The APSEA in Autism in Education working committee is looking ahead to developing additional learning opportunities activities through webinars, website open forum discussion and an annual conference.

# Digital Resources for Teachers



Learning Resources and Technology Services (LRTS) is a division of the Public Schools Branch of the Nova Scotia Department of Education. LRTS develops policy and implements a vision and sustainable standards for the public school curricular use of information and communication technology. Visit our website: <http://lrt.ednet.ns.ca>

## EduPortal

<https://edapps.ednet.ns.ca/eduportal>

Access to DoE Resources & Links for Educators in one location

The EduPortal is your gateway to access the wide variety of different digital resources and services offered by the DoE specifically for educators.

The EduPortal offers you

- easy access to the tools you need

- a single sign-on to access some of these resources like the Online Video Library with over 9,000 educational videos to support teaching and learning



## LRTS Webinars

Register at: <http://goo.gl/Ch9jS>

All you need to participate is a computer with an internet connection, register at least 3 days in advance of the webinar date.

Using Technology to Transform Your Teaching and Engage Your Students– May 29 / 3:30

Blended learning, Moodle, digital resources, cloud technologies and so much more– what is available to you and how can you effectively use technology in your teaching to engage your students in their learning.

### Did You Miss One of Our Earlier Webinars?

This school year we had webinars on Fetal Alcohol Syndrome, Engaging 21st Century Learners, Sexual Health, The EduPortal, Creating Drupal Classroom Websites, The EdNet Cloud, How to Use the Online Video Library, Power Teacher Grade Book, and many more. (Webinars coming soon: Sexual Health Education in Schools, and Building Positive Classroom Relationships)

See our full archives at <http://www.dvl.ednet.ns.ca/lrts-webinar-series>



## Learning Resources Technology



## Learning Technology Together



Nova Scotia Virtual School

<http://nsvs.ednet.ns.ca>

The Nova Scotia Virtual School offers :

- Courses for high school students
- Resources for teachers and students P-12
- Online professional learning opportunities

Did you know that through NSVS, high schools students have the opportunity to take courses that they might not otherwise have access to?

Courses are taught by certified teachers working in school boards across the province. Students meet with their teachers and fellow students online using both synchronous (video conferencing) and asynchronous (Moodle) platforms. This semester over 430 Nova Scotia students are taking a high school course through online learning.

**Registration for 2013/14 is now open.**



IT Integration Summer  
Institute 2013

August 7–9, 2013

Antigonish – St.FX University

IT can be integrated into any curriculum at all levels. This three-day PD session will provide a mix of learning and working to develop ideas and activities that will fit IT into your classroom next year. Use technology to engage your learners and to help transform teaching and learning opportunities in your classroom.

Contact your Board Technology Coordinator for more information, or Ray Fernandes, IT Summer Institute 2013 Coordinator: [fernandr@gov.ns.ca](mailto:fernandr@gov.ns.ca)



Education Media Library

<http://medialibrary.ednet.ns.ca>

The Media Library is the place to go for all your curriculum video needs! We have a collection of over 5,000 educational videos and DVDs, and provide you with access to over 9,000 online videos that support grades P-12 in all subject areas of the Nova Scotia curriculum. Visit our website, search our catalogue, and contact us for assistance.

### We provide

- online videos for streaming and/or downloading 24/7
- videos for loan or dubbed for your use
- access to online periodicals, journals, magazines, encyclopedias, and other digital resources
- links to current copyright information



EBSCO

<http://search.epnet.com>

EBSCO is an online periodical database that provides students and teachers access to full-text articles, indexing hundreds of magazines, newspapers and journals. It is a valuable research tool that allows students to access information about current events, historical data, animals, etc., and provides numerous resources for school projects. It is available through all school computers and at home via user names and passwords.

Contact Ray Fernandes for more information: [fernandr@gov.ns.ca](mailto:fernandr@gov.ns.ca)





Picture: Picture: Minister Ramona Jennex, New Minas Elementary School Principal Eric Trahan, and students Elliot Cedarburg and Estee Gerrits.

Ms. Jennex took part in some of the school's Music Monday activities, including signing the official Music Monday song that was co-written by Canadian Space Agency Astronaut Commander Chris Hadfield and Ed Robertson of the Barenaked Ladies. The song is called, *Is Somebody Singing*, and was commissioned by CBCMusic.ca and The Coalition for Music Education.



## MUSIC MONDAY 2013 – LAUNCHING INTO ORBIT

Monday May 6, 2013 [www.musicmonday.ca](http://www.musicmonday.ca)

Music Monday, an annual event celebrating music education. Education and Early Childhood Development Minister Ramona Jennex joined students at New Minas Elementary School who sang songs about space, participated in science activities, and watched a live concert from space by Cmdr. Chris Hadfield "Music Monday is a joyful, fun and engaging way to celebrate education in music with students," said Ms. Jennex. "This year's theme ~Let's fill the skies with music~ is an innovative way to teach children self-expression and creativity while introducing them to the science of space. I'm very pleased to see these two topics coming together to make for a memorable educational experience."



Adam Reiss, Prince Andrew High School, winner 2012 deGarthe Art Scholarship and Honourable Ramona Jennex, Minister of Education

## deGARTHE ART SCHOLARSHIP

Each spring, the Nova Scotia Department of Education & Early Childhood Development sponsors the deGarthe Art Scholarship Competition, honouring artist William E. deGarthe. deGarthe settled in Peggy's Cove where he produced one of his most popular sculptures, Fisherman's Monument. This competition invites submissions of original works from students in Grade 12 who intend to continue their study of art when they graduate from high school. This year's applicants have submitted their artworks for consideration and a jury panel will convene on May 8 to select the winner. The works of the 2013 winner and finalists will be exhibited at the Blackwood Gallery, Department of Education & Early Childhood Development, 2021 Brunswick St. in Halifax beginning on June 14.



## Debut Atlantic

Debut Goes to School Program - Free concert opportunities featuring some of Canada's best young classical musicians. Artists engage students through discussion and the performance of music, including works by Canadian Composers. Request a visit today by going to [DebutAtlantic.ca](http://DebutAtlantic.ca) and clicking Apply! - Debut Goes to School! \*\*Participation in the Debut Goes to School! program is limited and subject to artist availability and touring itinerary. Early application is recommended. For the 2013/14 Season, there is no cost to the presenting institution.



## EDUFEST 2013

### NSCC, Waterfront Campus

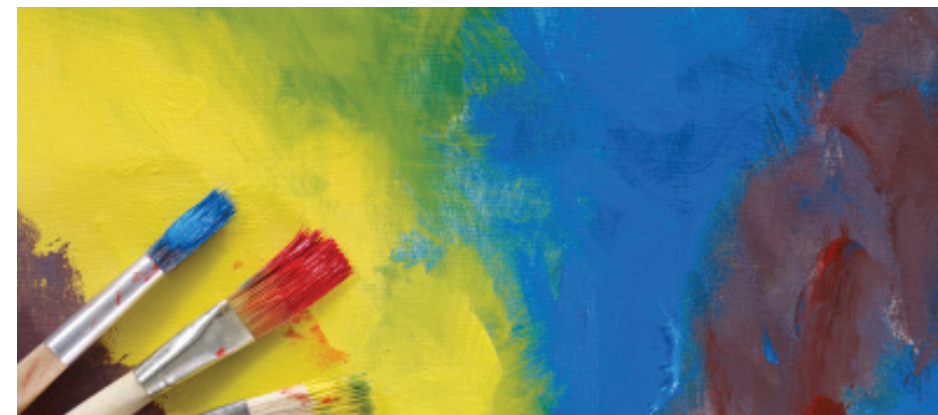
### August 19-23, 2013

### Arts PD Workshops



Photos: workshops from EduFest 2012.

# Arts in Education



Seven professional learning opportunities are available in arts education this summer. The first workshop will take place in Halifax and all others will convene at the NSCC Waterfront Campus in Dartmouth.

## The workshops include

- July 10-13 Summer Institute Music: Halifax Summer Choral Conducting Symposium
- August 19–20 EDUFest: Music—The Creative Conductor
- August 19–20 EDUFest: Visual Arts—Mosaicmania: A Collaborative Mosaic Workshop
- August 20–21 EDUFest: Drama—Quiet on the Set! Recording and Editing Sound in Drama Class
- August 20–21 EDUFest: Music—Once Upon a Tuning Fork : From DO-RE-MI to A-B-C!
- August 22–23 EDUFest: Dance—Salsa Hot, Choreo Cool!
- August 22–23 EDUFest: Music—Recording and Editing Sound in the Music Room

Teachers are encouraged to consult the EduFest: Summer Learning Opportunities for Teachers website for details: <https://edapps.ednet.ns.ca/SummerSession>







Recent graduate Paige Cameron and J.L. Ilsley student Aaron Stevens working on the Anti Bullying project.



One of the artistic partners is Pars Ironworks, a local blacksmith, who will share his technical expertise and incredible creativity with our community.



Art Gallery of Nova Scotia

Art Gallery of Nova Scotia

[www.artgalleryofnovascotia.ca](http://www.artgalleryofnovascotia.ca)



**ArtsSmarts Nova Scotia** supports art-based programs in schools across the province. This fall, AGNS Halifax will host Through Their Eyes, an exhibition of photography by Bicentennial Junior High's Grade 9 students, working with photographer John Hillis and officers from the HRM Cops and Kids program. Using a camera, the students "framed" views of their community to tell personal stories.

**ArtReach** supports opportunities to work with, exhibit, and celebrate student art across the province. At AGNS Halifax, ArtReach is planning photography and collage workshops, responding to the Through Their Eyes exhibition. At AGNS Yarmouth, ArtReach will offer art making activities that explore Nova Scotia culture and identity, in conjunction with an exhibition of self-portraits, produced by students from schools in Truro and Greenwood. Recent acquisitions purchased by the Nova Scotia Art Bank in 2013 will also be on display, accompanied by ArtReach printmaking, painting and sculpture workshops. Visit [www.artgalleryofnovascotia.ca](http://www.artgalleryofnovascotia.ca) for more information on these programs.

#### Art Gallery of Nova Scotia Summer School of the Arts 2013

This summer, the AGNS offers fun and inspiring art classes for children and youth. Register now for week-long classes covering a variety of themes in the Summer School of the Arts program. Classes fill up quickly so call 902-424-5280 during Gallery hours or drop by our information desk. [Click here for more details.](#)

**Professional Development for Teachers** - arts workshops take place throughout the fall, winter and spring months. Download [lesson plans](#) from our the teacher resources section of our website.

#### Safe Schools

Since January 2013 youth from the J.L. Ilsley Family of schools, in partnership with Dartmouth High and Duncan MacMillan High, have been actively involved in the HRSB Safe Schools Anti Bullying Initiative, discussing issues, researching facts, shooting photos and designing a poster campaign with participating schools.

#### Youth on the Radar

ArtsExpress has received renewed funding through a Lighthouses Grant from the Department of Justice for the Crime Prevention program "Youth on the Radar," which has been operating in Spryfield since 2009. In partnership with the court system we will be working on a new project called 'Bloodlines', an examination of personal and social origins, family connections and cultural roots through art.

#### United Way



ArtsExpress has been selected by United Way Halifax to receive multi-year funding in order to establish an artist-in-residence program for the J.L. Ilsley Community Art Space. The program we hope to establish emphasizes in-depth involvement in the arts and focuses on the creative process of art making. Professional artists will work intensively with a core group of youth, with staff and members of the community, acting as mentors, facilitators, and technical advisers on important artistic concepts and skills. Their presence in the community will be a catalyst for learning and foster a greater awareness of the role of artists and the arts in our society. The program will be coordinated by ArtsExpress in collaboration with the AGNS, NSCAD'S Extended Studies, Dance Nova Scotia and Theatre Nova Scotia.



Artist Miro Davis was the successful candidate for the first year of this residency and will be working in close collaborations with schools, local community and local artisans.



John Hillis with a Bicentennial student.





## New Curriculum - New Resources

To support the mathematics curriculum being implemented September 2013, new resources for Grades Primary to 2 have been purchased and distributed as described below.

### Math Makes Sense Resources

#### Grade Primary

- Classroom Resource Package: a printed Big Book, and a Projectable Big e-Book CD
- Teacher Guide with CD-ROM
- Audio CD

#### Grade 1 and Grade 2

- Classroom Resource Package: a printed Big Book, and a Projectable and Printable Big e-Book and Student e-book CD
- Teacher Guide with CD-ROM
- Audio CD

The process of selecting new resources to support implementation of the new mathematics curriculum in grades 3 and 10 has been completed with distribution scheduled to be completed before the end of the school year.

# Mathematics



# Family Studies

**EDUFest 2013:**  
**Advanced Food Safety Training**  
**NSCC Waterfront campus**  
**August 20-21**



Photos from last years EduFest

# NSCC



Nova Scotia Community College takes the 'community' in its name to heart. With 13 campuses and a range of additional programming delivery options, the College's reach extends throughout Nova Scotia.

With over 100 programs across five schools, there's something for everyone. Find out more at [nscc.ca](http://nscc.ca)

According to NSCC's 2012 Graduate Follow-up Study, 86% of NSCC graduates are employed, most in their field of choice. Of those, 94% live and work in Nova Scotia. Find out what makes us tick through our many stories about students, graduates, employees and the communities we serve at [nsccnow.ca](http://nsccnow.ca)

## Food Hygiene Training

Any teacher who supervises students preparing food should have their basic Food Hygiene Training Certificate. This certificate needs to be renewed every 5 years. It is offered by Nova Scotia Department of Agriculture as a 6 hour workshop. There is a nominal fee. Please check the website for dates and locations of Food Hygiene Training workshops in your region.

There are also Food Safety Information Sheets on this website that you may share with your students.

<http://www.gov.ns.ca/agri/foodsafety>

The Department of Education & Early Childhood Development continues to partner with the Department of Agriculture, Food Protection and Enforcement Division, to offer the Advanced Food Safety Training Workshop. This summer there will be an Advanced Food Safety Workshop offered on August 20–21. This is during EDUFest Week at NSCC Waterfront campus in Dartmouth. Please visit the EDUFest website for details. Starting this year we will be offering this workshop every second year so the next workshop will be in 2015.

<https://edapps.ednet.ns.ca/SummerSession>

Teachers who are successful in completing this full two-day workshop and achieving a mark of 90% or above will be recognized as Food Hygiene trainers by the NS Department of Agriculture. As such, teachers can train and certify their students in Food Hygiene, a valuable credential for teens to have when seeking employment in the food industry.

Please contact Sheila Munro ([munrosm@gov.ns.ca](mailto:munrosm@gov.ns.ca)) if you need information related to the Food Safety training or any other Family Studies curriculum related topics. Teachers may always access the draft curriculum documents through the EDUPortal, using their IMP username and password.

## NOVA SCOTIA HERITAGE FAIR

In 2012, over 5000 students participated in the Nova Scotia Heritage Fair program. Sixteen of these students were selected to participate in the Young Citizens Competition. Three Nova Scotia students progressed to the finals, and one student, Brandon Snyder, a grade 5 student from Bridgewater Elementary, won an all-expense paid trip to the Governor General's History Awards in Ottawa. Brandon's video also won best documentary for the Viewfinders Festival at the Atlantic Film Festival. The Provincial Heritage Fair will take place on Friday, May 31 at the Halifax Citadel. Public viewing is from 12:00pm to 4:00pm. For more information on Heritage Fairs, visit the website: [www.nsheritagefairs.com](http://www.nsheritagefairs.com)



# Social Studies

## DISCOVERING VOICES

### Local History Video Series

### Social Studies 5

Moving Films and the Wolfville Historical Society, in co-production with the Media Production Unit of Learning Resources and Technology Services, has just completed a local history video series, Discovering Voices, utilizing the Dottie Stewart collection held in the Wolfville Historical Society archives.

The purpose of this seven-part series is to give students an active understanding of ordinary life in Nova Scotia in the late 19th Century, including the social norms of the time, the roles of women, the places of work and their backgrounds, and the social organizations and movements of the times in which they were written.

This series fits most closely the Social Studies 5 curriculum unit, Investigating Past Societies and the Social Studies 7 unit, Investigating Empowerment, but it is also relevant to history courses in the upper grades, especially Canadian History 11. The series is available on the [Online Video Library](http://wolfvillehs.ednet.ns.ca) (login through the EduPortal), and the Wolfville Historical Society (<http://wolfvillehs.ednet.ns.ca>). Teachers desiring a DVD copy may order it through the LRTS Education Media Library (<http://medialibrary.ednet.ns.ca>).

There series is also available publicly at the following link: <https://dvl.ednet.ns.ca/discovering-voices>

# Social Studies

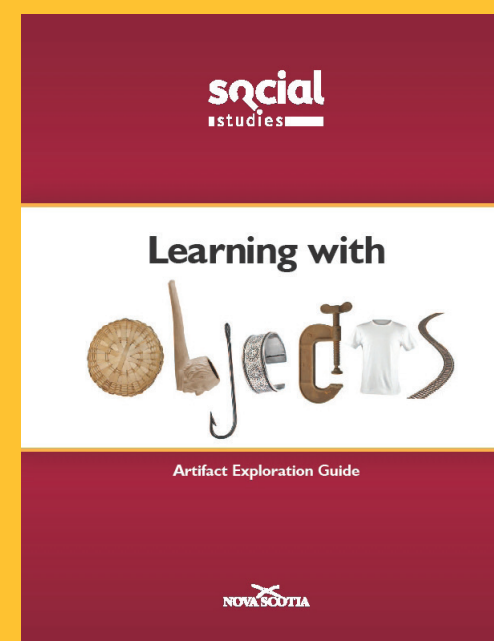


## Atlantic Canada Social Studies 5: Provincial Identity

Atlantic Canada Social Studies 5: Provincial Identity was introduced at a two-day workshop, March 25–26, 2013. Each of the seven English boards was represented by a lead team. A total of 60 teachers and administrators participated in this very successful workshop.

The workshop opened with a demonstration of a new hands-on program focusing on the lives of early settlers from the Ross Farms Heritage Museum and a presentation on the Mi'kmawey Debert Cultural Centre by Gerald Gloade and Shannon Googoo. The lead teams participated in a series of hands-on workshops which included Geography Skills and Technology, Print –making and Ancient Societies, Learning with Objects—Primary Source Artefacts and Nova Scotia History, Introducing Historical and Inquiry Methodologies into Elementary Social Studies, and an Introduction to the Social Studies 5 Moodle. Participants also had the opportunity to hear a special presentation from Mike Isaac,. Mike is the Student Services Consultant for the Mi'kmaq Liaison Office and an author of two children's books, *How the Cougar Came to Be Called The Ghost Cat* and *The Lost Teachings*.

Please be sure to check out the new Social Studies 5 Moodle at <https://nsvs.ednet.ns.ca/m19/course/view.php?id=1273>



The "Learning with Objects" Artefact Kit has been distributed to schools with grade 5 classrooms in the province. The kit includes nine artifacts that represent archeological sites all over Nova Scotia and a learning activities booklet and information guide.





Health Promoting Schools

<https://nshps.ca>

Health Promoting Schools (HPS) was initiated in 2005 and is a partnership between the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development and the Department of Health and Wellness. Funding is provided to school boards to work with partners to enhance student learning by applying a “whole of school” approach to create conditions for children to be healthier and learn better.

The provincial HPS committee recently gathered to update their vision and strategic plan. The next step includes building on past successes by strengthening the structures and processes that support this approach and making “the healthy choice, the easy choice” in Nova Scotia schools.



# Health Education

Heart and Stroke Foundation  
OneStep Curricular Resource - Grades 5 - 7

The Heart and Stroke Foundation is revising its current OneStep resource (targeted toward grade 7 students) to include grades 5 and 6 students as well. Our Mission is to aid schools and recreation programs in Nova Scotia to encourage female students aged 10–12 to be physically active through walking. The Heart and Stroke OneStep resource is an extracurricular resource that includes an activity handbook as well as pedometers for students.

This resource is a component of Heart&Stroke Walkabout™ which aims to increase the number of Nova Scotians who are physically active by promoting the joy and many social benefits of walking.

The resource is free to schools.

Interested Schools can contact Nathan Goudreau at the Heart and Stroke Foundation at 902-423-7530 ext. 3346 or [ngoudreau@heartandstroke.ns.ca](mailto:ngoudreau@heartandstroke.ns.ca)



Mental Health in the Classroom



Teenagers often spend a good portion of their regular day in school as opposed to at home, thus causing students to approach teachers, guidance counsellors, school psychologists or social workers for help when dealing with social and emotional issues. These professionals may not always have the tools to identify mental health issues with their learners.

[TeenMentalHealth.org](http://TeenMentalHealth.org) offers a variety of training programs and materials geared to the classroom to learn how to recognize mental illnesses and connect students with the supports they need. Visit the website for more information. [Click here](#) for a handout that provides more information about School Mental Health Training Programs.



# Health Education

Needhelpnow.ca

Youth today are managing a variety of challenging issues, and while technology has certainly opened up new opportunities, it has also impacted teens’ lives in a way that no one could have ever imagined. In creating the [www.Needhelpnow.ca](http://www.Needhelpnow.ca) website, the Canadian Centre for Child Protection is letting these kids know that they are never alone. Please check out this website and introduce it to your students.



The Canadian Centre for Child Protection

<https://protectchildren.ca>

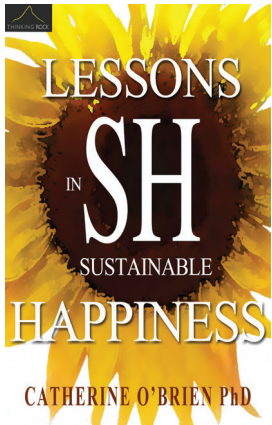
The Canadian Centre for Child Protection is dedicated to the personal safety of all children. This Canadian online resource offer a number of programs, services, and resources for Canadians to help them protect children and reduce their risk of victimization. It includes many online resources as well as print resources for children, youth, families, and educators that are evidence informed and were developed utilizing best practices in health education and youth engagement. Kids in the Know is a national interactive safety education program for increasing the personal safety of children and reducing their risk of victimization online and in the real world. The complete package was distributed to all schools, English Program, in February 2011. It is a wonderful resource that should not be overlooked.

If you are unable to locate these resources in your school, please contact the Program Coordinator at your school board who may be able to help.



Sustainable Happiness is...

“Happiness that contributes to individual, community, and/or global wellbeing and does not exploit other people, the environment, or future generations.”  
Catherine O’Brien



Sustainable happiness reinforces the fact that we are interconnected and interdependent with all life. Our happiness and wellbeing is intertwined with other people, other species, and nature. It integrates research from positive psychology and sustainability and is being used by educators to contribute to positive school health.

Lessons in Sustainable Happiness is an ebook that provides activities for teachers to enhance their own sustainable happiness. These activities are followed with lessons for primary, junior and intermediate grades. At a time when teacher wellbeing, student mental health and planetary health need to be addressed, Lessons in Sustainable Happiness offers practical steps for integrating sustainability and wellbeing.

There is also a free education resource, Sustainable Happiness and Health Education, that links sustainable happiness with Nova Scotia health education outcomes.

Catherine O’Brien, PhD, an education professor who developed the concept of sustainable happiness, teaches the world’s first university course (at Cape Breton University) in this groundbreaking field. She is a leading contributor to the development of the online course in sustainable happiness. Her blog, SH-EXTRA provides inspiring examples of bringing sustainable happiness to life.

## The huddle

Sponsored by Thompson Publishing, “the huddle” is a unique and growing online community of physical education and health teaching professionals, a place to connect with other educators, share resources, and discuss topics that matter to our community. We publish interesting and relevant content from around the web, and provide a discussion forum where members can chat about issues that are important to them. We also publish and promote events—from conferences and workshops to national and international initiatives that promote health, fitness, and physical literacy. Members can sign up, create a unique profile, and interact with nearly 500 other “huddlers”—24/7!

Sign up here: [www.thompsonpublishing.ning.com](http://www.thompsonpublishing.ning.com)

Follow us on Twitter at [twitter.com/thompsonhuddle](https://twitter.com/thompsonhuddle)

For more information, contact Aerin Guy, Huddle Community Manager at [aeringuy@gmail.com](mailto:aeringuy@gmail.com)

# Physical Education



## Thrive! A Plan for a Healthier Nova Scotia

The plan builds on the good things already happening in our communities. Health promoting schools, the school food and nutrition policy, and the community use of schools grants are just three examples of how schools have been taking the lead in engaging with others to create healthier environments that support healthy eating and physical activity where we learn, play, work and

live. While no one change, program, or policy will meet every community’s needs, four areas of focus have been identified:

- A healthy start for children and families
- Skills and knowledge for lifelong health
- Opportunities to eat well and be active
- Building healthier communities

Start with an [overview](#), watch the [videos](#), read the [stories](#), and visit the website:

<https://thrive.novascotia.ca>

## Bring Back Play

Do you believe children could benefit from playing more? ParticipACTION and the Department of Health and Wellness want to bring back active play. In support of the goals for Thrive! A plan for a healthier Nova Scotia, the department is collaborating on a national physical activity campaign communicating with parents called Bring Back Play.

Brochures will be distributed to schools with children in grades primary to 6. The messages are informative, positive and inspiring. Schools are encouraged to send a brochure home with each child.

To view the Bring Back Play audio-visual advertisement, poster or download free promotional resources visit <https://thrive.novascotia.ca/bring-back-play>



# Physical Education



## Nova Scotia School Athletic Federation

<http://nssaf.ednet.ns.ca>

The Nova Scotia School Athletic Federation presents a number of awards available for recognition and outstanding contribution to school sport.

The 2012 winner of the Dr. Hugh A. Noble Distinguished Service Award (presented to the successful candidate in the Capital Region) was Lowell Cormier of New Waterford. Mr. Cormier began teaching at Mt. Carmel School in New Waterford and has spent the past 39 years as both a teacher and administrator at this school. Lowell has spent countless hours as a community and school volunteer at both the organizational level and as a coach. He has coached basketball at the elementary, junior high and was a boy’s basketball coach for Breton Education Centre for twenty years plus.

The 2012 winner of the Dorothy G. Walker Distinguished Service Award (presented to the successful candidate in the Northumberland Region) is Gail Mitchell of Chester. Mrs. Mitchell is one of the longest serving teachers at Chester Area Middle School where she has served as the Physical Education teacher and Athletic Director, and has played a significant role in developing sport and physical activity within the community of Chester.



NSSAF Executive Director Darrell Dempster presenting the 2012 Dorothy G Walker Distinguished Service Award to Gail Mitchell -Chester Area Middle School.



NSSAF Board Member-Highland Region Ginny Sampson presenting the 2012 Hugh A Noble Distinguished Service Award to Lowell Cormier- Mount Carmel School

## CLASS

CLASS is a province-wide research project that looks at the relationships between health, nutrition, physical activity, mental health and school performance of children in Nova Scotia. Our team was awarded a grant from the Nova Scotia Health Research Foundation to develop a video to share key research findings. The goal is to describe how some NS schools have created active, healthy, and happy schools and to inspire others to incorporate health as a part of their daily routines. We have completed filming in schools and will share the video through our website this fall. For more information, please visit [www.nsclass.ca](http://www.nsclass.ca)

## CLASS II



Children's Lifestyle And School-performance Study



# International Baccalaureate

## IB Update

<http://ib.ednet.ns.ca>

Park View Education Centre IB students hosted a successful conference April 12 and 13 attended by over 250 pre-IB students from Nova Scotia, PEI, and New Brunswick. Thirteen Atlantic universities sent admissions personnel to explain their respective IB recognition policies to the conference attendees. Students also participated in a number of workshops demonstrating various features of the IB.

Heather Michael, IB Coordinator and Theory of Knowledge teacher at C.P. Allen High School, has been chosen to attend the IB Conference of the Americas in New Orleans in July as a guest of the IB Organization.

Ms. Michael has collaborated with Dr. Jennifer Mitton, Faculty of Education Professor at St. Francis Xavier University, on a program called Project Worldview. The project involves all grade 11 IB students at C.P. Allen in eight 75-minute sessions over a period of eight months. The sessions ask students to inquire deeply into their understanding of international issues within the core framework of the Theory of Knowledge, Extended Essay, and Creativity/Action/Service requirements. Both Dr. Mitton and Ms. Michael have been invited to present this exciting interdisciplinary program to delegates at the 2013 International Baccalaureate Conference.

Finally, IB enrolment in Nova Scotia for Fall 2013 is up to a record 473 Diploma students led by a doubling of enrolment from 24 to 52 Diploma students at Prince Andrew High School, thanks to the efforts of the dynamic Prince Andrew IB Coordinators Amy Smith and Tracy Giffin.



Heather Michael leading a spirited Theory of Knowledge class.

# Roots of Empathy

**The mission of Roots of Empathy is to build caring, peaceful and civil societies through the development of empathy in children and adults. Our vision is to change the world, child by child.**

In Nova Scotia during the 2012-13 school year, approximately 1500 children are participating in 62 programs taking place in 58 schools in 46 communities. Nova Scotia's Department of Education supports the cost of the curriculum and the instructional materials for these programs. Communities, through fundraising and help from various community agencies, provide support for training fees. English and French trainings are in the planning stage for the fall of 2013.

For information about Roots of Empathy, check our website: [www.rootsofempathy.org](http://www.rootsofempathy.org)  
Or contact Hazel Clarke, Atlantic Manager, Roots of Empathy, [hclarke@rootsofempathy.org](mailto:hclarke@rootsofempathy.org)  
Tel: (709) 722-4805 Fax: (709) 722-3998



# SchoolsPlus



Eight Privacy Workshops were held throughout the province between November and April. The sessions were provided to staff from the District Health Authorities, school boards, community services and Justice. Participants discussed how we can provide better, more coordinated services to children, youth and families, when the different service providers share information about a youth. The workshops covered information on how agencies can share necessary information in compliance with all relevant legislation and policies, the SchoolsPlus consent form, the Information Sharing Guidelines and group case studies.

There will be upcoming professional development on May 10th for the SchoolsPlus facilitators and community outreach workers. The morning will be on Trauma Informed Services followed by amendments to Bill 102 and its impact on support staff. This will also provide an opportunity to network and share the various programs the SchoolsPlus sites offer in their schools. It will be an informative and participatory session. Participants will learn how to create trauma informed environments. Topics covered will include: understanding trauma, process and effects of trauma, what are trauma informed services, modulation, co-regulation and self-care. Trauma Informed Services are about what we as staff do, the focus is on what how we support students and their families who have experienced trauma. Visit our website for more information: <http://schoolsplus.ednet.ns.ca>



# Duke Of Edinburgh's Award

[Dukeofed.org/ns](http://Dukeofed.org/ns)

There are some exciting changes coming to the Duke of Edinburgh's Award... this September there will be a few modifications to award requirements that will bring us in line with International standards. In addition to this, we are launching the Online Record Book (just think: no more lost, stained, or damaged Record Books!).

If you're interested in becoming a Leader in your school or want to know about the ORB, come to the Department of Education & Early Childhood Development's Summer Learning Opportunities on August 19 & 20. For more information on this or any aspect of The Duke of Edinburgh's Award, please visit our website.







Pictures from EduFest Kids 2012



## CURRICULUM LAUNCH - TECHNOLOGY EDUCATION 7 AND 8

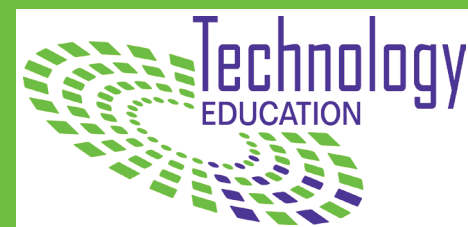
Grade 7 and 8 technology education teachers will be invited to take part in a two-day workshop in June as part of the curriculum launch of Technology Education 7 and 8. This hands-on, minds-on workshop involves engaging teachers in activities such as pneumatic engineering, game design and construction, CNC manufacturing, digital video, and many others involving the four modules of the course: Communications Technology, Inventions and Innovations, Energy Engineering, and Production Technology. Teachers will learn how to teach using design challenges, how to write design challenges, and how to connect outcomes to student achievement.

## SAFETY EQUIPMENT

### GRADES 9–12

All schools offering grades 9 through 12 production technology that currently use a table saw will soon receive the safest saw available. The SawStop table saw is designed to stop the blade within five one thousandths of a second upon contact with human flesh.

In addition, each school outfitted with a production technology laboratory will be receiving a "lock-out, tag-out" electrical safety kit as part of the dust collection remediation program. This kit will allow teachers to lock out a machine when it is out of order or undergoing repairs using the latest standard in safety equipment.



## EDUFEST

### NSCC WATERFRONT CAMPUS

AUGUST 19–23

Technology Education teachers will have plenty of summer learning opportunities during EduFest at the NSCC Dartmouth Waterfront campus from August 19–23. Plan now!

For more details on these and other summer institutes, visit:

<https://edapps.ednet.ns.ca/SummerSession>

## EDUFEST KIDS

### NSCC WATERFRONT CAMPUS

AUGUST 19–23

Families will have an opportunity to enjoy EduFest together this summer at the NSCC Waterfront with the "EduFest Kids" program. This all-day program is designed for children ages 5-11 and will provide hands-on minds-on learning opportunities in science, technology, engineering, and the arts.



Karla Hames will be back by popular demand from Carsand-Mosher and will provide two days of hands-on learning with the Canon Rebel cameras made available to all schools offering Communications Technology 11 and Communications Technology 12 (first come, first served). Please be sure to bring your camera and tripod to this summer institute (August 19–20).

Exploring Technology and Communications Technology teachers will have opportunities to explore the solid modelling software "SolidWorks" for beginner to advanced levels in a two day session at the NSCC Waterfront with Janie Lumsden (August 22–23).

Craig Thornton (Halifax West) will be providing two workshops on production technology: a two-day beginner and a two-day intermediate training sessions, including safety and manufacturing practices for grades 8 through 12 teachers at Halifax West High School. This workshop will address basic production machine operation, lab maintenance, jigs and fixtures, as well as related safety practices for beginner to intermediate levels (August 19–20, and 21–22).

Junior High technology education teachers will have an opportunity to extend their professional learning in a two-day workshop led by Rob MacIreith at Leslie Thomas Junior High School in Sackville. This hands-on workshop will involve CNC manufacturing using the iCarver machine, screen printing, pneumatics, video production and stop time animation to address outcomes in the four modules of Technology Education 7, 8, and 9. (August 22–23).

Video Production and Digitization has been developed for teachers offering Communications Technology 11 or 12, as well as for Film and Video and Multimedia teachers. Matt Corkum has many years of experience in this field and will be using his teaching facility at NSCC Waterfront Campus. Teachers should bring a video camera, digital SLR, and tripod to this two-day workshop (August 21–22).



# Hackmatack

Hackmatack Children's Choice Book Award  
[www.hackmatack.ca](http://www.hackmatack.ca)

Hackmatack Ceremony: Friday May 10 2013 from 10am to 11am  
Grades 4, 5 and 6

We have some very exciting news about this year's Hackmatack Children's Choice Book Award Ceremony.

For the first time ever, readers across Atlantic Canada will be able to share in the excitement of the ceremony via livestreaming!

The link will be available on the Hackmatack page ([www.hackmatack.ca](http://www.hackmatack.ca)) and the hour-long ceremony will be available for viewing live on Friday, May the 10th at 10am.

We'd love to hear feedback about your Hackmatack viewing parties after the event, and to receive photos or videos of students taking part.

Please email Kate Watson, Hackmatack Coordinator, [smileyng@gov.ns.ca](mailto:smileyng@gov.ns.ca) with any questions.

We look forward to "seeing" you at the ceremony!



# Literacy

Canadian Children's Book Week  
May 4-11, 2013  
[www.bookweek.ca](http://www.bookweek.ca)



TD Canadian Children's Book Week is the single most important national event celebrating Canadian children's books and the importance of reading. Close to

35,000 children, teens and adults participate in activities held in every province and territory across the country.

Hundreds of schools, public libraries, bookstores and community centres host events as part of this major literary festival. Award-winning author Sylvia McNicoll will be touring Nova Scotia in May 2013.



**Succeeding in Reading  
Grades Primary-2**

Succeeding in Reading credits Early Literacy Teachers/Enseignants de la Réussite en lecture and classroom teachers for a successful implementation year.

The data are in. During the implementation year of Succeeding in Reading, over 3500 grade primary and grade 1 students, in English and French Immersion Programs, received daily support from Early Literacy Teachers or Enseignants de la Réussite en lecture. Data confirm that over 90% of students demonstrated measurable progress with the majority making notable progress and sustaining or building on that growth after daily, direct support had ended.

Year two data will be available in November 2013.

**Atlantic Canada Book Awards**  
May 9-16  
<http://www.atlanticbookawards.ca>

Check website for events.

# Literacy



**Writers in the Schools  
(through the Writers' Federation of Nova Scotia)**

[www.writers.ns.ca/programs/writers-schools-wits.html](http://www.writers.ns.ca/programs/writers-schools-wits.html)

**Booking date: teachers and librarians can make bookings on  
Wednesday, October 3 / 2013**

WITS visits are an excellent way to bring reading to life in your school. Once young people catch the writing bug, they want to read more too, picking up ideas and techniques from gifted professionals. With more than 90 very different writers participating, you can plan visits to match the interests of your students with the expertise of highly skilled professional writers. By fundraising and soliciting public support, WFNS provides more than half of the actual cost of hosting a writer in your school.



Slideshow of Nova Scotia students exploring occupations

Featured Career refreshed monthly

Deep links to the [careersnovascotia.ca](http://careersnovascotia.ca) pages that students will find especially useful

**Jobs People Do**  
Has over 500 career videos (licensed site)

Featured Business refreshed monthly

**EBSCO MOST**  
Annotated career and business articles (licensed site)

**Career Cruising**  
(licensed site)



The Department has purchased **Career Kiosks** for every high school in Nova Scotia. Career Kiosks consists of a computer, large screen television/monitor, Blu-ray player, wireless keyboard and mouse, and a media cart on wheels. They are to help students access [futureseekers.ca](http://futureseekers.ca), a career planning website designed specifically to engage Nova Scotia students, and provides students with direct access to career planning tools licensed for use in Nova Scotia schools, including JobsPeopledo, EBSCO, and Career Cruising. There are plans to expand the initiative by providing Career Kiosks to all Nova Scotia schools with grade nine students. For further information, please contact: Peter Smith, Coordinator, Youth Pathways and Transitions, [smithps@gov.ns.ca](mailto:smithps@gov.ns.ca)

# Careers



## Workit Youth Apprenticeship Initiative

[www.workitns.ca](http://www.workitns.ca)

The demand for workers in the skilled trades is on the rise and today's students are well positioned to take advantage of this opportunity.

The Workit Youth Apprenticeship Initiative provides students with an avenue to start building their skills while in high school and to receive credit for some of their hours of part time work. Becoming a Youth Apprentice is as easy as 1, 2, and 3!

1 Be a youth aged 16 – 19 years

2 Become employed (part-time) in an occupation that is a Designated Skilled Trade

3 Contact the Youth Apprenticeship Coordinator at 902-424-5685 or [MARACLT@gov.ns.ca](mailto:MARACLT@gov.ns.ca)

For more information, check out our website.

## Skills Canada

<http://skillsns.ca>

Results are in! The 16th annual Nova Scotia Skills Competition is now complete.

Over 300 Nova Scotian students and apprentices participated in 50 skilled trade and technology competitions. Bronze, silver and gold medals were awarded in each competition. Qualifying gold medalists now advance to the Skills Canada National Competition in Vancouver as members of Team Nova Scotia, June 5–8. We have 47 team members who have their sights set on reaching the national podium, with their training well underway.

Skills Canada – Nova Scotia is a not-for-profit organization, providing opportunities for youth to explore skilled trades and technologies, discover their passions, and strive for excellence.



## O<sup>2</sup>

<http://www.ednet.ns.ca/O2>

On April 3 and 4, students and teachers gathered in Halifax for the Options and Opportunities(O<sup>2</sup>) Showcase. The Showcase gives O<sup>2</sup> students and teachers an opportunity to share ideas and celebrate their successes. As teachers, when we hear about an innovative strategy, we often ask, "What does it look like?" At the O<sup>2</sup> Showcase, teachers and students see what success looks like in the 51 schools who offer the O<sup>2</sup> program.

For students, this is a unique opportunity to interact with others who have had similar learning needs and experiences. The O<sup>2</sup> Showcase demonstrates how much we value their achievements. For teachers it is an opportunity to come together as a community to share ideas, challenges, and solutions.



**options & opportunities**

