



# BRANCHING OUT

**NOVA SCOTIA**  
Education

**NEWS FROM  
PUBLIC SCHOOLS BRANCH**

**May 2011**

<http://EDnet.ns.ca>



*Education Minister Ramona Jennex announcing the expansion of SchoolsPlus at Josephe Howe Elementary School in Halifax.*

## **SchoolsPlus Expanded to All School Boards**

Education Minister Ramona Jennex announced on April 14, that the province is expanding SchoolsPlus and there will be sites in all eight school boards in 2011–2012. “Schools are ideal venues for our partners to provide services”, said the Minister. “By expanding and formalizing this service, we are helping fulfill our commitment to enhance the use of community schools to make life better for families.”

SchoolsPlus began as a pilot in the fall of 2008 as part of Nova Scotia’s Child and Youth Strategy, Our Kids Are Worth It, and has been very successful in the Halifax, Chignecto-Central, South Shore and Strait Regional school boards.

The new SchoolsPlus sites are located at

- Annapolis Valley Regional School Board

Champlain Elementary School with support for other schools including Annapolis Royal Regional Academy, Annapolis West Education Centre and Clark Rutherford Memorial School

- Cape Breton-Victoria Regional School Board

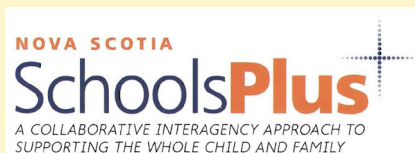
Sherwood Park Education Centre and feeder schools (Cusack-Cornwallis-Ashby Complex, Brookland Elementary School, Mira Road Elementary School, Shipyard Elementary School, and Southside Learning Centre) as well as Membertou Elementary School.

• Conseil scolaire acadien provincial  
l’École secondaire de Par-en-Bas, dont les écoles Pubnico-Ouest, Wedgeport et Belleville seront les sites secondaires, et un site central dans la région du nord-est, à l’école Beau-Port, dont l’école acadienne de Pomquet sera le site secondaire.

• Tri-County Regional School Board  
Digby Regional High School and feeder schools (Digby Elementary School, Barton Consolidated School, and Digby Neck Consolidated School).

For more information, visit

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



*Education Minister Ramona Jennex speaking with parents at the launch of SchoolsPlus*

Dr. Alan Lowe, Senior Executive Director, Public Schools Branch

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## Arts Education Update

Following the successful implementation of the new grade 8 arts education courses in 2010–2011, *Band Instruments 9*, *Music 9*, and *Visual Arts 9* will be rolled out across the province next year. To support arts educators serving grade 9 students and implementation of the new curriculum, professional learning workshops will be offered to each board. Schools implementing these courses will receive text/video resources and a visual arts welcome kit.

During the week of April 25–29, thirty-nine schools accepted the *Dare to Dance* challenge issued by Dance Nova Scotia. Students hip-hopped, step-danced, conga'd, and boogied for a minimum of 20 minutes to celebrate International Dance Week. All participating schools were entered in a draw for dance workshops. The winning school will be rewarded with a dance teacher for 9 hours of professional dance instruction, as part of the *PERFORM!* Project, the school's portion will be funded by Dance Nova Scotia.

On Monday, May 2, students in 87 Nova Scotian schools joined with more than 700,000 students from 2,000 schools across Canada to participate in Music Monday. This nation-wide, simultaneous concert organized by the Coalition for Music Education in Canada, celebrated the importance of music in our lives—and especially in our schools. Music fosters imagination, creativity, discipline, independence and the ability to work with others. Engagement in music and the arts helps students prepare for a world where people are expected to be creative and innovative. For information on how to become involved with Music Monday, visit the Coalition's website: <http://musicmakesus.ca> musicmonday

Seven professional learning opportunities are available in arts education this summer at Edufest, August 15–20. These workshops will take place at the NSCC Waterfront Campus in Dartmouth and include:

- Dance: Translating Hip-hop: A Contextual Framework For Teaching Urban Dance in Dance 1
- Drama: WTF?!! Unexpected...Bizarre... Inspiring...(Wasn't That Fun??!)
- Music Workshop: People Gotta Move!
- Music: Teaching Guitar Workshop, Level 1
- Music: The R's for Guitar, Level 1.5
- Visual Arts: Junk Mountain - Found Art Way Above Sea-Level

Teachers are encouraged to [visit www.ednet.ns.ca](http://www.ednet.ns.ca) "Summer Institutes 2011" for more details.

Debut Atlantic is once again grateful for the opportunity to share its world class artists with students in Nova

debut atlantic



début atlantique

Scotia. Thanks to the generous partnership offered by the Department of Education and their Artists in Schools program, Debut Atlantic was able to present Pentaèdre (wind quintet) as well as Anne-Julie Caron and Marie-Ève Scarfone (marimba and piano) to over 2,000 students at 7 different schools across the province. Next year's season will include a clarinet and piano duo, the Canadian Guitar Quartet, a cellist, vocalists and pianists. All of these artists are world class performers who are always thrilled to dazzle and educate students of all ages.

Debut's education programs are offered free to schools in Nova Scotia. To apply, visit the Education Programs section of our website: <http://debutatlantic.ca>

For more information, contact Rémi Lefebvre, Administrative Officer, [remi@debutatlantic.ca](mailto:remi@debutatlantic.ca) or by calling 902-429-6812. Please note that spots for the Debut Goes to School are limited and subject to artist availability and itinerary.

Debut Atlantic looks forward to another year of *bringing extraordinary classical music home...* to schools across Nova Scotia.



Top Photo: Percussion students at E.B. Chandler Junior High in Amherst chat with Anne-Julie Caron, marimba and Marie-Ève Scarfone, piano following a one-hour school concert.

Bottom Photo: Anne-Julie Caron and Marie-Ève Scarfone answer questions from students at Centre Consolidated School in Lunenburg.





# Art Gallery of Nova Scotia

## ArtReach

This spring has been busy for everyone involved with the Art Gallery of Nova Scotia ArtReach program. An exhibition of original Canadian prints from the Gallery's permanent collection produced by artists working in the 1970s has just opened at la galerie Le Trécaré in Church Point. The exhibition will be on display from April 13 to May 29, 2011.

Le Trécaré has several events planned in conjunction with the exhibition, including a 2 day art workshop for students, lead by artist **François Gaudet**, and a printmaking day for both students and the community using their new portable printing press.



*Artist François Gaudet and AGNS Assistant Curator of Programs Kris Webster with students at la galerie Le Trécaré.*

Art Reach is supporting a mural project at Yarmouth Consolidated Memorial High School. Working with art teacher David Baldwin, students will study their local history and culture to design and paint a mural which will be featured at the new Yarmouth Farmer's Market building on Hawthorn Street.

*Angela Collier, Co-ordinator of AGNS Yarmouth, and Natalie Smith, President of the Yarmouth Farmers' Community Market Society, in front of the proposed student mural wall at the site of the new Yarmouth Farmer's Market*



On display at AGNS Yarmouth is the *Traps* exhibition featuring prints by local artist.



*Student artwork on display at AGNS Yarmouth*

Cecil Day, who will be offering a series of ArtReach printmaking workshops for students. An exhibition of student artwork will also be on display.

## ArtReach on-line resources

New lesson plans are currently being developed for ArtReach and can be found at

[www.artgalleryofnovascotia.ca](http://www.artgalleryofnovascotia.ca), click under Learn AGNS. Some featured lessons include:

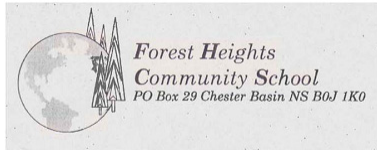
- Wearable art from recycled materials
- Ceramics with self-hardening clay
- *Looking at Art* (featuring artwork from the AGNS permanent collection)

## ArtReach 2011-2012

Plans are already underway for the 2011–2012 school year. This fall, students at South Centennial School in Yarmouth will produce a fall themed wall mural, illustrating the role of sport in their lives and the benefits of active, healthy living, and along with Maitland District School's 2011 Canada Games winter mural, will be on display at AGNS Yarmouth this winter.

An exhibition of prints from the AGNS collection by artist Jacques Hurtubise will travel to the Cape Breton Centre for Craft and Design in Sydney and la galerie Le Trécaré in Church Point. Students from area schools will also have the opportunity to study the materials and techniques used by Hurtubise to produce large scale, paneled paintings for their region's ArtReach exhibition.

At AGNS Halifax, an interactive exhibition on art and the brain will be featured September through January. Programming will include many different ways to explore the workings of the brain and the relationship between the science of the mind and the creativity of art. To book school tours, please call 424-6314.



## Grand Opening of Healthy Heights Wellness Centre



The official opening of the Healthy Heights Wellness Centre was held at the Forest Heights Community School on April 29, 2011. Students, staff, school board members, and community partners were in attendance as a number of presenters gave greetings and congratulations on the opening of the centre. The school choir also gave a performance.

Students were involved in creating the design, name, and logo of the wellness centre. The hummingbird was chosen as the mascot after reading the parable *Flight of the Hummingbird*, symbolizing the wellness centre and its partners. Despite its small size, the centre is making a significant difference in the lives of students at the school. The centre is a friendly, confidential place for teens to discuss or obtain information on health issues.

Lunch was provided, and in the afternoon students attended the People and Possibilities Partnering for Success Conference and a health fair.



## Teaching Students About Workplace Health and Safety!

Each year, hundreds of Nova Scotia students are injured on the job. The Workers' Compensation Board of Nova Scotia (WCB), the Department of Education, the seven school boards and the Conseil scolaire acadien provincial have been working together since 2006 to reduce this number by bringing workplace health and safety curriculum and resources to teachers and students in grades 10 to 12.

Most recently, health and safety content was added to Active Healthy Living 9, giving Nova Scotia grade 9 students a unique approach to learning about occupational health and safety through core curriculum.

In collaboration with the Department of Education and our safety partners, the WCB designs and provides workplace health and safety tools and services for teachers and students that include

- Healthy Living 9: Workplace Safety Moodle at [www.nsvs.ednet.ns.ca](http://www.nsvs.ednet.ns.ca). Found under "Provincial Professional Learning" at the NS Virtual School, this resource was designed for AHL9 teachers, but its tools are used by a wide variety of teachers
- Community-Based Learning: A Workplace Health and Safety Resource for Educators, a CD which holds over 100 different best practice safety resources
- Educators' webpage at [www.worksafeforallife.ca](http://www.worksafeforallife.ca)
- Regular provincial, board-level and summer institute professional development for teachers;
- Classroom presentations for students
- Sponsorship of Department of Education-approved safety programs, including Passport to Safety, St. John Ambulance online WHMIS, and LifeSmart First Aid. These programs are available to students at no charge.

If you teach courses such as community based learning, career development, skilled trades, technology education, family studies, healthy living, business, and science, these tools could be helpful to you!

For more information about accessing our resources and services, please contact Tracey Leary, WCB Education Consultant, by email at [tracey.leary@wcb.gov.ns.ca](mailto:tracey.leary@wcb.gov.ns.ca)

# May is Aboriginal Awareness Month



[inschool.ednet.ns.ca](http://inschool.ednet.ns.ca)



## Communication between Students, Parents & Teachers Is Enhanced

Students and parents of some Nova Scotia schools now have real-time access to their attendance, grades, assignments, teacher comments, and school bulletins. A new web-based student-parent portal is replacing those that existed in some schools, offering the same features, and more.

"You can access it anywhere, any time," says Sackville High School student Taylor Shornys. "Pretty much everything you could ever want to know about school is there." Like most students Taylor's age, she is armed with a BlackBerry and used to information at her fingertips.

Teachers are also enjoying the benefits of this new portal. "Grading is a lot easier," explains Erick Lee, registrar and teacher at JL Ilsley High School in Halifax. "It's online and web-based, so if I'm at home marking, I can enter marks directly into the system and post them for students and parents to see, all at once."

Bridgewater Junior Senior High teacher Kendra Hall says she's received positive feedback from parents and students. "The student-parent portal opens a new avenue of communication between home and school," said Hall.

JL Ilsley High and Bridgewater Junior Senior High are two of 80 schools in Nova Scotia that have been part of phase I of iNSchool, a province-wide program aimed at leveraging technology to better support student achievement.

Along with the introduction of the student-parent portal, phase I schools have been registering and managing student information on one common system since September 2010. And soon, these schools will have the ability to track and manage extended services, such as documented adaptations, individualized program plans (IPP) and SchoolsPlus.

This winter, 14 additional schools transitioned to the province's new web-based information management system. And in September, 220 more schools across Nova Scotia will start the school year off using this common system, under the umbrella of the iNSchool program.



## Nova Scotia Government Introduces Its Autism Spectrum Disorder Action Plan

On Tuesday April 12, 2011, Premier Darrell Dexter announced the province's first Autism Spectrum Disorder Action Plan. An interdepartmental effort involving the Departments of Education, Health and Wellness, Community Services and Justice, this plan focuses on programs and services that will make a significant difference in the lives of individuals living with autism and their families.



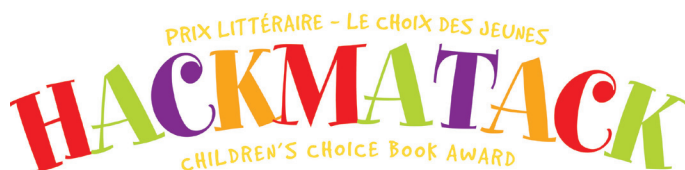
Premier Darrell Dexter announces the Nova Scotia Government's Autism Spectrum Disorder Action Plan as the Minister of Health and Wellness, Maureen MacDonald (left) and the parents of James Delorey (right) look on.

In its deliberations, government reviewed the recommendations from the *Autism Management Advisory Team report on Lifespan Needs for Persons with Autism Spectrum Disorder* released in the spring of 2010. Premier Dexter acknowledged the work of this committee to inform "one of the most comprehensive and collaborative action plans on ASD in the province's history."

The province's *Autism Spectrum Disorder Action Plan* identified five main focus areas including intervention services for families with pre-school children, supports for school-aged children, supports for adults, training to raise skills and awareness, and partnerships to support programming and services. The plan represents \$5.5 million in new investments.

The Action Plan recognizes the importance of support for children with autism once they enter school and has committed to maintaining the current number of autism specialists at the Department of Education and in school boards so that school-aged children with autism will get the support they need in the classroom.

To read the Nova Scotia Government's *Autism Spectrum Disorder Action Plan*, available in English and French please go to: <http://studentservices.ednet.ns.ca>



## Winners to be announced May 13!

Thousands of elementary school students have cast their ballots for the 2010/11 Hackmatack Children's Choice Book Awards, and the big winners will be revealed on May 13 from 10 am to noon at Pier 21 in Halifax.

Readers earned the right to vote for their favourite books by participating in Hackmatack clubs that run from September to April in hundreds of schools and libraries here in Nova Scotia and across the Atlantic Provinces. The Nova Scotia Department of Education provides two copies of the short-listed books to school libraries. Teachers, librarians and volunteers run the Hackmatack program, which they tailor to meet the needs of their participants.

Author visits take place in the week preceding the ceremony, and with the help of the Department of Education, this year's writers will visit a number of schools from Sydney to Yarmouth.

The ceremony is open to the public; we'd love to see you there!

For details on the winners visit [www.hackmatack.ca](http://www.hackmatack.ca) after May 16.

### Reminder: Toll Free Access to Department 1-888-825-7770

The Department of Education has a toll free number! Toll Free Access complements other forms of communication including e-mail, the Departmental website at <http://ednet.ns.ca> and the individual contact information on the last page of this newsletter.



Nova Scotia Provincial Library  
<http://www.library.ns.ca>

## Summer Reading Program



Know a child or teen that needs to practise reading over the summer? The TD Summer Reading Club through the NS public libraries is there to help!

Incorporate the program into your teaching plan! Book-lists, program ideas, images and more are available at <http://www.td-club-td.ca/2011/index-e.html>

A free library card is all that is needed to join!

All youth may participate through their local libraries.

Many libraries offer a Books-by-Mail service to children and teens who live far from a library.

Disabled youth, youth challenged by dyslexia, and other print-disabled youth may participate using the various alternate formats available through the library.

The program, supported by the Toronto Dominion Bank and Library & Archives Canada, encourages children and teens to record what they read. Incentives such as posters and stickers are given to the children. Contests are run locally and provincially. Some libraries run programming over the summer, including: crafts, games, and computer programs.

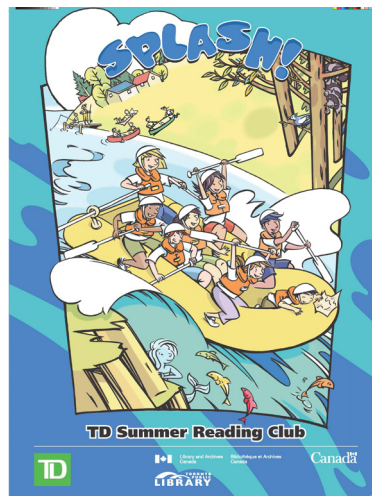
This year's theme is **SPLASH! CELEBRATE SUMMER**. The program starts just as school ends in June. Contact your local library for details.

Find out more about the program:

<http://www.td-club-td.ca>

Find your library:

<https://www.library.ns.ca/content/nova-scotia-public-libraries>



## Roots of Empathy

How do you grow a more caring and peaceful society?—you create better citizens, citizens who recognize the needs of others as equal to their own. It's simple simple enough for the youngest children to learn, basic enough for a baby to teach. That's Roots of Empathy.



Roots of Empathy  
*Racines de l'empathie*

An evidence-based classroom program, Roots of Empathy has shown dramatic effect in reducing levels of aggression and violence among children while raising social and emotional competence and increasing empathy. At the heart of the program are a neighbourhood infant and parent who visit the classroom nine times during the school year. A certified Roots of Empathy Instructor guides the students in observing the relationship between baby and parent, following the baby's development, proper care and celebrating milestones. Learning is reinforced through Instructor visits the week before and the week after each Family Visit, with the full program encompassing 27 class visits in total. The specialized curriculum spans nine themes and supports children as they learn to understand the baby's perspective, label the baby's feelings and extend that learning to reflect on their own feelings and those of others. This emotional literacy helps create environments where children are more kind and cooperative, supporting optimal learning behavior and mental health.

Operating in every province across the country, Roots of Empathy is designed for children from Kindergarten to grade 8. The program is delivered in both English and French to students in rural, urban and remote communities, as well as Aboriginal communities. Roots of Empathy is an international organization with programs in a number of countries, hundreds of thousands of children worldwide have benefited from the Roots of Empathy program.

### Correspondence Studies

Various correspondence courses from grades 7 to 12 are available for students.

For more information, visit our website at <http://lrt.ednet.ns.ca> > Correspondence Studies or call (902) 424-4054

Consistent with many of the goals of **Safe and Caring Schools**, Roots of Empathy was first introduced in Nova Scotia in 2003 with the assistance of Human Resources Development Canada. Since that time the program has flourished and with support from the Department of Education, United Way, the J.W. McConnell Family Foundation and a number of local community agencies, Roots of Empathy has reached more than 9,000 Nova Scotian students.

If you're interested in volunteering either in the role of Instructor or together with your baby as a Roots of Empathy Family for this coming school year, please contact a Roots of Empathy representative listed below. Please note that infants must be between two and four months old at the commencement of the program.

#### *Atlantic Managers*

Hazel Clarke and Frances Cole at 709-722-4805 or

[hclarke@rootsofempathy.org](mailto:hclarke@rootsofempathy.org) and

[fcollection@rootsofempathy.org](mailto:fcollection@rootsofempathy.org)

#### *Nova Scotia Key Point People*

Eastern, Jim Mustard [jimmustard@hotmail.com](mailto:jimmustard@hotmail.com)

HRM, Terry Bartlett-Visser [terrybv@eastlink.ca](mailto:terrybv@eastlink.ca)

Truro, Margaret Davidson [davidsonm@staff.ednet.ns.ca](mailto:davidsonm@staff.ednet.ns.ca)

New Glasgow, Sonya Sarty [mamasarty@hotmail.com](mailto:mamasarty@hotmail.com)

Annapolis Valley, Denise Naugler

[ocfamilymatters@ns.sympatico.ca](mailto:ocfamilymatters@ns.sympatico.ca)

Yarmouth, Michelle Doucette

[Michelle.Doucette@nsc.ca](mailto:Michelle.Doucette@nsc.ca)

For more information, please visit our website:

[www.rootsofempathy.org](http://www.rootsofempathy.org)



Grade 1 students from Prospect Elementary in Halifax benefit from up close and personal experiential learning with the help of Tiny Teacher Baby Subira

## May is Asian Heritage Month





## African Canadian Services Division (ACSD) - Scholarship Program

The following scholarships are available for African Nova Scotian grade 12 students. To be eligible for Scholarships/Awards under this program, applicants *must meet the following criteria*:

- applicant must be a Canadian citizen or permanent resident of Canada whose parent(s) is/are of African descent (Black).
- Applicants must be a resident of Nova Scotia.
- Applicant must be an African Nova Scotian (Black) student.

For specific scholarship requirements, consult the African Canadian Services website: <http://acs.ednet.ns.ca>

## Thomas Henderson, 7–12 Curriculum Consultant, African Canadian Services

We are delighted to announce that Thomas Henderson has been appointed Grades 7–12 Curriculum Consultant with the African Canadian Services Division, effective May 2, 2011.

Tom brings a wealth of knowledge and experience from a range of previous positions including Co-ordinator for Literacy Assessment at the Nova Scotia Department of Education to teaching at the junior and senior high levels with the Halifax Regional School Board. Tom has always been a key resource person and an advocate on educational issues as they impact African Canadian learners. We know that he will continue to be a great asset to the African Canadian Services Division, Public Schools Branch, and key education and NGO partners.



## Young Writers in Action

We will be busy preparing for a focus on Young Writers in Action Grades 2–3 this spring with a focus on the Writers' Workshop at these grade levels, a close look at Assessing to Develop Writers, as well as links to Conferring in Writing, led by the provincial planning team. Following this featured speaker, Ann Marie Corgill Ingram, author of *Of Primary Importance: What's Essential in Teaching Young Writers* will interact with teachers to examine the role of genre at these grade levels.

## Literacy Summer Institutes:

Three Literacy summer institutes will be held this summer. The first will be held at Best Western Chocolate Lake Hotel on July 7–8, 2011 for teachers primary–three. Patrick Allen will be the featured speaker and he will work interactively for two days around his book *Conferring: The Keystone of Reader's Workshop*. The second and third will occur concurrently at the Old Orchard Inn on July 28–29th. Featured speakers are Tony Stead, back by popular demand, for teachers primary–6, and Barry Lane who will work with teachers grades 7–12. These two days are sure to be fun-filled and insightful as teachers work in the area of non-fiction reading and writing with Mr. Stead, and practical and fun writing experiences for secondary students with Mr. Lane!! Registration is planned to open in early May!! See you there!!

## P–3 Africentric Book Collection

African Canadian Services is pleased to provide Elementary Schools with a P–3 Africentric Collection with resources for each individual classroom. This collection is meant to support a variety of subject areas. Many of the titles will be best suited towards Language Arts, Health Education & Social Studies, but please use these resources where you find they most appropriately support curriculum outcomes and your students needs.

The titles were identified and placed in every classroom at the P–3 levels, but teachers are encouraged to share books among their colleagues. Additional copies of these titles are available for purchase online at the Nova Scotia School Book Bureau <https://edapps.ednet.ns.ca/nssbb>

For further information, contact Wendie Poitras at [poitrawl@gov.ns.ca](mailto:poitrawl@gov.ns.ca)

## Supporting Your Child as a Developing Reader Parent Workshops

This is the first full year of the implementation of *Supporting Your Child as a Developing Reader Workshops*. This two day session, community based, and parent focused workshop is intended to expose parents to the developmental stages, current practices, and supportive strategies that can be used to assist the schools with the development of strong reading skills within their children. ACSD would like to thank the many community based organizations, such as the Black Educators Association (BEA), who have assisted with the organizing and delivery of these sessions. Twenty-five sessions have been delivered across the province this year. *Supporting Your Child as a Developing Reader* is the fourth parent workshop developed and delivered through ACSD. *Supporting Your Child who has a Learning Disability* will be implemented in the 2011–12 school year.

For further information, contact Steve Carrington at [carrinsr@gov.ns.ca](mailto:carrinsr@gov.ns.ca)





## Technology Education

Technology Education teachers will have plenty of learning opportunities at EduFest, happening at the NSCC Dartmouth Waterfront campus from August 15–19, as well as August 22–23 in Yarmouth.

Karla Hames from Carsand-Mosher is back by popular demand 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). Remember to bring your camera and tripod.

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. In addition, Don Beck will be providing a 2-day hands-on practice session on screen process printing, using the Lancer equipment provided to new-school technology education programs. This session is designed for all levels of learning and teaching needs.

In August, cabinet-maker and technology educator, Todd Wallace, will run a two-day training session on production technology and manufacturing practices for grades 9 through 12 teachers at Yarmouth Junior High School. This workshop will address jigs and fixtures as well as related safety practices for beginner to advanced levels.

Families will have an opportunity to enjoy EduFest together this summer at the NSCC Waterfront with the new “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, and the arts.

For more details on these and other summer institutes, visit [www.ednet.ns.ca](http://www.ednet.ns.ca)

Junior High technology education curriculum is nearing completion. A draft version is expected to be available for teachers before September, 2011. Tentative curriculum launch date will be Fall 2011.

Technology Education teachers will have a greater opportunity to develop a culture of safety in schools when the Nova Scotia version of the *Heads Up for Safety* document is released in the 2010-2011 school year. *Heads Up for Safety* is a safety program complete with tests and learning tools specifically for technology education teachers. The Nova Scotia version will address safety legislation specific to our province.



## ArtsExpress

ArtsExpress is an HRSB program which has been operating in the Spryfield area since 2002, offering innovative arts-based programs to youth and

the local community. Coordinated by Sabine Fels, the program is supported by grants and commissions from the Dept. of Justice, HRM, ArtsSmarts Nova Scotia, ArtReach, the Dept. of Education and other sources.

Below is just a sample of some of the exciting projects that are new this spring:

**“Youth on the Radar”** a youth crime prevention initiative involving art based activities in a number of Spryfield schools, allowing youth groups to explore youth related issues through multimedia projects, film, dance and visual arts.

**“Nocturne 2011”**: ArtsExpress has been selected by HRM to convert the Supreme Court of NS into an art venue/theatre/exhibition space during this year’s Nocturne event, aptly titled “Disorder in Court”.

**“Viewfinder Film Fest”** premiered the documentary ‘The Mi’kmaq Canoe Project’, which featured students working with Mi’kmaq artisan Todd Labrador on the construction of a traditional seafaring birch bark canoe, filmed at the Maritime Museum of the Atlantic during Mi’kmaq History Month.



**“Scrap”** an innovative project that allows students to work with the jewellery designer Candice Prior on the transformation of recycled computer parts and other technical ‘scraps’ into contemporary jewellery.

**“Youth Scape”** a project that allowed you to express their voices about youth and sexuality through art.

**“Explorations through Art”** was offered in different parts of the province, providing PD opportunities and ongoing support for the new DOE curriculum initiatives in the areas of Visual Arts for Grade 2 teachers, French Immersion and Social Studies.

**“Peace...ing it Together”** was the name of the recent NSTU conference which brought together over 150 educators and put equity, peace and social justice front and centre. ArtsExpress coordinator Sabine Fels engaged participants in the creation of a collaborative art piece, which focused on the peaceful and contemplative aspects of mandala art.

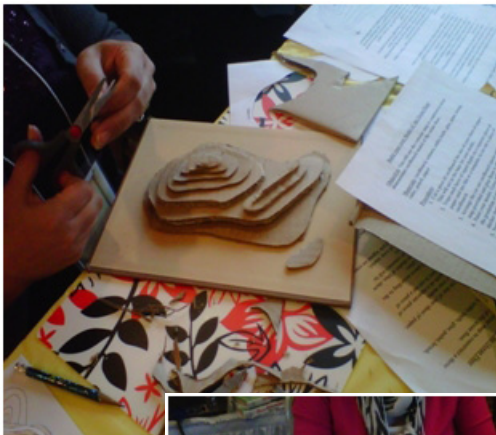
For more information about ArtsExpress, contact Sabine Michaela Fels, ArtsExpress Coordinator, at [sfels@staff.ednet.ns.ca](mailto:sfels@staff.ednet.ns.ca)

## Social Studies Updates

Atlantic Canada Social Studies 4: Explorations was introduced at a two-day workshop, March 24-25, 2011. Each of the seven English boards was represented by a lead team. A total of 62 teachers, administrators, and technology mentors participated in this very successful workshop.

The workshop was opened with a key-note address on Exploration through Archaeology by Saint Mary's professors Drs Erickson and Fowler. The lead teams participated in a series of hands-on workshops which included sessions on Geography Skills and Technology, Exploration and Geography through Art, Learning with Objects—Primary Source Artifacts in the Classroom, Introducing Historical and Geographic Inquiry Methodologies into Elementary Social Studies, and an Introduction to the Social Studies 4 Moodle.

The workshop concluded with a session introducing the Social Studies 4 Classroom Library Collection and the Social Studies 4 textbook, *Explorations*. Grade 4 classrooms have received the following resources: *Why Explore, Our Country, Canada*, the *National Geographic World Regions* series, and *Explorations 4* student textbooks and teacher resource.



Geography through Art activities were enthusiastically received at the implementation workshop for Social Studies 4: Explorations.



## School Garden Project

The Nova Scotia Department of Agriculture recognizes the value of school gardens in developing citizens who respect and value the role of agriculture in our lives. "School gardens provide a valuable teaching opportunity by helping students link the food on their plate with a local farmer," said John MacDonell, Minister of Agriculture. "This program will help students understand and appreciate the valuable contribution of the agriculture industry in creating good jobs and growing the economy throughout Nova Scotia."

"There is tremendous value in having a hands-on project for students to make the connection on how Nova Scotia's food grows," said Education Minister Ramona Jennex. "I look forward to seeing the excitement generated when students experience this seed-to-harvest project."



A one-time grant of \$500 per school is available from the Department of Agriculture's School Garden Project to build, maintain a garden. The grant can also be used for teaching materials and soil testing fees.

"The announcement of funding for school gardens is a great step in the right direction," said Michael Howell, leader of Slow Food Nova Scotia, which promotes the appreciation of food. "If a child grows food from scratch and learns how to cook it, he or she is very likely to appreciate it and eat it. School gardens contribute to healthy schools, communities, local economies and healthy citizens."

The total available through the school garden project is \$20,000 to be distributed proportionally across school board regions.

Applications are now being accepted. More information about the project and a school garden resource guide are available at

<http://www.gov.ns.ca/agri/agaware/schoolgarden.shtml>



## IT Integration Summer Institute August 3–5

**2011, Truro Campus, NSCC**

Information Technology can be integrated into any curriculum at all levels. This 3-day Summer Institute will provide a mix of learning and working to develop ideas and activities that will fit IT into your classroom next year.

There will be sessions provided to help you decide what specialized software might be right for your activities. You will be able to select from a variety of mini Tech Sessions on topics such as: video editing, multimedia, podcasting, productivity tools (word processing, presentation tools, spreadsheets etc.) as well as curriculum-focused software. You will have time to work on topics of interest to you, participate in discussions about the ins and outs of working in an ICT-integrated classroom, and develop connections with like-minded teachers from across the province.

Bring your own curriculum materials for developing IT-integrated lessons and/or activities for your students for next year: previous lesson plans, websites, or other resources (images, media, hard copies, curriculum documents, texts).

Summer Institute is sponsored by the NS Department of Education. Fees, including, lodging and meals, are covered by the Department of Education.

Summer Institute is open to all teachers, but seats are limited. Please contact your Board IT representative to apply or for more information.



LRTS provides School, School Boards, Teachers and Students with access to a number of databases through EBSCO <http://search.epnet.com>

**EBSCO** offers online bibliographic & full text databases so that you and your

students can find information, pictures and citations on curriculum related topics.

EBSCO also offers access to a wide variety of professional databases like ERIC and to highly specialized collections of over 450 full text journals, designed for professional educators.

EBSCO is available to all students and teachers in Nova Scotia through Ednet connected computers, or at home with passwords that can be obtained from your school.



## Computers for Schools



## Ordinateurs pour les écoles

Computers for Schools NS is a public/private partnership that supplies refurbished, donated computer equipment and to schools, libraries, C@P Sites, literacy organizations and qualifying non-profit agencies across Nova Scotia free of charge. Since 1993, CFS-NS has distributed more than 60,000 computers across NS.

Primary sources of used computers are the Federal and Provincial Governments, which require that all surplus equipment be first offered to the CFS program, as well as a small percentage of private sector donors.

The CFS NS minimum standard is a P4, 2.4 ghz CPU, and 15" LCD Monitors. We also accept keyboards, mice, laser printers, etc.

A complete list of what we are able to accept can be seen on our website <http://trp.ednet.ns.ca>

To find out more about our program, please phone 424-3596.



## Anti-Bullying Resources at LRTS

LRTS offers teachers and schools a number of anti-bullying resources, including links to online resources and dubbing and loan videos available through the Education Media Library. We ship multimedia curriculum resources to schools anywhere in the province. Loan titles can be borrowed for up to 7 days, dubbing titles are sold to you for only the cost of the disc/videocassette (~\$1.62) and become a part of your school's collection.

Videos that are available include

See a Bully! Stop a Bully!—Grades P-2

We're In, You're Out : Looking At Cliques—Grades 3-5

7 Ways to Block a Cyberbully—Grades 6-9

It's A Girl's World : A Documentary about Social Bullying—Grades 5-12

Visit <http://lrt.ednet.ns.ca> for more information.





## Students from across the province celebrated for their outstanding achievements in business with JA.

The next generation of Nova Scotia business leaders were awarded more than \$15,000 in scholarships on May 1. Junior Achievement of Nova Scotia held its annual Company Program Awards Gala to recognize high school students' outstanding achievements. Hosted by Saint Mary's University, the event had more than 200 students from across the province, parents, volunteers and JA Board members in attendance.

The Awards and Recognition Gala celebrates students who participated in Junior Achievement's Company Program, an 18-week high school program where students set up, run and wind down a business. The company functions as any corporation would—with shareholders and an executive team. Each company is assisted by a team of Advisors, made up of individuals in the local business community. Twenty two companies ran throughout Nova Scotia in the 2010-2011 school year—from Oxford, Bridgewater, Halifax, Truro, New Glasgow, Antigonish, Sydney and New Waterford. Many winners were recipients of scholarships, donated by the business and the academic community.

Top prizes went to Shelby MacKinnon from Breton Education Centre who received a \$500 scholarship sponsored for *Outstanding Achiever*. Students from Nova Gear, representing Sir John A. MacDonald High School took home *Company of the Year*. Nova Scotia's top universities also handed out scholarships. Laura Boyd from Dr. John Hugh Gills Regional High School and Dana Mikkelsen from Dartmouth High received scholarships to St. Francis Xavier University. Cole Clarke and Layton Mason from North Nova Education Centre and Bryan Rice from Middleton Regional High School received scholarships to Saint Mary's University. More than 35 awards were handed out.

This year's Company Program students produced fantastic products and services which included scarves with built-in mittens to concert and CD promotions. Students showed remarkable use of creativity in engaging social media tools to reach new sales markets, including Facebook, Twitter and Youtube. Congratulations to all of our winners!



## The Duke of Edinburgh's Award 2011

The 3rd Annual Duke Youth Forum was held in Debert, NS on February 19–20, 2011. In attendance were a mix of leaders and participants, council members and volunteers. The theme of the Youth Forum was Youth Engagement. There were several different discussion topics at the forum, that included communications, the awards programme, and how to better engage with youth. Assisting at this year's forum was the NS Golds, an association of Gold Award Achievers whose mandate is to help current participants with various aspects of their program. The forum was a resounding success with two distinct youth groups emerging: 1) a Youth Advisory Committee and 2) a Youth Video Committee. One recommendation was to set up a Duke youth video committee, with a mandate to create motivational videos to inspire youth to get involved with the Duke of Edinburgh's Award



Youth and leaders discussing improving communications in a small working-group

Programme. We look forward to getting these groups established and working together to plan the 4th annual Forum next year.

The past year brought an increased amount of interest and growth in the Award Programme. There are currently 2531 active youth participating in the Programme across the province. Of these youth, 1219 (48%) are members of school groups, with 43 schools and 65 teachers actively participating. The steady increase of participants involved in school groups over the past five years is in large part due to the hard work and infinite patience of dedicated teachers. A heartfelt THANK YOU goes out to all the teachers that take such an active role in helping challenge youth to be the best that they can possibly be!!

## Family Studies Updates

### The Real Care Baby II is Going Green!

This spring we will be ordering kits to upgrade the *Real Care Baby II*, a resource used in Child Studies 9 and Child Studies 11. The kit will allow the baby to be rechargeable thus eliminating the need for the batteries. School Boards will be contacted to help us locate the babies that are eligible for an upgrade. The upgrade will include the software to allow the babies to be programmed from the teacher's computer.

### Child Studies 9 Implementation Workshops

There will be Implementation Workshops offered in the fall for each School Board to support the implementation of Child Studies 9. School Boards will be contacted this spring to help us identify schools that will be offering Child Studies 9 in 2011-2012. Teachers who attend the Implementation Workshop will participate in a hands on session on managing the *Real Care Baby II Plus*, one of the resources used in the course.

### Canadian Families 12, Open, 1 Credit

The curriculum for Canadian Families 12 has been updated reflecting outcomes based education. Schools offering Canadian Families 12 will be invited to participate in an Implementation Workshop in the fall to be delivered via Webinar. There will also be a Moodle link hosted by Nova Scotia Virtual Schools to support this curriculum.

### Food Studies Hospitality 12 (Open, Course Code)

The Implementation Workshop for Food Studies/Hospitality 12 will be held at NSCC Akerley Campus on October 6 & 7, 2011. Teachers who attend the first day of this 2 day workshop will participate in the Advanced Food Safety Workshop. School Boards will be contacted to identify schools who are offering this curriculum in 2011-12 so appropriate implementation resources may be ordered.

### Housing and Design 12 ( Academic, Technology)

The Implementation Workshop for Housing and Design 12 will be held at the Department of Education on October 3, 2011. During this workshop teachers who are able to attend will have an opportunity to learn how to use technology to develop floorplans. We will also support Housing and Design 12 with a Moodle link to facilitate sharing among teachers.

### Textile Technology 12 ( Open, Technology)

Textile Technology 12 Implementation Workshop will be held in the Annapolis Valley on October 13 & 14, 2011. The Implementation Workshop will include sessions during which teachers practice various textile production methods.

### New Resources Available:

*FoodSafe Level 1*—Instructor Kit

Independent Living 12

*The City*, A Resource for Teaching Financial Management

*The City* website will be updated with new financial information this summer. For updates please log in to

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

Teachers and students are reminded that the Teacher Resource Binder is free to anyone who participates in Webinar hosted by Curriculum Services Canada. Webinars are scheduled throughout the year and teachers can register for these by logging in to the Curriculum Services Canada link: [http://www.curriculum.org/csc/conf\\_city.adp](http://www.curriculum.org/csc/conf_city.adp) While this year's schedule has not yet been determined, it will be posted to the CSC website and the Moneybelt website. Teachers can also access a self-directed, on line training session at the city website.

### For further information please contact

Sheila Munro, Family Studies Services at [munrosm@gov.ns.ca](mailto:munrosm@gov.ns.ca)

## May is Gaelic Heritage Awareness Month



## Summit on Gifted Education & Talent Development

**May 23–25, 2012 / Mount Saint Vincent University, Halifax**

NSELC along with the Department of Education, NSTU and school boards around the province are organizing a Summit on Gifted Education and Talent Development at Mount Saint Vincent University May 23 to 25, 2012.

Internationally known speakers, Dr. Sally Reis, Dr. Rachel McAnallen, and Dr. Rebecca Eckert, are already confirmed for this Summit. Dr. Reis is a professor in educational psychology at the University of Connecticut and has gained international recognition as one of the top five experts in the field of gifted and talented education. Dr. McAnallen or “Ms. Math” shares the joy and beauty of mathematics with learners of all ages. A professional educator for 45 years, she travels the globe teaching her subject at every grade level. Dr. Eckert is a clinical professor in the Neag School of Education at UConn. She was the Gifted Resource Specialist for the National Association for Gifted Children, and co-edited the book *Designing Services and Programs for High-Ability Learners*.

The Summit’s steering committee encourages teachers to put their request for this conference through their Article 60 committee as soon as possible.

More information will be available on the NSELC website at [www.nselc.ns.ca](http://www.nselc.ns.ca)

## The Leadership Academy: The Nova Scotia Instructional Leadership Program

A new instructional leadership program is being offered through the Nova Scotia Instructional Leadership Academy (NSILA) by the Nova Scotia Department of Education, in partnership with the Nova Scotia Educational Leadership Consortium. The goal of the Academy’s program is to improve the capacity for school-based instructional leadership, aimed at increasing student learning and achievement in Nova Scotia public schools.

The NSILA program extends over three years and leads to a Diploma in Instructional Leadership. The diploma will be granted by the Minister of Education. It will signify that holders of the Diploma in Instructional Leadership have achieved and demonstrated competency in instructional leadership.



The Academy’s instructional leadership program is designed for all instructional leaders. However, the target audience for the first cohort, beginning in September 2011, will focus on practicing principals. Participants for the first cohort have been selected from across the province. There will be a number of cohorts added over a number of years, beginning each September.

For more information on The Leadership Academy, please contact Sue LeBel, Program Coordinator, at [slebel@nselc.ca](mailto:slebel@nselc.ca) or visit these websites: [www.nselc.ca](http://www.nselc.ca) or [www.nsil.ca](http://www.nsil.ca)



## NS Virtual School - <http://nsvs.ednet.ns.ca>

The Nova Scotia Virtual School is a common provincial online learning platform created as a joint project between provincial school boards and the Department of Education in Nova Scotia.

It provides for the delivery of public school courses, online extensions of school-based classes, and supports professional development and online meetings for teachers and other staff of

school boards and the Department of Education. Questions about online courses, course space, or creating an account should be referred to the Online Coordinator for your school board. For other questions, contact the site administration [nsvs@gov.ns.ca](mailto:nsvs@gov.ns.ca) or call 902-424-2450.

## Visit Share.EDnet.ns.ca

Launched on February 6, 2011, Share.EDnet hosts the 21st Century learning resources and professional materials designed and created by the Nova Scotia education community. All resources are mapped to Nova Scotia learning outcomes. Share.EDnet acts as the key resource-sharing arm of the Nova Scotia Virtual School. (<http://nsvs.ednet.ns.ca>) Join us!

[Share.EDnet.ns.ca](http://Share.EDnet.ns.ca) <English> [Ensemble.Ednet.ns.ca](http://Ensemble.Ednet.ns.ca) <French>





## Department of Education – Summer Institutes 2011

TITLE	DATE(S)
Atlantic Teachers Tour: Forest Worth Knowing - Western Shore	August 9–12
Autism and the Elementary Years - Annapolis Valley	August 15–19
Barry Lane — Relax and Write (7–12) - Wolfville	July 28–29
DELF and DALF Training for examiners/markers - Halifax	July 4–8
Energy Around Us - Halifax	August 23–25
Experience Agriculture 2011 - Truro	July 5–7
Faire la difference en français langue seconde! - Halifax	August 11–12
Gaelic Summer Institute - Dartmouth	August 22–24
Introduction to Kayaking - Yarmouth	July 13–14
IT Integration Summer Institute - Truro	August 3–5
Leading Youth through Challenge to Achievement: The Duke of Edinburgh's Award Leader Training - Dartmouth	August 12 (AM)
Mountain Bike Maintenance 101 - Yarmouth	July 12 (PM)
Music Workshop: People Gotta Move!	August 15–16
National Archery in Schools Program: Basic Archery Instructor Certification - Yarmouth	July 12
Options and Opportunities / Cooperative Education Workshop for New Teachers - Dartmouth	August 25–26
Patrick Allen Conferring: The Cornerstone to Reading (P–3) - Halifax	July 7–8
Production Technology Machines: Basic Operating Procedures - Yarmouth	August 22–23
Quoi de neuf en FLS? Beaucoup! (Niveau 2) - Halifax	August 4–5
Quoi de neuf en français langue seconde? Beaucoup! (Niveau 1) - Halifax	August 8–9
Risk Assessment and Management: Outdoor Activities and the Duke of Edinburgh's Award - Dartmouth	August 11 (PM)
Session de développement professionnel pour enseignants d'arts langagiers, immersion français et français integer, 9e à la 12e année - Halifax	August 29–30
Teaching in the Outdoor Classroom Summer Institute 2011 - TBA	August 23–25
The Rs for Guitar, Level 1.5 - Dartmouth	August 20
Tony Stead — I'm Here Again! (P–6) - Wolfville	July 28–29
Waterfront Canoeing Instructor - Antigonish	July 8 and July 11
Wilderness and Remote First Aid - Yarmouth	July 15–17

For registration or inquiries, please call (902) 424-5839 or go to [www.ednet.ns.ca](http://www.ednet.ns.ca) "Summer Institutes 2011".



**EDUfest 2011****NSCC Waterfront Campus, Dartmouth – August 15-19**

<b>TITLE</b>	<b>DATE(S)</b>
A Restorative Approach in Schools	August 16
An Introduction to Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD)	August 17
Being a History Detective – Learning with Objects and Artifacts	August 19
Building Multi-Disciplinary Curriculum Units	August 15–16
Connecting Equity, Environment and Economy	August 15–16
Digital Photography for Communications Technology 11 and 12	August 15–16
Donner la fierté de lire et le goût d'écrire	August 18
Drama	August 17–19
EDUFest KIDS	August 15–19
Effective Application of Data: The Basics and Beyond	August 18
Innovative Science with Discovery Centre	August 18 (P–6)
Innovative Science with Discovery Centre	August 19 (Gr. 4–9)
Integrating Cultural Proficiency: A School–Wide Approach	August 16
Leveling the Playing Field:	
Supporting Students Requiring Adaptations	August 16–18
Responding to the Needs of All Learners – Differentiation	August 18
Screen Process Printing	August 17–18
SolidWorks Software Training Workshop	August 18–19
Teaching Guitar Workshop, Level 1	August 15–19
The ABCs of ADHD in the Classroom	August 17
Translating Hip–hop: A Contextual Framework	
for Teaching Urban Dance in Dance 11	August 16–18
Visual Arts: Junk Mountain – Found Art Way Above Sea–Level	August 15–16

During EDUFest, you are welcome to join us each morning in the main foyer at 8:00 a.m. for a gentle yoga practice. Each day's practice will be led by a different teacher colleague, who has become a trained yoga instructor. Please bring your own mat, if possible. Some mats will be available on site.

Parents attending are invited to register their children in the EDUFest KIDS program! Children will take part in all-day events on site involving hands-on, minds-on integrated activities in science, technology, engineering, and the arts. Kids should come prepared to be active and get dirty! All workshop materials, lunch, and snacks will be provided. Children will enjoy lunch on-site with their parents.

For registration or inquiries, please call (902) 424-5839 or go to [www.ednet.ns.ca](http://www.ednet.ns.ca) "Summer Institutes 2011".

# Discovery Centre

Nova Scotia's Hands-On Science Centre

Our mandate is to make science interesting, interactive and fun! We offer innovative curriculum-related programming, exhibits and events. Teachers are welcome to bring their students in to visit us, or Discovery Centre staff can visit your school or classroom.

For a complete guide to our programs visit us at [www.thediscoverycentre.ca](http://www.thediscoverycentre.ca)

## EDUCATION THAT BLASTS OFF!

For the budding astronaut, space enthusiast or star gazer, the Discovery Centre offers a range of astronomy based programming, including programs presented in our unique inflatable *digital* planetarium, the only one of its kind in NS. These popular educational programs provide students in grades 1-6 an unforgettable opportunity to



gaze up at the stars, explore galaxies, and identify constellations.

For older students in grades 7-9, our newest educational workshop, *Lunar Bots*, provides an innovative and engaging way for students to learn about computer programming, space robotics and team building while using world-renowned LEGO® NXT technology.

## SCIENCE ON THE ROAD

Science on the Road is Nova Scotia's only province-wide science education and outreach program. This award-winning program brings curriculum-connected, interactive and engaging learning experiences directly to primary-6 classrooms.

## TOO SMALL TO SEE

Discovery Centre's newest exhibit proves that small is the new BIG! This hands-on exhibit showcases how scientists see and make things that are too small to see. Visitors can build and stretch molecules, walk through a silicon crystal, manipulate atoms on a vibrating table, magnify a computer chip up to 100,000 times and climb on carbon nanotubes!



## Public Schools Branch consists of the following Divisions:

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">http://acs.ednet.ns.ca</a>
Diversity, Equity, and Special Projects . . . . .	902-722-1405	<a href="mailto:smithcla@gov.ns.ca">smithcla@gov.ns.ca</a>	
Education Quality Services . . . . .	902-424-0040	<a href="mailto:crandase@gov.ns.ca">crandase@gov.ns.ca</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:fls@ednet.ns.ca">fls@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:Palmatcj@gov.ns.ca">Palmatcj@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>	
Regional Education Services . . . . .	902-424-5799	(Halifax - SSRSB, HRSB) 902-424-6097 (Halifax - CSAP)	
	902-563-2080	(Sydney - CBVRSB)	
	902-893-5890	(Truro - CCRSB, SRSB)	
	902-742-3427	(Yarmouth - TCRSB, AVRSB)	
Senior Executive Director . . . . .	902-424-5829	<a href="mailto:lowead@gov.ns.ca">lowead@gov.ns.ca</a>	

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