



RTO AGM

Report of the Resolutions Committee

Resolutions 2019

NSTU Building

May 16, 2019

RESOLUTION 2019 – 1 RICHMOND BRANCH

Whereas the province is experiencing difficulty acquiring substitute teachers.

AND

Whereas there are retired teachers who are willing to substitute for longer periods of time than the current sixty-nine and one-half days.

BE IT RESOLVED that the provincial RTO, in conjunction with the Nova Scotia Teachers Union, seek to expand the number of days a retired teacher is permitted to substitute.

BRIEF

The Richmond Branch has received a number of requests from recently retired teachers to increase the number of days they are allowed to substitute. With the current shortages, particularly in rural areas and French Language Instruction, it seems that it is time to look at tapping into the knowledge, experience and energy of retired teachers to assist in dealing with these short falls.

Recently retired teachers make excellent substitutes, well versed in classroom management, knowledge of current curriculum and teaching strategies.

RESOLUTION 2019 – 2 LUNENBURG COUNTY BRANCH

BE IT RESOLVED that the Provincial RTO forward a resolution to the Nova Scotia Teachers Union that Medavie Blue Cross be petitioned to include the Freestyle Libre System for glucose monitoring as a covered medical expense.

BRIEF

Blue Cross pays for the “Freestyle Libre System”, a flash glucose monitoring system, for diabetics and other professionals in Nova Scotia (i.e. nurses) but not for teachers. This device saves a diabetic from having to prick their finger to check their blood sugar and is more cost effective than strips (\$85.00 per month for the system as compared to \$130.00, or more, for test strips).

It was prescribed to my husband, after a sugar low resulting in seizures. For some reason, as a type one diabetic, my husband has inexplicable sudden low blood sugars. In fact, this has happened three times resulting in hospitalization, a considerable cost to the medical provider. The Freestyle Libre System would allow him, or me, to check his blood sugars by simply swiping his arm, and it can be done frequently and quickly, without taking the time to prick a finger, extract blood onto the strip, which then must be placed in a reader.

Blue Cross would actually save money with this system as my husband needs to check his sugar frequently using many test strips. An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure.

It would give me peace of mind, since I am the caregiver in a crisis situation, to have this device as a tool.

RESOLUTION 2019 – 3 ALAN MACKINNON

BE IT RESOLVED that approved travel expenses submitted by any MAL shall include travel to all meetings within his or her region, including meetings held in the MAL's own Branch geographical area.

BRIEF

In September of 2018, the RTO Executive removed the long-standing ability for any Member-at-Large to claim for travel, meals, etc. for any meetings of his or her own branch. In some MAL regions, such as Cape Breton, Antigonish-Guysborough and Inverness, it is often difficult to get a Member-at-Large due to the vast travel time and the distance. This is especially true if the MAL candidate lives near the geographic extremities of the Branch, but the Branch meetings are usually held at an opposite extremity to the home of the MAL candidate. The 2018 Executive motion now adds the requirement that the MAL pay for travel and meals costs. If the September motion of the Executive is allowed to stand, MAL volunteers will be even scarcer.

RESOLUTION 2019 – 4 ALAN MACKINNON

BE IT RESOLVED that unless approved at the RTO Annual General Meeting, funding for any activities of the RTO must be pre-approved by the Executive.

BRIEF

In the recent past, some funding had been approved by the President, or by the Treasurer, which could have easily awaited an Executive meeting; which would have led to the matter being considered by the whole Executive.

RESOLUTION 2019 – 5 ALAN MACKINNON

BE IT RESOLVED that funding for RTO Table Officers meetings and activities, excluding meetings of the entire RTO Executive, shall be separately itemized in the RTO financial records.

BRIEF

All spending of ANY executive branches of ANY organization should be completely transparent to members of that organization.

RESOLUTION 2019 – 6 ALAN MACKINNON

BE IT RESOLVED that expenses for meals, travel and lodging shall be the sole responsibility of the attending RTO member, if the event is one of the annual RTO or NSTU “Tournaments”, such as the “Golf Tournament”, the “Bowling Tournament”, or the “Curling Tournament”.

BRIEF

In the recent pass, the RTO has paid registration fees for some members for attending the annual RTO Golf Tournament. Indeed, some members have received reimbursement for travel, meals, and accommodations for such events, and it has been “approved” by some Table Officer(s). Surely we do not intend to give special financial treatment to some RTO members and not offer this treatment to other members of the RTO.

Resolution 2019-7 RTO Executive

BE IT RESOLVED that the following wording be deleted and replaced with new wording in Operational Procedure III – Fiscal Matters, RTO Operational Procedures.

B. Financial

- i. The Treasurer is authorized to conduct the financial affairs of the Organization in person, via telephone, or via the internet.
- ii. It is understood that the above refers to both the Organization and the Foundation.
- iii. Only one signature is required on cheques under ~~\$500.00~~ **\$750.00**. The financial institution shall honor a cheque of less than ~~\$500.00~~ **\$750.00** with only one signing officer's signature.
- iv. The financial institution for the RTO and the Foundation shall be the Teachers' Plus Credit Union.
- v. Reimbursement of expenses to members of the Executive, Branch Presidents and Committees shall be the rates approved from time to time by the Executive.

BRIEF

In the auditors' review of the RTO Organization Financial statements dated February 4, 2019 she stated the following: "In light of the increased basic costs of travel and accommodations, it might be time to look at increasing the amount for a signature by the treasurer only."

The RTO Executive agrees with the suggestion of the auditor and therefore recommends having only one signing officer's signature needed for cheques of \$750.00 or less.