



# COSS

Council of Special Services

A Special Interest Council of the Newfoundland and Labrador Teachers' Association



## Message from COSS President

Dear COSS Members,

Since March 20, 2020 we have faced and worked around the many challenges presented to our members. As we move forward to a new school year, we have a chance to look back in reflection and ahead in anticipation. Our Association has a vast history with its beginnings dating back to the late 1990s, and we are elated that we get to be part of its future story, a story which we hope is positive and productive. As part of our future story we would like to let everyone know that we now have a new website that will contain updates, forms and resources: <https://sites.google.com/view/nlta-coss/home>, and a Twitter account NLTA Council of Special Services @NLTA\_COSS that you can follow by clicking this link [https://twitter.com/NLTA\\_COSS](https://twitter.com/NLTA_COSS). Lastly, we have decided to send out quarterly NEWSLETTERS to our members.

Those interested in being a member of COSS and receiving up-to-date information, please fill out the attached membership form.

<https://sites.google.com/view/nltacoss/home/membership-application>.

We request that current members update their membership to the NLTA COSS by also completing the membership form at the link above.

This past year, our Association has gone through many changes. We would like to extend our sincere thanks and gratitude to Ms. Danielle Doyle for her years of service as a member of the COSS Executive and serving as the COSS president. With the onset of the global pandemic, the past two years have proven to be one of our most formidable and grueling times for COSS and its members. Ms. Doyle had shown her dictation to this association and its membership through her endless hours and devotion to help provide COSS members a platform to discuss our concerns with the NLTA. Ms. Doyle's dedication and commitment to this Special Interest Council will be remembered, and greatly appreciated.

At this time, we would like to acknowledge the changes within our executive and would like to thank all who were a part of this team. They were a pleasure to work with and their contribution to our Association will be missed! As always, with people stepping down from leadership roles, there is opportunity for new members to become involved.

We would like to identify and welcome the COSS 2022-2023 executive. The new COSS Executive is composed of Stephanie Drover-Edmunds, who will be moving into the role of President-Elect. Stephanie is currently Student Services Department Head at Amalgamated Academy in Bay Roberts. Prior to this role, she worked as a School Counsellor with Amalgamated Academy, and Holy Redeemer, and Instructional Resource and Technology Teacher at Holy Redeemer Elementary in Spaniards Bay. Danielle Doyle is stepping into the role of Past-President. She is the Student Services Department Head, and an

<https://sites.google.com/view/nlta-coss/home>



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Instructional Resource Teacher at Carbonear Collegiate in Carbonear. Maggie Warren will continue on as Vice-President. Maggie currently works in the position of School Counsellor at Carbonear Academy in Carbonear. Wendy Barrett will be moving into the role of Treasurer. Wendy has the dual role of Instructional Resource Teacher/Home Economics with Persalvic School Complex in Victoria, and Cabot Acadmey in Western Bay. We would like to welcome three new members to the COSS executive. Lindsay Riggs, an Instructional Resource teacher at Ascension Collegiate in Bay Roberts is taking on the role of secretary. Lastly, TerriLee Bishop will be our new Communications Officer. She is an Instructional Resource Teacher at Bay Roberts Primary in Bay Roberts. We are looking forward to working together as an executive, along with the rest of our provincial team!

The NLTA Council of Special Services is seeking a Membership Coordinator with the Executive team. Duties will include, but are not limited to:

- Promote, and Maintain provincial wide membership.
- Ensure membership information is accurate.

Any COSS NLTA member interested in this position, please contact NLTA

Council of Special Services at [COSS@mynlta.ca](mailto:COSS@mynlta.ca).

The NLTA Council of Special Services is seeking a Regional Representatives for the following areas.

- Avalon East,
- Avalon West,
- Central,
- Western South,
- Western North, and
- Labrador.

Bruin representative is Amanda Dibbon. Amanda is an Instructional Resource Teacher at St. Mary's.

Those interested please email your interest to [COSS@nlta.nl.ca](mailto:COSS@nlta.nl.ca).

The COSS executive is looking into securing meaningful professional learning for our members. We are reviewing our options and ability to offer virtual workshops at no cost to membership, which is always nice!

Those who have concerns, questions, or suggestions that you want to share privately, please go to our new website <https://sites.google.com/view/nlta-coss/home/concerns> and fill out the Concerns form, email us directly at [COSS@nlta.nl.ca](mailto:COSS@nlta.nl.ca). Our member's concerns are an important piece and your input is needed.

Remember your provincial executive is here for you and that an executive is only as good as its membership.

Thank you,

*Stephanie Dровер-Edmunds*

President