

## **Nova Scotia Teachers Union Code of Ethics**

This Code of Ethics is a guide to teachers in maintaining, always, the high traditions of their profession.

### **Teacher and Pupil**

- a. The teacher regards as confidential, and does not divulge other than through professional channels, any information of a personal or domestic nature, concerning either parents or home, obtained through the course of the teacher's professional duties.
- b. The teacher should be just and impartial in all relationships with pupils.
- c. The teacher should assume responsibility for the safety and welfare of the teacher's pupils, especially under conditions of emergency.
- d. The teacher should avoid giving offence to the religious and political beliefs and moral scruples of the teacher's pupils and/or their parents.
- e. The teacher should be as objective as possible in dealing with the controversial matters arising out of curriculum subjects, whether scientific or political, religious or racial.

### **Teacher and Teacher**

- a. The teacher should not make defamatory, disparaging, condescending, embarrassing, or offensive comments concerning another teacher.
- b. The teacher shall not make derogatory remarks about the professional competence of another teacher.
- c. The teacher shall not accept a position of another teacher who has been dismissed unjustly, nor accept a position arising out of the unsettled dispute between a teacher or teachers and local authorities.
- d. The teacher shall not sexually harass another teacher. Sexual harassment shall mean any unsolicited and unwanted sexual comments, suggestions, physical contact directed to a specific teacher which that teacher finds objectionable or offensive and which causes the teacher discomfort on the job. The accused teacher must be made aware of the nature of the objection prior to action being taken.

### **Teacher and Internal Administration**

- a. The teacher shall observe a reasonable and proper loyalty to internal administration of the school.
- b. The teacher responsible for internal administration should be loyal, fair, and just to the members of the staff.
- c. The teacher responsible for internal administration should not of her/his own initiative, make any detrimental report, oral or written, on a teacher's efficiency without first discussing the matter with the teacher.