Chair's Report November 2026

Provincial Education Partners Council (PEPC)

PEPC met on Tuesday, October 20 in Fredericton. The Council brings education partners together to connect with, strengthen partnerships, share stake holder perspectives, and monitor progress. There were two major topics dealt with at this meeting:

1. Strong Basics, Bright Futures
   The new education plan sets a 12-year direction for education with three-year evaluations. As well, there will be a yearly report card for the public. The plan contains 25 measures with annual and long-term targets that draw on existing data and identify areas where new data is required. The education plan's signature measure shifts the focus from an overall provincial average on standardized assessments to incremental improvement targets for every school. The hope is that this will make it easier to recognize progress and identify schools that may need additional support and assist schools with school improvement planning.
2. Pilot projects and Long-Term Recommendations
   37 schools across the Anglophone Districts are piloting a revised school calendar that includes 10 additional professional days. The intention is to strengthen teaching and learning, staff well-being and student outcomes, especially in achievement and attendance and teacher outcomes with respect to recruitment and retention. The project is being evaluated by comparing pilot schools with similar schools not on the pilot. Work is continuing in other schools across the province (nearly 30 of which are here in Anglophone South) on long term recommendations on class composition, outdoor education, middle school practices, technology in education, and oral communication. All the pilots can be related to actions in the new education plan *Strong Basics, Bright Futures*.

December Meeting

Just a reminder that our December meeting starts at 6:00 P.M. and will last no longer than 1 hour. We have a reservation at Lily's (downstairs) for 7:30 P.M.

DEC Questionnaire

Observers at the last meeting provided a mostly positive review of the meeting but both noted that we were late starting the public session (7:06 P.M.) and that it would be better to have too much time for the private session than to run into the public meeting time.