



**Margaret Urquhart
Honorary Life Membership Award Citation**

An NBSRT Honorary Life Member must be acknowledged as someone who “has given significant service to the Provincial NBSRT at the executive level over a period of at least 5 years ... as a Table officer, Committee Chairperson, ACER-CART Representative or Group Insurance Trustee, as well as contributing to the completion of significant projects such as the review of the Constitution, or contributions of similar value.”

Today’s recipient has done all of this and more.

Margaret Urquhart has served the NBSRT with diligence and class since her retirement. She has held most Executive positions in her Saint John Branch and at the Provincial level where she also served as provincial President. In addition to her executive duties, she has spearheaded our unique achievement of universal executive voting and has enhanced NBSRT’s reputation with Provincial and National leaders.

Anyone who has been involved with the NBSRT for the past decade would be aware of the commitment and dedication Margaret has provided the organization. Her attention to detail, analysis of topics under discussion and ability to encourage members to reassess their positions prior to making a decision, are formidable. Numerous chairpersons may have dreaded her Columbo like “Just one more question [thing]” if the ending of a meeting might be in sight. However, the question would never be frivolous and always contributed to more meaningful insight into the issue.

Although she moved off of the NBSRT Executive following her term as Past President, she continues to serve our members and all retired teachers as the elected East Coast Representative of ACER/CART, where she ensures that our concerns are clearly heard by our national counterparts. It is a tribute to her effectiveness in this role that, when she suggested she would step aside at the end of this year to allow someone else the opportunity of representing the East Coast group, representatives unanimously requested that she stay on for at least another term.

Marg has adamantly stated many times that “Past Presidents should not automatically receive this revered award”. We agree! However, in this case, this Past President has been particularly effective in so many roles and such a driving force in so many initiatives, that special recognition is certainly warranted.

In comparing Margaret Urquhart to previous recipients of Honorary Life Memberships, we believe her influence on the direction and development of our organization at the district, provincial and national level mandates her inclusion in this elite group.

In addition to everything mentioned above, Margaret has been an historian on NBSRT matters, a person who asks the hard questions at the Executive level, and a kind steady presence for all our members. So Marg, this honour was made for you!

It is our pleasure and privilege to bestow our highest honour on Margaret Urquhart!