



The first Parents' Association in Nova Scotia was established in Baddeck in 1895. Parents in Baddeck met in the upstairs schoolroom once a week and discussed everything pertaining to the welfare of the school and pupils. Whenever there was anything required for school purposes the teachers took up the matter with the parents' group. The thoughts were that "parents had the welfare of the individual child at heart, whereas the trustees appeared to be more concerned with the finances of the school". It was the community interest that led to the parents' decision to give their organization a name and establish by-laws.

Mabel Bell and Alexander Graham Bell moved to Baddeck around 1885 and took a keen interest in home and school. Some time between 1894-1895 Mabel Bell contacted certain educational associations when she was in Washington and subsequently assisted the parents in naming their group 'Parents' Association of Baddeck' and on December 18, 1895 the first parents' association in Nova Scotia was established.

On June 29, 1936, there was a motion to organize a Provincial Federation of Home and School Associations which was made by Miss S E Cochrane of Windsor and seconded by Oliver R Shatford of Fox Point, Lunenburg County. The motion was passed unanimously and Nova Scotia Federation of Home and School Associations was established.

The Nova Scotia Federation of Home and School over its history has remained true to the original purpose, for the best interests of the children and much of the work has been the outcome of resolutions that were passed. Some examples of the early resolutions that were fulfilled include free text-books for schools, establishment of rural high schools and appointment of additional health nurses. Some of the more recent resolutions to have been fulfilled were removal of carbonated drinks in schools, reduction in speed limit in school zones.

It is with very heavy hearts that, due to the decline in members and volunteers to keep the federation alive, that this will be the end of the history for the Nova Scotia Federation of Home and School Associations. We are deeply saddened that such a rich history will no longer continue. The last board members have carefully gone through some historical documents and have been able to donate some of special significance to the Bell Museum in Baddeck, which is most fitting given this was the birthplace of Home and School.

The Nova Scotia Federation of Home and School Associations has also had a long and cherished relationship with Nourish Nova Scotia and are pleased to be able to make a donation that will help Nourish Nova Scotia to develop a new school food program that will be a legacy to the Federation.

It is the hope that in the not to distant future, a group of parents with a passion and the will to come together as the parents did in 1895, to give life back to the Nova Scotia Federation of Home and School Associations. Until such time, the last board of directors still hold dear to our hearts that 'parents are the voice of student education' and together our voices are strong and can make a difference.



To
*The Nova Scotia Federation of
Home and School Associations*

*On behalf of the Government of Nova Scotia
I extend sincere congratulations and best wishes
to you on the occasion of your 50th Anniversary.*

*It is with great pleasure that the Government
of Nova Scotia acknowledges and salutes the
growth and achievements, dedication and
generous efforts of The Nova Scotia Federation
of Home and School Associations.*



*Province House
Halifax, Nova Scotia
November 26, 1986*

A handwritten signature in ink, reading "John M. Buchanan".

*Hon. John M. Buchanan, P.C., Q.C.
Premier of Nova Scotia*



HOME AND SCHOOL CREED

WE BELIEVE:

That a Home and School Association should be concerned with all problems that relate to the welfare of the child in the home, school and community.

That its great object should be to interest all people, in all children, and to link in common purpose the home, the school and other educative forces in the life of the child, to work for his highest good.

That it should learn first-hand all school conditions and all community conditions affecting the child.

That it should encourage all influences and conditions which will ensure the growth and safety of the child.

That it should work actively to supply the school and community needs by creating public sentiment which will favor and provide good teachers, good school equipment and adequate recreation for leisure time.

That it should give service to the home by training for parenthood and homemaking, and to the school by adding parent power to school power.

That it should be a co-operative effort to produce Canadian citizens who shall be capable of perpetuating the best in our national life.

That it shall not be used as a medium of criticism of, or interference with, school authorities and policies.

That the principles which guide the Home and School Association are the embodiment of social service, civic virtue, patriotism, and ideals of world peace.

OBJECTS OF HOME AND SCHOOL

ORGANIZATION

1. To promote the welfare of children and youth.
2. To raise the standards of home life.
3. To promote and secure adequate legislation for the care and protection of children and youth.
4. To foster co-operation between parents and teachers in the training and guidance of children and youth, both during and after the school period.
5. To obtain the best for each child according to his physical, mental, social and spiritual needs.

6. To give parents an understanding of the school and its work, and to assist in interpreting the school in all its aspects to the public.

7. To confer and co-operate with organizations other than schools which concern themselves with the care and training of children and youth in the home, the school, and the community; and with the education of adults to meet these responsibilities.

8. To foster high ideals of citizenship and patriotism; and to promote through educational means international goodwill and peace.

Note: This statement of Objects, as on charter of Incorporation, is taken from the 1951 Handbook of the Canadian Federation.

A PARENT'S CODE OF ETHICS

1. I will establish a direct and personal contact with the school my children attend by availing myself of the opportunity to visit it, and to get first-hand information regarding the equipment, teaching and activities of the school.

2. I will encourage a sympathetic and constructive attitude toward the school and its activities.

I will support and co-operate with teaching staff and Board of Education to the fullest possible extent.

I will make no hurried criticisms, but will act only on the basis of accurate and first-hand information after sober judgment.

I will discourage fault-finding on the part of my children, and will refrain from adverse criticism of the teachers and the school in their presence.

I will expect nothing for myself or for my children contrary to the interests of the entire school.

3. I will accept my share of the responsibility of the home and the school as partners in the education of children.

I will provide home conditions favourable to study, and will co-operate with the school in developing and protecting the health and character of the children.

4. I will try to keep pace with modern education by reading periodicals and books on progressive educational movements.—*A. E. Marty, Public School Inspector.*

A HOME AND SCHOOL SONG

From East to West, From North to South,
Our children shall be free.
Our homes and schools, in hand shall join
One Brotherhood to be.
Ring out the clarion call to all
The nations young and old,
To strive for peace through comradeship,
And truer lives to mold.

Chorus: The Home, the School, Community,
In one grand chorus sing.
We stand for Justice, Truth, and Right,
And sing 'Long live the *Queen*!

The time has come from sea to sea,
O'er prairie, hill and dale,
To cherish our Democracy—
In this we must not fail.
Our children shall in spirit grow,
Beneath the colors three,
In courage, purity and love,
And ever shall be free.

—Words and Music by B. C. Silver.

Note: Inspector Silver has graciously donated this song for use by Home and School members, and others interested.

—Editor.

Mesozo *A Home and School Song* *B.C. Silver*



