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Highlights of the FNBFA Plenary session and the Annual General Meeting Held May 9, 2024

THE PLENARY SESSION

During this plenary session, which precedes the Annual General Meeting of the Board of Directors of the Federation of New Brunswick Faculty Associations (FNBFA), members of FNBFA's member associations are invited to voice their concerns and formulate the issues they would like to see their federation advocate for in the coming year.

• FNBFA President's Report

The FNBFA President, Hector Guy Adégbidi, reported in his annual report on a year full of activities and advocacy. This report can be viewed here.

• We thank our guests

- Dr. Robin Whitaker (Memorial University MUNFA), Vice-President of the Canadian Association of University Teachers' Associations (CAUT) who presented the federal context of advocacy for post-secondary education.
- From the Moncton-based Fidelis Law Droit Inc. (<u>www.fidelislaw.ca</u>), Marie-Josée
 Ouellette and Chantal Thibodeau, to talk about sick leave management.

THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

2024-2025 FNBFA Executive Committee is comprised of the following members

Jean Sauvageau (FAUST) President; Lacina Coulibaly (APPUMCE) Vice-President; Gemma Porter (FAUST) Member-at-Large; Julien Massicotte (APPUMCE), Treasurer; Carol Pomare (MAFA), Secretary.

Thank you and congratulations!

Heartfelt thanks and warm wishes were expressed by the FNBFA Board of directors to the FNBFA President, Hector Guy Adégbidi, whose mandate ended with the May 9, 2024 AGM.

Congratulations to the 2023 recipients of the Prix Nicole-Raymond Award

The Prix Nicole Raymond Award was created in memory of the late Professor Nicole Raymond, of the Université de Moncton, and her contributions to academic life through teaching, research activities and involvement in professional associations.

At this year's Annual General Meeting, we had the pleasure of presenting the Prix Nicole-Raymond Award 2023 to Greg Allain, retired professor at U de M's Moncton Campus, and to CUPE NB SCFP.



Dr. Allain, now retired, led a life of union activism, accumulating positions during his university career as president of the ABPPUM (the faculty association of the Moncton campus of the Université de Moncton), as a member of the Executive Committee including as President of the Canadian Association of University Teachers, where he also spearheaded initiatives that led to the full recognition and inclusion of francophone issues in the country's university sector.

Dr. Allain has also made an important scholarly contribution to the history of the public university union sector in New Brunswick and the country in particular, as well as to the broad labour history of Acadians, New Brunswickers and Canadians.

Retired Université de Moncton professor Greg Allain, who has been president of both ABPPUM and CAUT (Canadian association).

As for CUPE-NB, in 2021 it engaged in an epic battle with its employer, the New Brunswick government, including a 16-day strike by 22,000 of its members in the hospital and long-term care systems, community colleges and schools. It was the largest strike in the country that year. CUPE-NB achieved significant gains, such as preventing the employer's planned wage freeze in the first year of the contract, coupled with a 1% annual increase cap, as well as securing a fair deal on pensions.



CUPE NB SCFP President Steven Drost receives the award on behalf of the union from FNBFA representative, Professor Mary Lou Babineau-Rosada, a member of FAUST (St. Thomas University).

The strike and the gains achieved by CUPE-NB were certainly a source of inspiration for the entire New Brunswick labour sector and were observed across the country, at that time, waiting to see how they would unfold and what the possible consequences would be on the national scene.

The FNBFA is proud to present award recipients, usually at the Federation's Annual General Meeting, with a unique piece of pottery or pewter made by a New Brunswick artisan.