

## **Square and Round Dance Federation of Nova Scotia**

### **Report to Canadian Square and Round Dance Society, July 2018, London, Ontario**

Nova Scotia Dancing Population in November 2017:

- 290 registered dancers.
- 18 clubs, and 1 regional organization.
- 19 callers, cuers and contra prompters.
- ANSSRDT (Association of Nova Scotia Square and Round Dance Teachers) and / or
- MCCA (Maritime Callers and Cuers Association) membership included 11 callers and 2 cuers.

Although our dancer numbers continue to decline, there are some bright spots.

- Both Round Dance clubs are growing.
- The Cumberland Twirlers continue to thrive and expand.
- A new club was started on the South Shore in January 2018 and shows great promise.  
This is due to the efforts of Paul and Cathy Langille.
- Dancing in the Halifax Metro Area is holding about the same.
- There are still opportunities to dance everything from beginners through Basic, Mainstream, Plus, Advanced and Challenge.
- The two contra clubs in the Halifax area continue to thrive.
- Party Nights continue to be requested by various organizations on a regular basis.

Respectfully submitted,  
Dottie and Gary Welch, SRDFNS Chaircouple

## **Square and Round Dance Federation of Nova Scotia President's Report, October 2018**

When confronted with the statistics it is easy to become discouraged. The enduring thing that keeps me going is the joy I see on the dance floor at every dance. There may be less of us, but it is still a great recreation that maintains physical and mental fitness, encourages social interaction and friendship, promotes fun and laughter, and does all this to a wonderful variety of toe-tapping music.

This is the time of year to be thankful for our blessings. Accordingly, we want to give thanks to all those who work hard to keep this wonderful world of Square, Round, and Contra dance functioning. In particular, we thank each of the Executive Members and all of the organizers in each of the clubs in Nova Scotia. We know that many of you have served loyally and faithfully for many years. That is itself a testament to the importance of this activity in the lives of those who participate. Cooperation and a team spirit is very important in this activity for everything from the considerate pause or gentle hand that keeps a square from breaking down to the respectful meeting discussions and hours of behind the scenes committee work.

*Thank you! Thank you! Thank you!*

Respectfully submitted,  
Dottie and Gary Welch, SRDFNS Chaircouple

# ANSSRDT LIAISON REPORT to SRDFNS AGM October 12, 2018

Submitted by Dottie Welch, ANSSRDT Liaison

## ANSSRDT Executive for April 2018 - April 2019:

President:	Kerry Fletcher	kdf@ns.sympatico.ca
Vice-President:	Ralph & Barb MacDonald	ralph.macdonald@xplornet.com
Secretary	Barry & Claire Walker	youngcountrydancers@gmail.com
Treasurer and DANS Contact:	Laurie & Wilma Illsley	lwillsley@eastlink.ca
Square Dance Coordinator:	Ralph & Barb MacDonald	ralph.macdonald@xplornet.com
Round Dance Coordinator:	Lionel & Janet Crowe	ljcrowe1@ns.sympatico.ca
Newsletter & SRDFNS Liaison:	Dottie & Gary Welch	dwelch@eastlink.ca

## ANSSRDT (Association of Nova Scotia Square & Round Dance Teachers):

ANSSRDT met during 2018 on April 21 and September 22 at E. H. Horne School in Enfield. Topics included Party Mixer, Round Dances of the Quarter, Using Tag the Line with new 1/4 and 3/4 Tag additions, Choreo ideas from Callerlab Convention, Non-Standard Plus Workshop Ideas.

The next meeting is scheduled for April 06, 2019 at the Crowe's home.

The ANSSRDT Newsletters are available on the SRDFNS website under "Leaders".

## ALGUIRE CALLERS MEMORIAL FUND and CALLERS SCHOOL August 18-23, 2019:

Ron Lowe from Quispamsis, New Brunswick will be our guest teacher for 2019 along with our usual staff of Kerry Fletcher and Dottie Welch. The Callers School will be held at Elm River Campground ending with a dance on Friday evening at 7:30 on August 23. At this time we are not planning a Cuers Workshop unless we are approached by interested students.

Donations to the Alguire Callers Memorial Fund may be made through Alex Ritchie or DANS.

## CALLERLAB (International Association of Square Dance Callers):

The 45th CALLERLAB Convention was held March 25-28 in Albuquerque, New Mexico. The theme was "Change Your Perspective" and it was supported by interest sessions such as Singing in Harmony (starting from the "Sound of Music"), Marketing for the 21st Century, and Specialty Squares including "Girl Power" singing calls where dancers promenade to the Girl's home instead of the Boy's.

The next convention will be April 14-17, 2019 in Richmond, Virginia. The theme will be "Innovate, Integrate and Motivate". Visit [callerlabknowledge.org](http://callerlabknowledge.org) for general ideas and experiences for the betterment of Square Dancing including the new Marketing Manuel.

## MCCA (Maritime Callers and Cuers Association):

The 49th Maritime Square and Round Dance Convention is scheduled for October 26-27, 2018 at the Fredericton Inn in New Brunswick. There will as much smooth surface flooring as possible. Please plan to attend and also encourage dancers in your club or region to join us.

The NB & PEI Callers dance in Mount Whatley was held on Friday, June 1, 2018. It was followed on June 2, 2018 by the annual MCCA workshop and meeting at the Nappan Experimental Farm Pavillon. Workshops included Rounds at Parties, Comfortable Handholds, Different not Difficult Ideas, The Square Dance Ladder, and 6 Couple Dancing.

## OTHER MAJOR UPCOMING EVENTS:

-- 21st Canadian National Square and Round Dance Convention, July 29 – August 1, 2020 in Surrey British Columbia, [squaredance.bc.ca/2020](http://squaredance.bc.ca/2020)

-- 68th United States National is scheduled for Atlanta, Georgia, June 26-29, 2019, [www.68nsdc.com](http://www.68nsdc.com)

-- 61st New England Square and Round Dance Convention, will be in Stowe, Vermont, April 26 & 27, 2019 at Stoweflake Mountain Resort & Spa, [www.nesrdc.org](http://www.nesrdc.org)

# Dance Nova Scotia

(from the DANS webpage, [www.dancens.ca](http://www.dancens.ca), October 2018)

## Mission and History

Our mandate is to encourage, promote and support dance as a cultural, educational, social, recreational and healthful activity for Nova Scotians of all ages, abilities, and backgrounds.

## Background

DANCE NOVA SCOTIA is the umbrella service organization for all forms of dance in Nova Scotia. Founded in 1974 and incorporated in 1975, it is one of eight provincial cultural service organizations that comprise the Cultural Federations of Nova Scotia, which are funded by the province. Dance Nova Scotia is a registered charitable organization governed by a Board of Directors elected from the community.

## Programs Include:

- Providing educational resources to public schools, including the creation of instructional materials relating dance to Grades P - 9 social studies, language arts and music curricula in Acadian and traditional Cape Breton dance, professional development for school teachers and library resources for dance in education;
- [PERFORM!](#), a joint project of Dance Nova Scotia, Theatre Nova Scotia, and the Nova Scotia Choral Federation, which brings professional artists into the classroom to deliver workshops in dance, theatre, and music;
- Community-based networking and pilot programs to promote existing dance opportunities and to encourage the development of new dance programs where none have existed before. The most recent program to be implemented is BreakSpace, a free weekly breakdance drop-in session open to anyone. The session is followed by a practice session where members of the Urban Dance community drop in and not only participate but also act as mentors for young dancers;
- Providing services to professional dance artists and companies to assist with fundraising, grant writing, and promotion;
- Partnering with [Kinetic Studio](#) to present their Open Studio and First Ideas series, residencies with visiting choreographers and dancers, building mentorship opportunities, as well as presenting Taking Steps to Fly, a yearly showcase for young choreographers;
- Professional development for dance teachers with a strong focus on aging populations. Working to bring the latest developments in areas related to seniors and dance, as well as advances which support the benefits of dance for Parkinson's and dementia, through networking with organizations such as Canada's National Ballet School and Parkinson's Canada;
- Managing DANSpace-on-Grafton, a dance studio funded by the Nova Scotia Department of Communities, Culture and Heritage, making the space available to artists in all disciplines;
- Database of dance artists and dance teachers throughout the province. This search engine is accessible to everyone through our website;
- A library collection of over two thousand textbooks and instructional videos for choreographers, dance teachers and public school teachers;
- Developing workshops for artists, teachers and dance individuals on many areas of dance, business/administration and subjects of interest to members;
- Information on dance through our weekly e-news bulletins, as well as our (mobile accessible) website which includes extensive event calendars delivering information on dance activity across the province as well as our notice board (jobs, dance opportunities, etc).