

Annapolis Valley Campus Convocation  
June 15, 2026, 3:00pm

# Land Acknowledgement

NSCC is located in Mi'kma'ki, the unceded territory and traditional homeland of the Mi'kmaq Nation. Our relationship is based on a series of peace and friendship treaties between the Mi'kmaq Nation and the Crown, dating back to 1725.

As Treaty beneficiaries, we recognize that we are all Treaty People.

# African Nova Scotian recognition

NSCC recognizes the African Nova Scotians as a distinct group who arrived here 400 years ago. From that time on, they have contributed to the infrastructure and economic wealth of the towns and cities they helped to build.

Let us learn more about how respective communities were shaped by the historical contributions of African Nova Scotians to Mi'kma'ki.

# Order of proceedings

## **Processional**

### **Mi'kmaq Honour Song**

### **Lift Every Voice and Sing**

### **O Canada**

### **Principal's welcome**

Jason Clark

### **President's remarks**

Anna Burke

### **Presentation of credentials**

### **Presentation of major awards**

### **Valedictory address**

Adam Nearing

GIS – Geographic Information Systems

Emma Potter

Practical Nursing

## **Recessional**

Please rise as you are able when the academic procession enters and remain standing until the conclusion of O Canada.

Please remain at your seats until the platform party and graduates have exited.

Music during the presentation of credentials is arranged and produced by NSCC Music Arts faculty Tom Easley and Bill Stevenson.

Please join us after the ceremony for a reception in honour of our graduates, presented by NSCC Alumni Relations.

## **About the Mi'kmaq Honour Song**

The Mi'kmaq Honour Song performed at NSCC Convocation ceremonies is an act of Reconciliation, community, cultural revitalization and inclusivity. The song shared by singers is an invitation for the audience to participate in a powerful ceremony, which is a unifying symbol of the connection to land and enduring spirit of Mi'kmaq people.

Composed by Elder George Paul of Metepenagiag, the Mi'kmaq Honour Song calls on L'nu people to honour who they are. Performed through song, chanting and hand drumming during ceremonies and gatherings, it calls on ancestors for spiritual guidance and holds a strong message to help and respect one another. It encourages community and connection in Mi'kmaq culture and traditions - so they are preserved, shared and celebrated for generations to come.

View lyrics to the Mi'kmaq Honour Song at [nsc.ca/ceremony](https://nsc.ca/ceremony)

## **About Lift Every Voice and Sing**

Often referred to as the Black National Anthem, Lift Every Voice and Sing is a powerful hymn of hope, resilience and liberation. By incorporating Lift Every Voice and Sing into our Convocation ceremonies, we affirm our commitment to the Scarborough Charter's guiding principle of Black Flourishing and the Black Community Council's (BCC) mandate of ensuring an inclusive, anti-racist and equitable learning environment - acknowledging the past and the harms done to African Nova Scotians are honoured and never forgotten.

Originally written as a poem by James Weldon Johnson in 1900 and later set to music by his brother John Rosamond Johnson, the anthem has become a cornerstone of Black cultural identity and collective memory across North America.

At NSCC, including Lift Every Voice and Sing during Convocation holds deep cultural and historical significance. It reflects our presence on Mi'kma'ki, the ancestral and unceded territory of the Mi'kmaq people. It honours the legacy of the historic African Nova Scotian communities whose contributions continue to shape the fabric of this province.

Sung across generations, the anthem speaks to the enduring strength, dignity and perseverance of African descendants in the face of enslavement, racism and systemic injustice.

View lyrics to Lift Every Voice and Sing at [nsc.ca/ceremony](https://nsc.ca/ceremony)



## Anna Burke

### Message from the Acting NSCC President

Graduates,

Today, we come together to recognize and celebrate your perseverance, your dedication to your studies, and the commitments you've maintained throughout your journey. Every challenge you faced and connection you made along the way has shaped this significant milestone - and so much more.

Your journey as an NSCC student began the moment you chose to make a change in your life: to learn more, to grow, and to pursue something new. That powerful decision led you here - to become a student who worked hard, stayed focused, and kept showing up. It wasn't always easy, but you've proven that you can do it.

While today marks the culmination of your efforts and achievements, it also marks the beginning of a new and exciting chapter - as NSCC graduates. I encourage you to trust the same determination that carried you through your studies, and to take your new skills, knowledge, and experiences forward with confidence. Whatever positive steps you take next, know that we are so proud of you.

On behalf of all of us at NSCC, **congratulations class of 2026!**

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Anna Burke". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

**Anna Burke**

# Convocation 2026

## Honorary Diplomas

NSCC is pleased to award Honorary Diplomas to these outstanding individuals who demonstrate true leadership in their field and community.



## David Frederick Arenburg

### **Burridge Campus**

David Frederick Arenburg is a successful business owner, dedicated supporter and passionate advocate of NSCC. Having served on the NSCC Foundation Board of Directors for more than 10 years, he has left a lasting impact on the College and the many students he has supported – whether as an advocate, employer or mentor.

David was a key supporter of the NSCC Foundation Make Way campaign in 2018-19 and is a frequent guest speaker at NSCC's Burridge Campus – sharing insights on business models, including franchising.

For over 30 years, David and his wife, Elizabeth, owned and operated franchises in Southwest Nova Scotia, including five Tim Hortons locations and one Wendy's.

His commitment to his community and province extends beyond his businesses, with service on numerous boards, including the Yarmouth Hospital Foundation, the Nova Scotia Western Regional Enterprise Network and Nova Scotia Business Inc. David was named the Yarmouth Chamber of Commerce Businessperson of the Year (2007) and received the Waste Check Environmental Service Award (2012).

His current passion is supporting the community's efforts to raise \$10 million for the \$42-million expansion of the Mariners Recreation Complex in Yarmouth.

David and Elizabeth enjoy spending time with their two daughters and their families. As an experienced sailor, he values time on the water with friends and family.

David's commitment to supporting others and strengthening his community has left a lasting impact that will continue to be felt for years to come.



## Ann Brown

### **Institute of Technology Campus**

Ann Brown has worked with Nova Scotia Power for almost 17 years. Most recently, she has been the company's Contract Management Analyst – a role she designed based on the needs of the company.

After attending Women Unlimited – a trades and technology career exploration and preparation program at NSCC – Ann went on to complete a Marine and Industrial Rigging program at the College which launched the trajectory of her career. She completed her apprenticeship as an industrial electrician at Nova Scotia Power and then worked in the plants and substations for more than a decade.

In addition to her work at Nova Scotia Power, Ann is a prominent member of its diversity, equity and inclusion (DEI) community. She has served in the role of co-chair for the Black Employee Resource Group for three years and was a founding member of, and continues to serve on, their first Employee Resource Group to support women in trades (WEARE+).

Ann has spearheaded numerous events across the company to educate on and celebrate the Black experience, particularly as it relates to Nova Scotia's historic Black communities. Ann is someone who "leads from behind" and despite not being one for the spotlight, she is also regularly called upon as a speaker, panelist and participant in internal events, community events and engagements with community investment

partners.

Ann has shown an outstanding commitment to supporting and advocating for women in trades. Her tireless efforts have helped break barriers, create opportunities and foster an inclusive environment for women pursuing careers in traditionally underrepresented fields.

Ann serves as a role model and mentor in many areas. After receiving support from Women Unlimited at the outset of her career search, she now gives back by mentoring those beginning their professional journey. She advocates for systemic and policy change and is heavily involved in community engagement.

Ann has not only empowered individuals, but her efforts have strengthened the trades sector by promoting the importance of diversity and inclusion efforts. She thrives on inspiring others and continuously works to “pass along the positivity” every day.

Ann and her husband have eight wonderful children - four daughters and four sons - and seven wonderful grandchildren.



## Jude Clyke

### **Truro Campus**

Jude Clyke has dedicated his life to serving others as a coach, mentor, community leader and advocate for equity and social action. His purpose and personal experiences have fueled his passion for helping individuals navigate their own unique journeys toward personal growth, healing and fulfillment.

Jude is a proud African Nova Scotian from a small Black community in Truro known as “The Island,” where he has lived for most of his life. His community has shaped his values, perspective and commitment to service. As a husband, father and grandfather, family remains at the centre of everything he does.

Before beginning his work with the Black Educators Association at NSCC’s Truro Campus, Jude worked with the Department of Community Services and was actively involved in community development initiatives throughout northern Nova Scotia. During this time, he helped create and support programs focused on youth development, education and cultural identity, including Afrocentric Saturday school programming, tutoring initiatives, summer camps and adult literacy programs.

For more than 25 years, Jude built a distinguished career within the Correctional Service of Canada (CSC), working with individuals and communities across both urban and rural regions. He began at Springhill Institution in Nova Scotia, later moving to the Dartmouth Parole Office as

a community parole officer before relocating to the Truro Area Parole Office in 2010.

Jude worked collaboratively with the Crown in Truro and community partners to help develop the Colchester African Nova Scotian Justice Strategy – a community-based initiative aimed at addressing gaps between African Nova Scotian communities and the justice system. The strategy included the development of a justice navigator role and other culturally responsive supports for individuals in conflict with the law. From 2022 to 2025, he served on the Board of Directors of the African Nova Scotian Justice Institute.

Jude later assumed the role of Senior Project Officer within the Anti-Racism, Diversity and Inclusion Directorate at CSC National Headquarters, where he has continued advancing initiatives focused on equity, inclusion and culturally responsive approaches within corrections.

His community leadership has extended beyond his professional career. He helped establish Community Strong – an organization focused on community support, service initiatives, youth engagement and community events. He also founded the Black Men's Wellness Group at NSCC's Truro Campus, creating a safe and supportive space for Black men to engage in conversations related to health, identity and mental wellness. Jude is also involved in organizing the Black Men's Conference in Halifax and the Black Men's Summit in Tatamagouche.

Jude currently serves as Secretary of Futureworx and President of the Truro Black Cultural Development Association.

Through his wellness coaching, facilitation and community engagement work, Jude continues to support individuals and communities in realizing their potential and creating meaningful change.

His dedication to community service and social justice has been recognized through numerous awards. These include the CSC Emerson Douyon Multiculturalism Award, the Nova Scotia Human Rights Commission's Dr. Burnley Allan "Rocky" Jones Award, the Truro Sports Heritage Society Sport and Recreation Award and being named 2016 Colchester County Volunteer of the Year.



## Doug Doucet

### **Akerley Campus**

Doug Doucet is a hands-on, strategically focused executive known for building high-performing teams, strengthening client relationships and delivering complex projects. He is President and CEO of Doucet Developments in Bedford, Nova Scotia, a front-facing entity for the Doucet Developments group of companies.

Doug's leadership spans three decades and many operating companies, including rcs construction, Mill-Right Woodworking, Tier Too Properties and PMco. He is also an active business partner in local hospitality ventures, including restaurant operations, a golf course and holds additional property interests such as hotels and multi-residential assets.

At Doucet Developments, Doug emphasizes operational discipline, scalable production capacity, and a culture built on reputation and long-term relationships. He supports execution and alignment using an Entrepreneurial Operating System, reinforcing clear priorities, accountability and measurable performance across teams. Doug champions a values-driven approach rooted in accountability, communication and teamwork, and continues to grow the organization while maintaining a family-minded, relationship-driven environment.

Doug's leadership priorities are guided by four pillars: workplace diversification, culture engagement, mental wellness and digital optimization – reflecting his belief that strong teams, modern systems

and a healthy workplace culture drive consistent outcomes for clients and long-term success.

Community leadership is a meaningful part of Doug's life and work. In recent years, he has served in a range of board, trustee, advisory and chair roles. These include serving as a Trustee with the Frank H. Sobey Awards for Excellence in Business Studies, Advisory Board Member with Kwik Chef Inc., Chair of the Canadian Cancer Society: Think Like Cancer Committee and Board Member/Investor with Halifax Hurricanes Basketball. His past governance roles also include governance representation with Mount Saint Vincent University, the IWK Health Centre, the IWK Foundation and the Construction Association of Nova Scotia. He is particularly proud to have been part of the Great Big Dig for the IWK, helping raise over \$1 million for the IWK during his time as Chair and Innovator.



## Jax Irwin

### Ivany Campus

Jax Irwin is an award-winning creator, podcast host and radio and television personality from Dartmouth, Nova Scotia. She is best known for her viral short-form content across digital platforms, including her East Coast Call series.

A graduate of NSCC's Radio Television Arts program (now Radio Television Journalism) in 2010, Jax began her career in broadcast media after discovering the College through an information session. She worked in media across British Columbia, Ontario and Nova Scotia, building her career from Halifax radio to eventually co-hosting the morning show on Virgin Radio Toronto.

After stepping away from traditional broadcast in 2023, Jax began building her own digital media and production company in Toronto, creating story-driven content and social campaigns for brands including General Motors, Paramount+, BMO and Tim Hortons. In 2025, she also launched the podcast "The Adam Wylde & Jax Show" alongside her longtime friend and former co-host, Adam Wylde, continuing to grow her audience across audio, video and social platforms.

Jax enjoys creating content that makes people smile and built a large audience through her "Random East Coast Calls" series, centred around spontaneous conversations with strangers across Atlantic Canada. Living away from Nova Scotia, she found the series gave her a meaningful connection to the region and helped her stay connected to

her roots while away from home. The series has resonated widely for its warmth, humour and celebration of East Coast culture and community.

Jax credits NSCC as an invaluable part of both her personal and professional journey. She often speaks about the confidence, belonging and creative direction she found at the College, and remains a proud supporter of the opportunities it creates for future storytellers and creatives.



# Debbie Johnson-Powell

## Ivany Campus

Debbie Johnson-Powell has served as a community interpreter in Nova Scotia for more than four decades. A Child of Deaf Adults (CODA),

Debbie's life and career have been shaped by an unwavering commitment to accessibility, equity and social inclusion.

Debbie began interpreting for her parents and her brother, who is also Deaf, at a very young age. Over time, she became widely known across Nova Scotia as the person Deaf community members turned to for support in whatever situations arose. What began simply as an act of care and responsibility eventually evolved into a deeply respected interpreting career.

In addition to mentoring countless American Sign Language/English Interpreting Program (AEIP) students across generations, Debbie has provided interpreting services for the College on numerous occasions. In

doing so, she has helped ensure access for Deaf employees, students and community members – reinforcing the College's commitment to accessibility.

Through her decades of sustained engagement with AEIP students, faculty, Deaf community members and provincial partners, Debbie's interpreting work and mentorship have fostered important relationships beyond the classroom, strengthening social infrastructure and equitable participation across Nova Scotia.

Debbie's leadership in the field was publicly recognized during the COVID-19 pandemic. She interpreted every provincial update, alongside the Premier and Chief Medical Examiner, to support the timely and equitable access to critical public health information for Deaf and Hard of Hearing Nova Scotians. This tireless work, alongside team member Richard Martell, received the gratitude of the Nova Scotia Government.

Debbie's work was also honoured through an award from the Halifax Association for the Deaf (1994) and by the Canadian Association of Sign Language Interpreters with the Phyllis Joynt Mentorship Award (2016).

Her work embodies the very heart of interpreting as a profession rooted in relationship, responsibility and service to Deaf communities in Nova Scotia.

Debbie and her husband, Ron, have one son.



# Stuart MacLeod

## **Sydney Waterfront Campus**

Stuart MacLeod is the founder of MacLeod Lorway Insurance, headquartered in Sydney with offices across Nova Scotia.

In 1965, after gaining early career experience in Calgary, Montreal and New Glasgow, Stuart returned to Sydney to join his father's insurance business. He later assumed full ownership of Stuart MacLeod Limited and began expanding the family enterprise. Through the merger with C.R. Lorway and Son, MacLeod Lorway Insurance was formed and grew into one of the province's leading brokerages.

Beyond his business achievements, Stuart has demonstrated a lifelong commitment to community leadership. He has served as President of the Insurance Brokers Association of Nova Scotia and has been actively involved with many local organizations. Stuart is a strong supporter of Cape Breton University, Cape Breton Regional Hospital Foundation and Nova Scotia Community College - Sydney Waterfront Campus. He has also played a significant role in local hockey, serving as President of the Glace Bay-Sydney Metro Bees and the Sydney Millionaires, and as a founding member and long-time Chair of the Cape Breton Eagles.

His contributions have been widely recognized, including being inducted into the Cape Breton Business Hall of Fame (2006) and the Cape Breton Philanthropy Hall of Fame (2022), as well as being awarded an honorary degree from Cape Breton University. This year, the Cape Breton Regional Municipality recognized his 60 years in business and lasting impact on the community by declaring January 7, 2026, as Stuart

MacLeod Day.

A resident of Northside East Bay, Stuart exemplifies dedication, leadership and community service. He and his wife, Nonie, recently celebrated 60 years of marriage and are proud parents of four children, ten grandchildren and seven great grandchildren.



## Joseph Patrick Shannon

### **Strait Area Campus**

Joseph Patrick Shannon, who grew up in Sydney and now calls Port Hawkesbury home, began his career as a truck driver. He is now president of Atlantic Corporation Limited (holding company for his group of companies that include Shannex, Seaboard Transport Group and Metro Self Storage). His corporate interests also extend to the IT, real estate and construction sectors.

Joseph's acumen and energy grew the corporation from a small-town business to a giant in North America. His efforts have been instrumental in modernizing Cape Breton's economy through the restructuring of several major Crown corporations, as well as his commitment to mentoring young business leaders.

Joseph has extended his success in business to generous support for organizations including the Cape Breton Regional Hospital Foundation, the QEII Health Science Centre, the Gaelic College and the Port Hawkesbury Community Centre, among many others. His extensive support of Cape Breton University includes helping to develop its Purdy Crawford Chair in Aboriginal Business Studies and Aboriginal Youth Mentorship Program at the Shannon School of Business. Most recently, major donations were made to a group of Atlantic universities to advance research in health care, AI and workforce development.

Joseph has been a valued and trusted partner of NSCC for over 25 years, especially through Shannex and its various service lines, including long term care and transitional health services. During this time, he has

built a legacy of philanthropy and a deep commitment to education and the evolving needs of the healthcare sector. Through initiatives such as Sponsor-a-Student and bursaries for Practical Nursing students, the Shannon family and Shannex continue to demonstrate their belief in the College's work by reducing financial barriers and empowering students to pursue meaningful careers in healthcare.

Most recently, Shannex provided a transformative gift that will have a lasting impact on students, the College, and Unama'ki–Cape Breton's healthcare workforce. The new Shannex Continuing Care and Nursing Labs provide students with a modernized learning environment equipped with the latest technology. Joseph was connected to this project from the very beginning – including dropping into an evening class to greet Continuing Care and Practical Nursing students with his two sons. The College is deeply grateful for his leadership and vision which have strengthened support for health-related programs at NSCC campuses across the province.

His extensive achievements have been recognized nationally – as a laureate of the Canadian Business Hall of Fame and as a member of the Order of Canada; and provincially – as a laureate in the Nova Scotia Business Hall of Fame and as a member of the Order of Nova Scotia. Locally, Joseph was the first person to be inducted into the Cape Breton Philanthropy Hall of Fame.

The tireless efforts, generosity and entrepreneurial contributions of Joseph Patrick Shannon have enriched the lives of community members and organizations throughout the province and beyond.

# Class of 2026

## Graduates

This program is printed in advance of Convocation ceremonies. As a result, the names of graduates recorded in the program are those who were approved to graduate at the time of printing. It is possible a graduate's name may not be recorded if approved after the print deadline.

### **School of Access, Business, Creative Industries and Education**

#### **Nova Scotia High School Graduation Diploma for Adults**

Greeno, Matthew	Kentville, NS
Lombardo-Pudsey, Nariahlee	Halifax, NS
Shepherd, Meg (Honours)	Bridgetown, NS
White, Cole	Calgary, AB

#### **Certificate of Completion in Achieve**

Grant, Aidan	Liverpool, NS
Dominey, Gerald	Berwick, NS
Keddy, Joshua	Aylesford, NS
McGill, Emerson	Lawrencetown, NS
Richards, Jabari	Aylesford, NS
Robar, Dakota	Nictaux, NS
Selig, Darren	Hantsport, NS
Stevenson, Nora	Greenwood, NS
Walker, Benjamin	Kentville, NS
Wilson, Gemma	New Minas, NS

#### **Certificate in Teacher Assistant**

Ullock, Andrea	Centre Burlington, NS
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### **School of Applied Technology and Innovation**

#### **Certificate in Geographic Information Systems Technician**

Charbonneau, Erin (Honours)	Hammonds Plains, NS
Froese, Deacon (Honours)	Port Elgin, ON
Jones, Veronica (Honours)	Shawnigan Lake, BC
Kemp, Carri	Penticton, BC
Li, Chaoyuan (Honours)	Shanghai, China

Moss, Michael (Honours)	St. John's, NL
Pitre, Kellen	Moncton, NB
Smith, Tanner (Honours)	Cambridge, NS
Theeda, Mra (Honours)	Ottawa, ON
Wilson, Luke (Honours)	New Glasgow, NS

### **Certificate in Survey Technician**

Baker, Ben	Dartmouth, NS
Cousins, Michael	West Chezzetcook, NS
Cowley, Joseph	Berwick, NS
Craig, Alexander	Centreville, NS
DeMille, Adam	Yarmouth, NS
Gallina, Balazs	Vanier, ON
Gavel, Sophia	Weymouth, NS
Goudey, Dylan	Yarmouth, NS
Graham, Jayden	Shelburne, NS
King, Stephen	Greenwood, NS
Krochak, Hudson	Halifax, NS
MacDonald, Samantha	Wilmot, NS
MacLean, Jack	Hillcrest, NS
Mattie, Marc	Antigonish, NS
Melnick, Aiden	Port Hawkesbury, NS
Steeves, Joseph	Wolfville, NS
Stewart, Hailey (Honours)	Lower Sackville, NS
Vanzutphen, Lachlan	Antigonish, NS
Walker, Tyler (Honours)	Barrington, NS

### **Diploma in Geographic Information Systems – Cartography and Geovisualization**

Bao, Marc Clement	Mississauga, ON
Burgess, Lucy (Honours)	Windsor, NS
Connors, Christina (Honours)	Halifax, NS
Dyke, Amy (Honours)	Dartmouth, NS
Gnasienco, Julia (Honours)	Waterloo, ON
Hordal, Alex (Honours)	Ottawa, ON
Loewen, Brandon (Honours)	Waterloo, ON
Soltanizadeh, Somayeh	Isfahan, Iran
St-Jean, Damian	Shubenacadie East, NS
Stewart, Kylie (Honours)	Leduc, AB
Young, Alexander (Honours)	Wolfville, NS

### **Diploma in Geomatics Engineering Technology**

Bardos, Jacob (Honours)	Halifax, NS
Campbell, Greyden	Stanley, NS

Cedeno, Peter	Dartmouth, NS
Clark, Nicholas	Bridgetown, NS
Coulstring, Alexander	Yarmouth, NS
Gates, Drew	South Alton, NS
Harris, Ryan (Honours)	Kingston, NS
Jay, Jesse	Kinkora, PE
MacDonald, Colin	Glace Bay, NS
MacDougall, Erin (Honours)	Tyne Valley, PE
MacKenzie, Karen	Blockhouse, NS
Morrison, Nathan	Margaree Valley, NS
Mullen, Braeden	Nictaux, NS
O'Connor, Liam (Honours)	Antigonish NS
Pernette, Garrett	Bridgewater, NS
Rodriguez Flores, Juan Carlos	Monterrey, Mexico
Su, Toby	Fredericton, NB

### **Diploma in Information Technology Programming**

Burchell, Thomas	Brooklyn, NS
Hay, John	Bridgetown, NS
Payette, Kael (Honours)	Aylesford, NS
Wasiliew, Leon (Honours)	Paradise, NS

### **Graduate Certificate in Geographic Information Systems**

Anderson, Logan	Lantz, NS
Callfas, Aiden (Honours)	York Harbour, NL
Carbureanu, Ilinca (Honours)	Toronto, ON
Cumming, Nicholas (Honours)	Lo Abarca, Chile
Estrada Perez, Arwen	Mexico City, Mexico
Fife, Danielle (Honours)	Toronto, ON
Fox, Christopher (Honours)	Nassau, Bahamas
Gastmeier, Christian	New Tecumseth, ON
Golding, Matthew (Honours)	Saint John, NB
Gulay, Alexandra (Honours)	Edmonton, AB
Kippenhuck, Alexander	Happy Valley-Goose Bay, NL
Lammers, Shawna (Honours)	Ancaster, ON
MacDonald, Neil	Bedford, NS
Mair, Samantha (Honours)	Brooklin, ON
Maldonado, Luis (Honours)	Cali, Columbia
Nearing, Adam (Honours)	Sidney, NS
Nyamsaba, Peter (Honours)	Halifax, NS
Olaniyi, Omolola	Lagos, Nigeria
Shirkool, Deena (Honours)	Toronto, ON
Tzadok, Edan	Vaughan, ON

Uganthakumar, Agash (Honours)	Scarborough, ON
West, Gregory (Honours)	Conquerall Mills, NS
Wolfe, Teresinha (Honours)	Winnipeg, MB
Wright, Kevin (Honours)	St. Johns, NL
Zuo, Yifan	Halifax, NS

### **Graduate Certificate in Geographic Information Systems – Remote Sensing**

Everest, Sef (Honours)	Salt Spring Island, BC
Heisler-Brown, Keisha	Dartmouth, NS
Hupe, Andre (Honours)	Ottawa, ON
Lavoie, Meghan	Wellsand, ON
Philipow, Kevin (Honours)	North Bay, ON
Reid, Sarah (Honours)	Georgetown, ON
Smith, Joshua	Fredericton, NB
Srivastav, Animesh	Halifax, NS
Tammour, Aycha	Kitchener, ON
Williston, Fraser	Bay du Vin, NB

### **Graduate Certificate in Geospatial Data Analytics**

Chu, Brian (Honours)	Richmond Hill, ON
Conrad, Tiffany (Honours)	Liverpool, NS
Hunter-Dixon, Eliah (Honours)	Edinburgh, Great Britian
Redden, Brad	Lawrencetown, NS
Roberts, Cory (Honours)	Truro, NS
Sedge, Catherine (Honours)	Halifax, NS
Sekiguchi, Alicia (Honours)	Halifax, NS
Selinger, Steven (Honours)	Kentville, NS
Vanderkuylen, Alyssa (Honours)	Halifax, NS
Veinot, Tyler	Kentville, NS

### **Graduate Certificate in Marine Geomatics**

Aucoin, Brady	Middle Sackville, NS
Blanchard, Olivia (Honours)	Ellershouse, NS
Boates, Daniel (Honours)	Middleton, NS
Fliegel-Doucet, Neelie	Halifax, NS
Fu, Yijian	Beijing, China
Gowland, Ben	Terence Bay, NS
Kosick, Maya (Honours)	Port Morien, NS
Sampson, Isaac (Honours)	Grand Manan, NB

# School of Health and Human Services

## Certificate in Continuing Care

Bent, Brooke (Honours)	New Ross, NS
Boutilier, Tracey (Honours)	Meadowvale, NS
Broome, Laura (Honours)	New Ross, NS
Burchell, Dawson (Honours)	Middleton, NS
Clarke, Rebecca (Honours)	Bridgetown, NS
Gao, Yiyang (Honours)	Halifax, NS
Greensides, Michelle (Honours)	Kingston, NS
Jones, Charlotte (Honours)	Greenwood, NS
Kaur, Gurpreet (Honours)	Ludhiana Punjab India
Moore, Megan (Honours)	Kentville, NS
North, Holly (Honours)	Bridgetown, NS
Phillips, Abigail (Honours)	Delaps Cove, NS
Stafford, Sara (Honours)	Middleton, NS
Thibeault, Michael (Honours)	Middleton, NS
Thibodeau, Jade (Honours)	Middleton, NS
White-Sjolin, Kelsey (Honours)	Alton, ON

## Diploma in Cosmetology

Bellair, Abigail (Honours)	Middleton, NS
Bona, Ashley (Honours)	Nictaux, NS
Demolitor, Nicole	Weymouth, NS
Landry, Mo (Honours)	Dieppe, NB
Purdy-Mackenzie, Sumara (Honours)	Bridgetown, NS
Skinner, Grace	Berwick, NS
Wright, Maisie (Honours)	Bridgetown, NS

## Diploma in Practical Nursing

Adeola, Zainab	Oyo State, Nigeria
Alders-Gibbons, Abigail	Kentville, NS
Brewer, Miranda	Greenwood, NS
Butoyi, Patience	Halifax, NS
Carson, Laura	Middleton, NS
Charlton, Stephanie (Honours)	New Albany, NS
Chijuo, Chinaza (Honours)	Lawrencetown, NS
Courtney, Melissa	Annapolis Royal, NS
Dabu, Chello	Bataan, Philippines
D'Ambrose, Makayla	Digby, NS
Dean, Erin	Beaver Bank, NS
Higgins, Haley	Middleton, NS
Kaur, Daljeet	Punjab, India
Mofidi, Parizad	Middleton, NS

Njoku, Uchechukwu	Nigeria
Offor, Gerald	Middleton, NS
Okoli, Vivian (Honours)	Enugu, Nigeria
Onwuzurike, Jane	Lagos, Nigeria
Oweibor, Onajite	Delta State, Nigeria
Owusu Ansah, Isaiah	Kumasi, Ghana
Pineo, Olivia	New Minas, NS
Potter, Emma	Kingston, NS
Schneider, Christopher	Regina, SK
Tebepah, Jesu-Lakureingimi	Nigeria
Wade, Carrie	Annapolis Royal, NS

### **Graduate Certificate in Behavioural Interventions**

Baker, Jordan	Bridgewater, NS
Cain, Shannon	Kamloops, BC
Campbell, Nicole	Greenwood, NS
Ernst, Meaghan	Halifax, NS
Frail, Alesia	Caledonia, NS
Kumpula, Lisa	South Carolina, US
Lowe, Katelyn	Berwick, NS
MacMillan, Dana	Coldbrook, NS
Marshall, Kaitlyn	Digby, NS
Petropolis-Duff, Vivienne	Halifax, NS
Turner, Samantha	Hammonds Plains, NS
Veinotte, Brittany	Halifax, NS

## **Institute of Skilled Trades**

### **Certificate in Electrical Construction and Industrial**

Arenburg, Nolan (Honours)	Bridgewater, NS
Gale, Ryland (Honours)	Auburn, NS
Galloway, Matthew (Honours)	Dartmouth, NS
Malonni, Michael (Honours)	Quebec, QC
Martin, Elek (Honours)	Lunenburg, NS
Ritchie, Austin (Honours)	Kingston, NS
Taylor, Mason (Honours)	Bridgetown, NS
Tucker, Evan (Honours)	Frasers Mountain, NS
Venne, Jacob (Honours)	Kentville, NS

### **Certificate in Plumbing**

Bachynsky, Daniel (Honours)	Windsor, ON
Hiltz, Zander (Honours)	Middleton, NS
McCormick, Andrew (Honours)	Annapolis Royal, NS
Snow, Madison	Brampton, ON
Walker, Dylan (Honours)	Greenwood, NS

# **NSCC Employee Learning Programs**

## **Operational Excellence**

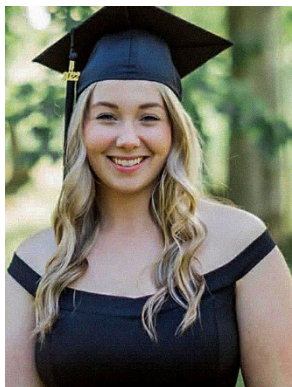
Publicover, Angie (Honours)

Greenwood, NS

# Convocation 2026

## Valedictorian

NSCC is proud to introduce the outstanding student(s), chosen by their campuses to represent the achievements and experiences of the Class of 2026.



## Emma Potter

### **School of Health and Human Services Diploma in Practical Nursing**

Before beginning the Practical Nursing program at Annapolis Valley Campus, Emma built a strong foundation in healthcare and community support. She worked as an Administrative Assistant at the Primary Care Clinic at Middleton Hospital while also supporting individuals as a Residential Support Worker in adult group homes. Emma previously completed both the Disability Support Professional and Medical Office Administration programs at Kingstec Campus, making NSCC a familiar and formative part of her educational journey.

Emma was drawn to the Practical Nursing program by a desire to care for others – a passion shaped through her work experience. The program's hands-on learning, clinical placements and supportive learning environment helped Emma build both confidence and practical skills. She valued the strong sense of community on campus, from encouraging classmates and dedicated faculty to the everyday moments that made NSCC feel like a second home.

After completing the Practical Nursing program in December, Emma began working as a Licensed Practical Nurse at Valley Hospice in Kentville. Looking ahead, she hopes to continue her education and become a Registered Nurse and one day return to NSCC as a faculty.

Emma's advice to the Class of 2026 is to be patient with yourself and trust the process. "There will be challenging moments but that's when you grow the most. Don't be afraid to ask for help, lean on your support system and remember that you're not alone in this journey. We all start somewhere."



## Adam Nearing

### **School of Applied Technology and Innovation Advanced Certificate in Geographic Information Systems**

Before coming to NSCC, Adam completed his diploma in IT Programming, along with a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Film Studies with a minor in Art History. While he valued those experiences, he wanted to specialize in a field that combined his technical skills with his interests in landscapes, mapping and the outdoors. When he discovered the NSCC's Geographic Information Systems (GIS) program at COGS, it felt like the perfect fit – a blend of IT and creativity that aligned with both his education and personal interests.

Adam's time at NSCC has been both rewarding and impactful. Through hands-on, project-based learning he worked on real-world challenges and gained a deeper understanding of the role GIS plays in environmental monitoring and infrastructure planning. Beyond the classroom, connecting with classmates, faculty and the geomatics community kept him motivated. One lesson he learned was to always ask questions, recognizing that growth comes from exploring beyond what is required.

After graduation, Adam will begin his career as a LiDAR Data Analyst. He's excited to deepen his skills in IT, GIS and remote sensing, with a focus on transforming complex data into meaningful insights.

His message to the Class of 2026 is simple: "Stay curious. Education does not end at Convocation – it is only the beginning."

# Major Awards

## **Governor General's Academic Medal**

Awarded to a graduating student of a College Diploma Program who has achieved the highest academic standing.

Amy Dyke

GIS – Cartography and Geovisualization

## **Nova Scotia Community College Gold Medal – Annapolis Valley Campus**

Awarded to a graduating student of a College Certificate Program who has achieved the highest academic standing.

Michael Maloni

Electrical Construction and Industrial

## **Nova Scotia Community College Gold Medal – Strait Campus**

Meaghan Ernst

Behavioural Interventions

## **Board of Governors' Award**

Awarded to a graduating student of a College Diploma Program who has demonstrated outstanding academic achievement and contributed to campus and/or community activities.

Leon Wasiliew

IT Programming

## **President's Award**

Awarded to a graduating student of a College Certificate Program who has demonstrated outstanding academic achievement and contributed to campus and/or community activities.

Matthew Galloway

Electrical Construction and Industrial

## **NSCC Alumni Award**

Awarded to a graduating student of a College Program (Diploma or Certificate) who has demonstrated outstanding academic achievement and whose service and leadership has made a difference in the lives of others.

Makayla D'Ambrose

Practical Nursing

# Employees

Aalders, Melody	Achieve Program Coordinator
Allen, Thomas	Research Associate
Arsenault, Dan	Faculty
Balser, Glenn	Faculty
Baqi, Zhikal Khalid Baqi	Research Associate
Beauchamp, Nicolas	Geomatics Technical Assistant
Belliveau, Matthew	Faculty
Bennett, Rhoda	Facilities Support Assistant
Boisvert, Johanne	Faculty
Bostwick, Martha	Faculty
Budde, Daina	Research Associate
Bunbury-Blanchette, Adele	Research Associate
Chowdhury, Rajeev	Faculty
Ciarrocco, Michael	Student Accessibility Specialist/ Student Services Advisor
Clark, Jason	Principal
Coulibaly, Mamadou	Casual Research Associate
Crews, Becky	Administrative Assistant
Crowell, Nathan	Research Specialist
Cyr, Kate	Faculty
Daley, Justin	Faculty
Deliyannakis, Veronika	Coordinator, Campus Housing
Dennison, Jaime	Administrative Assistant - CORAH
Desfosses, Stephan	Facilities Support Assistant
Dolan, Annlee	Faculty
Douglas, Lauren	Research Associate
Dzafovic, Sean	Research Associate
Edwards, Steven	Faculty
Ejdrygiewicz, Jill	Faculty
Elliott, Laura	Faculty
England, Jocelyn	Administrative Assistant
Ferris, Kevin	Casual Research Associate
Flewelling, Rachel	Faculty
Garber, Tracey	Campus Care Navigator
Garcin, Elizabeth	Administrative Assistant
Graham, Eden	Faculty
Greene, Troy	Faculty
Hannam, Andrew	Library Technician
Havill, Tracy	Student Services Assistant Registrar/ Student Services Advisor
Hayes, TJ	Summer Research Assistant

Hebert, Mark	Faculty
Heighton, Chelsea	Campus Librarian
Henderson, Scott	Faculty
Hill, Wayne	Facilities Support Assistant
Hodder, Rob	Faculty
Hughes, Ann	Facilities Support Assistant
Johnson, Deseray	Faculty
Kaizer, Holly	Program Assistant
Kendall, Rachel	Research Associate
Kepler, Leo	Research Assistant - Student
Kristiansen, David	Faculty
Langille, Nathan	Building Services Lead
Laskey, Emma	Research Associate
Lilly, Bradley	Geomatics Technical Assistant
Llewellyn, Chris	Research Associate
Lloyd, Monica	Academic Chair
Lobb, Robertson	Casual Research - Internship
Lombard, Kevin	Faculty
MacDonald, Catherine	Casual Admin Support - CORAH
MacDonald, Scott	Building Services Assistant
MacKinnon, Darren	Faculty
MacLean, David	Faculty
Mailman, Catherine	Assistant to the Principal
McGrath, Kerry	Employee Service Advisor
McGuigan, Kevin	Research Specialist
McLellan, Jodi	Administrative Assistant
Mendoza Pedraza, Rene Leonardo	Research Associate
Montgomery, Darlene	Casual Facilities
Morden, Lee	Faculty
Munroe, Shelley	Administrative Assistant
Naismith, Emily	Administrative Assistant
Nickerson, Lise	Manager of Administrative Services
Noel, Layla	Faculty
Norton, James	Faculty
Osburn, Meagan	Learning Comm Asst/Test Ctr Admin
Ottow, Joanna	Casual Facilities
Parker, Sorcha	Faculty
Parks, Alfred	Faculty
Phelan, Richard	Faculty
Pitt, Katie	Faculty
Publicover, Angie	Administrative Assistant
Publow, Maureen	Casual Admin Support - CORAH
Rapaport, James	Faculty
Ravi, Anjali	Casual Faculty

Robicheau, Colette	Employment Specialist
Roscoe, Matt	Research Associate
Samaraweera Mudalige, Kalpana	Faculty
Shearer, Jody	Building Services Assistant
Stevens, Cale	Casual Research Associate
Strong, Cindy	Faculty
Symons, Ed	Faculty
Thompson, Tammy	Auxiliary Faculty
Vankoughnett, Dr. Mathew	Research Scientist
Veinott, Kevin	Facilities Manager
Ward, Marline	Facilities Support Lead
Warmington, Janel	Administrative Assistant
Webster, Dr. Timothy	Research Scientist
Weins, Alana	Academic Chair
Wesman, Jennifer	Admin & Proj Coordinator - CORAH
White, Penny	Administrative Assistant
Williams Saklofske, Jennifer	Learning Com Asst/Test Ctr Admin
Yabar Meoño, Daniel	Casual Research - Internship