

**Burrige & Shelburne Convocation**  
**June 16, 2026**

# 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**

Craig Collins

### **President's remarks**

Anna Burke, Acting NSCC President

### **Awarding of Honorary Diploma**

David Frederick Arenburg (2:00 PM Ceremony)

### **Presentation of credentials**

### **Presentation of major awards**

### **Valedictory address**

Kaitlin Saulnier, Early Childhood Education (10:00 AM Ceremony)

Kayla Comeau, Business Administration (2:00 PM Ceremony)

Carley Nickerson, Continuing Care (2:00 PM Ceremony)

## **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 flourish extending to the right.

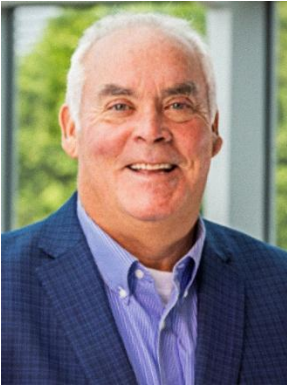
**Anna Burke**



# 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 Clyde

### **Truro Campus**

Jude Clyde 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.

# Major Awards

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

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

### **Burrige**

Samantha LeBlanc

Early Childhood Education

## **Nova Scotia Community College Gold Medal**

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

### **Burrige**

Bryndis Baldursdottir

Administrative Professional

### **Shelburne**

Matthew Bedard

Electrical Construction and Industrial

## **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.

### **Burrige**

Ashley Heukshorst

Social Services

## **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.

### **Burrige**

Jessica Hubbard  
Continuing Care

### **Shelburne**

Trinity Darlington  
Continuing Care

## **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.

### **Burrige**

Selena Atwell  
Mental Health Recovery and Promotion

### **Shelburne**

Loretta Smith  
Continuing Care



# Morning Ceremony

School of Access, Business, Creative Industries and Education  
School of Health and Human Services

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

Allair, Morgan ( <i>Honours</i> )	Lower Wedgeport, NS
Dugas, Brianna	Yarmouth, NS
Hart, Matthew ( <i>Honours</i> )	Yarmouth, NS
Mccullough, Leighann ( <i>Honours</i> )	Bear River, NS
Prime, Brittany ( <i>Honours</i> )	Yarmouth, NS

### Certificate of Completion in Achieve

Chute, Mia	Yarmouth, NS
Duval, Kaeden	Niagara Falls, ON
Muise, Haylee	Yarmouth, NS
Nickerson, Logan	Overton, NS
Robbins, Cody	Digby, NS
Young, Jayvon	Yarmouth, NS

### Diploma in Early Childhood Education

Akomolafe, Abiodun ( <i>Honours</i> )	Ondo State, Nigeria
Brewer, Abigail	Yarmouth, NS
Ethier, Emily ( <i>Honours</i> )	Shelburne, NS
Eyre, Olivia ( <i>Honours</i> )	Yarmouth, NS
Gould, Abigail	Quinan, NS
Harrington, Ann	Hebron, NS
Hunt, Kearsten	Barrington Passage, NS
LeBlanc, Samantha ( <i>Honours</i> )	Yarmouth, NS
Lewis, Skye	Yarmouth, NS
Murphy, Kira ( <i>Honours</i> )	Weymouth, NS
Nickerson, Kellsie ( <i>Honours</i> )	Cape Sable Island, NS
Rutherford, Cheyenne	Digby, NS
Saulnier, Breanna	Yarmouth, NS
Saulnier, Kaitlin ( <i>Honours</i> )	Meteghan, NS
Turnbull, Sarabeth	Digby, NS

# School of Health and Human Services

## Certificate in Continuing Care

### Burrige

Clayton, Justine	Yarmouth, NS
Davis, Charlotte ( <i>Honours</i> )	Yarmouth, NS
Deveau, Jillian ( <i>Honours</i> )	Mavillette, NS
Donaldson, Alanna ( <i>Honours</i> )	Yarmouth, NS
Gagnon, Faith	Yarmouth, NS
Hollands, Natasha ( <i>Honours</i> )	Markdale, ON
Hubbard, Jessica ( <i>Honours</i> )	Yarmouth, NS
Kaur, Gaganpreet ( <i>Honours</i> )	Yarmouth, NS
Kim, Taejoon ( <i>Honours</i> )	Yarmouth, NS
Maclean, Carly ( <i>Honours</i> )	Yarmouth, NS
Melanson, Danisha ( <i>Honours</i> )	Salmon River, NS
Naylor, Charles ( <i>Honours</i> )	Indianapolis, IN
Nearing, Maria Cherrylen ( <i>Honours</i> )	Yarmouth, NS
Nickerson, Emma ( <i>Honours</i> )	Yarmouth, NS
Nickerson, Gara ( <i>Honours</i> )	Yarmouth, NS
Olivar, Keith Andrae Mathieu ( <i>Honours</i> )	Yarmouth, NS
Richards, Janelle ( <i>Honours</i> )	Yarmouth, NS
Tran, Dac Tung ( <i>Honours</i> )	Yarmouth, NS

### Digby

Brown, Amanda ( <i>Honours</i> )	Digby, NS
Chambers, Mary ( <i>Honours</i> )	Kingston, ON
Delegarde, Kristina ( <i>Honours</i> )	Digby, NS
Griffiths, Makayla ( <i>Honours</i> )	Digby, NS
Harris, Zoe ( <i>Honours</i> )	Cornwallis, NS
Lynch, Jada ( <i>Honours</i> )	Digby, NS
Middlehurst, Timicka ( <i>Honours</i> )	Weymouth, NS
Mullen, Stacy ( <i>Honours</i> )	Weymouth, NS
Stark, Cadence ( <i>Honours</i> )	Digby, NS
Stark, Megan ( <i>Honours</i> )	Digby, NS
Stewart, Emma ( <i>Honours</i> )	Digby, NS
Wright, Donna ( <i>Honours</i> )	Digby, NS

## Diploma in Esthetics and Spa Therapies

Boudreau, Estelle ( <i>Honours</i> )	Yarmouth, NS
Deveau-Adams, Kayla	Clare, NS
Dugas, Alexis	Forest Glen, NS
Frotten, Sophie	Yarmouth, NS
Goreham, Haley	Yarmouth, NS
Hilton, Madyson	Yarmouth, NS
Munroe, Rebecca	Barrington Passage, NS

## **Diploma in Esthetics and Spa Therapies (cont.)**

Robicheau, Jocelyn  
Rose, Mackenzie

Barrington, NS  
Yarmouth, NS

## **Diploma in Mental Health Recovery and Promotion**

Atwell, Selena (*Honours*)  
Atwood, Joesi (*Honours*)  
Burke, Jessica (*Honours*)  
Corbin, Abby (*Honours*)  
Fox, Darcy  
Frimpong, Yaw Adjei (*Honours*)  
Goreham, Kalli (*Honours*)  
Harris, Maura  
LeBlanc, Kiki  
McCleave, Brooke  
Morris, John (*Honours*)  
Oduro, Docia  
Ononye, Michael  
Sibley, Dakota (*Honours*)  
Smith, Jillian (*Honours*)  
Stoddard, April (*Honours*)  
Titus, Morgan  
Wile, Shelby

Dayton, NS  
Barrington Passage, NS  
Yarmouth, NS  
Yarmouth, NS  
Yarmouth, NS  
Kumasi, Ghana  
Woods Harbour, NS  
Halifax, NS  
Shelburne, NS  
Digby, NS  
Granville Ferry, NS  
Yarmouth, NS  
Anambra, Nigeria  
Digby, NS  
Pubnico, NS  
Woods Harbour, NS  
Digby, NS  
Western Shore, NS

## **Diploma in Practical Nursing**

### **January 2024**

Banks, Terilyn (*Honours*)  
Bond, Morgan  
Brown, Rylee (*Honours*)  
Cormier, Amber  
Gidney, Camryn  
Hatfield, Tanaia (*Honours*)  
Newell, Madisen  
Nickerson, Ella  
Oickle, Madison  
Owoyemi, Segun  
Smith, Jade  
Surette, Keisha  
Thiara, Ravneet

Pubnico, NS  
Yarmouth, NS  
Digby, NS  
Weymouth, NS  
Digby, NS  
Cape Sable Island, NS  
Barrington, NS  
Shelburne, NS  
Meteghan, NS  
Lagos, Nigeria  
Yarmouth, NS  
Meteghan, NS  
Uttar Pradesh, India

### **September 2024**

Amirault, Maggie  
Ankush

Lower East Pubnico,  
NS  
Yarmouth, NS

**September 2024 (cont.)**

Arora, Rishab

Crocker, Phoebe

Crowell, Jack

d'Entremont, Kay

Deveau, Kimberley

Earle, Annica

Ho, Han

Hopkins, Brooke-Lyn

Joseph, Midhu Anna (*Honours*)

Koziel, Abigail

McGrath, Olivia

Nchangnwi, Edith

Smith, Kevin

Somani, Jatin

Thibodeau, Alexis

Valotaire, Clarice (*Honours*)

Waybret, Courtney

White, Amber

Pathankot, India

Tiverton, NS

Clarks Harbour, NS

West Pubnico, NS

Yarmouth, NS

Tusket, NS

Hồ Chí Minh City,  
Vietnam

Woods Harbour, NS

Arcadia, NS

Barrington Passage, NS

Tiverton, NS

Yarmouth, NS

Yarmouth, NS

New Delhi, India

Digby, NS

Meteghan Centre, NS

Cape Sable Island, NS

Digby, NS

**Diploma in Social Services**

Feener, Marissa

Fry, Clara

Heukshorst, Ashley (*Honours*)

Moses, Amelia

Nickerson, Travis

Middleton, NS

Yarmouth, NS

Mabou Ridge, NS

Yarmouth, NS

Barrington, NS

# Convocation 2026

## Valedictorian

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



## Kaitlin Saulnier

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

#### **Diploma in Early Childhood Education**

Kaitlin is originally from Southville and moved to Meteghan in 2021. Prior to enrolling in the Early Childhood Education program at Burrige Campus, she worked as a welder before deciding to pursue a career that aligned with her caregiving nature and passion for working with children.

During her time at NSCC, Kaitlin thrived in the supportive, community-focused campus environment. She valued the hands-on learning opportunities that helped her build confidence and prepare for a career working with children. Her greatest source of motivation was her son, who inspired her to persevere and lead by example as she worked toward her goals. The strong sense of belonging on campus made NSCC feel like a second home and played an important role in her personal and professional growth.

Following graduation, Kaitlin will begin a full-time position at the Boys and Girls Club Yarmouth Lab School, located at Burrige Campus. She's looking forward to continuing her career in a setting that played an important role in shaping her development as an educator.

Kaitlin's advice to the Class of 2026 is to trust the process. "There will be moments in life where you question yourself and wonder if you're on the right path. In these moments, don't walk away - lean in. Trust that every challenge is shaping you into who you are meant to become. Keep going, especially when it's hard."



# Afternoon Ceremony

School of Access, Business, Creative Industries and Education  
School of Applied Technology and Innovation  
School of Health and Human Services  
Institute of Skilled Trades

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

### Certificate in Administrative Professional

Baldursdottir, Bryndis ( <i>Honours</i> )	Yarmouth, NS
Burns, Felecia	Weymouth, NS
Comeau, Alexa ( <i>Honours</i> )	Salmon River, NS
Deveau, Chloe ( <i>Honours</i> )	Yarmouth, NS
Dugas, Paige ( <i>Honours</i> )	Yarmouth, NS
Hubbard, Thérèse ( <i>Honours</i> )	Arcadia, NS
Johnston, Alexa ( <i>Honours</i> )	Annapolis Royal, NS
Leblanc, Keshia ( <i>Honours</i> )	Yarmouth, NS
Mccullough, Leighann ( <i>Honours</i> )	Bear River, NS
Parent, Emerald	Yarmouth, NS
Smith, Payton	Yarmouth, NS
Thurber-Gillis, Peyton ( <i>Honours</i> )	Digby, NS
Thurston, Sarah ( <i>Honours</i> )	Yarmouth, NS
Vantassel, Haley	Digby, NS

### Diploma in Business Administration

Comeau, Kayla ( <i>Honours</i> )	Digby, NS
Dresser, Andrew	Toronto, ON
Goreham, Angel	Shelburne, NS
Halliday, Terrance ( <i>Honours</i> )	Digby, NS
Kini, Ella	Yarmouth, NS
Peck, Luke	Bear River, NS
Rice, Makayla ( <i>Honours</i> )	Digby, NS
Villeneuve, Marie-Noel	Digby, NS

### Diploma in Business Administration – Accounting

Comeau, Derek	Wedgeport, NS
Comeau, Jean-Luc ( <i>Honours</i> )	Meteghan River, NS
Comeau, Zackery	Clare, NS
MacDonald, Benjamin	Yarmouth, NS

## **Diploma in Business Administration – Accounting (cont.)**

Oliver, Scott

Culloden, NS

Reddick, Chad

Saulnierville, NS

Sears, Colin

Barrington, NS

Thurston, Brody (*Honours*)

Yarmouth, NS

## **School of Applied Technology and Innovation**

### **Diploma in IT Generalist**

Sharma, Parth (*Honours*)

Karnal, India

### **Diploma in IT Programming**

Muise, Riley

Ste-Anne-du-Ruisseau, NS

Whorrall, Nicholas

Port Hawkesbury, NS

## **School of Health and Human Services**

### **Certificate in Continuing Care**

#### **Shelburne**

Blakeney, Olivia (*Honours*)

Clyde River, NS

Browning, Brittney (*Honours*)

Birchtown, NS

Cavanagh, Kyle (*Honours*)

Barrington, NS

Darlington, Trinity (*Honours*)

Everett, ON

Goreham, Cheyanne (*Honours*)

NS

Goulden, Sophie (*Honours*)

Shelburne, NS

Hillen, Scarlet (*Honours*)

Lockeport, NS

Jensen, Selena (*Honours*)

Shelburne, NS

Levy, Sabrina (*Honours*)

Nickerson, Carley (*Honours*)

Shelburne, NS

Penney, Jenna

Pubnico, NS

Smith, Loretta (*Honours*)

Clam Point, NS

Smith, Shania (*Honours*)

Barrington, NS

### **Posthumous Certificate in Continuing Care**

#### **Shelburne**

Kiley, Shania

Shelburne, NS

## **Institute of Skilled Trades**

### **Certificate in Automotive Service and Repair**

Bemister, Kaitlyn

Musgrave Harbour, NL

Burrows, Adrianna (*Honours*)

Saint John, NB

Ganir, Raymond

Yarmouth, NS

## **Certificate in Automotive Service and Repair (cont.)**

Gilliatt, Daniel ( <i>Honours</i> )	Digby, NS
Gray, Cameron	Yarmouth, NS
Haight, Colby ( <i>Honours</i> )	Digby, NS
Legge, Maxwell ( <i>Honours</i> )	Halifax, NS
Maling, Christopher	Clementsvalle, NS
Mccormick, Lane	Annapolis Royal, NS
Muise, Jacob	Tusket, NS
Potter, Ashton ( <i>Honours</i> )	Yarmouth, NS
Simmonds, Lachlan ( <i>Honours</i> )	Sandford, NS
Vicic, Emili ( <i>Honours</i> )	Burnaby, BC
Zwicker, Ashley ( <i>Honours</i> )	Yarmouth, NS

## **Certificate in Carpentry**

d'Entremont, Maddox	Pubnico, NS
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## **Certificate in Electrical Construction and Industrial**

Bedard, Matthew ( <i>Honours</i> )	Halifax, NS
Chambers, Nathan ( <i>Honours</i> )	Clark's Harbour, NS
Cousins, Jacob ( <i>Honours</i> )	Mahone Bay, NS
D'Entremont, Landyn ( <i>Honours</i> )	Yarmouth, NS
Godfrey, Kaileb	Liverpool, NS
Harlow-Wamback, Qýiara Alise	Lockeport, NS
Leblanc, Campbell	Dartmouth, NS
Lowe, Hunter	Liverpool, NS
Nickerson, Lucas ( <i>Honours</i> )	Barrington, NS
Parnell, Steven ( <i>Honours</i> )	Liverpool, NS
Pothier, Carston	Lower Wedgeport, NS
Quraishi, Irfanullah	Shelburne, NS
Reiner, Jaime ( <i>Honours</i> )	Halifax, NS
Roache, Joel ( <i>Honours</i> )	Lockeport, NS
Scott, Landon	Nine Mile River, NS
Thibeau, Joseph	North Chegoggin, NS
Tse, Chi Shun ( <i>Honours</i> )	Hong Kong, China

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

Comeau, Gage ( <i>Honours</i> )	Weymouth, NS
Cromwell, Tyler ( <i>Honours</i> )	Southville, NS
Galal, Ahmed	Halifax, NS
Janson, Nathan ( <i>Honours</i> )	Digby, NS
Long, Nicole	Guinea, NS
Mackean, David	Halifax, NS
Merrell, Nick	Digby, NS

## **Certificate in Electrical Construction and Industrial – Accelerated (cont.)**

Miller, Cole ( <i>Honours</i> )	Bible Hill, NS
Richter Stephenson, Casimir ( <i>Honours</i> )	Dartmouth, NS
Therault, Christopher ( <i>Honours</i> )	Clare, NS
Thomas, V ( <i>Honours</i> )	Dartmouth, NS

## **Diploma in Carpentry**

Cameron, Shawn	Weymouth, NS
Conrad, Carter	Argyle, NS
Crowell, Logan	Yarmouth, NS
Goreham, Loretta	Woods Harbour, NS
Middleton, Morgan ( <i>Honours</i> )	Yarmouth, NS
Mullen, Austin	Weymouth, NS
Mullen, Marcus	Weymouth, NS
Raymond, Joshua	Weymouth, NS
Rimmer, Kylie	Wolfville, NS
Robicheau, Abigail	Yarmouth, NS
Smith, Cory	Yarmouth, NS
Surette, Daniel	Yarmouth, NS
Trefry, Jack	Yarmouth, NS

## **Diploma in Carpentry – Accelerated**

Babin, Luke	Tusket, NS
Hua, Duy Khiem ( <i>Honours</i> )	Yarmouth, NS
Mccullough, Isaiah ( <i>Honours</i> )	Riverdale, NS
Melanson, Dan	Yarmouth, NS
Pham, Chi Thanh ( <i>Honours</i> )	Yarmouth, NS
Roache, Colten	Fall River, NS
Thibault, Dylan	Clare, NS

## **Diploma in Welding**

Baird, Meghan	Dundas, ON
Brewer, Nathan	Shelburne, NS
Comeau, Amelia	Saulnierville, NS
Cook, Jacob ( <i>Honours</i> )	Weymouth, NS
Hebb, Markus	Bridgewater, NS
Maves, Elias	Digby, NS
Nickerson, Jasper	Yarmouth, NS
Nwamuo, Obinna	Abia State, Nigeria
Power, Curtis ( <i>Honours</i> )	Concession, NS

# Convocation 2026

## Valedictorian

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



## Kayla Comeau

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

#### **Diploma in Business Administration**

Before beginning her studies at NSCC, Kayla spent over a decade building a successful culinary career, most recently serving as a head chef. Those years in high-pressure kitchens helped her develop strong skills in leadership, communication and problem-solving. Over time, Kayla realized she wanted to pursue a career that aligned more closely with her long-term dreams of entrepreneurship.

Kayla had previously completed the Baking and Pastry Arts program at NSCC and knew that by taking the Business Administration program, she would receive real-world experience and practical skills in a hands-on environment that would support her growth.

Kayla especially valued the close-knit campus community, where strong connections with faculty and classmates supported her academic and professional growth. Throughout the program, she discovered new strengths, exceeded her own expectations and reaffirmed her belief in what focused effort can achieve.

After graduation, Kayla plans to gain additional industry experience while working toward her long-term entrepreneurship goals. Together with her partner, she hopes to expand his family farm and open a farm store that combines her business education with her culinary and pastry background.

She shares this advice with the Class of 2026: "Believing in yourself doesn't always have to be a big, dramatic moment. Sometimes the smallest bit of faith is enough to move you forward. Even a sliver of confidence can open doors you never expected."



## Carley Nickerson

### **School of Health and Human Services**

#### **Certificate in Continuing Care**

Before returning to NSCC, Carley was building a career in healthcare, working part-time as a continuing care assistant in training, supported by her Alberta Health Care Aide certification, while gaining administrative experience as a casual health information clerk. After graduating from NSCC's Medical Office Administration program in 2024, she built a strong connection to the College community, inspiring her to return and pursue Continuing Care.

As a student, Carley found both personal and professional growth in her program. Encouraged by supportive faculty, she thrived in each clinical placement that grew her skills in long-term, home and acute care settings. She credits the campus's close-knit environment that created a true sense of belonging. During a challenging time following a serious fall, the compassion and support of her classmates and faculty reinforced the importance of community and asking for help.

After graduation, Carley plans to continue working at Roseway Manor as a continuing care assistant before returning to NSCC to pursue Practical Nursing. She encourages others to lean on their support systems, sharing, "Strength is not found in facing every obstacle alone, but in the courage to reach out, grow and move forward together."

# Employees

Allen, Eric	Casual Faculty
Amirault-d'Eon, Paula	Assistant Registrar
Angove, Rob	Manager, Student Services
Archibald, Michele	Faculty
Atkinson, Melissa	Administrative Assistant
Atwell, Selena	Casual Facilities Assistant
Atwood, Jessica	Faculty
Barnaby, Nina	Program Coordinator
Belliveau, Krista	Casual Program Assistant
Bond LeBlanc, Vickie	Faculty
Boudreau, Tania	Program Coordinator – Achieve
Bourque, Randy	Academic Chair
Bullerwell, Janette	Facilities Support Assistant
Burke, Jason	Facilities Support Assistant
Chisholm, Tammie	Administrative Assistant
Clark, Amber	Casual Cube Intern
Cole, Daniel	Faculty
Collins, Craig	Principal
Comeau, Rebecca	Faculty
Comeau, Sylvio	Faculty
Cunningham, Renee	Faculty
Cunningham, Shannon	Administrative Assistant
Cyr, Emma	Administrative Assistant
Dakin, Duane	Academic Chair
Dalton, Sylvia	Auxiliary Faculty
Davis, Jerry	Faculty
Davis, Joyce	Facilities Support Lead
Dawson-Charles, Alex	Faculty
Dacruz, Joseph	Administrative Assistant
deMolitor, Ruth	Casual Faculty
d'Entremont, Heidi	Casual Faculty
d'Entremont, Marcel	Faculty
d'Entremont, Monissa	Administrative Assistant
d'Eon, Paige	Student Care Navigator
Deveau, Nicole	Casual Faculty
Deveau, Paul	Faculty
DeViller, Brad	Lead Facilities Technician
Doane, Lauren	Student Service Advisor
Doelle, Guillaume	Faculty
Dorrian, Patricia	Faculty
Dorrian, Tony	Faculty

# Employees

Doucette, Michelle	Faculty
Dulong, Melissa	Coordinator Early Childhood Development Support Centre
Durkee-Baird, Sarah	Administrative Assistant
Ferguson, Muriel	Administrative Assistant
Firoza Thariq, Zahera	Casual Cube Intern
Foster, Holly	Faculty
Francis, Marilyn	Nukumi
Fraser, Charlene	Faculty
Ghofrani, Danial	Faculty
Gillis, Barbara	Faculty
Goodwin, Curt	Faculty
Gould, Jim	Faculty
Grandy, Joe	Faculty
Grant, Gail	Faculty
Greenwood, Tracy	Administrative Assistant
Guy, Doreen	Building Services Lead
Haley, Rupert	Casual Faculty
Hansen, Lynda	Auxiliary Faculty
Harding, Patsy	Administrative Assistant
Harris, Alana	Casual Facilities Assistant
Hemeon, Alicia	Administrative Assistant
Hillier, Dianne	Facilities Support Lead
Hiltz, Josh	Faculty
Holmes, Annette	CORAH Project Coordinator
Hurlburt, David	Faculty
Hurlburt, Naomi	Casual Faculty
Hurlburt, Sara	Faculty
Hurlburt, Sheri	Administrative Assistant
Isles, Kaylynn	Program Assistant
Jarvis, Leotra	Faculty
Jeffrey, Kitrin	Learning Commons Assistant
Jeffrey, Philip	Test Centre Administrator
Jensen, Adam	Faculty
Jensen, Laurie	Student Accessibility Specialist
Kennedy, Melanie	Administrative Assistant
Killen, Matt	Auxiliary Faculty
Kunz, Jonas	Facilities Support Assistant
Land, Christopher	Equipment Technician
Langille, Rhea	Faculty
	Casual Faculty

# Employees

LeBlanc, Albert	Facilities Support Assistant
LeBlanc, Corey	Casual Facilities Assistant
Legge, Maxwell	Casual Facilities Assistant
Lombard, Connie	Employee Services Advisor
Lutz, Denise	Faculty
MacAulay, Shawn	Faculty
MacDonald, Peter	Faculty
MacKenzie, Tasha	Faculty
Mallet, Sonia	Employment Specialist – Achieve
Manning-Shaw, Gay	Casual Faculty
Marr, Michelle	Faculty
Maxwell, Victoria	Faculty
Meister, Jamie	Facilities Manager
Muise, Ann	Administrative Assistant
Muise, Brian	Facilities Support Lead
Muise, Chester	Faculty
Muise, Nick	Faculty
Muise, Randy	Casual Facilities Assistant
Muise-Albert, Monica	Faculty
Munroe-MacKenzie, Zachery	Digital Technology Analyst
Newell, Peggy	Administrative Assistant
Ngoh, Clarence	Faculty
Nickerson, Brandi	Faculty
Nickerson, Jocelyn	Faculty
Nickerson, Kendra	Learning Commons Assistant
Nickerson, Trinity	Test Centre Administrator
Noble, Terri	Student Services Counsellor
Oakley, Katherine	Library Technician
Ouellette, Denise	Auxiliary Faculty
Pauze, Nicole	Faculty
Perry, Cordelia	Assistant to Principal
Perry, Scott	Campus Librarian
Pothier, Kelly	Digital Technology Lead
Pothier, Mel	Administrative Assistant
Pothier, Paula	Academic Chair
Richardson-Deveau, Crystal	Student Service Advisor
Ringer, Leona	Faculty
Roberts, Barbara	Facilities Support Assistant
	African Nova Scotian & Black Student Advisor

# Employees

Robertson, Deborah  
Robicheau, Rhonda

Rose, Roy  
Sarginson, Janice  
Seaboyer, Phil  
Saulnier, Annik  
Scott, Timothy  
Smith, Jake

Srivastav, Animesh  
Stoll, Hart  
Surette, Andre  
Surette, Robin  
Sweeney, David  
Symonds, Jamie  
Taylor, Rose  
Thibodeau, Gisele  
Thurston, Percy  
Tynes, Tico  
Watt, Clarie  
Williams, Allison  
Williams, Roger  
Wright, Tanya

Casual Facilities Assistant  
Adult Learning Program  
Counsellor  
Casual Faculty  
Auxiliary Faculty  
Casual Program Assistant  
Faculty  
Faculty  
Manager Administrative  
Services  
Casual Cube Intern  
Casual Faculty  
Senior Technology Lead  
Faculty  
Faculty  
Faculty  
Administrative Assistant  
Faculty  
Faculty  
Facilities Support Assistant  
Faculty  
Casual Faculty  
Faculty  
Facilities Support Assistant