Institute of Technology Convocation June 10, 2025 2:00 pm

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.

Order of proceedings

Processional

Mi'kmaq Honour Song Elder, Gary Joseph

Lift Every Voice and Sing LaToya Saunders

O Canada Jolene Pattison

Principal's welcomeJason Sharpe

President's remarks Don Bureaux

Presentation of credentials

Presentation of major awards

Valedictory address Rashann Forbes

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* is a powerful, unifying symbol of the resilience and enduring spirit of the 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 pride in Mi'kmaq culture and traditions - so they are preserved, shared and celebrated for generations to come.

The *Mi'kmaq Honour Song* is performed during NSCC Convocation ceremonies as an important part of the College's commitment to reconciliation, community, cultural awareness and inclusivity.

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. 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 52 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. By incorporating *Lift Every Voice and Sing* into our ceremony, NSCC affirms its 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.



Don Bureaux

Message from the NSCC President

Graduates,

Today, we recognize and celebrate your perseverance, your dedication to your studies, the commitments you've maintained, the challenges you've overcome, the connections you've made - 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 2025!

Don Bureaux

Class of 2025

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 a late approval (after the print deadline) has been made.

School of Access, Education and Language

Nova Scotia High School Graduation Diploma for Adults

Aballa, Rang Halifax, NS Adam. Mohammed (Honours) Khartoum, Sudan Alhasan, Intisar Daraa, Syria Halifax, NS Al-Mashhoud, Ayman (Honours) Alrashid, Rana Halifax, NS Altayeb, Ayat Damascus, Syria Anatulinda, Sifa (Honours) Halifax, NS Barton Pictou, Jenaya (Honours) Millbrook First Nation Basange, Arafat (Honours) Bukoba, Tanzania Brunet-Valade, Eloise Halifax, NS Carroll, Brandyn (Honours) Truro, NS Chen, Jiaqi (Honours) Changzhou, China Coulstring, Samantha (Honours) Halifax, NS Cowper, Ellie (Honours) Halifax, NS Crouse, Emelia (Honours) West Northfield, NS Daley, Mexi Halifax, NS Digdon, Olivia (Honours) Hammonds Plains, NS Eakins, Karen (Honours) Halifax, NS Ghazni, Afghanistan Fayazi, Yasamin (Honours) Haj Ali, Hadeel Halifax, NS Haroun Taha, Nooreldin Osman (Honours) Halifax, NS Hassan, Hala Halifax, NS Hendsbee, Jacob Halifax, NS Hildebrandt, Kathleen (Honours) Edmonton, AB Hodder, Ceara (Honours) Surrev. BC Ibrahim, Asma (Honours) Salah al-Din, Iraq Ibrahim, Doaa Salah al-Din, Iraq Sambro Head, NS Innocent, Sophia (Honours) Johnson, Carter (Honours) Halifax, NS Lapjani, Adem Halifax, NS Kawempe Division, Uganda Lokujo Kei, Martin (Honours) Halifax, NS MacDonald, Austin MacDonald, Shannon (Honours) Halifax, NS

Mahmoud, Waleed Martinez, Lewing Mckay, James (Honours) Mohamed, Honey Murray, Ellisa (Honours) Nabizada, Zohal (Honours) Ofemunun, Agatha (Honours) Owais, Israa (Honours) Payman, Liqa (Honours) Payman, Nadera (Honours) Payman, Pakiza (Honours) Payman, Shakila (Honours) Porter, Zoey (Honours) Salih, Feyze	Port Sudan, Sudan Halifax, NS Halifax, NS Nairobi, Kenya Halifax, NS Mazar Shareef, Afghanistan Dartmouth, NS Daraa, Syria Halifax, NS
	Lower Sackville, NS
Salih, Feyze Shurbaji, Mhd Yazan Tabatabaei, Nima (Honours) Tenorio, Daniel Wile, Nevaeh (Honours) Zhu, Yingguang (Honours)	Hama, Syria Daraya, Syria Halifax, NS Halifax, NS Halifax, NS Anhui, China

Certificate of Completion in Achieve

Carriere, Hunter	Halifax, NS
Charlton, Owen	Hammonds Plains, NS
Clarke Hall, Braiden	Timberlea, NS
Gray-Benedict, Tova	Halifax, NS
Kuhn, Carly	Halifax, NS
Lane, lan	Lower Sackville, NS
Lawlor, Carson	Lower Sackville, NS
Mackenzie, Madison	Halifax, NS
Nguyen, Luc	Halifax, NS
Rankin, Felicity	Bedford, NS
Rockwell, Isaac	Halifax, NS
Thornhill, Jack	Hammonds Plains, NS

Certificate of Completion in English for Academic Purposes

Adam, Ahmed	Omdurman, Sudan
Al Smadi, Salam	Syria
Alieva, Dzhamilia	Halifax, NS
Aranha, Danielle	Halifax, NS
Chabayta, Jamila	Palestine
Chen, Li	Halifax, NS
Do, Jiminy	Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam
Fatema, Kaniz	Halifax, NS
Ge, Lin	Halifax, NS
Han, Ying	Halifax, NS
Hao, Shuang	Beijing, China

Hernandez de Goldsmith, Karla Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic Liang, Qian China Nazari, Abdul Shakor Halifax, NS Qiu, Xuefen Foshan, China Quach, Oanh Hung Yen, Vietnam Tan, Wei Halifax, NS Zhou, Xiaojun Shanghai, China

Certificate in Academic and Career Connections

Conrad, Jaryd (Honours)

Corkum, Marissa (Honours)

Peach, Krista (Honours)

Prasad, Janusha (Honours)

Searle-Witsel, Kenzie

Bedford, NS

Halifax, NS

Kerala, India
Halifax, NS

School of Trades and Transportation

Certificate in Industrial Mechanical

Boehner, James (Honours) Chester Basin, NS Bolivar, Zachary Bridgewater, NS Brooks, Matthew (Honours) Beaver Bank, NS Halifax, NS Carlton, Spencer (Honours) Denkyi, Davis (Honours) Ghana Ferguson, Matthew Halifax, NS Good, Brendan (Honours) Elmsdale, NS Grant, Reilly Thorburn, NS Hawes, Briden Pictou, NS Helyer, David Kings County, NS Ingram, Taylor Dartmouth, NS Macadam, Kiley Cape Breton, NS MacDonald, Conor Ottawa, ON MacNeil, Jack Sackville, NS Osti, Pascal (Honours) Halifax, NS Pittman, Aidan Elmsdale, NS Robarts, Emma Tantallon, NS Lawrencetown, NS Ryan, Brandon Solari, Jonathan (Honours) Belfast, Ireland Swinemar, Aaron (Honours) Halifax, NS Timilsina, Saugat (Honours) Elmsdale, NS Walters, Alana Halifax, NS White, Aydin Greenwich, NS Young, Luc Linacy, NS Zinck, Brady (Honours) West Pennant, NS

Certificate in Occupational Health and Safety

Adetunji, Adetolani Ibadan, Nigeria Ikorodu, Nigeria Akindele, Shulammite (Honours) Edo, Nigeria Balogun, Ozozoma Boudreau, Philip (Honours) Fredericton, NB Chukwu, Chibuike (Honours) Obowo, Nigeria Connors, Liam (Honours) Rothesay, NB Eboh, Godwin (Honours) Orlu, Nigeria Etsano, Hannah Oritsegbemi Delta State, Nigeria Hambali, Dan-Malik Dartmouth, NS Hart, William (Honours) Fall River, NS Humphrey, Karolyn (Honours) Halifax, NS Macalupu Zapata, Sebastian Piura, Perú MacFadgen, Kirsten (Honours) Halifax, NS Nwoke, Stanley Ikechukwu (Honours) Awo-Omamma, Nigeria Oladejo, Abel (Honours) Osun State, Nigeria Thomas, Anissa Chaquanas, Trinidad and Tobago

Diploma in Pipe Trades

Chambers, Linden Vancouver, BC Halifax, NS Clow, Bryden Deighan, Thomas Cole Harbour, NS Dempsey, Matthew Halifax, NS Grinter, Jared (Honours) Dartmouth, NS Harnish, Shelby Halifax, NS Hayward, Taigen Hammonds Plains, NS Macphee, Sam Dartmouth, NS Munroe, Chelsea Mount Uniacke, NS Lower Sackville, NS Nickerson, Lucas Nunez, Manuel Merida, Mexico Smith. Benjamin Bedford, NS Tanner, Austin Dartmouth, NS Walker, Austin Dartmouth, NS Westhaver, Donovan (Honours) Dartmouth, NS White, Rebecca Dartmouth, NS Wu, Gaozhan Shanghai, China

Certificate in Plumbing

Benoit-Beckman, Drake (Honours)	Middle Sackville, NS
Bourne, Braydon	Halifax, NS
Burke, Ryan	Halifax, NS
Cool, Mason	Enfield, NS
Cox, Michael	Sackville, NS
Downey, Markel	North Preston, NS
Fraser, Keauno	North Preston, NS

Hawkes Purdy, Matthew	Halifax, NS
Helgason, Alexis	Lake Echo, NS
Kumar, Aman	Halifax, NS
Lambe, Travis (Honours)	Halifax, NS
MacDonald, Kyle (Honours)	Dartmouth, NS
Maclean, Ethan	Halifax, NS
Marks, Joel (Honours)	Timberlea, NS
Noel, Matthew	Halifax, NS
Peschke, Nicholas (Honours)	Hanover, ON
Samuel, Daniel (Honours)	Halifax, NS
Son, Minho (Honours)	Halifax, NS
Sparks, Keion	Halifax, NS
Thompson, Calum <i>(Honours)</i>	Dartmouth, NS
Tucker, Colton	Halifax, NS
Walker-Burke, Griffin	Lower Sackville, NS

Convocation 2025 Honorary Diplomas

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



James Kehoe School of Trades and Transportation

Sydney Waterfront Campus

James Kehoe's dedication to building strong communities extends far beyond his successful career in the construction industry.

Jim began his career as a carpenter before founding Joneljim Concrete Construction in 1970. Under his leadership, Joneljim has grown into one of Cape Breton's largest contractors, providing general contracting, project and construction management, and heavy civil contracting. The Joneljim Group of Companies also includes building supply operations, a millwork business and residential and commercial rental properties.

Jim is a founding member of New Dawn Enterprises and the not-for-profit, BCA Investment Cooperative. He has served on the Board of the IWK Children's Hospital, Cape Breton University's Board of Governors, Nova Scotia Business Inc., Talbot House, and the Financial Board for the Diocese of Antigonish.

Jim's contributions have been recognized through one of the Province's highest honours. In 2002, he was awarded the Order of Nova Scotia for his outstanding contributions to the province's economic well-being. In 2023, Jim was inducted into the Cape Breton Business and Philanthropy Hall of Fame, further celebrating his dedication to the region. In 2018 he received an Honourary Doctorate from Cape Breton University.

Over the years, Jim and his late wife Roma were involved in many philanthropic efforts here in Cape Breton and across Nova Scotia. A

proud father to two daughters, Claudette Porter and Paulette Kraitzek, and grandfather to four, Jim cherishes time spent with his family.

Through his leadership and commitment to his community, Jim's dedication to empowering others and fostering growth continues to inspire positive change across Nova Scotia.



Joel Marsman School of Trades and Transportation

Akerley Campus

Joel Marsman's dedication to occupational health and safety, mentorship and community empowerment has left a lasting impact on Nova Scotia. His achievements, including becoming the first Black person in Canada to earn the Canadian Registered Safety Professional (CRSP) designation, have paved the way for others.

He has served as coordinator for the Black Business Initiative's Constructing the Future program, an initiative aimed at helping African Nova Scotians enter the construction trade. As Program Coordinator for the Africadian Empowerment Academy's Trades Program, he helped Black tradespeople obtain Red Seal certification and supports like training and test preparation to foster their success. He was also involved with the Pathways to Shipbuilding program, where he was part of a working group that created a dedicated training and employment pipeline for Black welders.

Joel was the Manager of Occupational Health and Safety at the Nova Scotia Department of Transportation before founding Marsman Safety Services, where he provides program development and occupational health and safety training for industry organizations and government agencies.

His contributions extend to serving on boards for various organizations including the Nova Scotia Construction Safety Association, the Nova Scotia Apprenticeship Board, the Nova Scotia Labour Department Board and the Canadian Society of Safety Engineering.

In 2012, Joel was honoured by the African Heritage Month Information Network and the Province of Nova Scotia as an "Unsung Hero: Men Who Make a Difference."

Joel's unwavering commitment to the success of others exemplifies NSCC's vision: Transforming Nova Scotia one learner at a time.

Convocation 2025 Valedictorian

NSCC is proud to introduce the outstanding student(s), chosen by their campuses to represent the achievements and experiences of the Class of 2024.



Rashaan Forbes

Institute of Technology Campus

Health Information Management

Originally from Nassau, Bahamas, Rashaan arrived at NSCC with over a decade of experience in the healthcare field. Before enrolling, he held clinical and technical roles that deepened his understanding of patient care and health information systems. With a strong foundation in health services, he chose to pursue further education to enhance his skills and transition into the Canadian healthcare industry.

Rashaan found a perfect fit in the Health Information Management program. His time at the IT Campus was defined by close-knit classes, hands-on learning, and a deeply supportive community. He saw his instructors as mentors, and his peers from diverse backgrounds made his journey transformative. The program's blend of theory and practical experience, combined with robust student services and real-world exposure, equipped him with both the technical knowledge and the emotional resilience necessary for success. Outside the classroom, he enjoyed the camaraderie of campus life, attending sports events and making connections with his fellow students.

After graduation, Rashaan plans to work as a health data analyst with a goal of pursuing a Master of Digital Innovation in Health Informatics at Dalhousie University. His long-term vision includes launching a company focused on health analytics and digital health solutions - blending his passion for technology, leadership and patient care.

"As a proud member of the NSCC Class of 2025, I carry forward the belief that fear of failure is not a setback, but a sign of growth in progress."

Major awards

Governor General's Academic Medal

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

Tiankun Deng IT Data Analytics

Nova Scotia Community College Gold Medal

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

Emeka Eruokwu IT Programming for Internet of Things

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.

Bruce Moore Cyber Security

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.

Krista Peach
Academic and Career Connections

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

Kenzie Searle-Witsel Academic and Career Connections

Staff

Abu Baker, Yousef Faculty

Al-Jokhadar, Linda Student Services Counsellor

Al-Shaghay, Bana Faculty

Anthony, Pamela Auxiliary Faculty

Aucoin, Pamela Facilities Support Lead
Barter, Pam Student Services Advisor

Best, Steve Faculty

Boutilier, Lisa Administrative Assistant

Brake, Carly Campus Librarian
Brown, Jarrod Academic Chair
Burgoyne, Natalie Term Faculty

Burke, Jocelyn Faculty

Burton, Randy Building Services Lead

Caines, Michael Faculty
Calder, Kim Faculty
Campanis, George Faculty
Campbell, David Faculty
Cleveland, Lyn Faculty

Conrad, Beverly Administrative Assistant

Crocker, Michael Faculty

Cruz, Jennifer Facilities Support Assistant

Culligan, Tracy Faculty

Dela Cruz, Rey Facilities Support Assistant

Devanney, Sara Faculty

DiGiosia, Marco Manager, Administrative Services

Dobbin, Terry Faculty
Dolinger, Patrick Faculty

Donaldson, Rene Facilities Support Assistant

Dumas, Darrell Administrative Assistant

Dutka, Marie Faculty
Dykens, Calvin Faculty

Evans, Akira Program Navigator, Women Unlimited

Everett, Brian Faculty Fiske, Colin Faculty

Flindall, Tina Achieve Program Coordinator
Gilbert, Bill Facilities Support Assistant

Gillespie, Geoff Faculty
Golding, Lena Faculty

Grant, Leslie Auxiliary Faculty

Guzman, Imelda Facilities Support Assistant Administrative Assistant

Hartling, Jamie Academic Chair

Hayek, Mirna Employment Specialist
Hina, Hina Administrative Assistant

Hirtle, Crystal Faculty

Hu, Shanwei Facilities Support Assistant
Hyett, Rachel Student Accessibility Specialist

Im, Cheolsoon Faculty

Isner, Robbie Facilities Manager Izzard-Wells, Katrina Auxiliary Faculty

Jarvis, Yvette Program Navigator Women Unlimited

Jessop, Nick Digital Technology Analyst Jones, Wendy Administrative Assistant

Joy, Melodie Faculty

Karas, Melanie Student Services Advisor

Kowalski, Bill Faculty Kuzniar, Carson Faculty

Lachance, Beth Program Assistant
Landry, Nolon Equipment Technician

LaRusic, Joy Student Accessibility Specialist

LeBlanc, Andrew
Lin, Hamlet
Lowthers, Jon
Lucas, Corey
Faculty
MacDonald, Shannon
Faculty
MacDonald, Sarah
Faculty
MacDonald, John
Faculty

MacDougall, Lisa Manager, Student Services
Maloney, Melissa Administrative Assistant

Margues, Delano Faculty

May, Jocelyn Administrative Assistant McCuaig, Barbie Administrative Assistant

McLeod, Ronald Faculty
Meisner, Shelley Faculty

Mitchell, Christine Administrative Assistant

Mitchell, Zoe Faculty Mojahed, Ali Faculty

Mullins, Sara Administrative Assistant
Mulvihill, Karen Campus Events Coordinator

Munday, Russell Faculty

Murdoch, Chris Academic Chair

Murdock, Claire Faculty

Murphy, Lisa Employee Services Advisor Muskic, Amel Materials Control Assistant

Faculty Nichols, Michael O'Brien, Shawn Faculty

Offman, Sarah Student Accessibility Specialist

O'Leary, Sherisse Faculty

Administrative Assistant Osborne, Katherine

Parsons, Kim Faculty

Patey, Annette Administrative Assistant

Pattison, Jolene Faculty Penny, Daniel Faculty

Pentney Deschenes, Vickie **Facilities Support Assistant**

Piercey, Bruce Faculty

Porter, Stacey Administrative Assistant

Purcell, Michael Academic Chair

Reid. Michelle Administrative Assistant Robin, Mehedi Hasan Administrative Assistant

Rockwell, Charlene Faculty Principal Russell, Greg Russell, David Faculty

Saadi, Muna **Auxiliary Faculty**

Scarfone, Marc Faculty

Scott. Helene Auxiliary Faculty

Sernyk, James Faculty

Library Technician Shannon-Lamb, Chelsea

Shewan, Brian Faculty Principal Sharpe, Jason

Short, Dennis Program Assistant

Siebert, Kris Student Accessibility Specialist Test Centre Administrator

Simon, Regan

Skipper, Stephanie SS Advisor

Smith, Mark Manager, Student Services Smith, Stephen **Facilities Support Assistant** Smith, Wade Lead Public Safety Officer

Smith. Katie Faculty Snooks, Jacqueline Faculty Steadman, Alex Faculty

Stirr. Eric Digital Technology Lead

Faculty Street, Paul Sudhakar, Tanuja Faculty

Swales, Pam Administrative Assistant

Tarry, Brendan Faculty Thibeau, Jeffrey Faculty Trimmings, Byron Faculty Trumbull, Michael Faculty Tsaltas, Dean Faculty Turner, Karl Student Services Assistant Registrar

Veinot, Nick Faculty
Verge, Paul Faculty
Verge, Todd Faculty
Walters, Lisa Faculty

Wasacase, Tanya SS Advisor & Indigenous Supports

Wells, Stephanie ALP Counsellor

Wheeler, Eugene Lead Facilities Technician

Whitehouse, Nicole Faculty

Terry Wright SS Advisor & African Canadian Supports

Worthylake, Tristan Faculty

Yeo, Sung Su Digital Technology Analyst

Yim, Iriane Program Assistant`

Young, Steve Building Services Assistant

Zabaldica, Karen Facilities Support

Photos

As each graduate received their credential, the moment was captured by our photographer. Beginning Friday, June 13th, you can download your photo by visiting the website below or by scanning the QR code.



https://kelci.smugmug.com/NSCC-IT-Convocation-2025-2pm