Akerley Campus Convocation June 13, 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 LaToya Saunders

Principal's welcomeJason Sharpe

President's remarks Don Bureaux

Presentation of credentials

Presentation of major awards

Valedictory address Geoffrey R. Miller

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 Technology and Environment

Diploma in Power Engineering Technology

Akai, Iniobona Uyo, Nigeria Alya, Abdul Damascus, Syria Dignan, Noah New Glasgow, NS Goodwin, Logan Digby, NS MacDonald, Bryan Chase Grand Lake, NS Markotiohn, Mark New Waterford, NS Nandavadekar, Sushant Mumbai. India Okeke, Charles Halifax, NS

School of Trades and Transportation

Certificate in Auto Body Collision and Repair

Berhe, Fanuel Halifax, NS Bronk, Shael Havre Boucher, NS Chandler, Dustin Windsor, NS Clements, Brandon Eastern Passage, NS Conrad. Justin (Honours) Milford, NS Delaney, Hailee Beaver Bank, NS Drummond, Sara East Lawrencetown, NS Gerrior, Adam Westville, NS Halifax, NS Glasgow, Andrew Hamilton, Jamie (Honours) Truro, NS Mahone Bay, NS Harding, Ryan Aleppo, Syria Hejazi, Ayman Hogarth, Braeden Nova Scotia Hopper, Jenna Halifax, NS Khokhar, Alfez (Honours) Junagadh, India Lively, Willis Mount Uniacke, NS MacGregor, Fiona (Honours) Stratford, PEI MacLeod. Keaton Sydney, NS Marriott, Jayden Truro, NS Martin, Marlie Sheet Harbour, NS McKay, Nick Dartmouth, NS

Certificate in Automotive Service and Repair

Babin, Christopher Dartmouth, NS Bansal, Harmanjeet Singh (Honours) Ludhiana, Punjab Benoit. Patrick Dartmouth, NS Bou-Nassif, Miguel Halifax, NS Bryan, Eben Bedford, NS Burris, James (Honours) Middle Musquodoboit, NS Caldwell. Emerson Dartmouth, NS Cartier, Nathanael Dartmouth, NS Toronto, ON Drury, Oliver Elliott. Ronan Port Williams, NS Bedford, NS Fifield, Jonathan Fraser, Zach Head of Chezzetcook, NS Hardy, Noah Halifax, NS Hepworth, Oneika (Honours) Fergus, ON Hoyeck, Charbel Dartmouth, NS Hubley, Christian (Honours) Musquodoboit Harbour, NS Ingraham, Cameron Halifax, NS Kitchen, Peter Yarmouth, NS Langille, Blake Dartmouth, NS Langille, Shawn (Honours) Northwest Cove, NS LeBlanc. Colby (Honours) Lower Sackville, NS Lushington, Zach Lantz. NS MacArthur, Madyson Moncton, NB Matthews, Payton Truro, NS Melancon, Ashton Sackville, NS Munroe, Alex Dartmouth, NS Eastern Shore, NS Serroul, Amanda (Honours) Singh, Dilpreet Punjab, India Spasov, Kaian Hammonds Plains, NS Taranza, Patch Halifax, NS Thompson, Benjamin Beaver Bank, NS Vokey, Ryan Kingston, NS Walker, Toren Calgary, AB Watts, Karan (Honours) Abohar, India Whynot, Andrew Hammonds Plains, NS Zhang, Xianrui Anhui, China

Certificate in Heavy Duty Equipment/Truck and

Transport Repair

Brahane, Natnael Halifax, NS
Johnston, Owen Upper Tantallon, NS
Monk, Logan Beaver Bank, NS
Nauss, Owen Lunenburg, NS
Purvis, Connor Bridgewater, NS
Romans, Bryce Halifax, NS

Certificate in Precision Machining

Balogun, Ismail Dartmouth, NS
Byrne, Mitchell Halifax, NS
Edmonds, Zach Bridgewater, NS
Ogundipe, Olorunfemi Are-Ekiti, Nigeria
Pettipas, Jeremy Halifax, NS
Shields, Kyle Hammonds Plains, NS
Swim, Benjamin (Honours) Digby, NS

Diploma in Heavy Duty Equipment Repair

Borgal-Sacrey, Austin Dartmouth, NS Cao. Shuo Beijing, P.R. China Great Village, NS Dykstra, Zachary (Honours) Eisnor, Tristan Mahone Bay, NS Gratto, Mayson Truro, NS Laffin, Zach Windsor, NS LeBlanc, Ryerson Middle Sackville, NS Lorencovitch, Logan Halifax, NS Martell, Chase (Honours) Pomquet, NS Melanson, James Halifax, NS Ross, Wyatt Dutch Settlement, NS Smith, Jake Eastern Passage, NS Lower Sackville, NS Takamaa, Vincent Waterman, Mathew Lower Sackville, NS

Diploma in Truck and Transport Repair

Halliday, Robert Bedford, NS
Oakley, Adam Lake Loon, NS
Pham, Khang Ho Chi Minh, Viet Nam
Seewald, Logan Truro, NS
Snow, Christian Bedford, NS

Certificate in Carpentry

Baker, William Lower Sackville, NS Corkum, Stephen Halifax, NS Nickerson, Hayley (Honours) Dartmouth, NS Poirier, Ryan Halifax, NS Ross, Clayton Salisbury, NB Shen, Yang Taizhou, Jiangsu Singh, Arshdeep (Honours) Cole Harbour, NS Thomson, Dave Halifax, NS Turnbull, Mitchell Halifax, NS

Certificate in Gas Technician

Balsor, Chase	Berwick, NS
Callahan-Cross, Bruno (Honours)	Windsor, NS
Dickie, Logan (Honours)	Truro, NS
Huphman, Daniel (Honours)	Liverpool, NS
Mills, John-Morris (Honours)	West Chezzetcook, NS
Palmer, Jimmy	Chipman, NB
Smith, Brandon	Dartmouth, NS
Smith, Lucus	Windsor, NS
Wilkinson, Nicholas (Honours)	Halifax, NS
Certificate in Sheet Metal Systems	
Buchan, lan	Cambridge, NS
Cloutier, Kara	Halifax, NS
Cox, Liam	Halifax, NS
Gauvin, Sebastian	Lawrencetown, NS
Langor, Chantel <i>(Honours)</i>	Dartmouth, NS
Mackean, Zachary	Pictou County, NS
Sandhu, Gurjeet Singh (Honours)	Raipur, Chhattisgarh, India
Singh, Preetpal (Honours)	Sirsa, Haryana, India
Webb, James (Honours)	Middle Sackville, NS

Elmsdale, NS

Diploma in Metal Fabrication

White, Katherine

Amungwa, Festus Amungwa	Bambui, Cameroon
Black, Laurel (Honours)	Houston, Texas
Clark, Tina (Honours)	Halifax, NS
Conklin, Lake	Lower Sackville, NS
Conrad, Michaela (Honours)	Oromocto, NB
Côté, Devlun	Lower Sackville, NS
Harvey, Joshua	Halifax, NS
Hill, Derek	Gunners Cove, NL
Langille, Evan	Bayhead, NS
MacDonald, Jason	Waverly, NS
Marshall, Chloe (Honours)	Dartmouth, NS
McIsaac, Keigan	Halifax, NS
Miller, Geoff (Honours)	Ottawa, ON
Oti, Julius (Honours)	Accra, Ghana
Paul, Jackson	Middle Sackville, NS
Power, Jack (Honours)	Cole Harbour, NS
Rushton, David	Springhill, NS
Sepa, Alexander	Halifax, NS
Skeard, Dylan	Dartmouth, NS
Stewart, Alexander	Halifax, NS
Swinemar, Sam	Lower Sackville, NS
Thackeray, Kelci (Honours)	Westphal, NS

Diploma in Welding

Beaulieu, Ryan Upper Tantallon, NS Brown, Tyler Hammonds Plains, NS Carter-Forbes, Miranda Halifax, NS Corkum, Dominick Chester, NS Tantallon, NS Courage, Alex (Honours) Goulden, Logan Dartmouth, NS Hutchison, Drew Cow Bay, NS Jessome, Maranda (Honours) Sackville, NS Johnston, Chase Eastern Passage, NS Keirstead, Dawson Eastern Passage, NS Halifax, NS Letriard, Taylor Lloyd, Shane Dartmouth, NS MacDonald, Destinee Bedford, NS MacInnes, Amanda (Honours) Stewiacke, NS MacKinnon, Nutay Cole Harbour, NS Melanson, Madeline Halifax, NS Moldowan, Erika (Honours) Lawrencetown, NS Pellerine, Cameron Cole Harbour, NS Stapleford, Will Lantz, NS Stewart, Emily (Honours) Halifax, NS Taylor, Braiden New Germany, NS

Mineville, NS

Whitman, Jacob

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 Honorary 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 2025.



Geoff Miller

School of Trades and Transportation

Metal Fabrication

Originally from Ottawa, Ontario, Geoff came to NSCC after working with Canadian Aerospace Engineering (CAE) as an evaluation pilot. With his heart in Nova Scotia and eager to pursue a long-time passion, he enrolled in the Metal Fabrication program to gain the hands-on skills he had always wanted to learn. The program at Akerley Campus was the perfect fit for the next step in his journey.

Throughout his time at NSCC, Geoff was motivated by his own drive to master metal fabrication and by the encouragement and support of his instructors and fellow classmates. What Geoff appreciated most about the program was the real-world, practical experience it offered, as well as the first-hand industry knowledge shared by his instructors. He found the Akerley community friendly and welcoming, which contributed to a positive and encouraging learning atmosphere.

One of the most valuable lessons Geoff learned at NSCC was patience, both in and out of the workshop. After graduation, he plans to open his own metal fabrication shop in the Dartmouth area and continue building on the foundation he's built as an NSCC student.

To the Class of 2025, Geoff shares this advice: "It's a bad day when you don't learn something new. Learning is a lifelong experience."

Major Awards

Governor General's Academic Medal

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

Abisola Balogun
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.

Jayesh Thali Business Tourism

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.

Bryce Saulnier
Academic Career and Connections

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.

Fiona MacGregor Auto Body and Collision Repair

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.

Chloe Marshall Metal Fabrication

Photos

In the two weeks following the ceremony, you will receive a link to download your graduation photo for free. If you do not receive an email by July 1, please email akerley.info@nscc.ca for your photo information

Staff

Abbott, Nathan Allen, Laird Allen, Andrew Allison, Russell

Amirault, Michelle

Ash, Tara Aucoin. Claude

Bartlett, Adam Beaulieu, Denis Bell, Christina Bennett, Richard

Benoit, Bev Benoit, Suzanne

Blake, Tessa Boulton, Josh Boutin, Tracey

Bowes, Marianna Boyd-Johnson, Jocelyn

Boyer, Joel Brooks, Sandra Brown, Garth Buchanan, Daniel Bundy, Heather

Burrows, Stacie
Canning, Johnathan
Carey, Thomas
Cassell, Danny

Cathcart, Aaron Chaisson, Zachariah

Christensen, Chris Colter, Erica Conrad, Trevor

Cooke, Bill Cooke. Rob Crawley, Fred

Creelman, Steve

Crocker, Carolyn Cunningham, Killian

Day, Greg DeBay, Willie Dewey, Wendi Faculty Faculty

Equipment Technician

Faculty Faculty

Facilities Support Assistant

Faculty

Academic Chair Program Assistant Equipment Technician

Faculty

Facilities Support Assistant

Faculty

General Services Assistant

Faculty

Administrative Assistant Program Assistant

Faculty Faculty

Facilities Support Assistant

Faculty Faculty

Student Services Advisor Administrative Assistant

Faculty
Faculty
Faculty
Faculty
Faculty
Faculty

Academic Chair

Faculty
Faculty
Faculty
Faculty
Faculty

Manager Facilities

Achieve Program Coordinator

Faculty
Faculty
Faculty
Faculty

Doherty, Ryan Faculty
Doridam, Jean-Luc Faculty

Eakin, Pam Campus Librarian
Etmanskie-Denny, Ellen Administrative Assistant
Ewing, Doug Material Control Assistant
Farmer, Nikki Program Navigator (WUL)

Ferguson, Melissa Military Coordinator Fewer, Melissa Program Assistant

Fillmore, Meghan Campus Library Technician

Flanagan, Michelle Faculty
Flint, Clayton Faculty
Forrest, Jason Faculty
Fortes, Jean-Claude Cook

Foster-Scott, Stacey Administrative Assistant

Fougere, Joe Faculty

Francis, Burton Facilities Support Assistant General Services Assistant

Fry, Melvin Faculty

Gallant, Stella Food Service Assistant

Gaudet, Jacques Faculty

Gidney, Chris Administrative Assistant

Gillis-Lynds, Dayna Faculty
Gouthro, Courtney Faculty

Grant, Alecia Facilities Support Assistant Green, Elaine Administrative Assistant 2

Grout, Gerard Faculty

Guan, Yunfei Facilities Support Assistant

Halverson, Blaine Faculty
Hard, Craig Faculty
Harvey, Nancy Faculty

Harvie, Nicholas Building Services Assistant

Haverstock, Lee Faculty
Hawkins, Paul Faculty
Heard, Teri Faculty

Henneberry, Connor Digital Technology Analyst

Hillier, Mark Faculty
Hiriart, Angela Faculty
Hiscock, Sean Faculty
Jakeman, Matt Faculty
Jamieson, Michael Faculty
Jeffrey, Duane Faculty

Jennex, Laura Manager Admin Services

Jillette, Tony Faculty

Johnson, Carol LCA /Test Centre Administrator

Jones, Shauna Assistant Registrar

Jurcina, Bernard Faculty Kettley, Sean Faculty

King, Kelly Administrative Assistant

LaPierre, Adam Faculty
Leckie, Dale Faculty

Lefuel, Diane LCA/Test Centre Administrator

Long, Rick Faculty

MacArthur, Christy ALP Counsellor

MacAulay, Jamie Faculty

MacDonald, Cindy Administrative Assistant

MacDonald, Bradley Faculty
MacDonald, Donnie Faculty

MacDougall, Lisa Manager, Student Services

MacEachern, Mark Faculty
MacKinnon, Kathryn Faculty
Manazza. Roberto Cook

Mann. Robert Lead Facilities Technician

Marion, Jake Faculty

Martin, Carly Student Accessibility Spec

McCarron, Matthew Faculty

McKillop, Shawn Academic Chair

McLean, Jenny SS Advisor, International Supp

McWaid, Jonathan Faculty
Meades, Kevin Faculty
Meister, Jennifer Faculty
Menendez Sanchez, Wilber Faculty

Mepham, Molly Coordinator, Campus Housing

Michels, Melissa Faculty

Millett, Ian Digital Technology Lead Monk, Luke Faculty Automotive Program

Mooney, Barry Faculty
Mosher, Allison Faculty

Muise, Jenna Facilities Support Assistant Nguyen, Kim Administrative Assistant

Odinga, Godfrey Academic Chair

Ogban, Simeon Building Services Lead

Oo, Swe Swe Admin Assistant

O'Toole, Tim Faculty
Parkinson, Richard Faculty
Parsons, Barry Faculty
Pei, Penny SS Advisor
Pellerin, Graham Faculty
Phillips, Natalie Faculty

Place, Tony Faculty Preeper, Donnie Faculty

Publicover, Tiffany Administrative Assistant

Reade, Erick Faculty

Robertson, Andrea Administrative Assistant

Robinson, John Faculty Rushton, Dana Faculty Sachs, Chris Faculty Sampson, Matthew Faculty Sanford, Owen Faculty Schelleman, Matthew Faculty Sharpe, Jason Principal Shaw, Paul Faculty

Shaw, Paul Faculty
Shortte, Moashella Faculty
Silver, Steven Faculty

Skipper, Stephanie SS Advisor & International Supp

Smith, Brad Faculty
Smith, Hal Faculty
Snider, Patrick Faculty

Solarski, Debora Employee Services Advisor Soley, Meagan Achieve Program Coordinator

Spencer, Kyle Faculty

Stevens, Julie Facilities Support Assistant

Stewart, Steve Faculty

Strachan, Aldane Facilities Support Assistant

Taneja, Swadhin Faculty

Taylor, Dylan Facilities Support Assistant

Theriault, Benjamin Cook

Tidd, Craig

Lead Public Safety Officer

Wade, Terry

Administrative Assistant

Wallace, Shelley

Program Coordinator (WUL)

Walsh, Johnny Electrician West, Justin Faculty

Wilkie, Makayla

Willcott, Cindy

Williams, SaDeia

Wright, Terry

Achieve Prgm Assistant

Employment Specialist

Student Services Counsellor

SS Advisor & African Canadian

Supports

Wright, Shawn Facilities Support Lead

Yach, Michael Faculty