

Cumberland Campus Convocation

June 2, 2025 10:00AM

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

O Canada

Principal's welcome

Lech Krzywonos

President's remarks

Don Bureaux

Presentation of credentials

Presentation of major awards

Valedictory address

Ivy Stright, Practical Nursing

Recessional

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

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

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

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

About the Mi'kmaq Honour Song

The *Mi'kmaq Honour Song* 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.



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!**

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Don Bureaux', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Don Bureaux

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's 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.

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

Deslauriers-Charlton, Wyatt (<i>Honours</i>)	Springhill, NS
Gilbert, Marina (<i>Honours</i>)	Springhill, NS
Jansen, Bernadette (<i>Honours</i>)	Bass River, NS
Kitsko, Karson (<i>Honours</i>)	Oxford, NS
MacIsaac, Kelsey (<i>Honours</i>)	Amherst, NS
Nicholson, Katelyn (<i>Honours</i>)	Amherst, NS
O'Brien, Katarina (<i>Honours</i>)	Amherst, NS
O'Laney, Lynn (<i>Honours</i>)	Amherst, NS
Perry, Jerrica (<i>Honours</i>)	Amherst, NS
Ripley, Sheryl (<i>Honours</i>)	Amherst, NS

Certificate in Academic and Career Connections

Smith, Cormac	Springhill, NS
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Diploma in Early Childhood Education

Bennett, Trinity	Advocate Hbr, NS
Campbell, Keira	Springhill, NS
Falconer, Shantelle	Springhill, NS
Mattinson, Marcie	Oxford, NS
Osakpite, Idris Taiwo	Lagos, Nigeria
Payal (<i>Honours</i>)	Amherst, NS
Ripley, Callie	Parrsboro, NS

School of Business and Creative Industries

Certificate in Administrative Professional

Chowdbury, Istiak	Dhaka, Bangladesh
Gogan, Gabrielle (<i>Honours</i>)	Amherst, NS
Hunter, Lisa (<i>Honours</i>)	Springhill, NS
LeDrew, Jennifer (<i>Honours</i>)	Brookdale, NS
Murray, Von	Amherst, NS
Pettigrew, Paige	Springhill, NS
Sidhu, Kamaljit (<i>Honours</i>)	Amherst, NS

Spence, Jacklyn (*Honours*)
Wood, Ruth Anne (*Honours*)

Amherst, NS
Springhill, NS

Diploma in Business Administration

Gates, Bryson (*Honours*)
Legere, Ben
Logan, Chris (*Honours*)
MacDonald, Rachel (*Honours*)
MacDonald, Ben
Madore, Bailey
Mathiesen, Jason (*Honours*)
Northrup, Devon
Sears, Matthew
Sprague, Abby (*Honours*)
Tucker, Tashell (*Honours*)

Amherst, NS
Amherst, NS
Parrsboro, NS
Amherst, NS
Amherst, NS
Truro, NS
Amherst, NS
Fredericton, NB
Springhill, NS
Amherst, NS
St. Thomas, Jamaica

Diploma in Business Administration - Accounting

Allen, Marina
Arseneau, Michael (*Honours*)
Blades, Nicole
MacNeil, Robert (*Honours*)

Pugwash, NS
Amherst, NS
Oxford, NS
Amherst, NS

School of Health and Human Services

Certificate in Continuing Care

Aubichon, Selenia
Baker, Britney (*Honours*)
Baumann, Charlie (*Honours*)
Blanchard, Cheryl (*Honours*)
Bowser, Bonnie
Embree, Katra (*Honours*)
Essel, Rebecca (*Honours*)
Fraser, Chloe (*Honours*)
Gandhi, Pratik (*Honours*)
Gogan, Paige
Gould, Tessa
Gould, Nikki
Leard, Natasha
Mallery, Olivia
Mattinson, Alexander (*Honours*)
Moore, Ashli
Mosley, Elexa
Percy, Jennifer (*Honours*)
Scott, Holly
Syu, Kai Jie

Springhill, NS
Amherst, NS
Northport, NS
Springhill, NS
Sackville, NB
Springhill, NS
Accra, Ghana
Amherst, NS
Gujarat, India
Springhill, NS
Amherst, NS
Amherst, NS
Amherst, NS
Amherst, NS
Maccan, NS
Parrsboro, NS
Amherst, NS
Fort Lawrence, NS
Springhill, NS
Taoyuan, Taiwan

Wu, Yun-Hao (*Honours*)

Dongshan, Taiwan

Diploma in Occupational Therapy/Physiotherapy Assistant

Avery, Abby

New Glasgow, NS

Baird, Peter

Debert, NS

Cunningham, Jessie

Springhill, NS

Hanley, Emma

Moncton, NB

Mbonu, Kelechi

Amherst, NS

Oyewole, Adetomiwa

Abuja, FCT

Simons, Lindy

Springhill, NS

Simpson, Cassie

Truro, NS

Diploma in Practical Nursing

Bennett, Jacob

Advocate Hbr., NS

Burden, Susan

Springhill, NS

Burley, Mariah

Moncton, NB

Casey, Jada-Joy

Oxford, NS

Chown, Madalyn (*Honours*)

Wallace, NS

Cox, Laurie

Amherst, NS

Fontaine, Nicole

Richmond, PE

Fraser, Callie (*Honours*)

Pictou, NS

Haverkort, Juliana

Antigonish, NS

Hawkes, Josie

Millvale, NS

Langdon, Sarah

Mississauga, ON

McDonald, Jessica (*Honours*)

Pugwash Jct., NS

McInnis, Sophie

Amherst, NS

Nwankwo, Romanus

Ukwulu, Nigeria

Poplar-Mills, Tabitha

Joggins, NS

Rayworth, Christopher (*Honours*)

Amherst, NS

Rufai, Tajudeen

Yaba, Laos

Sanchez, Gresi

Ormoc City, Philippines

Smith, Morley

Halifax, NS

Stright, Ivy (*Honours*)

Amherst, NS

White, Nicholas

Springhill, NS

Wood, Katie

Springhill, NS

School of Trades and Transportation

Certificate in Electrical – Construction and Industrial

Adams, Nathan

Westchester St., NS

Atkinson, Nate (*Honours*)

Amherst, NS

Aylward, Evan

Parrsboro, NS

Berry, Thomas

River Hebert, NS

Bonnell, Jason (*Honours*)

Truro, NS

Fenton, Will

Hammond's Plains, NS

Joudrie, Zander
Lemmon, Kaiden
Lynds, Hudson
MacDonald, Spencer
MacPhee, Mya
MacQueen, Carter
Masters, Connor
Rath, Dylan
Reid, Ben (*Honours*)
Sherman, Nicholas (*Honours*)
Sprague, Justin
Tucker, Camden (*Honours*)
White, Drake

Yellowknife, NWT
Truro, NS
Truro, NS
Truro, NS
Amherst, NS
Truro, NS
Amherst, NS
Debert, NB
Truro, NS
Maitland, NS
Amherst, NS
Tatamagouche, NS
Kennetcook, NS

Certificate in Plumbing

Bingley, Brayden
Bristol, Thomas
Burbine, Kenneth
Cail, Jenna
Foster, Thomas
Gaurav, Gaurav
Godfrey, Read
Hollis, Van
Leblanc, Neal
Priest, Aidan (*Honours*)
Pye, Ryan
Rhyno, Keegan
Schneyderberg, Garrett
Varner, Michael (*Honours*)

Truro, NS
Amherst, NS
Amherst, NS
Northport, NS
Amherst, NS
Amherst, NS
Oxford, NS
Collingwood Corner, NS
Amherst, NS
Amherst, NS
Parrsboro, NS
Dartmouth, NS
Orangeville, ON
Springhill, NS

Certificate in Power and Utility Line Work

Allen, Kaden (*Honours*)
Archibald, Riley (*Honours*)
Campbell, Caleb
Connors, Mackenzie
Delaney, Jerome
Gaudet, Ben (*Honours*)
Gordon, Zach
Greene, Alexander (*Honours*)
Hicks, Nelson (*Honours*)
Linden, Ethan (*Honours*)
MacPhee, Morgan (*Honours*)
Malcolm, Jacob (*Honours*)
Mattie, Ben (*Honours*)
McMullin, Cameron (*Honours*)
McNutt, Rory

River Hebert, NS
Truro, NS
Amherst, NS
Lake George, NS
Cape Breton, NS
Summerside, PE
Amherst, NS
Antigonish, NS
Westcock, NB
Sydney, NS
Truro, NS
Richmond Co, CB
Truro, NS
Wyses Corner, NS
Westchester, NS

Melanson, Kaleb
Milligan, Cameron (*Honours*)
Morgan, Kaiden
Penny, Andrew
Richards, Jason (*Honours*)
Spencer, Colby (*Honours*)
Whitford, Logan
Wood, Kale (*Honours*)
Young, Owen

Westville, NS
Miscouche, PE
Cleveland, NS
Cape Breton, NS
Truro, NS
Great Village, NS
Mount Uniacke, NS
Summerside, PE
Southampton, NS

Certificate in Refrigeration and Air Conditioning - Geothermal

Akinnibosun, Michael
Archibald, Rebecca (*Honours*)
Baker, Kyle (*Honours*)
Burke, Brandon
Edmunds, Jaden
Langille, Connor
Mason, Jacob (*Honours*)
McNally, Nolan (*Honours*)
Munro, Logan
Nix, Owen (*Honours*)
Reid, Jack
Skinner, Keegan (*Honours*)
Slade, Riley
Tatttrie, Garrett
Weatherbee, Tyler (*Honours*)
Weber, Kaleb (*Honours*)

Ondo, Nigeria
Truro, NS
Amherst, NS
Amherst, NS
Halifax, NS
River John, NS
Truro, NS
Amherst, NS
River John, NS
Pugwash, NS
River John, NS
Truro, NS
Halifax, NS
Tatamagouche, NS
Springhill, NS
Sackville, NB

Diploma in Carpentry

Best, Joshua
Goodwin, Magnus
Hamilton, Roger
Mackenzie, Matthew
Morse, Mason

Amherst, NS
Southampton, NS
Pictou Landing, NS
Miramichi, NB
Amherst, NS

NSCC Employee Learning Programs

Leadership Essentials

Tuttle-Comeau, Tanya

Tidnish, NS

Operational Excellence

Stone, Karen

Warren, NS

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.



Ivy Stright

School of Health and Human Services

Practical Nursing

As the old saying goes, 'if you love what you do, you'll never work a day in your life' and Ivy Stright has made that her mission. Ivy had always found employment working with people - including as a gas station attendant and waitress - but it was her experience in long-term care during the pandemic that opened her eyes to the joy and fulfillment that comes with caring for others. That transformative experience inspired her to return to school, graduate from the Adult Learning Program, and pursue a career in nursing.

As a Practical Nursing student at Cumberland Campus, Ivy found both academic and personal growth. She credits her teachers for their passion, encouragement, and unwavering belief in her abilities. She enjoyed hands-on lab experiences and found the supportive campus community and close friendships encouraging. Ivy's journey was deeply supported by her partner, friends, and her ever-faithful dog - her constant study companion. Her mother, also an NSCC alumni, was the strength and determination that inspired her most, and showed Ivy it's never too late to start again.

After graduation, Ivy plans to begin her nursing career at the Cumberland Regional Health Care Centre in the medical/surgical unit and hopes to return to school to become a Registered Nurse after gaining some experience.

Ivy's advice for her fellow graduates: "You are capable of anything you set your mind to. Never give up on something you want, believe in yourself. Take a deep breath and remember that you got this."

Major Awards

Governor General's Academic Medal

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

Rachel MacDonald
Business Administration

Nova Scotia Community College Gold Medal

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

Jennifer LeDrew
Administrative Professional

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.

Tashell Tucker
Business Administration

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.

Michael Akinnibosun
Refrigeration and Air Conditioning - Geothermal

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.

Tajudeen Rufai
Practical Nursing

Staff

Arnold, Laura
Atwater, Margaret
Burt, Quinn
Callahan, Nicole
Cameron, Christina
Chapman, Chloe
Clarke, Tamue
Deegan, Lisa
Delarge Getson, Fay
Dickinson, Jennifer
Donovan, Wallace
Duffy McNairn, Erin
Elliott, Jennifer
Embree, Darrin
Estabrooks, Travis
Findlay, Amanda
Fletcher, Kadeon
Fraser, Katrina
Fraser, Matthew
Gogan, Amanda
Gower, Lisa
Gray, Meredith
Greenwood, Rebecca
Hannon, Danny
Hardy, Tiffany
Ingersoll, Gregg

Kontuk, Hugh
Krzywonos, Lech
Laureijs, Apollonia
LeBlanc, Cody
LeBlanc, Kristen
LeDrew, Jacob
Lewis, Erin
Lewis, Glenda
Lowe, Nancy
MacDonald, Angela
Martin, Megan
Mathieson, Amie
McCormack, Donald
MacDonald, Lorne
Minocha, Supriya
Mitchell, Angela

Facilities Support Assistant
Administrative Assistant
Student Accessibility Specialist
Faculty Health & HS
Counsellor ALP
Faculty Health & HS
Counsellor ALP
Administrative Assistant
Faculty Health & HS
Student Services Advisor
Cook, Campus Operations
Faculty Health & HS
Early Childhood Administrator
Faculty Trades & Transportation
Faculty AEL
Early Childhood Educator
Student Accessibility Specialist
Coordinator ECS Resource Ctr.
Manager Administrative Service
Counsellor, Personal & Career
Faculty Business
Faculty Health & HS
Early Childhood Educator
Facilities Manager
Administrative Assistant
Academic Chair Business, ,
Trades & Transportation
Building Services Lead
Principal
Assistant Registrar & SSA
Faculty Trades & Transportation
Administrative Assistant
Faculty Trades & Transportation
Faculty Business
Faculty AEL
Food Services Assistant
Faculty Health & HS
Faculty Health & HS
Early Childhood Educator
Principal
Facilities
Administrative Assistant
Event Coordinator/Admin.

Moore, Katelyn
Moore, Linda
Murphy, Sean
Nichols, Tricia
Ollerhead, Jocelyn
O'Rielly, Tanya
Ortiz, Mike
Parlee, Gordon
Potter, Jo-Ann
Rafuse, Holly
Reid, Heather
Richard, Marlo
Richards, Jamie
Rockwell, Matthew
Rushton, Heather
Rushton, Roy
Rushton, Tyler
Schrader, Nicole
Shay, Amanda
Simons, Tena
Simpson, Rhonda
Smith, Deirdre
Smith, Krista
Spence, Dan

Stanley, Valerie
Steele, James
Stone, Brendan
Stone, Karen
Tuttle-Comeau, Tanya
Verheul, Heidi
Wheaton, Glenn
Williams, Chynna
Wood, Jackie
Woods, Caleb

Faculty Health & HS
General Services Assistant
Faculty Health & HS
Faculty Health & HS
Manager Student Services
Faculty AEL
Faculty Trades & Transportation
Faculty Trades & Transportation
Campus Library Technician
Faculty Health & HS
Faculty Health & HS
Faculty Trades & Transportation
Digital Technology Lead
Faculty Trades & Transportation
Administrative Assistant
Building Services Lead
Faculty Trades & Transportation
Employee Service Advisor
LCA & Test Centre Admin.
Administrative Assistant
Facilities Support Assistant
Faculty AEL
Faculty AEL
Academic Chair AEL and Health
& Human Services
Faculty Health & HS
Faculty Trades & Transportation
Faculty Trades & Transportation
Early Childhood Educator
Faculty AEL
Faculty AEL
Faculty Trades & Transportation
Early Childhood Educator
Early Childhood Educator
Facilities Support Assistant