

Pictou Campus Convocation
June 4, 2026 10:00 AM

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

Muin Sipu Drum Group

Lift Every Voice and Sing

Angela Cromwell

O Canada

Erika Savoie

Principal's welcome

Vivek Saxena

President's remarks

Anna Burke

Presentation of credentials

Presentation of major awards

Valedictory address

Raytesha Ferguson, 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 provided by Umoja Drummers; Piper, Aaron Dunsiger.

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

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



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!**

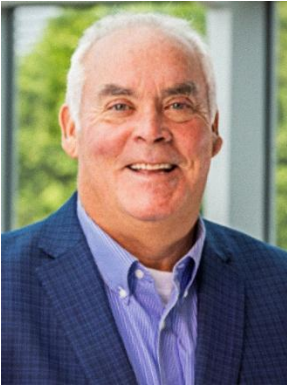
A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Anna Burke". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

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.

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

Flanagan, Kelsie Rae (<i>Honours</i>)	New Glasgow, NS
Fraser-MacLeod, Susan	Pictou Landing, NS
Huggan, Gloria (<i>Honours</i>)	Stellarton, NS
MacDonald, Anna	New Glasgow, NS
MacDonald Glenn	Pictou, NS
McKay, Keigan (<i>Honours</i>)	New Glasgow, NS
O'Laney, Samantha (<i>Honours</i>)	Westville, NS
Young, Matthew	Stellarton, NS

Certificate of Completion in Achieve

Bezenar, Elijah	New Glasgow, NS
Calloway, Owen	Trenton, NS
Capstick, Ian	New Glasgow, NS
Coady, Marcus	Stellarton, NS
Francis, Emmett	Westville, NS
Landry, Caden	Pictou, NS
Lays, Maddox	Stellarton, NS
Macmillan, Benjamin	New Glasgow, NS
McGregor, Mitchell	New Glasgow, NS
Peters, Makayla	Westville, NS
Robinson, Nathaniel	Pictou, NS
Rose, Elissa	Stellarton, NS
Worthen, Montana	New Glasgow, NS

Certificate in Academic and Career Connections

Bell, Rihanna	New Glasgow, NS
Isikalú, Olakunle (<i>Honours</i>)	New Glasgow, NS
MacInnis, Abigail	Westville, NS
Penney, Madison	Antigonish, NS
Sanu, Sanjida Islam (<i>Honours</i>)	Dhaka, Bangladesh
Simpson, Andrew (<i>Honours</i>)	New Glasgow, NS
Wile, Caidence	New Glasgow, NS
Zwicker, Laurie	Monastery, NS

Diploma in Business Administration

Barker, Ethan	New Glasgow NS
Glenn, Andrew	Trenton, NS
Kennedy, Madison	Trenton, NS
Maclaughlin, Clint	New Glasgow, NS
Matthews, Gavin	Woodburn, NS
Tran, Truc	Westville, NS
White, Grace (<i>Honours</i>)	New Glasgow, NS

Diploma in Business Administration - Accounting

Burgie, Ellen	Trenton, NS
Burkholder, Paige	George Town, Grand Cayman Island
Creaser, Breeana	Pictou, NS
Diksha Diksha	Punjab, India
Douglas, Hunter	Wallace, NS
Feltmate, Harley (<i>Honours</i>)	Pictou County, NS
Gerrior, Sharon	Little Harbour, NS
Hingley, Aphrodite (<i>Honours</i>)	New Glasgow, NS
Jobe, Kyla	New Glasgow, NS
Leblanc, Dakota	Scotland, ON
MacLennan, Logan (<i>Honours</i>)	Peterview, NL

Diploma in Early Childhood Education

Hurley, Victoria (<i>Honours</i>)	Trenton, NS
Worthen, Bobbie-lynn	Trenton, NS

School of Health and Human Services

Certificate in Continuing Care

Ballie, Donna (<i>Honours</i>)	New Glasgow, NS
Byrne, Sara (<i>Honours</i>)	Trenton, NS
Devries, Michelle (<i>Honours</i>)	Pictou, NS
Dunn, Kameryn (<i>Honours</i>)	Hopewell, NS
Ingemansen, Abigail	Pictou, NS
Jeans, Michelle (<i>Honours</i>)	North Vancouver, BC
Leights, Emeril	Parrsboro, NS
Lemaire, Bethany	Stellarton, NS
Lovepreet Kaur (<i>Honours</i>)	Stellarton, NS
MacKay, Colby (<i>Honours</i>)	Westville, NS
MacPherson, Jordan (<i>Honours</i>)	Halifax, NS
Malay, Tyler (<i>Honours</i>)	Sheet Harbour, NS
Meindersma, Paula (<i>Honours</i>)	Smithville, ON
Nanteza, Suzan Ssemambo (<i>Honours</i>)	New Glasgow, NS
Noel, Shelby (<i>Honours</i>)	Thorburn, NS

Polley, Chyanne
Rani, Mamta (*Honours*)
Treen, Alice (*Honours*)
VanBuskirk, Kiera (*Honours*)

Velasquez, Francesca Isabelle

Trenton, NS
Punjab, India
New Glasgow, NS
Musquodoboit Harbour,
NS
New Glasgow, NS

Diploma in Practical Nursing

Coady, Barry
Ferguson, Raytesha
Hedderson, Jasmine
Heighton, Megan
MacLean, Karleigh
MacNeil, Brea
MacPhee, Sarah
McCue, Taylor
McDonald, Monica
Moore, Abigail (*Honours*)
Morrison, Chassidy
Parsons, Jessica
Smith, Maya
Thompson, Kieran
Wilson, Emili

Stellarton, NS
Dartmouth, NS
Antigonish, NS
Pictou, NS
New Glasgow, NS
Bridgeville, NS
New Glasgow, NS
Hopewell, NS
Westville, NS
Westville, NS
Trenton, NS
Westville, NS
Eureka, NS
Stellarton, NS
Trenton, NS

Diploma in Social Services

Anderson, Kaidan
Bruce, Lindsey
Cameron, Hannah (*Honours*)
Fushtey, Jason
Grant, Kalei
MacDonald, Chad
MacDonald, Emmah
MacKay, Kori
Madueke, Benedict (*Honours*)
Mathieu, Addison
Murphy, Em (*Honours*)
Quinn, Maddy
Stewart, Jada (*Honours*)
Wadden, Rayne
Walsh, Olivia (*Honours*)

Westville, NS
Thorburn, NS
Thorburn, NS
Halifax, NS
Westville, NS
McLellans Brook, NS
Stellarton, NS
Truro, NS
New Glasgow, NS
Thorburn, NS
Stellarton, NS
Stellarton, NS
Stellarton, NS
Westville, NS
Hopewell, NS

Institute of Skilled Trades

Certificate in Automotive Service and Repair

Anderson, Ava	Frasers Mountain, NS
Baillie, Jacob (<i>Honours</i>)	Stellarton, NS
Beaver, Dale	Antigonish, NS
Chapman, Riley	Westville, NS
Evans, Lucy	Truro, NS
Hogan, Mya	Trenton, NS
Lloyd, Cody	Sheet Harbour, NS
Logan, Leander (<i>Honours</i>)	Hilden, NS
MacDonald, Isabelle Leota	Priestville, NS
Ross, Bruce	Denmark, NS
Sanford, Mitchell (<i>Honours</i>)	Stewiacke, NS
Thompson, Matthew	Westville, NS
Van Veen, Jesse	Churchville, NS

Certificate in Cabinetmaking and Woodworking Techniques

Babudro, Viv	New Glasgow, NS
Bellingham, Joseph (<i>Honours</i>)	Middle Sackville, NS
Fenton, Laura (<i>Honours</i>)	Halifax, NS
Ferguson, Andrew	Westville, NS
Fraser, Nicholas	Westville, NS
Lemire, Evan (<i>Honours</i>)	Halifax, NS
Macpherson, Andy	Havre Boucher, NS
Macpherson, Cora	Havre Boucher, NS
Murray-Rehill, Beth (<i>Honours</i>)	Kings Head, NS
Napier, Jennifer (<i>Honours</i>)	Queensland, NS
Okoye, Chibuzor	Oraifite/Anambra State, Nigeria
Totten, Andrew (<i>Honours</i>)	Debert, NS
Wallace, Miles (<i>Honours</i>)	Kitchener, NS
Wilson, Sue (<i>Honours</i>)	Stellarton, NS

Certificate in Carpentry

Kelly, Justin	Trenton, NS
Landry, Karter	Pictou, NS
Ross, Bryan	Stellarton, NS
Roy, Sebastian	Onslow, NS
Savoie, Adam	Thorburn, NS
Singh, Pavneek (<i>Honours</i>)	Antigonish, NS
Sullivan, Jeffery (<i>Honours</i>)	New Glasgow, NS
Trenholm, Michael	Pugwash, NS
Vinod, Vinod	Truro, NS

Certificate in Culinary Skills

Deyoung, Alan (*Honours*)

Ferguson, Owen

Fougere, Keiran

Howell, Ian (*Honours*)

Maclean, Jasmine

Mercer, Landen

Nicholas, Kashtin

Nicholson, David

Rector, Mitchell

Short, Rowan

Whooten, Madison (*Honours*)

Trenton, NS

St. Peter's, NS

Port Hawkesbury, NS

Truro, NS

Stellarton, NS

Springdale, NL

We'koqma'q First Nations

Antigonish, NS

Trenton, NS

Westville, NS

Truro, NS

Certificate in Plumbing

Camman, Brennan

Carter, Neil

Eustace, Alexander

Fraser, Jacob

Hanham, Luca

Landry, Zachary

Linden, Kyle

Mackinnon, Kain

Mader, Dylan

Mckinnon, Alex

Muise, Anthony

Murphy, Ashton

Nichol, Colbey

Rhyno, Gavin

Sibley, Ethan

Salt Springs, NS

Fox Brook, NS

Eastern Passage, NS

Trenton, NS

Truro, NS

Trenton, NS

Cape Breton, NS

Judique, NS

New Glasgow, NS

Halifax, NS

Truro, NS

East Mountain, NS

Pictou, NS

Thorburn, NS

Stewiacke, NS

Diploma in Carpentry

Beadle, Jackson

Fraser, Nicole

Gosbee, Kalen

MacDonald, Dylan

MacDougall, Caiden

Maclsaac, Beaton

Mackay, Ben

Macumber, Kyle

McAleese, Robert (*Honours*)

McLean, David (*Honours*)

Phillips, Josie (*Honours*)

Piktuk, NS

Abercrombie, NS

Westville Road, NS

Truro, NS

Eastern Passage, NS

Antigonish, NS

Westville, NS

New Glasgow, NS

Harmony, NS

Greenhill, NS

Antigonish, NS

Diploma in Electro Mechanical Technician

Abbass, Noah	Pine Tree, NS
Chisholm, Aidan	Bedford, NS
Copas, Wyatt	Hants County, NS
Falconer, Jake	Stellarton, NS
Jean-Joyce, Aidan	Lower Sackville, NS
Johnston, Brayden	Pictou, NS
Leblanc, Carter	Pictou, NS
Lynch, Skylar	New Glasgow, NS
MacDonald, Brielle (<i>Honours</i>)	Lyons Brook, NS
Mackenzie, Logan	Westville, NS
Matthew, Thabiti (<i>Honours</i>)	Antigonish, NS
McNamara, Porter	Pictou, NS
Noël, Joseph	West River Station, NS
Roop, Michael Stephen	Greenwood, NS
Thompson, Josh	Merigomish, NS

Diploma in Truck and Transport Repair

Duff, Nicholas	Pictou County, NS
Fraser, Grace	Thorburn, NS
Fraser, Justin	Trenton, NS
Gunn, Colton	East River St. Marys, NS
Laybolt, Adien	Pictou, NS
LeBlanc, Mathieu	Abercrombie, NS
MacFarlane, Lane	Trenton, NS
Pitts, Addison	Antigonish, NS
Pollard, Braiden	Port Hawkesbury, NS
Pountney, Keiran	Valley, NS
Redding, Luke	Trenton, NS
Ryan, Cohen (<i>Honours</i>)	New Glasgow, NS
Singh, Gaganpreet	New Glasgow, NS

Diploma in Welding

Abbass, Jacob	Thorburn, NS
Davis, Shandi	Goose Bay, NL
Gosbee, Jacob	New Glasgow, NS
Laffin, Myles	Hardwood Lands, NS
MacDonald, Keagon	Westville, NS
MacKay, Dylan	Trenton, NS
MacKinnon, Ethan	New Glasgow, NS
Melanson, Skyler	Antigonish, NS
Nordal, Jesika	Truro, NS
Pennington, Jacob	New Glasgow, NS
Taylor, Zachary	Westville, NS

Convocation 2026

Valedictorian

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



Raytesha Ferguson

School of Health and Human Services

Diploma in Practical Nursing

Before studying at NSCC, Raytesha was building a successful career as a Divisional Sales Manager at Staples in Antigonish. While she thrived in leadership, her perspective shifted after experiencing healthcare from a patient's point of view. The compassion and support she received inspired her to imagine herself in a nursing role, offering the same care to others during vulnerable moments.

Raytesha chose the Practical Nursing program at Pictou Campus for its strong emphasis on hands on learning, small class sizes and student centered support. With family ties to the College, NSCC quickly became a place where she felt both seen and supported.

Throughout the program, Raytesha was inspired by each skill and clinical experience she gained, discovering just how diverse and dynamic nursing can be. Together, her classmates shared every high and low, creating bonds through laughter and perseverance. The welcoming community, faculty encouragement and moments of lightness, including cafeteria comfort food like poutines on long days, made Pictou Campus feel like home. Through it all, Raytesha developed resilience and self-discipline. She gained the confidence to show up as her authentic self, a takeaway from the Pamoja Nursing School Primer, a pre-program orientation designed to support Black nursing students entering their studies.

Following graduation, Raytesha plans to work in acute care, followed by a well-earned beach vacation with a good book. She leaves NSCC guided by a simple truth: “Be proud of who you are and remember what you accomplished here.”

Major Awards

Governor General's Academic Medal

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

Josie Phillips
Carpentry

Nova Scotia Community College Gold Medal

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

Andrew Simpson
Academic and Career Connections

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.

Em Murphy
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.

Rowan Short
Culinary Skills

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.

Chad MacDonald
Social Services

Employees

Adey, Tony	Regional Student Services Manager
Atwater, John	Faculty, Social Services
Baillie, McKinley	Facilities Support Assistant
Barrett, Stephen	Faculty, Adult Learning Program
Baxter, Glenn	Equipment Technician
Bishop, Darin	Faculty, Adult Learning Program / Academic and Career Connections
Bourque, Kennedy	Facilities Support Assistant
Bowser, Cavelle	Facilities Support Assistant
Brooks, Charlotte	L'nu Indigenous Student Advisor
Brown, Ben	Faculty, Truck and Transport Repair
Bryden, Elaine	Faculty, Welding
Burns, Angela	Faculty, Cosmetology
Byrne, Mike	Faculty, School of Access, Business, Creative Industry and Education / Institute of Skilled Trades
Cameron, Jill	Faculty, Practical Nursing
Cameron, Joie	Administrative Assistant, Business Office
Cameron, Kaitlin	Achieve Employment Specialist
Camman, Shannon	Faculty, Practical Nursing
Connolly, Janice	Faculty, Adult Learning Program / Academic and Career Connections
Curtis-Airey, Meaghan	Adult Learning Program Counsellor
Deagle, Karley	Faculty, Practical Nursing
Delaney, Mary	Faculty, Continuing Care
DeLorey, Denise	Administrative Assistant, Business Office
Dobson, Mark	Faculty, Electro Mechanical Technician
Faulkner, James	Faculty, Adult Learning Program
Gerrior, Peter	Building Services Lead
Gibson, Hilary	Student Accessibility Specialist
Giokas, Joe	Faculty, Adult Learning Program
Glenen, Andrea	Employee Services Advisor
Hall, Don	Facilities Support Lead
Heighton, Cher	Administrative Assistant, Academic Services
Hoffman, Heidi	Faculty, Practical Nursing
Hutchinson, Tom	Faculty, Truck and Transport Repair
Ingram, Daryl	Faculty, Adult Learning Program / Academic and Career Connections
Jamieson, Ian	Faculty, Construction Industrial Electrical Apprenticeship

Jarvis, Steve	Faculty, Cabinetmaking and Woodworking Techniques
Jones, Maria	Administrative Assistant, Business Office
Jones, Monica	Security
Kaye, Dale	Digital Technology Lead
King, Michael	Faculty, Adult Learning Program
Kolanko, Mark	Manager, Student Services
Lawrence, David	Faculty, Carpentry
Lawrence, Michael	Faculty, Social Services
LeBrun, Quincy	Facilities Support Assistant
Lees, Rebecca	Administrative Assistant, Academic Chair
Little, Gerard	Faculty, Plumbing
Lowe, Leanne	Faculty, Adult Learning Program
MacDonald, Mandy	Faculty, Continuing Care
MacDonald, Stuart	Facilities Manager
MacDougall Penner, Linda	Student Services Counsellor
MacEachern, Nick	Faculty, Electro Mechanical Technician
MacIntosh, Danica	Achieve Coordinator
MacIntosh, Kevin	Faculty, Carpentry
MacIntyre, Mark	Manager, Business Office
Maclsaac, Zach	Coordinator, Campus Housing
MacKay, Matthew	Faculty, Welding
MacKinnon, Colby	Facilities Support Assistant
MacLean, Devin	Facilities Support Assistant
MacNeil, Beth	Assistant to Principal
Mahoney, Jo-Ann	Student Services Advisor
Miller, Goldie	Faculty, Business Administration
Mohamed, Deanna	Student Services Advisor and African Canadian Supports
Morrell-Pierre, Lacey	Faculty, Adult Learning Program
Mullin, James	Faculty, Carpentry
Nicholas, Frances	Elder on Campus
Nicholas, Mary	Elder on Campus
Oostvogels, Matthew	Academic Chair, School of Access, Business, Creative Industry and Education / Institute of Skilled Trades
O'Toole, Bonnie	Faculty, Related Subjects
Parker, Chelsea	Faculty, Practical Nursing
Parsons, Carol-Ann	Student Care Navigator
Pettipas, Lori	Facilities Support Assistant
Ponikau, Christian	Digital Technology Analyst
Poole, Janice	Bookstore Coordinator
Popoola, Susan	Facilities Support Assistant
Rand, Jacob	Faculty, Culinary Skills

Reddick, Trevor	Academic Chair, School of Access, Business, Creative Industries, and Education / School of Health and Human Services
Romkey, Tom	Facilities Support Assistant
Rumsey, Adam	Faculty, Business Administration
Ryan-Connolly, Kelly	Assistant Registrar
Savoie, Erika	Faculty, Social Services
Saxena, Vivek	Principal, Eastern Region
Spears, Darrell	Faculty, School of Access, Business, Creative Industry and Education / Institute of Skilled Trades
Stewart, Judy	Facilities Support Assistant
Terpstra, Heather	Facilities Support Assistant
Terpstra, Justin	Administrative Assistant, Student Services
Tobin, Richard	Faculty, Adult Learning Program / Academic and Career Connections
van de Pol, Cristal	Library Technician
Webber, Anna	Administrative Assistant, Facilities
Welbourn, Megan	Learning Commons Assistant / Test Centre Administrator
Williams, Katie	Faculty, Institute of Skilled Trades
Williamson, Jill	Administrative Assistant, Student Services
Wilson, Hugh	Facilities Support Assistant
Woods, Adam	Faculty, Automotive Service and Repair
Young, Tanya	Achieve Program Assistant