

Truro Campus Convocation  
June 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2026

# Land Acknowledgement

NSCC is located in Mi'kma'ki, the unceded territory and traditional homeland of the Mi'kmaq Nation. Our relationship is based on a series of peace and friendship treaties between the Mi'kmaq Nation and the Crown, dating back to 1725.

As Treaty beneficiaries, we recognize that we are all Treaty People.

# African Nova Scotian recognition

NSCC recognizes the African Nova Scotians as a distinct group who arrived here 400 years ago. From that time on, they have contributed to the infrastructure and economic wealth of the towns and cities they helped to build.

Let us learn more about how respective communities were shaped by the historical contributions of African Nova Scotians to Mi'kma'ki.

# Order of proceedings

## **Processional**

Aaron Dunsiger - Piper

## **Mi'kmaq Honour Song**

Carl Thomas

## **Lift Every Voice and Sing**

Ashton Jacklyn

## **O Canada**

Vicki MacKinnon

## **Principal's welcome**

Lech Krzywonos, Principal

## **President's remarks**

Anna Burke, Acting NSCC President

## **Awarding of Honorary Diploma**

Jill Provoe, Vice President, Campuses and Communities

## **Presentation of credentials**

Karen Gillespie, Academic Chair

Matthew Guy, Academic Chair

Vicki MacKinnon, Academic Chair

## **Presentation of major awards**

Tony Adey, Manager Student Services

## **Valedictory address**

Samreen Kaur, Digital Animation – 3D

## **Recessional**

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

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

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

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

## **About the Mi'kmaq Honour Song**

The Mi'kmaq Honour Song performed at NSCC Convocation ceremonies is an act of Reconciliation, community, cultural revitalization and inclusivity. The song shared by singers is an invitation for the audience to participate in a powerful ceremony, which is a unifying symbol of the connection to land and enduring spirit of Mi'kmaq people.

Composed by Elder George Paul of Metepenagiag, the Mi'kmaq Honour Song calls on L'nu people to honour who they are. Performed through song, chanting and hand drumming during ceremonies and gatherings, it calls on ancestors for spiritual guidance and holds a strong message to help and respect one another. It encourages community and connection in Mi'kmaq culture and traditions - so they are preserved, shared and celebrated for generations to come.

View lyrics to the Mi'kmaq Honour Song at [nsc.ca/ceremony](https://nsc.ca/ceremony)

## **About Lift Every Voice and Sing**

Often referred to as the Black National Anthem, Lift Every Voice and Sing is a powerful hymn of hope, resilience and liberation. By incorporating Lift Every Voice and Sing into our Convocation ceremonies, we affirm our commitment to the Scarborough Charter's guiding principle of Black Flourishing and the Black Community Council's (BCC) mandate of ensuring an inclusive, anti-racist and equitable learning environment - acknowledging the past and the harms done to African Nova Scotians are honoured and never forgotten.

Originally written as a poem by James Weldon Johnson in 1900 and later set to music by his brother John Rosamond Johnson, the anthem has become a cornerstone of Black cultural identity and collective memory across North America.

At NSCC, including Lift Every Voice and Sing during Convocation holds deep cultural and historical significance. It reflects our presence on Mi'kma'ki, the ancestral and unceded territory of the Mi'kmaq people. It honours the legacy of the historic African Nova Scotian communities whose contributions continue to shape the fabric of this province.

Sung across generations, the anthem speaks to the enduring strength, dignity and perseverance of African descendants in the face of enslavement, racism and systemic injustice.

View lyrics to Lift Every Voice and Sing at [nsc.ca/ceremony](https://nsc.ca/ceremony)



## Anna Burke

### Message from the Acting NSCC President

Graduates,

Today, we come together to recognize and celebrate your perseverance, your dedication to your studies, and the commitments you've maintained throughout your journey. Every challenge you faced and connection you made along the way has shaped this significant milestone - and so much more.

Your journey as an NSCC student began the moment you chose to make a change in your life: to learn more, to grow, and to pursue something new. That powerful decision led you here - to become a student who worked hard, stayed focused, and kept showing up. It wasn't always easy, but you've proven that you can do it.

While today marks the culmination of your efforts and achievements, it also marks the beginning of a new and exciting chapter - as NSCC graduates. I encourage you to trust the same determination that carried you through your studies, and to take your new skills, knowledge, and experiences forward with confidence. Whatever positive steps you take next, know that we are so proud of you.

On behalf of all of us at NSCC, **congratulations class of 2026!**

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

**Anna Burke**

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

Akpialialuk, Mary	Pangnirtung, NU
Anderson, Rowan	Truro, NS
Boyko, Charlie ( <i>Honours</i> )	Estevan, SK
Brown, Marley ( <i>Honours</i> )	Truro, NS
Dillman-Fahey, Alexander	Truro, NS
Ellis-Abbott, Madelyn	Truro, NS
Hamilton, Destiny	Truro, NS
Johnson, Chelsea ( <i>Honours</i> )	Truro, NS
Milliea, Tristan ( <i>Honours</i> )	Moncton, NB
Missons, Serena	Truro, NS
Moyer, Anthony ( <i>Honours</i> )	Bible Hill, NS
Perry, Anna	Truro, NS
Rodgerson, Chloe ( <i>Honours</i> )	Yarmouth, NS
Rus, Eliza	Debert, NS
Stewart, Kyle ( <i>Honours</i> )	Truro, NS

### Certificate of Completion in Achieve

Brigley, Jonah	Oxford, NS
Gates, Nathan	Truro, NS
MacLean, Joe Anslie	Kemptown, NS
Moore, Jonathan	Antrim, NS
Mumford, Chloe	East Noel, NS
Perry, Aiden	Truro, NS
Power, Max	Salmon River, NS
Rushton, Skylar	Belmont, NS

## **Certificate in Academic and Career Connections**

Bernard, Kerry	Dutch Settlement, NS
Claridge, Amy	Truro, NS
Gloade, Mya	Millbrook, NS
Laroche, Kristopher	Truro, NS
Uwera, Gladys	Truro, NS

## **Certificate in Administrative Professional**

Vaux, Nicole	Masstown, NS
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## **Certificate in Medical Office Administration**

Boudreau, Drew ( <i>Honours</i> )	New Glasgow, NS
Clarke, Kayleigh ( <i>Honours</i> )	Glace Bay, NS
Crawford, Stephanie	Wentworth, NS
Croslyn, Caitlin ( <i>Honours</i> )	Truro, NS
Currie, Shirley	Hilden, NS
DeBay, Stephanie	Masstown, NS
Després, Lilianna ( <i>Honours</i> )	Truro, NS
Fleck, Jessica	Truro, NS
Harpell, Callie ( <i>Honours</i> )	Truro, NS
Irving, Leslie	Pictou Landing, NS
King, Olivia ( <i>Honours</i> )	Truro, NS
Macleod, Chloe	Truro, NS
Millman, Mariska	Truro, NS
Muise, Olivia ( <i>Honours</i> )	Elmsdale, NS
O'Blenis, Brianne	Amherst, NS
Polley, Lindsay	Pugwash, NS
Reid, Grace ( <i>Honours</i> )	Truro, NS
Skinner, Brylee	Louisburg, NS
Stone, Eliza ( <i>Honours</i> )	Truro, NS
Totten, Meghan ( <i>Honours</i> )	Halifax, NS

## **Diploma in Business Administration**

Adeagbo, Adewale	Ibadan, Nigeria
Callison, Wyatt	Advocate Harbour, NS
Gromack, Brandon ( <i>Honours</i> )	Truro, NS
Gromack, Kalen	Truro, NS

Mackenzie, Parker	Truro, NS
Mahajan, Kanav	Jalandhar, India
Sharma, Moaksh	Truro, NS
Thompson, Ruth-Ann	Jamaica
Totten, Johnathan	Truro, NS

## **Diploma in Business Administration – Accounting**

Abushenaf, Salim ( <i>Honours</i> )	Hilden, NS
Bishop, Mason	Greenfield, NS
Davey, Jacqueline ( <i>Honours</i> )	Valley, NS
Ford, Devon	Bayhead, NS
Hoeg, Katelyn ( <i>Honours</i> )	North River, NS
Jain, Navyam	Halifax, NS
Munroe, Rory ( <i>Honours</i> )	Truro, NS
Nickerson, Samuel	Truro, NS
Patterson, James	Bridgetown, Barbados
Powell, Reba	Truro, NS
Singh, Jobanjot	Truro, NS
Smith, Madyson	Edmonton, AB

## **Diploma in Early Childhood Education**

George, Serena	Great Village, NS
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## **Graduate Certificate in Nonprofit Leadership**

Beck, Levon ( <i>Honours</i> )	Truro, NS
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## **Diploma in Digital Animation – 2D Animation**

Barry, Amber	Bridgewater, NS
Mackenzie, Alexander ( <i>Honours</i> )	Halifax, NS
Smith, Alyssa	Chaswood, NS
Whittaker, Zachary	Stewiacke, NS
Winchester, Isabelle	Lower Sackville, NS

## Diploma in Digital Animation – 3D Animation

Adamski, Aisha  
Da Nobrega Monteiro, Helena  
Kaur, Samreen  
Lewis, Morgan  
Rhude, Jordis

Brandon, MB  
Rio de Janeiro, Brazil  
Jalandhar, India  
Fall River, NS  
Shubenacadie, NS

## Diploma in Game & Interactive Art

MacKay, Sara (*Honours*)  
Nickerson, Amanda  
Patoliya, Hiral Rajubhai  
Roderick, Eva (*Honours*)  
Traer, Cameron  
Van Hattem, Toby

Hammonds Plains, NS  
Cole Harbour, NS  
Gujarat, India  
Beaver Bank, NS  
Waverley, NS  
Woodville, NS

## Diploma in Game Programming

Burnie, Silver  
Carew, Julia  
Hislop, Kieran  
Lerner, Benjamin  
Lirette, Kyle (*Honours*)

Truro, NS  
Truro, NS  
New Glasgow, NS  
Lima, Peru  
Truro, NS

## School of Applied Technology and Innovation

### Diploma in IT Systems Management and Security

Bremner, Ash  
Castro, Oscar  
Charter, Amanda  
Gamble, Alexander  
Goodwin-Peck, Dalton  
Hyndman, William  
Nixon, Jaedon  
Rushton, Patrick  
Tran, Khanh

Chester, NS  
Quito, Ecuador  
Truro, NS  
Truro, NS  
Truro, NS  
Coldbrook, NS  
Lantz, NS  
Bible Hill, NS  
Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam

## Diploma in IT Web Programming

Betts, Peter (*Honours*)  
Crowell, Lindsay (*Honours*)  
Grinton, Caleb (*Honours*)  
Henderson, Max (*Honours*)  
Jones, Robert (*Honours*)  
Korantwi, Seth (*Honours*)  
MacEachern, Drew  
Ticlea, Alexandra (*Honours*)  
Wilson, James  
Winstanley, Olivia (*Honours*)

Brookfield, NS  
Truro, NS  
Harmony, NS  
Truro, NS  
Hilden, NS  
Nkoranza, Ghana  
East Village, NS  
Brasov, Romania  
Truro, NS  
Londonderry, NS

## Diploma in Natural Resources Environmental Technology

Bezanson, Kaitlyn  
Burns, Jessica  
MacDonald, Ethan  
MacDonald, Karsten  
MacDonald-Davis, Olivia  
Ruck, Gabriella (*Honours*)  
Rueff, Makena (*Honours*)  
Timmons, Paige  
Webber, Haelie  
White, Connor

Upper Stewiacke, NS  
Halifax, NS  
Truro, NS  
Westville, NS  
Dartmouth, NS  
Colchester, NS  
Canning, NS  
Cheticamp, NS  
Clarence East, NS  
Truro, NS

## School of Health and Human Services

### Certificate in Continuing Care

Adams, Jennifer  
Borgal, Jace (*Honours*)  
Bowie, Jean  
Colpitts Sarson, Lucena  
Dodsworth, Margaret (*Honours*)  
Doucette, Alyson (*Honours*)  
Dowding, Bailey (*Honours*)  
Finnamore, Jiselle (*Honours*)  
Gammell, Elaina (*Honours*)  
Harvie, Aaliyah  
Hayward-Hopkins, Marsha

Brookfield, NS  
Kindersley, SK  
Truro, NS  
Brookfield, NS  
Great Village, NS  
Timberlea, NS  
Tatamangouche, NS  
Truro, NS  
Lake Egmont, NS  
Truro, NS  
Truro, NS

Henley, Alisha  
Hostler, Jessica  
Hundal, Arshpreet (*Honours*)  
Jones, Emily  
Kaloti, Princee (*Honours*)  
Kaur, Harpreet (*Honours*)  
Kaur, Pawanpreet (*Honours*)  
Lake, Danika  
Lemieux, Gabrielle (*Honours*)  
McNutt, Justine  
Mupengo, Orieta (*Honours*)  
Murphy, Rachel (*Honours*)  
Murray, Katherine Casey  
Muvirimi, Gellie (*Honours*)  
Naugle, Noelle  
Nelson, José  
Nickerson, Darby (*Honours*)  
Okioma, Imelda  
O'Neil-Urquhart, Delaney (*Honours*)  
Poirier, Alyssa (*Honours*)  
Polley, Shy (*Honours*)  
Savary, Alison (*Honours*)  
Tagboto, Kathryn Selasie (*Honours*)  
Zozuk, Sarah

Truro, NS  
Valley, NS  
Truro, NS  
Middle Musquodoboit, NS  
London, ON  
Punjab, India  
Truro, NS  
Truro, NS  
New Glasgow, NS  
Salmon River, NS  
Harare, Zimbabwe  
Alma, NS  
Tatamagouche, NS  
Truro, NS  
Valley NS  
Truro, NS  
Tatamagouche, NS  
Nigeria  
Shubenacadie, NS  
Dean, NS  
Sylvester, NS  
Beaver Brook, NS  
Halifax, NS  
Dartmouth, NS

## **Certificate in Law and Security**

Collins, Sam  
Comeau, Nikita  
Handley, Nathan  
Lockhart, Chaz  
Maclsaac-Brayall, Alexander  
Mavrin, Lior  
Morris, Bruce  
Palmer, Dorian

Cole Harbour, NS  
Clare, NS  
Halifax, NS  
Springhill, NS  
Middle Sackville, NS  
Dartmouth, NS  
Fraserville, NS  
Manchester, Jamaica

## **Diploma in Child and Youth Care**

Carroll, Carmyn  
Conway, Samantha  
Cook, Courtney  
Kaur, Ramandeep

Upper Musquodoboit, NS  
New Glasgow, NS  
Truro, NS  
Truro, NS

McGill, Megan  
Messenger, Aurora  
Mubarak Bawa, Samiratu  
Phinney, Bridgette  
Singh, Harshdeep

Truro, NS  
Truro, NS  
Takoradi, Ghana  
Maitland, NS  
Truro, NS

## **Diploma in Criminal Justice**

Bellefontaine, Austin  
Bishop, Jacey  
Bosse, Karlie  
Boutilier, Caden  
Brown, Kacey  
Bushell, Hunter  
Childs, Riley  
Cox, Taylor  
Crocker, Joshua  
Dill, Kevin  
Doucette, Chayann  
Feairs, Jaden  
Gero, Tamika  
Grant, Nathan  
Hunt, Sophie  
Kennickell, Aidan  
MacDonald, Matthew  
MacDougall, Sean  
MacGillivray, William Parick  
Maclsaac, Connor  
MacLean, John  
MacLeod, Keyauna  
MacQuarrie, Evan  
MacRae, Harrison  
McNeil, Mason  
Murray, Savanna  
Powell, Olivia  
Presti, Sydnee  
Racicot, Noah  
Ricard, Arman-John (AJ)  
Stevens, Tyson

Porters Lake, NS  
Truro, NS  
Halifax, NS  
Sheet Harbour, NS  
Pugwash, NS  
Canada Creek, NS  
Cole Harbour, NS  
Coldbrook, NS  
Gander, NL  
Wellington, NS  
Noel, NS  
Dundalk, ON  
Antigonish, NS  
Stellarton, NS  
Fall River, NS  
Coldbrook, NS  
Linacy, NS  
Bedford, NS  
Hammonds Plains, NS  
Antigonish, NS  
Port Hawkesbury, NS  
East Hants, NS  
New Glasgow, NS  
Truro, NS  
Truro, NS  
New Glasgow, NS  
Middle Sackville, NS  
Prospect, NS  
Gananoque, ON  
Barrington, NS  
Millbrook First Nation, NS

## Diploma in Practical Nursing

Alo, Daniel  
Carter, Meagan  
Chigbogu, Chidinma  
Cox, Hillary  
Curry, Mary  
Dueck, Holly (*Honours*)  
Ernst, Samantha  
Hortilano, Dimple  
Hortilano, Elisha  
Kalia, Rajesh  
Keating, Desaree (*Honours*)  
Miksys, Asta  
Moore, Morgane  
Munguia, Carlota (*Honours*)  
Purdy, Hailey  
Ralston, Destiny (*Honours*)  
Rooney-Holman, Lauren  
Saini, Jaskirat (*Honours*)  
Sampson, Brianne  
Stone, Courtney  
Stone, Falan (*Honours*)  
Wells, Stephanie  
White, Halle  
Woodworth, Caitlyn (*Honours*)

Cape Breton, NS  
Halifax, NS  
Enugu, Nigeria  
Brentwood, NS  
Truro, NS  
Lower Sackville, NS  
Lantz, NS  
Truro, NS  
Truro, NS  
Edmonton, AB  
Bible Hill, NS  
New Glasgow, NS  
Truro, NS  
Bible Hill, NS  
Tatamagouche, NS  
Truro, NS  
Upper Tantallon, NS  
Chandigarh, India  
Truro, NS  
Sackville, NS  
Truro, NS  
Annapolis Valley, NS  
Tatamagouche, NS  
Stewiacke, NS

## Diploma in Practical Nursing – CCA to PN Bridge

Ackert, Nicole  
Baillie, Kasey (*Honours*)  
Burriss, Danielle  
Dennis, April  
DeYoung-Perry, Ashton  
Fitzpatrick, Rebecca  
George, Courtney  
Goodwin, Keshia (*Honours*)  
Harding, Holly  
Hayman, Beth  
Henry, Andrea  
Jackson, Sarah  
Jewers, Alannah  
Johnson, Erin

Sheet Harbour, NS  
Salmon River, NS  
Middle Musquodoboit, NS  
Sydney, NS  
Monastery, NS  
Pictou County, NS  
Pleasant Valley, NS  
Truro, NS  
Lockeport, NS  
Truro, NS  
Belmont, NS  
Windsor, NS  
Ecum Secum, NS  
Bridgewater, NS

MacArthur, Frances  
MacQuarrie, Brittany  
Nolan, Kimberley  
Powell, Sarah  
Sanford, Emileigh (*Honours*)  
Spencer, Tanya

Aylesford, NS  
Inverness, NS  
Lower Truro, NS  
Westville, NS  
Hubley, NS  
Wolfville, NS

## Diploma in Social Services

Aman, Aman  
Aremu, Felicia  
Badger, Aimee  
Campbell, Kennedy  
D'Andreamatteo, Tina (*Honours*)  
Druhan, Harrison  
Easterly, Jemma  
Gay, Abby  
Johnston, Kaitlyn  
Knockwood, Catherine  
Krupay, Emily  
MacCallum, Rachel  
MacDonald, Brigette  
Miller, Maddison-Faith  
Redden, Eddie (*Honours*)  
Richards, Christopher  
Wright, Macey

Haryana, India  
Oyo State, Nigeria  
Truro, NS  
Salmon River, NS  
Truro, NS  
Lantz, NS  
Antigonish, NS  
Truro, NS  
Onslow Mountain, NS  
Sipekne'katik, NS  
Truro, NS  
Truro, NS  
Lower Sackville, NS  
East Hants, NS  
Middle Musquodoboit, NS  
Truro, NS  
New Glasgow, NS

## Institute of Skilled Trades

### Certificate in Electrical Construction and Industrial

Allan, Riley  
Berry, Ava  
Broderick, Jack  
Campbell, William  
Chua, B-Jay  
Denny, Antle  
Duncan, Jaden  
Gammon, Bryton  
Hines, Ethan  
MacDonald, Nathan

Seafoam, NS  
Fall River, NS  
Middle Sackville, NS  
Halifax, NS  
Makilala, Philippines  
Eskasoni, NS  
Truro, NS  
Valley, NS  
Elmsdale, NS  
Sylvester, NS

Mackay, David  
Martin, Jake  
Pape, Cooper  
Patriquin, Ewan  
Paul, Ashton  
Pembleton, Brayden  
Peters, Sawyer Thane  
Plant, Brayden  
Poehl, Benjamin  
Rector, Matthew  
Rennie-Munroe, Owen  
Sampson, Mason (*Honours*)  
Scott, Landon  
Shubaly-Buntain, William  
Snook, Dylan  
Taylor, Haylen  
Van Tonder, Divan

Bible Hill, NS  
New Glasgow, NS  
Halifax, NS  
Debert, NS  
Membertou, NS  
Elmsdale, NS  
Halifax, NS  
Kennetcook, NS  
Valley, NS  
Belmont, NS  
Porters Lake, NS  
Onslow Mountain, NS  
Nine Mile River, NS  
Dartmouth, NS  
Enfield, NS  
Enfield, NS  
Fall River, NS

# 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.

# 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.



# Samreen Kaur

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

### **Digital Animation – 3D Animation**

Before her studies at Truro Campus, Samreen was living in India, where she recently completed high school. At an early age, she was drawn to creativity, art and storytelling and knew she wanted a career that would allow her to express ideas visually. Choosing to move to Canada meant stepping outside her comfort zone to pursue personal growth, creative exploration and new opportunities.

Samreen enrolled in NSCC's Digital 3D Animation program, a field that allows her to bring her ideas to life in meaningful ways. Throughout her studies, Samreen found motivation and inspiration through supportive faculty, classmates, her involvement with the Student Association and her role in the International Students Ambassador Program. As an international student, the inclusive and welcoming environment on campus helped her build a strong sense of belonging. She consistently felt supported and encouraged to grow, making her experience at NSCC both impactful and memorable.

After graduation, Samreen plans to continue developing her skills in 3D animation and marketing, using visual storytelling to connect with audiences. Long-term, she hopes to build a career rooted in creativity, community and giving back.

Samreen encourages the Class of 2026 to be patient with their journey and confident in their progress. "Keep showing up for yourself, even

when things feel uncertain. Growth takes time, and it looks different for everyone. And most importantly, remember that home isn't something you have to find. It's something you create through the people you connect with, the spaces you build and the choices you make."

# Major Awards

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

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

Alexandra Ticlea  
IT Web Programming

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

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

Alyssa Poirier  
Continuing Care

## **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.

Carmyn Carroll  
Child and Youth Care

## **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.

Meghan Totten  
Medical Office Administration

## **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.

Salim Abushenaf  
Business Administration - Accounting

# Employees

Adams, Sabrina	Facilities Support Assistant
Adey, Tony	Manager, Student Services
Afroz, Farhana	Student Services Advisor
Auld-Cameron, Jennifer	Faculty
Bagnell, Bronwyn	Student Accessibility Specialist
Baillie, Trevor	Facilities Support Assistant
Baird, Connie	Administrative Assistant
Barry, Dan	Faculty
Borden, Charmaine	Campus Librarian
Bourque, Donna	Faculty
Bower, Susie	Faculty
Budgey, Cynthia	Faculty
Burns, Edward	Regional Public Safety Supervisor
Callaghan, Eva	Faculty
Cameron, Don	Faculty
Cameron, Jordan	Faculty
Cassidy, Adrian	Core Services Administrator
Chester, Beverly	Facilities Support Assistant
Chute, Ruston	Faculty
Clyke, Janelle	Employment Specialist
Colley, Patrick	Coordinator of Campus Housing
Collins, June	Faculty
Comeau, Tracy	Faculty
Criss, Daniel	Faculty
Crouse, Julie	Faculty
Currie, Shelly	Faculty
Currie, Melissa	Faculty
Cutten, Bev	Learning Commons Assistant, Administrator
Davey, André	Faculty
Davidson, Lindsay	Administrative Assistant
Densmore, Sara	Student Care Navigator
Deveau, Christian	Manager, IT Service Delivery and Operations
Doucette, Matthew	Faculty
Dunford, Dan	Faculty
Dyke, Barbara	Faculty
Earle, Jennifer	Faculty
Englehart, Mathew	Faculty
Field, Kimberly	Facilities Support Assistant
Flemming, Stephen	Faculty, Program Assistant
Forsythe, Simon	Faculty
Fraser, Janet	Facilities Support Assistant
Fraser, Matthew	Manager, Administrative Services
Gallant, Ian	Faculty

Garber-Clark, Keegan	Administrative Assistant
Geraghty, Donald	Faculty
Gillespie, Karen	Academic Chair
Gloade, Kyle	Digital Technology Analyst
Googoo, Kayla	L'nu Indigenous Student Advisor
Graham, Cheryl	Associate, Sports and Wellness Centre
Grant, Melanie	Faculty
Grant, Nancy	Associate, Sports and Wellness Centre
Gregory, Roxanne	Events Coordinator
Guy, Matthew	Academic Chair
Hache, Angela	Faculty
Haines, Rhonda	Administrative Assistant
Hayward, Greg	Student Services Advisor
Heighton, Marci	Administrative Assistant
Hiltz, Theresa	Administrative Assistant
Hitz, Tayna	Faculty
Hoeg, Sophie	Faculty
Hunking, Aaron	Faculty
Janes, Ruth	Program Assistant
Johnny, Mejo	Administrative Assistant
Joiner, Margaret	Faculty
Joiner, Ronald	Faculty
King, Adam	Faculty
Knox, Tracey	Faculty
Koehler-Clarke, Sarah	Casual Managerial
Krzywonos, Lech	Principal
Kwon, Hyesun	Faculty
Larusic, Gordon	Faculty
Laska, John	Digital Technology Analyst
Lord, Peter	Associate, Sports and Wellness Centre
Lorimer-Charles, Tanya	Faculty
Lynch, Katrina	Administrative Assistant
MacConnell, April	Program Coordinator
MacConnell, Anne	Faculty
MacDonald, Bobi	Student Accessibility Specialist
MacKenzie, Matt	Faculty
MacKinnon, Vicki	Academic Chair
MacLean, Roddie	Faculty
MacInnes, Rebecca	Faculty
MacPherson, Patrick	Faculty
MacRae, Greg	Faculty
Madinsky, Evan	Faculty
Maguire, Michael	Faculty
Mallory, Shari	Faculty
Marshall, Crystal	Faculty
McCurdy, Mike	Faculty

McCurdy, Nicole	Faculty
McDonald, Claudette	Faculty
McGuire, Crystal	Administrative Assistant
McLaren, Ryan	Faculty
McNeil, Tracy	Faculty
Merritt, Mike	Associate, Sport and Wellness Centre
Misener, Calysta	Faculty
Morrison, Keith	Facilities Support Assistant
Morrow, Sean	Faculty
Munro, Danielle	Faculty
Murphy, Jonathan	Faculty
Murphy, Michelle	Counsellor
Nascimento, Daniel	Faculty
Naz, Afra	Administrative Assistant
O'Leary, Sean	Facilities Support Assistant
Payson, Carmen	Faculty
Payson, Troy	Faculty
Penner, Jeanette	Faculty
Phipps, Sheryl	Administrative Assistant
Porter, Nicole	Learning Commons Assistant/Test Centre
Rayworth, Deborah	Faculty
Redmond, Matthew	Faculty
Rideout, Ken	Electrician
Rizkallah, Yvonne	Faculty
Roberts, Lenn	Faculty
Robichaud, Sam	Faculty
Ross, Elaine	Associate, Sport and Wellness Centre
Russell, Mindy	Administrative Assistant
Russell, Scott	Facilities Manager
Sampson, Michael	Faculty
Shaw, Kelly	Faculty
Simmons, Brandon	Faculty
Slauenwhite-Meisner, Tiffany	Faculty
Smith, Debbie	Faculty
Stevens, Kim	Achieve Program Coordinator
Suhagiya, Rajeshkumar	Faculty
Thompson, Bert	Counsellor, Personal and Career
Toole, Debbie	Faculty
Tufts, Christopher	Faculty
Tully-Knockwood, Amelia	Faculty
Van De Schaar, Sandra	Facilities Assistant
Verdonck, Derek	Faculty
Wallace, Michelle	Faculty
White, Allison	Faculty
White, Connor	Facilities Support Assistant

Whyte, Danielle  
Williams, Pam  
Wohlmuth, Edward  
Wolfe, Estelle  
Woods, Shawn  
Works, Brittany

Employee Services  
Faculty  
Faculty  
Assistant Registrar  
Faculty  
Administrative Assistant

**Portraits by Johanna** will be taking photos of graduates receiving their certificate/diploma. Photos can be downloaded at no cost and will be available 48 hours after convocation.

[https://johannamatthews.shootproof.com/gallery/NSCC\\_TRURO26/](https://johannamatthews.shootproof.com/gallery/NSCC_TRURO26/)



*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 that a graduate name may not be recorded if a late approval (after the print deadline) has been made.*