As Nova Scotia’s Community College, what allows us to live our mission is our continual community and industry outreach and our responsive program development and renewal cycle. This ensures that our educational offerings remain innovative, high quality and tightly aligned with the province’s labour economy.

This year, we seized on this commitment through a number of landmark initiatives, programs and policies outlined in Here and Now, the College’s Strategic Plan. Achieving these goals has not only helped equip our grads with the abilities they need to find success in the skills economy of the future, it’s created valuable new routes to the College for diverse learners, communities and industry partners.

We also formed a significant partnership with Engage Nova Scotia to better understand the interconnectedness of the aspects of provincial wellbeing and the future work of the College.

As a proud champion of the Quality of Life Initiative, we recognize that Nova Scotia’s economy and quality of life are intertwined.

By pairing the data captured through the One Nova Scotia Collective with the insights offered by the Quality of Life Survey, we’re gaining a better understanding of what must be accomplished — collectively — to inspire sustainable, vibrant, resilient communities from Brier Island to Main-a-dieu.

This unprecedented, public dialogue has the added benefit of guiding the College’s efforts as we prepare the leaders of today and tomorrow for the 4th Industrial Revolution.

As rapidly-evolving, technological advances create unparalleled global connectivity and the way we work continues to change, we, too, must evolve. By harnessing all the opportunities that Industry 4.0 has to offer, we can drive that change, and not risk watching it pass us by.

In short, we are now better equipped than ever to build Nova Scotia’s economy and quality of life through education and innovation.

The stories that follow are just a few examples of how the College, our students, grads and employees are driving innovation as well as using their education to inspire real, meaningful change across Nova Scotia and beyond.

We hope you enjoy the 2019 NSCC Report to the Community and are inspired by those who are shaping the workforce, communities and province of the future — one we can all be proud to call home.

Bob MacEachern – Chair, NSCC Board of Governors

Don Bureaux – President, NSCC

PRESIDENT AND BOARD CHAIR MESSAGE

Bob MacEachern – Chair, NSCC Board of Governors

Don Bureaux – President, NSCC

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SIMON AN

A Welding diploma has become a route to permanent residency for Korean-born Simon An. Through the Atlantic Immigration Pilot Program, the Burridge Campus grad is helping Wedgeport Boats Ltd. fill its demand for skilled workers while he builds his future in Nova Scotia.

“I wanted to become a true Canadian. I knew that by being away from a big city, where there are lots of new Canadians, I would have more opportunity to learn, mingle and understand.”

nsccnow.ca/Simon
MIKA FRANCIS

Mika Francis grew up hearing about her great grandmother’s life and her tragic death. These powerful and personal stories inspired her to become an advocate for Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women. With the support of the R.G. Sobey Leadership Award and Make Way – The Campaign for NSCC, the Kingstec Campus Social Services student is gaining the skills and courage she needs to tackle injustice across Mi’kma’ki.

“When I’m drumming, there’s a connection I feel with our ancestors. Mother Earth has changed so much since they roamed these grounds and most of the trails are gone. This is our way of guiding them back to us again.”

nsccnow.ca/Mika
A cross-Canada adventure inspired Marine Navigation student Taylor Wood to chart a course for the Nautical Institute and a career at sea. Through the Ocean Dream, Ocean Awaits and Ocean Living Awards, women and Indigenous learners may now qualify for a $2.5 million bursary program to support their marine education.

“As women, our stories are not of underdogs or weaker-thans, rather they are stories of strength of character, resilience and a passion to do what makes your heart sing.”

nscc.ca/CareersAtSea
ROSS SAMPSON

Ross Sampson was just weeks into retirement when the “Man in Motion” himself called and asked him to take the Rick Hansen Foundation Accessibility Certification (RHFAC) training course. Today, Ross is a designated RHFAC Professional who is helping the province meet its goal of becoming fully accessible by 2030.

“Thirty years ago, slapping a ramp on the side of a building and widening a door was enough. Today though, largely because of the tireless efforts of Rick Hansen, that’s just not enough.”

nsccnow.ca/Ross
Kate Sunabacka discovered the Industrial Engineering Technology program during a visit to the Technology Showcase with Women Unlimited. The 2019 Ivany Campus valedictorian and two-time NSCC International mission participant says the experience changed her life forever and brought her to places she never dreamed possible.

“By going to Peru and Vietnam and helping others using the training I have, I learned even more. It was an incredibly grounding and humbling experience that’s changed me as a person.”

nsccnow.ca/Kate
ETIENNE MFOMOU

In Shelburne’s south end, residents fear that contaminants are leaching into their wells and impacting their health. Dr. Etienne Mfoumou and his team are supporting local groups by uncovering a cost-effective, water-filtration solution for the predominantly black community. They’re also creating a mobile unit that can be deployed to other communities around the province.

“It’s pretty gratifying to think that research findings from this project are potentially going to better the lives of so many people.”

nsccnow.ca/Etienne
Jerusha Young-Connor grew up tending her family’s vineyard in Nova Scotia’s Annapolis Valley. Her appreciation for the work drew her to the Cool Climate Wine and Viticulture program at Kingstec Campus. Now, at the forefront of the industry, she looks forward to applying her studies to perfecting the province’s reds and whites.

“We’re producing incredible wines in Nova Scotia. I’m excited to play a part in growing our industry’s reputation across Canada and around the world.”

nsccnow.ca/Jerusha
For more than 200 years, treasure hunters have flocked to Oak Island, Nova Scotia, to find the hiding place of what could be the greatest treasure in history.

Now, on camera, behind the scenes and through unique hands-on learning experiences, NSCC students, grads and employees are helping brothers Rick and Marty Lagina solve the centuries-old mystery on The Curse of Oak Island.

Doug Crowell, Information Services Lead at Annapolis Valley Campus, is a regular on the History Channel’s top-rated series, serving as area historian. While Steve Guptill, two-time NSCC grad and former Geomatics Technical Assistant at the Centre of Geographic Sciences (COGS), is Rick Lagina’s personal surveyor.

NSCC grads are also found behind the camera. Research producer Terri Lynn Kearsey graduated from Radio Television Journalism at Ivany Campus, assistant director Bruce Zwicker is a Kingstec Campus grad and production manager Meri Scoville is a three-time NSCC alum.

In Season 5, the stars visited COGS to see if NSCC’s W.K. Morrison Special Collection could shed light on a theory that Samuel de Champlain purposely omitted Oak Island from his map of the area in 1612.

This year, the treasure hunters called on instructors Brian Pyke and Troy Greene and their Marine Geomatics students (bottom right) to use a side scan sonar, a multibeam echosounder, a sub bottom profiler and their technical abilities to uncover the elusive intakes of the Smith’s Cove box drains.

In true Oak Island fashion, both investigations resulted in even more mysteries to be solved.

nsccnow.ca/OakIsland
Zach Walsh knows what it takes to compete against the world’s best. He’s a Refrigeration and Air Conditioning alum and multiple medal winner in provincial and national skills competitions.

He brought his passion for his trade all the way to the 2019 WorldSkills Competition in Russia this year.

From August 22-27, 2019, the unique event challenged young people to demonstrate their professional excellence by completing a series of head-to-head, judged tasks. Zach was just one of 1,354 competitors from 63 countries.

In the months before WorldSkills, Zach spent hours training with his support team, including his coach and NSCC instructor Kevin O’Halloran, employer – Acadia Refrigeration in Kentville – and Skills Canada Expert and NSCC instructor Brian Nicholl.

“Zach has an eye for detail,” says O’Halloran. “He’s a good listener and wants to learn. He’s competitive with himself and determined to do his best.”

For his skills test, Zach constructed a model-sized refrigeration system – the kind you’d find in an ice skating rink – and stayed cool under pressure during the grueling four days of competition.

For his efforts, he was awarded the 2019 Medallion of Excellence – an accolade recognizing skill, persistence and a score of more than 700 out of a possible 800 points.

“Being on Team Canada was an amazing and formative experience that I’ll never forget,” says Zach. “I’m so grateful for all the support I’ve received – particularly from my family, friends, teachers, colleagues and Skills Canada. This is truly an honour.”

“I absolutely love what I do. It’s said, ‘if you love your job, you’ll never work a day in your life,” says Zach. “I believe it. There hasn’t been a day since I graduated, that I didn’t wake up and want to go to work.”
NEW GLASGOW, NS
The Hon. Dr. John F. Hamm Trades and Innovation Centre

Sponsored training space enabling cross-collaboration amongst skilled trades students.

Building Nova Scotia’s economy and quality of life through education and innovation doesn’t just require dedicated people and industry-connected programs. It requires modern infrastructure that meets the diverse needs of the learners and communities we serve. That’s why we’re investing in the construction, redevelopment and renovation of our sites across the province, ensuring they inspire a bright future for our students, employees and all Nova Scotians.

As we make these investments, we’re also committed to the continuous development of the social, economic, cultural and environmental sustainability of NSCC and the province. Our spaces demonstrate this.

Learn more about this work and our sustainable construction achievements at: nsccnow.ca/Sustainability

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MAKING AN IMPACT

20K
STUDENTS WELCOMED EACH YEAR

50%
OF INCOMING STUDENTS HAVE PREVIOUS POST-SECONDARY EXPERIENCE

87%
GROWTH IN INDIGENOUS STUDENT ENROLMENT SINCE 2010

99%
OF PROGRAMS INCLUDE WORK-INTEGRATED LEARNING

$1.8B
CONTRIBUTED TO THE NOVA SCOTIA ECONOMY BY NSCC AND ITS STUDENTS

92%
OF EMPLOYED NSCC GRADUATES LIVE AND WORK IN NOVA SCOTIA

$33M+
RAISED TO SUPPORT STUDENTS THROUGH MAKE WAY – THE CAMPAIGN FOR NSCC

13
COUNTRIES VISITED FOR APPLIED LEARNING AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROJECTS

17
CAMPUSES AND LOCATIONS

NSCC IS FOR THOSE WHO STRIVE TO KNOW MORE, DO MORE, BE MORE.

1. 2018 Incoming Student Success Survey
2. NSCC 2018 Official Enrolment Count
3. Field placement, clinical placement, co-op or internship
5. NSCC 2018 Graduate Survey

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