

## ALUMNI @WORK WITH HALIFAX WATER



The connections between Halifax Water and NSCC run deep. That was clear at a recent NSCC Alumni @work event, which surfaced more than 75 alumni who work at the utility.

The NSCC Alumni @work event series celebrates industry partners and alumni cohorts in their workplace while sharing the benefits of the NSCC alumni program.

"We're here to celebrate our relationship with NSCC and the work we do together. The College trains great minds, and we put those minds to work," said Halifax Water General Manager Carl Yates.

Halifax Water provides work placements and generous bursaries for students, while their employees serve on College committees developing curriculum. Meanwhile, NSCC provides professional

development and training opportunities for Halifax Water employees.

"It's a great way to build community, and a great way to build careers," said Carl, who in 2008 spearheaded the utility's bursary fund at NSCC. The fund has now awarded over \$100,000 in financial aid to students, many of them from underrepresented groups.

Tavanney Thorpe, A Civil Engineering Technology student who received the Halifax Water Achievement Award, said the support has been "a tremendous benefit. It is with gratitude that I stand here today."

"You have a great work environment here, and I want to thank Carl and your entire team for being such a great employer for our graduates," said Don Bureaux, NSCC President. He said Yates will be greatly missed when he retires this summer after 31 years with Halifax Water.

## MAKE WAY AND FOUNDATION UPDATE

Well, dear donors, it has certainly been an exciting ride.

Four and a half years ago, we set out to raise \$25 million to help NSCC students on their journey, through *Make Way - The Campaign for NSCC*.

Now, thanks to your generosity, we are hosting events across the province – celebrating more than \$32 million raised. We have been delighted to greet so many of you in person, and we hope to see even more of you at the upcoming festivities.

While *Make Way* has been a huge priority, the NSCC Foundation is now looking to new frontiers. And with this, we are pleased to announce a change in leadership.

When *Make Way* concludes on March 31, Michelle Bussey, who has spearheaded the Campaign as Director of Development, will take the helm of the Foundation as our new Executive Director.

Frank Lockington, who joined the Foundation as Executive Director shortly before *Make Way* launched in October 2014, will become Director, Planned Giving and Special Projects.

"The momentum is strong and the future is wide open for the NSCC Foundation," says Michelle.

"Frank has had such a huge influence on the success of the Foundation and the Campaign. They are big shoes to fill but we are fortunate that he will remain an integral part of the team. I look forward to working with him and the whole team to chart this new course for the Foundation."

*Make Way* was an exciting project and Frank says he enjoyed working on it alongside colleagues, Campaign volunteers and the Foundation Board of Directors.

"I'm especially inspired by the generosity of those who have chosen to include NSCC among their philanthropic interests. And I'm looking forward to continuing to work with our donors in my new role," he says.



## MEMORIAL AWARD HONOURS ROBERT SAMPSON'S PASSION FOR ACCESS TO EDUCATION

When Dylan David received the Robert Sampson Memorial Award, he felt a burden lift.

"I was overwhelmed," says the Steamfitting / Pipefitting student at NSCC Strait Area Campus. "It allowed me to concentrate on my studies instead of worrying about financial debt."

The endowed fund, established by Robert Sampson's family, friends and colleagues following his passing in 2011, provides one or more bursaries annually to NSCC students in the Pipe Trades, Plumbing and Steamfitting / Pipefitting programs.



Dylan David

Robert held several positions at the College, including Academic Chair for the School of Trades and Technology. He was passionate about working with and supporting learners who might not otherwise have had an opportunity for post-secondary education.

That commitment resonates with Dylan, a

hockey and baseball player from Arichat who gives back to his community by coaching younger people.

"Financial aid is extremely important," he says. "It gives students a fair chance at obtaining an education and fulfilling their dreams of a better future."

With plans to become an apprentice, move up in the field and eventually teach at NSCC, he is grateful to those who support the Robert Sampson Memorial Award.

"Receiving this award motivates me to continue to work hard and reach for my goals."



Abigail Colp

## SEAFOOD ALLIANCE GIVES BACK TO STUDENTS

The Nova Scotia Seafood Alliance Oceans Award is a thank you to NSCC students in the Oceans Resources – Fisheries and Aquaculture program at the Shelburne Campus.

"Not only is it a thank you to these students, it's encouragement to do well in their studies," says Leo Muise, Executive Director of the Nova Scotia Seafood Alliance.

An industry association comprised of shore-based, small and medium-sized seafood buying, processing and selling companies, the alliance also offers various work-term opportunities for NSCC students.

"This program is a great way for students to discover that you don't have to move away – you can have a successful career here in Nova Scotia," says Leo.

The idea for the \$1,000 bursary came from Kevin Squires, an employee at NSCC's Shelburne Campus.

"The board and I agreed that it was a great idea," says Muise. "It's a help to the students, a help to the school, and it's our investment in the future of the industry. We're thrilled to support the award and we fully expect, as long as this association is around, that we'll keep doing it."

Abigail Colp, who recently received the bursary, says it has made a world of difference to her. "With the help you have given me, I will now be able to get through the year and start making a future for myself," she says.

## BMO HELPS STRUGGLING STUDENTS



Celebrating the BMO Financial Group gift

A donation of \$125,000 from BMO Financial Group will help NSCC students who need extra support to overcome financial hurdles.

The new BMO Change Maker Bursary program, announced recently at the Akerley Campus in Dartmouth, is part of *Make Way - The Campaign for NSCC*.

"Most awards at NSCC are focused on providing access to opportunity," says Don Bureaux, NSCC President.

"But for some students that initial boost isn't enough. I'm delighted for those students that BMO Financial Group is making a gift aimed at helping them past those obstacles."

## URGENT AID GRATITUDE

Dear donors,

Thank you for supporting Urgent Aid. I received help from this fund and I am so grateful.

Enrolling at NSCC was a big decision that meant the end of my years as a journalist, and hopefully a path to a new career. I am now making my way as a Public Relations student at Ivany Campus in Dartmouth.

I was born in Fredericton, but have spent most of my working career in Halifax, and have made it home. After five years, I completed a masters in investigative journalism at the University of King's College. But as job prospects dwindled, I found myself out west, and unemployed, in December 2017.

With the Maritimes calling me home, I returned to Halifax. After consultation with people in the industry, I realized PR

The BMO Change Maker Bursary will help a minimum of 12 students annually, over five years, at NSCC campuses across Nova Scotia. Beginning this spring, the fund will provide bursaries valued at up to \$2,000 to assist students who have already received some financial aid but need additional help to continue their NSCC journey.

"At BMO Financial Group, we have a proud 200-year legacy of making tomorrow better. And we know one direct route to a better tomorrow is keeping students in school," says Lynda Taylor, Regional President, Atlantic, Personal & Business Banking.

"We're excited that The BMO Change Maker Bursary will help NSCC students continue on their path to rewarding careers and empower them to become community contributors."

was where I should be. It allowed me to still write and connect with people in my everyday work.

However, I did not receive a student loan second semester, and the shortfall would have left me dropping out of the program. The funding I received from Urgent Aid paid my rent for a month, and included grocery gift cards.

Now I can again focus on my studies.

The Urgent Aid program helps students in real-world situations get out from under financial strain and back on track.

*J. parker*

Sincerely,  
Jordan Parker

## INSTRUCTOR BELIEVES IN PAYING IT FORWARD



Shelley Meldrum

Faculty at NSCC are known for going above and beyond for their students, and there's no better illustration of this than Shelley Meldrum.

A longtime Business faculty at NSCC's Kingstec Campus, Shelley has been

involved for many years in an array of volunteer opportunities aimed at connecting students with the greater community.

"I've had the good fortune to participate in many initiatives, such as the Kingstec Rotaract Club and a precursor Enactus team," she says. "I have benefitted from the actions of other people, and I think it's a good thing to pay that forward."

Shelley is also an active supporter of NSCC's *Make Way* Campaign and believes it is opening many doors for students.

"It provides an opportunity for the outside community to see what the College is about, which will hopefully help students connect with potential employers," she says. "It's an opportunity for students and staff, but it's also an opportunity

for the community to see what we do."

Four years ago, Shelley established the Ted Meldrum Citizen in Business Award - an annual bursary honouring her late husband, an employee at NSCC for 10 years.

"I wanted to create an award in his name. Ted was a constant community volunteer and an advisor to his students. He was a strong believer in fairmindedness, and I wanted the award to embody that."

Shelley hopes the award gives the recipient a leg up with their academic studies and onward into the next phase of their personal and professional journey.

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## MAKE WAY

THE CAMPAIGN FOR NSCC

Please make cheques payable to NSCC Foundation or donate online at [support.nscC.ca](http://support.nscC.ca)

To learn more, visit [nscC.ca/makeway](http://nscC.ca/makeway)

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