

UPDATE



Award recipient aims to help new immigrants through technology



Xiaoqi Cai, a student at COGS, immigrated to Canada from China and hopes to use her new-found IT skills to help other newcomers

As a senior in high school, Xiaoqi Cai was intrigued by information technology. But it wasn't until after she completed a sociology degree that she considered making it a career.

Now studying at NSCC's Centre of Geographic Sciences (COGS), the first-year Information Technology student finds herself immersed in all things tech.

"I have to learn new things every day," she says. "The pace in the IT field is really fast, and encourages you to study more, and that makes it really interesting."

With this thirst for knowledge, Xiaoqi relishes the opportunity to learn – something receiving the Rotary

Club of Middleton Bursary helped encourage.

"This bursary helped me a lot," she says. "With this money, I don't have to work part-time anymore or worry about getting more money, so I can spend more time studying."

In the future, she hopes to work on creating user-friendly and multilingual websites to help immigrants coming to Canada. As an immigrant from China herself, she understands the pivotal role technology plays in acclimatizing to a new country.

"To create these websites for new immigrants is important," she says.

"To have them in different languages will help them find the resources they need to settle into their new lives."

“The Rotary Club of Middleton Award makes a significant impact because it encourages students to succeed. I understand the unbalanced situation for women in science and technology areas, and I believe the situation will be changed eventually... I am passionate to start changing my future now.”

Xiaoqi Cai, Information Technology, COGS, Class of 2018, recipient Rotary Club of Middleton Bursary

\$1,000,000+

VALUE OF NSCC FINANCIAL SUPPORT TO STUDENTS IN 2016-2017

Celebrating WINS Bursary, International Women's Day

It was an honour to join our partners at the Nova Scotia Advisory Council on the Status of Women to celebrate the WINS Bursary Fund with a special event on March 8.

International Women's Day celebrates women, and the WINS Bursary supports female NSCC students in non-traditional fields.



Becky Kent of the Transition House Association of Nova Scotia connects with Waterfront Campus principal Paul Little in front of the Great Women of S.T.E.M. art exhibit

"The Council established these bursaries through the Foundation in 2008, and the impact they have made on students' lives is incredible. The WINS Bursaries to date have helped nearly 200 students and that figure continues to grow," says Susan Pike, Manager, Finance and Donor Relations.

One of those recipients was Juline Cox, who recently completed the Occupational Health & Safety program. She spoke eloquently at the event of overcoming adversity in her educational journey, thanks in part to the WINS Bursary.

As well, The Honourable Kelly Regan – now Minister responsible for the Nova Scotia Advisory Council on the Status of Women – spoke about the important role of women in our economy.

The WINS Bursaries are available to female students across all 13



NSCC graduate Juline Cox with Occupational Health & Safety instructor Dave Campbell following her remarks about the impact of receiving the WINS Bursary

campuses who are enrolled in trades, technologies and sciences programs.

The 10 WINS Bursary recipients this past academic year were enrolled in programs ranging from welding and environmental engineering to carpentry and horticulture.

A message from NSCC

President Don Bureaux

In June I had the honour of congratulating over 4,500 graduates as they received their diplomas at 18 convocation ceremonies across the province. Seeing our students become graduates and alumni is truly the highlight of the year.

You hear comments like "I did it." "This is my dream." "NSCC gave me a second chance." Each graduate has their own story to tell, and each is unique in the journey they took to arrive here.

As I thought about my remarks to the class of 2017, I reflected on an exchange I shared with Canadian Astronaut Col. Chris Hadfield, whom we presented with an Honorary Diploma in June 2013.

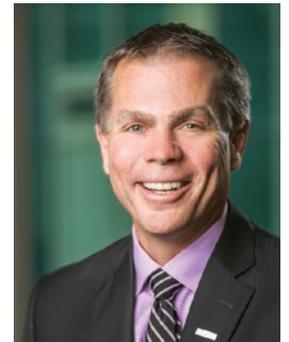
At that time, Col. Hadfield told me he believes in continuous learning as a way of living a life full of career success and personal happiness. That belief is so important today, as we all face a world full of opportunities and challenges.

I encouraged all of our graduates to continue to seize the opportunity to continue learning, to harness their entrepreneurial spirit and to pay forward the kindnesses and support they've received along their journey. I made a request that they let their time at NSCC be just one of the many learning journeys they embark on.

You, our Foundation donors, partners and supporters, entrust us with your gifts each and every day, and for that we are grateful. Without you, many of the success stories I witnessed during convocation would not have been possible.

Please take a moment to view our 2017 Convocation Highlights video, which captures the excitement of our convocation celebrations: <http://bit.ly/2tt4Z38>

And thank you for the positive role you have played in NSCC Convocation 2017.



Natural Resources student prepares to launch, with bursary help



The Honourable Mayann E. Francis Hope and Inspiration Award helped Demetrius Best graduate from NSCC's Natural Resources Environmental Technology program

For Demetrius Best, going back to school means a chance at a new career. And a few obstacles to overcome.

"I'm a mature student, returning back to school after some time away – 10 years – so I have bills, just like any other adult. But I'm trying to further my education," he says.

Demetrius, who graduated in June from the Natural Resources Environmental Technology program at Strait Area Campus in Port Hawkesbury, received The Honourable Mayann E. Francis Hope and Inspiration Award at the start of his second academic year.

"The bursary meant a lot," he says. The award relieved some of the financial pressure Demetrius faced in

paying for college while covering living expenses.

"I travel back and forth to Sydney – I still live there because I have to work after school most days, so gas money was a big thing," he notes.

"Right now I work as a residential counsellor at a group home for people with mental disabilities, mental illness, Alzheimer's and dementia. I've been doing that since I was 19, so going on 10 years in July," he says.

Demetrius hopes to use his NSCC diploma and experience as a launch pad to a new career.

"I'm accepted in the Bachelor of Engineering Technology – Petroleum Studies at Cape Breton University. The plan would be to accept that and then hopefully do something with engineering technology."

Bringing biz background to board

With 30 years of business experience, David Arenburg knows how to get things done around the board table.

As President of Adcor Group of Companies – owners/operators of five Tim Hortons in southwestern Nova Scotia – he has hired NSCC graduates, is a member of the NSCC Foundation Board of Directors, and has been actively involved with Burrige Campus in Yarmouth.

David says he values the impact the College has across the province: "The 13 campuses combine to make a critical support network, adding value to the economy of Nova Scotia. NSCC is a vital contributor to the rural areas of our province, providing training in

traditional trades, while at the same time adapting courses to the needs of the future."

With previous experience on charitable boards and fundraising campaigns, David was encouraged by fellow Foundation Board Member David Saxton to join, coming to the table in early 2016.

"The NSCC Foundation has brought together a great leadership team and I am honoured to be part of their organization," he says.

His business savvy and personality make him an asset to the Board. And the humble businessman says hearing students' stories and seeing how hard they work to better themselves has been inspiring.



David Arenburg joined the NSCC Foundation Board of Directors 18 months ago

"It's rewarding to hear about students who have received support and are able to continue their studies, to better themselves while supporting their families – something that wouldn't be possible without the financial support provided by the Foundation," says David.

Alumni connections bolster NSCC's reach, impact



It's an exciting time of year for Alumni Relations, as we welcome more than 4,500 new NSCC graduates into our community.

Convocation is just one milestone on their journey with NSCC. They may study with us for a couple of years, but that alumni connection is forever.

Our goal is to forge those relationships on behalf of NSCC while adding value to the NSCC credential for our grads.

After several years of laying the groundwork, our Alumni Program launched in 2015 and has been a resounding success, with more than 35,000 alumni now connected.

Our grads are proof of NSCC's mission – they are our checks, our balances and our greatest ally in achieving our full potential.



Within our Alumni community lies the capacity to continue elevating the College's reputation and increasing our fundraising capacity.



To help strengthen those bonds, we recently distributed an Alumni Survey to take the pulse of our network. The response was fantastic – nearly 4,000 participated – and gave us incredible insight into alumni circumstances, interests and preferences, which will guide us in engaging them in meaningful ways as we move forward.

Regards,

Ashley Power, Alumni Relations Manager

Alumni Survey Findings

Alumni want to know more about:

- Job opportunities
- Continuing Education at NSCC
- Events and reunions

Main events of interest:

- Social events
- Professional networking
- Reunions

How they want to donate their time:

- As guest speakers
- On program advisory committees
- By hiring grads and providing work-placement opportunities

How to reach us:

NSCC Foundation
5685 Leeds Street
PO Box 1153
Halifax, Nova Scotia
B3J 2X1

Toll free: 1-866-745-7919
Fax: (902) 491-4828

foundation@nscC.ca
support.nscC.ca

Charitable Registration Number:
887210318 RR0001

NSCC by the Numbers

43%

OF GRADS WORK WITH OTHER NSCC GRADS

52%

OF GRADS HAVE A RELATIVE WHO IS ALSO AN NSCC GRAD