

Summer Update



Letter from the Executive Director

At the core of our mission is the objective to help all students in financial need, especially those that are facing financial or systemic barriers to entering post-secondary or completing their program. Just as important is our support for the Alumni community, we are constantly listening to them to provide better services and supports.

It seems that these past few months have been one crisis after another. First and foremost, I want to say that we hear you, we see you, we stand with each and every one of you. We commit to listen, learn and act to be part of the solution and change going forward. I wanted to take a moment to reflect on the recent and current realities.

COVID-19: As the province grappled with new social distancing measures and stay at home orders, many of our students found themselves dealing with housing challenges and a lack of access to necessary tools for remote learning, which put completing this year into question. Thanks to donors support

through Make Way funding, we are happy to report that nearly 500 students were able to receive the support they needed to continue their learning.

Emergency response: We are grateful for the overwhelming support from donors like you, and student-led initiatives such as Enactus - Marconi's Meal-it-Forward program which helps support students facing food insecurity. We've also seen community partners pitch in, like Eastlink - who provided students with modems and access to internet for up to 5 months. In this edition, we also highlight social supports led by Alumni.

Black Lives Matter: As an organization, province, country and society, we continue to face new and preexisting challenges every day. NSCC Foundation and Alumni Relations is right here with you, every step of the way. We are working on ways to further support visible minority students and Alumni and to make it easier to access bursaries and supports for their post-secondary

education. We will share more with you shortly.

Nova Scotia Strong: As a province, we have experienced so many heartaches and tragedies that have sent us reeling. We are here to support the communities that need us. As part of this, we are connecting with community groups to see what role we can play.

As the summer starts, like you, we are looking towards the next few months with hope. But more importantly, we want to provide hope and inspire everyone to stand up and work together.

Thank you for all your do to help NSCC students and Alumni realize their goals.

Michelle Bussey
Executive Director
NSCC Foundation and Alumni Relations

Urgent Aid in a changing learning environment

When NSCC students find themselves in unexpected circumstances that leave them unable to pay bills, provide for their families or continue with their program, Urgent Aid is an avenue of support.

The goal of Urgent Aid is to decrease financial stress and allow students to continue their educational journeys. Students can apply for aid through their campus Student Advisor, where they also receive financial literacy training and advising.

The COVID-19 pandemic has greatly increased the need for Urgent Aid, as students face new challenges regarding remote learning and decreased employment opportunities. Because of this, there has been a large uptick in Urgent Aid requests.

Across the province, NSCC Student Services teams received and filled requests. At Cumberland Campus, Joycelyn Ollerhead, the Manager of Student Services, dedicated her time to deliver giftcards and fresh produce for students that were unable to make it to the on site pick up station.

Local farmers also joined the cause by dropping off extra farm produce that students in need could pick up.

Requests were filled through a combination of campus food banks, Sobey's gift cards, Urgent Aid funding, laptop distribution and provision of access to Internet.



482
Laptops
distributed



50+
Internet
connections



252
Urgent Aid
requests granted



58%
Increase in
projected Urgent
Aid granted



[Click here to see how you can support](#)

Highlight from the spring

Covers for Comfort



Two NSCC grads, Carla Bezanson and her fellow Music Business alumni Kristen Wells launched the online initiative Covers for Comfort to send love through song during a time of self-isolation and physical-distancing.

"It's been so rewarding to use music to deliver messages of love to people who need it most," says Kristen.

To listen to some of their covers on Facebook, [click here](#).

Answering the call. Community support in response to student need

When a state of emergency was declared for Nova Scotia to respond to the global COVID-19 pandemic, NSCC campuses were forced to quickly transition to online learning. As the College's need for technological support increased significantly, John Drisdelle, owner of Century Computer, answered the call.

"They had an urgent requirement for a number of machines, and we were able to use our network of vendors to source laptops at a price that was reasonable, met specifications, and most importantly got it to them quickly."

NSCC's Lunenburg Campus received many of these laptops. "For many students, the ability to continue their learning would not have been

possible without the laptop support provided by NSCC in partnership with Century Computers," said NSCC Lunenburg Campus Principal, Craig Collins.



In a time when we all need a little extra support, the efforts of Century Computer have gone a long way in helping NSCC students through these challenging times.

They weren't the only ones to step up and answer the call. Eastlink heard that many NSCC students didn't have access to internet at home and relied on the campuses to complete their school work. They too quickly stepped up and created a flexible program that helped get modems to students quickly. Thanks to donors and their financial support, the Foundation was able to get students online and back to learning.

Left: John Drisdelle at the Century Computer office in Halifax.

Enactus Marconi launches Meal-it-forward



Enactus Marconi

With the launch of their Meal-it-forward initiative, Enactus Marconi - a student-led organisation, is hoping they can provide a solution to food insecurity. They plan to raise money to purchase campus meal cards, valued at \$30, that will enable students to purchase food on campus.

The idea came from the students' personal experience, says faculty advisor, Melodie MacNeil, "When students discussed solving issues on campus, one student shared that there are students who go all day without a meal," says MacNeil. "Meal-it-forward cards can be used for the campus café and cafeteria, ensuring students can access healthy meals throughout the day."

The Meal-it-forward program officially launched in February. Since then, the initiative has been recognised with the Enactus People's Choice Award for Favourite Project. Enactus Cape Breton is working with NSCC Foundation to accept donations. Donations can be made at Marconi Campus or online at support.nsc.ca. Please indicate Enactus Cape Breton in the comments section.

New partnerships

Techsploration

Our partnership with Techsploration has been instrumental in making it possible for the women of NSCC to pursue their passions and careers in STEM.

Thanks to our donors and supporters, this partnership has already resulted in nearly \$30,000 in contributions.

Fundraising efforts with this partnership will focus on supporting core programming, scholarships, and bursaries for Techsploration alumnae who pursue trades and technology studies at NSCC.

Scotiabank

In May 2020, 14 successful applicants became the first recipients of the Scotiabank Entrepreneur in the Making award. This grant supports small businesses in Nova Scotia. Applications were open to students and alumni. As part of this initiative, \$3,000 in funding is available across all campuses, each year for next three years.

The round 1, Scotiabank EITM recipients are:

1. Donggi Kim, student, Akerley Campus
2. Zita Valeria Diaz Gonzalez, student, Akerley Campus
3. Tessa Burns, student, Annapolis Valley Campus
4. Jenny Scott, student, Burridge Campus
5. Ben Kendrick, student, Cumberland Campus
6. Charles Milton, alumni, IT Campus
7. Sabrina Allison, student, Ivany Campus
8. Kara Friesen, student, Kingstec Campus
9. Matthew Crossman, student, Lunenburg Campus
10. Riki Lee Christmas, alumni, Marconi Campus
11. Alison Winters, student, Pictou Campus
12. Scott Gardiner, student, Shelburne Campus
13. Charlie MacDonald, student, Strait Area Campus
14. Alexandria Hire, student, Truro Campus

Student awards for underrepresented groups

In line with NSCC's values of diversity, inclusion and accountability, NSCC has many awards and bursaries available to students from underrepresented groups.

Ranging in value from \$1,000 to \$10,000, these awards are given to over 125 NSCC students per academic year, and are posted in the spring and fall. The awards help students remove barriers to accessing and continuing their post-secondary education.

Among these is the **jipuktuk etli apatua'timk Award**, which was created for students who identify as Indigenous. This \$4000 award, which is donated by Halifax water, aims to support one student per year who has a passion for water technologies. To be eligible for the award students must enroll in civil engineering technology, environmental engineering technology, electronic engineering technology or mechanical engineering technology and demonstrate good academic standing.

The **BMO Financial Group Award** was established to support new NSCC students that require financial assistance and who are Indigenous or African Nova Scotian. Totalling \$1,000 per person, the award is given to four students per academic year.

This award is available to students from all NSCC programs and campuses, who are entering their first year of study. Applicants for the BMO Financial Group Award are judged by financial need and academic merit.

These awards, among many others, attempt to ensure that members of historically disadvantaged groups can attend NSCC. In doing so, the school welcomes students and alumni with a variety of backgrounds and lived experiences. This results in a diversified and enriched educational community.

To view the NSCC Student Awards Directory, [click here](#).

CANS supports NSCC students with a new award

At the 2020 Construction Technology and Innovation Trade Show on February 27, the Construction Association of Nova Scotia (CANS) recognized NSCC student Cory Campbell with a new award, the CANSTech Construction Innovation Scholarship.

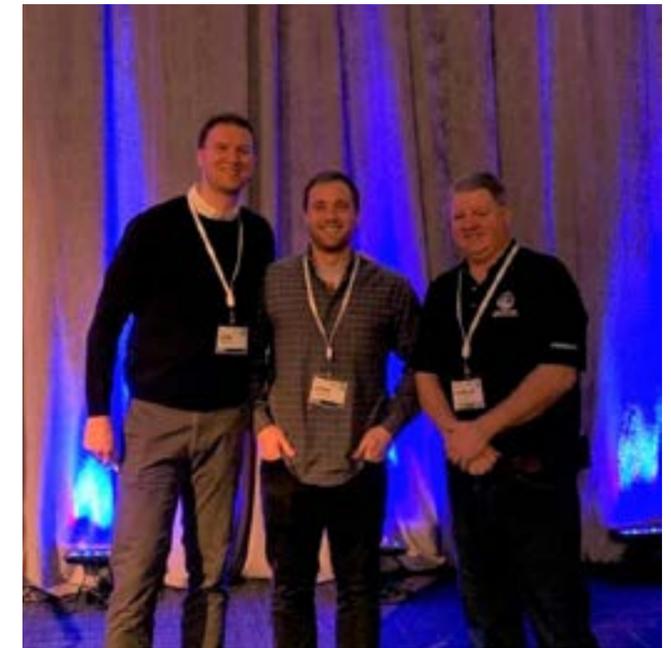
Melody Hillman, Manager, Member Engagement and Development at CANS indicated that the award came out of CANS' commitment to the future of the industry.

"After successfully completing the inaugural CANSTech - The Construction Technology and Innovation Trade Show event in 2018, CANS made the decision to invest into the future workforce of construction," says Hillman, "this scholarship was created, to be awarded at CANSTech events going forward."

The \$1,000 scholarship is available to full-time students enrolled at Ivany Campus in the Architectural Engineering Technician, Civil Engineering Technology, Construction Management Technology or Drafting - Architectural programs.

"This award is set out to specifically honour a student within a construction industry program who has shown a demonstrated proclivity towards innovative thinking and technology adoption within the construction sector," says Hillman.

This year's recipient, Cory Campbell, is a second-year Drafting-Architectural student. Having spent the last ten years working as a chef, making a significant career change is not always easy. "Being selected for this scholarship has helped reaffirm my choice of returning to school in my early 30's," says Campbell.



From L to R: Ben Trenaman, NSCC Foundation Development Officer, Corey Campbell, CANSTech Construction Innovation Scholarship recipient, Duncan Williams, President and CEO of CANS

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Receiving an award allows me to focus on school and not worry as much about finances. I am very thankful donors and organizations see the importance of helping students get training in the trades.

O'shea Carvery, Recipient, Robert Sampson Memorial Award, Nova Scotia Labour Relations Entrance Award, IT Campus, Class of 2020



Frank Lockington - A career dedicated to excellence, giving, and continuing learning



Frank Lockington's time at NSCC Foundation can be best characterized by the impact he had on both the people he worked with and the Foundation as a whole. Frank's retirement this June marks the end of an era, where he leaves behind a more compassionate, caring and successful organization than when he joined.

Spanning 6 years, Frank's time at the NSCC Foundation was spent in two capacities, first as its Executive Director, then as Director of Planned Giving and Special Projects. His successor as Executive Director, Michelle Bussey, believes that Frank's impact has been immeasurable.

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As a volunteer, he makes you feel valued. Frank had the ability to appreciate the skills and input of the volunteers. His professionalism and vision helped the Make Way Campaign succeed to the extent it did.

Dave Saxton, Chair, NSCC Foundation Board of Directors

“He's professional, yet personable. He's always making sure everyone around him has the tools and knowledge to succeed.” Says Bussey, “He always pushed us to go above and beyond, to not just look at the standard practice but challenged us to make things personal.”

Frank's compassion and guidance has spread far beyond the internal workings of the NSCC Foundation. Just ask Cathy Maclean, who has worked with Frank through multiple lenses, first as an executive at NSCC, then as an active committee member and finally as a donor.

“The difference he's made in the foundation from where it was to where it is today is astronomical and incomparable,” Cathy says.

When Cathy expressed interest in setting up a bursary in her brother's name, Frank was there to guide her through the process, again leading with compassion. “From day one, he cared about my brother's memory.”

Frank's personal touch also extended to the volunteers he worked with, elevating those around him.

While Frank will be dearly missed by the NSCC community, he has ensured that the school is left in capable hands. Don Bureaux, NSCC President, says that Frank played a large role in his growth as a leader. “He helped me understand the role of a president in fundraising. He mentored me in a way that allowed me to fall in love with this kind of work.”

Upon retiring at the end of June, Frank will leave the NSCC Foundation a better place than when he joined. Better for donors, co-workers, volunteers, alumni and above all, better for students.

“I hope he goes into retirement with a deep sense of accomplishment.” Says Bureaux, “Frank made it about thousands of students being able to pursue education that otherwise would not be attainable for them.”

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.

Email: foundation@nsc.ca

Website: support.nsc.ca | nsc.ca/foundation

Charitable Registration Number: 887210318 RR0001

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