## Kingstec Campus Convocation June 10, 2024 @ 9:00am

## 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.

## Order of proceedings

#### **Processional**

Mi'kmaq Honour Song

O Canada

Principal's welcome Jason Clark

President's remarks
Don Bureaux, President

Presentation of credentials

Presentation of major awards

Valedictory address
Kizzy Browne, Disability Supports and Services

#### 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.



## **Don Bureaux**

## Message from the NSCC President

Graduates,

Today, we celebrate you and all you have accomplished during your time as an NSCC student. We celebrate your academic achievements, hard work and perseverance, the skills you have developed and the connections you have made.

It is a pleasure and an honour to mark this important milestone with you.

As NSCC graduates, and now officially NSCC alumni, I encourage you to embrace the next chapter in your lives with the same determination, passion and willingness to learn that you demonstrated as students. I wish you every success in your future endeavours.

On behalf of the College, thank you for allowing us the privilege of being part of your incredible journey. It is truly inspiring to see what you can accomplish. We are so proud of you and we are cheering you on today, and beyond.

Congratulations, class of 2024!

Don

## Class of 2024

## School of Access, Education and Language

**Diploma in Early Childhood Education** 

Cheung, Ching Yan (Honours) Hong Kong, China Coolen, Natasha Hubbards, NS Curry, Kayla (Honours) Kentville, NS Durno-Allen, Rachel New Minas, NS Greenslade, Kylee Windsor, NS Hawley, Breagha (Honours) Kentville, NS Hull, Allie Kingston, NS Kelly, Rebecca Kentville, NS Kilburn, Kimberly Wilmot, NS Lockett, Hailey (Honours) Lawrencetown, NS MacKenzie, Faith (Honours) Lawrencetown, NS Oickle, Wanda New Ross, NS Park, Jihye (Honours) Incheon, South Korea Picard, Emma (Honours) Aylesford, NS Posadas, Janbliss (Honours) Cavite, Philippines Prince, Rachael Centreville, NS Sawler, Makayla Chester, NS Schofield, Emma Black River Lake, NS Silva de Souza Pereira, Viviane (Honours) Sao Paulo, Brazil Walsh, Paula Falmouth, NS Wentzell, Chasity New Ross, NS

Cambridge, NS

## **School of Health and Human Services**

## **Certificate in Continuing Care**

Whiston, Rebekah

Balkam, Jayden Oxford, NS Bezanson, Anita Kentville, NS Bezanson, Gina Kentville, NS Bond, Kyria (Honours) Chester, NS Branscombe, Emily Sandy Point, NS Coleman, Nadine (Honours) Kingston, NS Cosman, Calie Annapolis Royal, NS Crocker, Phoebe (Honours) Tiverton- Long Island, NS Doman, Stephanie (Honours) Cold Lake, AB Friesen, Kara (Honours) Berwick, NS Greenslade, Emma (Honours) Union Corner, NS Keddy, Andrew Canning, NS

Keegan, Kaylee (Honours)	North Bay, ON
King, Doreen (Honours)	Kentville, NS
May, Emily	Kentville, NS
McDow, Hannah (Honours)	Berwick, NS
Mullen, Elizabeth	Weymouth, NS
Skorka, Emily	Middleton, NS
Smith, Quinn	Windsor, NS
Stubbert, Shea (Honours)	Kingston, NS
Usher, Aryn	Kentville, NS
Weir, Christa	Aylesford, NS

#### Diploma in Disability Supports and Services

Browne, Kizzy (Honours) Morvant, Trinidad and Tobago Campbell, Margaret Judique, NS Comeau, Kaylee Poplar Grove, NS Connell, Karli Middleton, NS Dorey, Wendy Aylesford, NS Foster, Mandy Wolfville, NS Hayles, Terricka (Honours) Clarendon, Jamaica Lewis, Jake Hantsport, NS Perez Ramos, Debora (Honours) Viña del Mar, Chile Slauenwhite-Powers, Emma (Honours) Port Williams, NS

## **Diploma in Practical Nursing**

Williams, Brandy

Bent, Deanna Wolfville, NS Black, Jessica Centreville, NS Britton, Liam Canaan, NS Brown, Jordyn Truro, NS Caldwell, Katey (Honours) Hantsport, NS Cunningham, Keaton Kentville, NS Desroche, Jenna Cambridge, NS Harnish, Elizabeth Windsor, NS Hiltz, Megan Kentville, NS Hosking, Jessica Mount Uniacke, NS Kenneally, Samantha Blackrock, NS Little. Mckenzie Newport, NS Naugler, Rylan Liverpool, NS Newcombe, Ashley Coldbrook, NS Ohearon, Robyn Windsor, NS Parker, Emily (Honours) Mount Uniacke, NS Ripley, Katelyn (Honours) Oxford, NS Singer, Jessica Windsor, NS Strickland, Mackenzie Canning, NS Warford, Hailie Aylesford, NS

Kentville, NS

## **Diploma in Social Services**

Dipioma in Social Services	
Andersen, Dakota (Honours)	Kentville, NS
Bowmer, Adrienne	Berwick, NS
Brigley, Faith	Blandford, NS
Burgess, Sivanah (Honours)	Windsor, NS
Carson, Breanna (Honours)	Woodstock, ON
Cogswell, Jaydia	Centreville, NS
Davis, Emma	Kingston, NS
Fitzgerald, Rebecca	New Minas, NS
Isenor, Shaylyn	Stewiacke, NS
Lee-Nelson, Candice (Honours)	Greenwood, NS
Long, Rosslyn	Bear River, NS
McKeen, Khylena <i>(Honours)</i>	Coldbrook, NS
Muise, Herizon	Berwick, NS
O'Hara, Meghan	Kentville, NS
Papineau, Emily (Honours)	Kentville, NS
Pye, Lauren	Kingston, NS
Schofield, Kristin	Windsor, NS
Sweeney, Douglas	Greenwich, NS
Tomlinson, Liam	Halifax, NS
Trider, Michael (Honours)	Windsor, NS
Whynot, Camryn	Liverpool, NS
Young, Kristen	Greenwood, NS
Whynot, Camryn	Liverpool, NS

## **Graduate Certificate in Addictions Community Outreach**

Johnson, Kelsey

Lawanson, Segun

Thomas, Kimberly

Verburg, Kerenza

Antigonish, NS

Brandenburg, Germany

Avonport, NS

Mahone Bay, NS

## Major awards

#### Governor General's Academic Medal

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

Emma Slauenwhite-Powers
Disability Supports and Services

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

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

Meagan Osburn
Office Administration

#### **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.

Emma Slauenwhite-Powers
Disability Supports and Services

#### 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.

Denise Rand Baking and Pastry Arts

#### **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.

Kyla Muir Business Administration - Financial Services

# Convocation 2024 Valedictorian

NSCC is proud to introduce the outstanding student(s), chosen by their campuses, to represent the achievements and experiences of the Class of 2024.



Kizzy Browne

## **School of Health and Human Services**

## **Disability Supports and Services**

Hailing from Trinidad and Tobago, Kizzy became a student at Kingstec Campus after dedicating years to helping others. Before her time at NSCC, Kizzy completed a Bachelor of Science in Psychology. She also volunteered at a foundation for children with disabilities, worked as a legal secretary and served as a loans officer.

Attracted by the inclusive nature of the program and hands-on approach, Kizzy found her niche in the Disability Support and Services program. With the guidance of faculty and the unwavering support of her friends, Kizzy thrived in the encouraging atmosphere. She completed assignments with confidence and embraced the friendly and fun environment fostered by all on-campus. Kizzy was an active campus ambassador, leading as a wellness champion, a PALS provider and as a volunteer within the community.

After graduation, Kizzy plans to use her knowledge to make a meaningful difference in the lives of people with disabilities. She aims to work in the field, contributing to research that promotes universal design and community integration for individuals with disabilities.

Reflecting on her journey, Kizzy shares a poignant message: "Be weary of nothing! You have the ability to achieve, inspire and conquer all that is ahead of you. Look back only to smile at where you came from. Keep running when you have to, jog if you must - take a stroll even! The finish line is waiting for us all."

# Kingstec Campus Convocation June 10, 2024 @ 12:30pm

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O Canada

Principal's welcome Jason Clark

President's remarks
Don Bureaux, President

Presentation of credentials

Presentation of major awards

# Valedictory address Noah Walker, Automotive Service and Repair

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Congratulations, class of 2024!

Don

## Class of 2024

## School of Technology and Environment

#### Certificate in Cool Climate Wine and Viticulture

Alibo, Angelita (Honours)

Jardine, Claire (Honours)

Pagtakhan, Trish (Honours)

Davao City, Philippines

Port Williams, NS

Kentville, NS

## **Diploma in Electrical Technician**

Allen, Jesse Hammonds Plains, NS Anderson, Bailey Dartmouth, NS Coneybeare, Allan Hantsport, NS King, Declan Halifax, NS MacEwan, Zachary Brookvale, NS McFadzen, Robert (Honours) Guelph, ON Nauss, Zackery Hammonds Plains, NS O'Reilly, Garrett (Honours) Halifax, NS Rector, Ryan Aylesford, NS Rhyno, Logan Halifax, NS Roloson, Jordan Ashdale, NS Simpson, Benjamin Halifax, NS Tong, Wah Leung (Honours) Hong Kong, China

## Diploma in Electronic Engineering Technician

DeEll, Kyle (Honours)

Lacson, Miguel

Legere, Evan

O'Connor, Timothy

Ward, Carson (Honours)

Aylesford, NS

Kentville, NS

Kentville, NS

North Alton, NS

# Diploma in Horticulture and Landscape Technology – Landscape

Lanacoape	
Alexander, Jody	Aylesford, NS
Baker, Indigo (Honours)	Halifax, NS
Baker, Jacques	Round Hill, NS
Drew, Gage (Honours)	Nicholsville, NS
Gallivan, Paige (Honours)	Moose Jaw, SK
Grantwell, Spencer	Kentville, NS
Norris, William	Lakeville, NS
Salsman, Gregory (Honours)	Kentville, NS
Yorke, Kory (Honours)	Windsor, NS

# Diploma in Horticulture and Landscape Technology - Operations

Baillie, Justin

Comeau, Alexis

Edwards, Eve

Fletcher, Jasmine (Honours)

Hume, Mia

Mount Stewart, PE

Canning, NS

Mott, Isabel

Yeung, Kam Chu

New Glasgow, NS

Saulnierville Station, NS

Mount Stewart, PE

Canning, NS

New Minas, NS

Hong Kong, China

## School of Trades and Transportation

## Certificate in Automotive Service and Repair

Arenburg, Jackson Kingston, NS Brackett , Austin Cambridge, NS Waterville, NS Cropley, Colton Gallant, Noah Avlesford, NS Gavel. Carson Waterville, NS Gee. Kaiden Woodville, NS Nictaux, NS Harrag, Mouad Parr, Owen Cambridge, NS Pinch. Grace Grand Pre. NS Weston, NS Rogers, Samuel Thomas, Emma Melvern Square, NS Titus. Levis Annapolis Royal, NS Walker, Noah (Honours) Hantsport, NS

## **Certificate in Carpentry**

Asbury, Trinity Wilmot, NS Fisher, John (Honours) Kentville, NS

## **Certificate in Electrical Construction and Industrial**

Angermann, Zackary Centreville, NS Bullock, Carter Windsor, NS Coates, Georgie-Isabella Annapolis Royal, NS Kentville, NS Doucette, Taylor Hancock, Seth Halifax, NS Hirtle, Jacob Cambridge, NS Hogue, Jasper Halifax, NS Langille, Nathan Cambridge Station, NS MacKeen, Connor Coldbrook, NS Marchand, Aiden (Honours) Halifax, NS Martin, Nate (Honours) Middle Sackville, NS Pearl, Kyle Halifax, NS Spears, Riley Halifax, NS

Steadman-Griffiths, Hannah Voica, Alexander <i>(Honours)</i> Webber, Cory <i>(Honours)</i> Wells, Hayden <i>(Honours)</i>	Canaan, NS Middle Musquodoboit, NS Halifax, NS Mount Denson, NS
Certificate in Plumbing Bennett, Hunter (Honours) Bourque, Josh Escott, Ethan Josey, Mitchell (Honours) Lee, Sang Jun (Honours) Mullen, Kade Newcombe, Braedan Ritcey, Joseph Rogers, Orin Schofield, Aidan Weir, Evan (Honours) White, Connor	Bridgetown, NS Kentville, NS Centreville, NS Chester, NS Wolfville, NS Windsor, NS Coldbrook, NS Riverport, NS Waterville, NS White Rock, NS Kentville, NS Coldbrook, NS
Certificate in Precision Machining Campbell, Mollie (Honours) Johnson, Kale Lohnes, Nolan Neish, James (Honours) Perrin, Ryan (Honours) Reid, Chase Stone, Taylor (Honours) VanOostrum, Sean	Berwick, NS Milton, NS Bridgewater, NS South Brookfield, NS Windsor, NS Aylesford, NS Halifax, NS Grafton, NS
Diploma in Carpentry Hines, Cameron Hunter, Lee-Anne Lowe, Sydney Lyghtle, Alex MacEachern, Alex (Honours) Saunders, Luke Trask, Giovanni (Honours) Zeng, Jiacheng	Windsor, NS New Germany, NS Windsor, NS Windsor, NS Berwick, NS Wolfville, NS New Minas, NS Shenzhen, China
Diploma in CNC Machining Blake, Dylan (Honours) Lee, Jayden Lewis, Richard (Honours) Pierrynowski, Noah (Honours) Stover, Cory (Honours) Theriault, Blake (Honours)	Halifax, NS Middle Sackville, NS Kentville, NS Halifax, NS Halifax, NS Meteghan Station, NS

# Posthumous Certifcate in Heavy Duty Equipment/Truck and Transport Repair

Prall, Chandler Aylesford, NS

## Posthumous Diploma in Truck and Transport Repair

Jackson, Taylor Middleton, NS

## **Diploma in Truck and Transport Repair**

Durling, Jordan	Tremont, NS
Garland, Ben	Windsor, NS
Keddy, Jamison	Cambridge, NS
MacEachern, Tyler	Antigonish, NS
McCabe, Daniel	Bridgetown, NS
Melanson, Cody	Berwick, NS
Milner, Ethan	Clementsport, NS
Park, Shawn (Honours)	Cambridge, NS
Pearce, Joet (Honours)	New Minas, NS
Powell, Jared	Bridgewater, NS

## Major awards

#### Governor General's Academic Medal

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

Emma Slauenwhite-Powers
Disability Supports and Services

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

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

Meagan Osburn
Office Administration

#### **Board of Governors' Award**

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Kyla Muir Business Administration - Financial Services

# Convocation 2024 Valedictorian

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## Noah Walker

## School of Trades and Transportation

### **Automotive Service and Repair**

Noah had taken some time away from school and was completing his grade 12 when he made the decision to attend NSCC. Noah's familial connection - his mother is also an NSCC alum - and a desire for handson learning steered him towards the Automotive Service and Repair program at Kingstec Campus.

During his time at NSCC, Noah found inspiration and support from his instructor and classmates, who helped him build his confidence and determination. He immersed himself in the campus community, participating in activities like tug-of-war, bingo, plant sales and pop-up cafes. He found lasting friendships and connections which added a layer of richness to his experience.

Looking ahead, Noah plans to enter the workforce and explore potential career paths. He is open to returning to NSCC to continue his education in a different program to expand his skill set.

Reflecting on his journey, Noah shares these words to his fellow graduates, "Thank you for a wonderful year and may you find enjoyment in your work. Always be ready for change because it's usually a good thing. Be proud of the work you do and remember to be true to yourself."

# Kingstec Campus Convocation June 10, 2024 @ 4:00pm

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President's remarks
Don Bureaux, President

Presentation of credentials

Presentation of major awards

**Valedictory address**Alicia Ekienabor, Business Administration

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Congratulations, class of 2024!

Don

## Class of 2024

## School of Access, Education and Language

## **Nova Scotia High School Graduation Diploma for Adults**

Corkum, Dreamera (Honours)	Kingston, NS
Cormier, Charles (Honours)	Kentville, NS
Cormier, David (Honours)	Halifax, NS
Diminutto-Hamilton, Maria (Honours)	Windsor, NS
Edwards-Johnson, Kemoya (Honours)	Kentville, NS
Johnstone, Shelby (Honours)	Cambridge, NS
Lake, Brooklyn	Kentville, NS
Rich, Tyson (Honours)	New Minas, NS
Ripley, Cassie (Honours)	Kentville, NS
Sheffield, Caitlin	Aylesford, NS
Venus, Ayden (Honours)	Halifax, NS

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

Pushie, Sidney Kentville, NS Schofield, Alexa Cambridge, NS

## School of Business and Creative Industries

## **Certificate in Baking and Pastry Arts**

Adams, Holly	Windsor, NS
Coates, Elizabeth	Granville Centre, NS
Diaz, Andrea	Wolfville, NS
Merk, Emily (Honours)	Regina, SK
Morris-Clark, Megan	Tatamagouche, NS
Rand, Denise	South Scots Bay, NS
Striker, Kristen	Kingston, NS
Taylor, Theodore	Port Williams, NS
Vidito, Zachary	Melvern Square, NS

## **Certificate in Culinary Skills**

Charlebois, William Cambridge, NS

## **Certificate in Medical Office Administration**

Cousins, Amber	Berwick, NS
Jodrey, Emma	Kentville, NS
Lockhart, Kassadi	Windsor, NS

Ofomah, Ezinne Jane Russell, Maya (Honours) Schofield, Megan (Honours) Westcott, Alyssa Wilson, Kyle	Abuja, Nigeria Kentville, NS Kentville, NS Digby, NS Kentville, NS
Certificate in Office Administration Cote, Brittany (Honours) Jones, Sara Kennedy, Shannon (Honours) Mclean, Leah (Honours) Osburn, Meagan (Honours) Usher, Leah (Honours) Williams, Bailey	Trenton, ON Kentville, NS Falmouth, NS Coldbrook, NS Berwick, NS Canning, NS Port Williams, NS
Cortificate in Tourism Hasnitality	

## **Certificate in Tourism Hospitality**

Anoje, Franklyn Odinaka <i>(Honours)</i>	Lagos, Nigeria
Davison, Benjamin	Avonport, NS
Gosson, Summer	Bridgetown, NS

## **Diploma in Business Administration**

Dipionia in Baomooo Aammonation	
Akamoh, Aderonke	New Minas, NS
Boudreau, Kaleb	Yarmouth, NS
Devries, Josh	Kentville, NS
Diaz, Candis	Kentville, NS
Ekienabor, Alicia (Honours)	Kentville, NS
Harris, Evan	Middleton, NS
Hill, Adam (Honours)	Port Elgin, NB
Lillford-Brighton, Harry	Bridgetown, NS
Mcmahon, Oliver	Kentville, NS
Moir, Emma	Halifax, NS
Olszowiec, Spencer	Port Williams, NS
Riley-Halliday, Gracie	Kentville, NS
Stewart, Parker	Porters Lake, NS
Sweet, David	Coldbrook, NS
VanderHeide, Amy	Coldbrook, NS
Vautour, Tessa (Honours)	Miramichi, NB
Ward, Topanga	Wolfville, NS
Williams-Boulter, Cain	Centreville, NS
Wright, Damaine	New Minas, NS
Young, Aaron (Honours)	North Alton, NS

## Diploma in Business Administration - Accounting

Punjab, India Arora, Kartik Bower, Robert (Honours) Middleton, NS Halliday, Kelsea (Honours) Annapolis Royal, NS Keddy, Olivia White Rock, NS Meteghan River, NS Madden, Crystal Nash, Nasheana Kentville, NS Scott, Kaitlin (Honours) Halifax, NS Sproule, Summer (Honours) Canning, NS Tibbetts, Josh (Honours) New Minas, NS Xue Ong'Iro, Joe (Honours & CO-OP) Kingston, NS Yefvmova. Viktoriia (Honours) Alchevsk. Ukraine

## Diploma in Business Administration – Financial Services

Bond. Jackson (Honours) Chester, NS Bower, Daniel Middleton, NS Ilare Ijesha, Nigeria Fatimilehin, Olayinka Harris, Adam Centerville, NS Hubley, Austin Yarmouth, NS Hussey, Danaka Amherst, NS Johnson, Zachary (Honours) Kentville, NS Madukwe, Emeka (Honours) Enugu State, Nigeria Moore, Liam (Honours) Coldbrook, NS Muir, Kyla (Honours) Moose Jaw, SK Nkwitcheu, Marc Sidoine Yaounde, Cameroon Spriggs, Doug (Honours) Hantsport, NS

## **Diploma in Culinary Management**

Carson, Kieran (CO-OP)

Cole, Nicholas (CO-OP)

Muise, Anthony (CO-OP)

Parsons, Ashton (CO-OP)

Greenwood, NS

Middle Sackville, NS

New Minas, NS

Lawrencetown, NS

## Major awards

#### Governor General's Academic Medal

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

Emma Slauenwhite-Powers
Disability Supports and Services

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## Alicia Ekienabor

## School of Business and Creative Industries

#### **Business Administration**

After working as a Training Coordinator/Manager with Riella Group Ltd. in Lagos, Nigeria, Alicia decided to further her education in the Business Administration program at Kingstec Campus which aligned perfectly with Alicia's career ambitions of becoming a Project Manager in a multinational corporation. What drew Alicia to NSCC was its vibrant and diverse community, coupled with the promise of personalized attention in smaller class sizes.

During her time at NSCC, Alicia was deeply inspired by mentors whose passion for teaching fueled her own career aspirations. Joining the International Student Ambassadors program was a highlight and affirmed her desire to be part of a supportive academic environment. Reflecting on her NSCC experience, she acknowledges the invaluable lessons in patience, resilience, and inclusivity, shaping her into a more rounded professional. She learned the importance of asking questions, speaking up and embracing the beauty in differences.

After graduation, Alicia plans to continue working at the Bank of Montreal while pursuing industry-specific certifications to advance her career goals.

In her own words, Alicia advises her fellow graduates: "As we start this new phase of our lives, there will be challenges along the way. Let us embrace the unknown, confronting the challenges head-on and never losing sight of our aspirations, no matter how daunting the journey may seem."

# Convocation 2024 Honorary Diplomas

NSCC is pleased to award Honorary Diplomas to these outstanding individuals who demonstrate true leadership in their field and community.



# Annie Elizabeth Johnson School of Technology and Environment

### **Strait Area Campus**

Annie E. Johnson is a leader who is committed to protecting the environment and natural resources in her home community of Eskasoni and all of Unama'ki (Cape Breton). In both her work and personal life, Annie integrates Netukulimk (Mi'kmaw traditional ways of using natural resources) with Etuaptmumk (Two-Eyed Seeing – viewing the world through the strengths of Indigenous knowledge together with conventional methods).

Passionate about culture, Mi'kmaq language and the natural world, Annie is the Director of Administration of the Unama'ki Institute of Natural Resources which leads in aquatic research and stewardship, Mi'kmaq knowledge and conservation.

Dedicated to many initiatives in her community, she was a driving force behind locally held Collaborative Environmental Planning Initiative (CEPI) conferences, ensuring meaningful, cultural experiences for attendees from across Turtle Island.

Annie exemplifies many of NSCC's values, especially accessibility, diversity, inclusion, public accountability and sustainability. As a mentor and an employer, her ongoing support for the College and NSCC graduates has spanned almost two decades.

Annie is an avid volunteer and currently serves as a member of the board for Aboriginal Financial Officers Association of Atlantic Canada.



# Michael Johnston School of Technology and Environment

## **Institute of Technology Campus**

Michael Johnston, originally from Truro, Nova Scotia, is a technology industry founder who believes in the power of investing in people and innovation together to achieve greatness.

Following an IT career in Boston, Mike returned to his roots in Atlantic Canada to establish REDspace, a technology firm that builds custom platforms, apps and services that entertain, educate and empower millions around the world. Headquartered in Halifax, REDspace has grown into a dynamic team of over 250 talented professionals renowned for their creation of award-winning web, mobile and video solutions. Notable partners include industry giants such as Paramount, Warner Bros. Discovery, Sony Pictures, IBM and the Royal Canadian Air Force.

A magna cum laude graduate of Harvard University, Mike is a recipient of numerous awards and recognitions, including the Queen Elizabeth II Platinum Jubilee Medal for Service to Business/Commerce in 2023 and two Emmy awards for apps developed by REDspace. Passionate about helping the next generation of young Canadians unlock their potential, he serves as national Board Chair and interview committee chair for the prestigious Loran Scholars Foundation. Mike is also founding President of the Harvard Club of Atlantic Canada and serves as regional interview chair.

Mike's dedication to education extends to shaping the future of IT and actively supporting the next generation of technology innovators. He is a member of the NSCC IT Programming Advisory Committee, shaping

curriculum and participating in key industry events including the annual NSCC IT Job Fair and TechConnection. Recognizing the value that NSCC graduates bring to the industry in Nova Scotia and abroad, over one third of REDspace employees are NSCC alumni - a testament to Mike's commitment to hiring and nurturing local talent.

Outside of his professional pursuits, Mike finds joy in music as an avid woodwind musician, participating in various performing ensembles. A devoted father to his three children, he treasures family time and adventures around the globe. Alongside his wife Angela, Mike comanages The Johnston Family Foundation, a philanthropic endeavour dedicated to unlocking the potential in others through strategic investments in programs that foster lasting positive change, in education, literacy, the performing arts and healthcare research.



# Krista Lee Langille School of Trades and Transportation

## **Akerley Campus**

Krista Lee Langille is an NSCC Women Unlimited graduate who has found success as a Red Seal welder at Halifax Shipyard with Irving Shipbuilding and is an advocate for women pursuing careers in skilled trades.

Krista has made significant contributions to her community and NSCC. From graduating with honours to her continued involvement empowering young women, she is a true ambassador of the College's vision helping to transform the province one learner at a time.

Krista's journey to NSCC was not an easy one, having overcome many hardships in her life. She dropped out of school in grade 10 and moved to Toronto at age 16. She eventually returned to Nova Scotia as a mother of two, earned her GED and found work at a call centre. While in search of something more, a worker at the employment insurance office told her about NSCC's Women Unlimited program to explore careers in trades and technology, which inspired her to embark on a new path as a student.

In 2012, Krista began her journey with Women Unlimited which led to her love for welding. In the program, Krista made new and lasting friendships, discovered skills she had within herself and learned about trades in shop visits at NSCC. She chose to pursue welding and worked hard at school and at home.

Through perseverance and resilience, Krista graduated with a Welding diploma from Akerley Campus in 2014. In 2016, she achieved her Red Seal certification - the first Women Unlimited participant to receive a Red Seal in welding.

Since then, she has worked steadily as a welder and spent a year teaching trades at the high school level and running an after-school trades program for teen girls.

Krista loves to inspire and be inspired. She was hired by Irving Shipbuilding in January 2021 where she continues to mentor welding apprentices and "pass along the positivity" every day. Aside from empowering young women interested in the trades, she says building ships for the Royal Canadian Navy is the most rewarding job she has ever had.

Dedicated to giving back, she often returns to Women Unlimited as a guest speaker and mentor, offering words of wisdom and a look at the welding trade as a skilled and passionate alum.



# Sandra Anne McKenzie School of Access, Education and Language

### **Ivany Campus**

Sandra Anne McKenzie is a champion for Nova Scotia ingenuity and is known for leading transformational strategies in workforce development, adult education, economic development, policy development and strategic planning.

Sandra's career is inextricably linked to the success of NSCC. Twenty-six years ago, she played a pivotal role as a member of the provincial government team supporting the creation of the College. Since the beginning, she's stood behind NSCC as a catalyst for community and individual prosperity.

As one of the founders of the Nova Scotia School for Adult Learning (NSSAL) Sandra advocated for accessible, high quality post-secondary education. Other legacy initiatives include the foundations for province-wide career and employment counselling through Nova Scotia Works, the Workplace Education Program, the Read to Me Program with Dr. Richard Goldbloom, the Halifax Youth Foundation and the IWK, and the Family Literacy Initiative Endowment Fund.

Her extensive government experience led her to serve Nova Scotia as Deputy Minister of Education and Early Childhood Development, Deputy Minister of Labour and Advanced Education, and Acting Deputy Minister of Economic and Rural Development and Tourism. Sandra also chaired the Ships Start Here partnership which brought government, businesses and leaders together to support the bid for the federal shipbuilding contract.

Following her time in the government, she has launched a successful consulting business, McKenzie Consulting, and is co-founder of the Forge Institute, a thinker space dedicated to thought leadership for social innovation. She was also the inaugural chair of the Forestry Innovation Transition Trust. An active member of her community, Sandra chairs the Alderney Landing Board, Get Everyone Online (GEO) and is vice-chair of the Halifax Youth Foundation. She also is a board member of the Provincial Government Employees Credit Union.

Outside of professional life, Sandra enjoys spending time with family, friends and many pets.

Sandra's dedication and unwavering commitment to community and individual prosperity is truly reflective of the College's values regarding education and the importance of fostering community.



# Virginia 'Ginny' Smith School of Health and Human Services

## **Burridge Campus**

A community leader for over 50 years, Virginia 'Ginny' Smith has impacted lives and contributed to the quality of life and education of people across the province and nationwide.

Originally from Denver, Colorado, Ginny, alongside her husband Andy, made Nova Scotia their home in the 1970s. She worked at Southend Renewal and became a volunteer coach for the YMCA Yarmouth Whitecaps Swim Team and continued in this role for over 45 years.

Ginny holds a master's degree in education and a bachelor of arts in education with a concentration in child psychology. She also holds a bachelor of arts in psychology. For over 27 years, she worked with the Yarmouth District School Board, holding various roles such as administrator, teacher and special education specialist.

Dedicated to her community, Ginny's involvement in numerous initiatives created lasting impacts that go beyond the classroom. She played a pivotal role in co-founding the Yarmouth Literacy Council and was instrumental in starting the Yarmouth Adult Literacy program, empowering individuals to complete their GED. She is also the founder of the Southwest Paddlers Association and the Yarmouth Association for Community Residential Options (YACRO).

Ginny's advocacy also extends to environmental causes. She has contributed her efforts to the Yarmouth Environmental Think Tank (YETT) and the Tusket River Environmental Protection Association. She

is an active advocate for environmental conservation through initiatives like the Coastal Protection Act.

Ginny's many accolades are a true reflection of contributions to her community. She was inducted into the Nova Scotia Sports Hall of Fame in 2001, has coached Nova Scotia Canada Games teams and earned recognitions including the Swim Nova Scotia Sovereign's Medal and the Swimming Canada Volunteer Contribution Award. She was also the first female in Atlantic Canada to achieve a level 4 National Coaching Certification.

From shaping young minds to nurturing swimming talents, Ginny has touched the lives of countless individuals, fostering a culture of excellence and embodying the spirit of lifelong learning.

# Staff

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