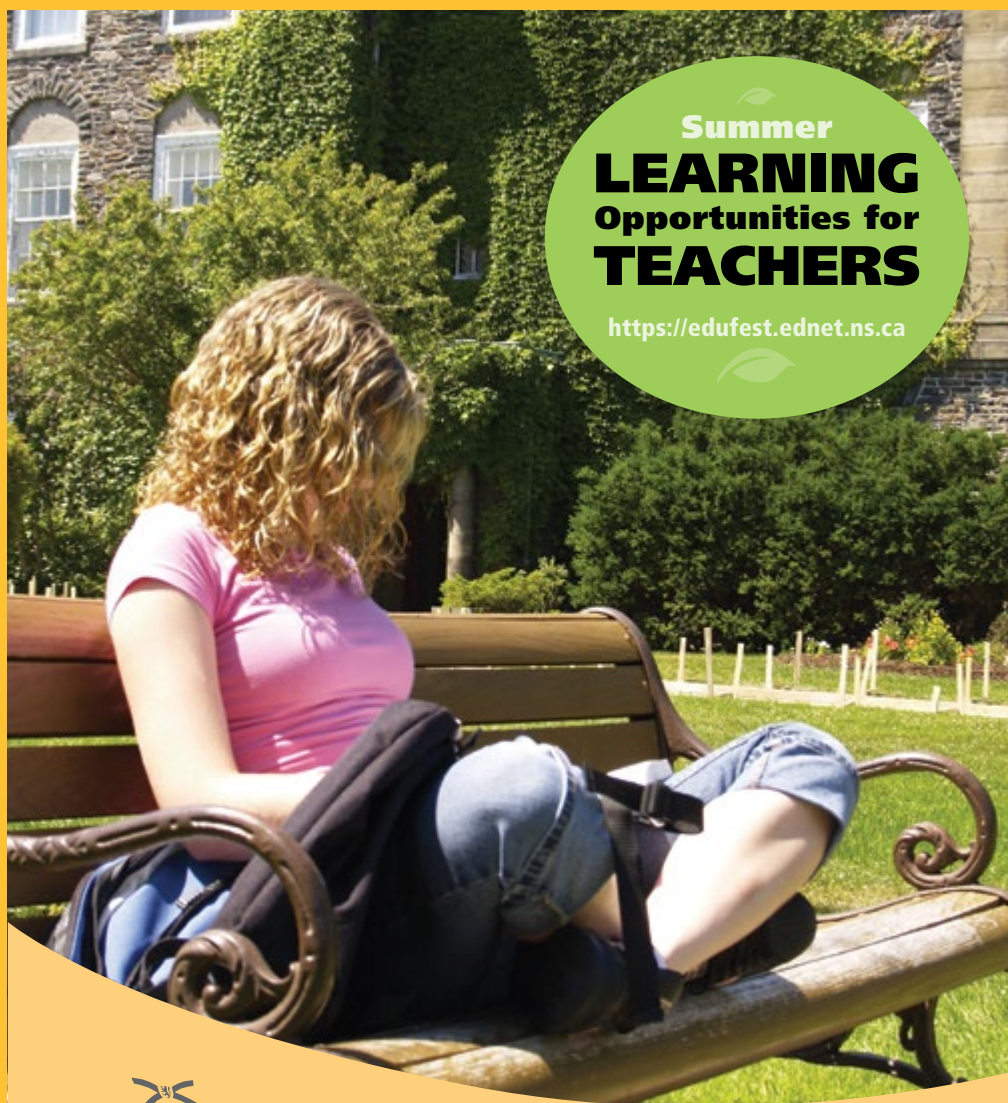




Branching Out

news from the public schools branch



Summer
LEARNING
Opportunities for
TEACHERS

<https://edufest.ednet.ns.ca>

NOVA SCOTIA

EDUfest 2014

See page 6-7 for more information.

NOVA SCOTIA

A Message from the Senior Executive Director

Literacy and mathematics continue to be priorities for the department and all school boards. We are committed to supporting schools in their efforts to increase student learning and achievement in both these areas. Beyond school success, our students need to be well-prepared in literacy and mathematics to succeed as the leaders, entrepreneurs, and innovators of tomorrow. The department is working with boards and other partners to ensure a comprehensive approach to mathematics and early literacy support, including an evidence-based approach to instructional practice and interventions.

Literacy Support

Our Comprehensive Early Literacy Support Framework will ensure that students in grades primary–3 have access to literacy support that is flexible and tailored to the needs of individual students. We know that teachers are attentive to the individual needs of their students and to the particular needs of those students who require more support for reading development. In addition to ongoing explicit instruction and support from the classroom teacher, a number of support options exist for identified students in grades primary to 3, including support from other school-based professionals.

The 2014–15 budget includes additional funding to support those grade 3 students who have been identified through the 2013 Reading Assessment and school-based assessment as requiring targeted support for their development as readers know and as they transition into grade 4.

New funding is also being provided to strengthen the implementation of Early Literacy Support in grades primary–3 by increasing the number of early literacy teachers and ensuring access to their services in every school across the province.

In preparation for the reintroduction of Reading Recovery® for grade 1 students, the department is working with boards to offer training for new Reading Recovery Teacher Leaders and plan the transition into teacher training. As Reading Recovery is re-introduced gradually in select schools across the province, identified grade 1 students will have the option of one-on-one support through Reading Recovery when that is deemed the most appropriate model of support.

Mathematics Support

As well as introducing new mathematics curriculum for grades 4–6 and grade 11 and continuing to support implementation of new mathematics curriculum in grades primary–3 and grade 10, the department is working with boards and other partners to implement two new aspects of its mathematics strategy.

The 2014–15 budget includes additional funding for boards for a total of 34 additional staff to provide direct and evidence-based mathematics support and interventions for students and mentoring/coaching support for elementary/middle/junior high teachers of mathematics. The department will shortly release a Mathematics Support and Intervention Framework that will build on effective evidence-based instruction assessment practices that are already in place in classrooms across the province, and support teachers in enhancing and refining their practice. The approach will focus on identification, concentrated instruction, and



DIVISIONS *contact page*

Public Schools Branch consists of the following Divisions:

Divisions	Phone	Email	Website
African Canadian Services	902-424-3151	acsd@ednet.ns.ca	http://acs.ednet.ns.ca
English Program Services	902-424-8945	eps@ednet.ns.ca	http://eps.ednet.ns.ca
Evaluation Services	902-424-7746	testeval@ednet.ns.ca	http://plans.ednet.ns.ca
French Second Language Program Services	902-424-6646	fls@ednet.ns.ca	https://fsl.ednet.ns.ca
Learning Resources & Technology Services	902-424-2462	lrt@ednet.ns.ca	http://lrt.ednet.ns.ca
Mi'kmaq Services	902-424-3428	mikmaqservices@gov.ns.ca	http://mikmaq.ednet.ns.ca
Student Services	902-424-7454	studentsvcs@ednet.ns.ca	http://studentservices.ednet.ns.ca
Senior Executive Director	902-424-5829	pynchne@gov.ns.ca	

....continued.

intervention practices that will give learners the support they need to boost their mathematical development.

In addition, the budget supports the implementation of a “credit bridging” model for identified students who require additional support in specific curriculum areas to complete mathematics credit requirements.

For both literacy and mathematics, the department supports boards and their schools by providing quality student resources and helping to fund ongoing professional learning opportunities to strengthen assessment and instruction practices that are current, evidence-based, effective, and responsive to each student being supported. Making an investment in the professional growth of our teachers will continue to support student success.

Sincerely,

Nancy

Nancy Pynch-Worthylake
Senior Executive Director
Public Schools Branch
Department of Education & Early
Childhood Development

Nova Scotia Department of Education & Early Childhood Development
website: <http://www.ednet.ns.ca>
Toll Free Access to Department 1-888-825-7770





21



Canadian Museum of
Immigration at Pier 21
Musée canadien de
l'immigration du Quai 21

13

Summer Reading
Program



Past issues of **Branching Out** can be found at
<http://www.lrt.ednet.ns.ca/branching.shtml>
To subscribe, please send us an email: lrt@ednet.ns.ca

CONTENTS

Fill out the Survey on Education Education Review by the Minister's Panel on Education

Capturing Nova Scotians' Views on Education

<https://www.ednet.ns.ca/educationreview>

The Nova Scotia government wants everyone—students, parents, educators, and community members—to help in setting a bold new direction for our public schools.

We want to hear from you.

What is working well in our school system? What needs to improve?

The Minister of Education and Early Childhood Development has appointed a six-member panel to help gather public input.

The panel is chaired by the Honourable Myra Freeman, former Lieutenant Governor of Nova Scotia.

This website gives you a few ways to connect with the minister's panel.

You can share your ideas as an individual or as part of a group.

Individuals can complete an online survey, send comments by e-mail or post, or call and leave a message.

Groups can download a discussion guide and return the response form provided. They can also provide a summary of their group's comments by e-mail or post.

The last day for completing a survey or sending a submission to the panel is FRIDAY, JUNE 13, 2014.

SOCIAL & EMOTIONAL LEARNING

8 | A WIN-WIN FOR SCHOOLS
AND STUDENTS

LEARNING RESOURCES & TECHNOLOGY SERVICES

10 | IT SUMMER CAMP, NOVA SCOTIA VIRTUAL
SCHOOL, EDUCATION MEDIA LIBRARY,
CBC NEWS IN REVIEW

CULTURAL PROFICIENCY

9 | CUNARD JUNIOR HIGH
CULTURAL TOUR

NOVA SCOTIA PROVINCIAL LIBRARY

13 | 3D PRINTING IS NOW AVAILABLE IN ALL NINE
OF NOVA SCOTIA'S PUBLIC LIBRARIES REGIONS

MATHEMATICS

18 | MATHEMATICS EDUFEST WORKSHOPS
IN JULY, MATHEMATICS WEBINARS FOR
TEACHERS, MATHEMATICS CONTESTS

HEALTH & PHYSICAL EDUCATION

24 | SCHOOL MENTAL HEALTH, MAKING
TRACKS, SCHOOL TRAVEL PLANNING,
NSSAF, EDUFEST PD OPPORTUNITIES

STUDENT SERVICES

34 | SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGISTS, LEARNING
STRATEGIES 10, 11, 12, SCHOOLSPLUS

AFRICAN CANADIAN SERVICES

32 | AFRICAN NOVA SCOTIAN SCHOLARSHIPS
OPPORTUNITIES, SUMMER SLIDE PROGRAMS,
BEA / DALHOUSIE MATH CAMP, EDUFEST PD



<https://edufest.ednet.ns.ca>



The Department of Education and Early Childhood Development (EECD) has planned over 50 summer sessions this year for educators. EDUfest 2014 refers to all summer learning opportunities for teachers including the 34 being offered at Nova Scotia Community College Waterfront Campus in Dartmouth, August 11-15, 2014.

Look for details in the EDUfest 2014: Summer Learning Opportunities for Teachers booklet which is now available on our EDUfest 2014 website. <https://edufest.ednet.ns.ca>

The exciting range of summer sessions can only be fully appreciated by visiting our website. New this year: an interactive calendar of sessions with the most up to date information on all sessions.

All sessions are led by presenters who are dedicated to supporting teachers with strategies that will engage students with our ever-changing world. Some sessions of note might be the following:

- | | |
|--------------|---|
| July 10-11 | Classroom Talk, Engagement, and Children's Literate Development |
| July 21-22 | Book Love: Developing Depth, Stamina, and Passion in Adolescent Readers |
| August 6-8 | IT Summer Camp for Teachers |
| August 11-13 | Online Mapping Across the Curriculum |
| August 11-13 | Shifting Paradigms and Building New Schemes for Educating the Linguistically Diverse African Nova Scotian Learner |
| August 12 | Mi'kmaq Communities in Nova Scotia- Building a knowledge foundation |
| August 12-14 | Healthy Art in Selfie Culture |
| August 15 | A Poem a Day Keeps the Bugaboos Away |
| August 15 | Energy Perspectives |
| August 26-27 | Inspiring Future Ocean Leaders |

What are people saying about their experience at EDUfest?

"Hands-on opportunity to explore useful tools for classroom use." (Kristy Hoeg)

"Informative and inspiring in practical ways."

"Positive."

"I think the EDUfest definitely exceeded my expectations. I learned of many things that I was not even aware existed. The teachers were VERY helpful." (Krista Weagle)

"Well organized."

"Enlightening."

"I feel as though this was a wonderful gateway to learn more and inquire more about technology and the different ways to incorporate it in our classroom daily." (Candice Weagle)

"Excellent, inspiring and encouraging- preparing for the year ahead."

"It is a great way to kick start my year!" (Barbara Rhodenizer)

"Great balance of theory and practice."



EDUfest Kids is back!

This is a hands-on, minds-on session designed for the children, aged 8-12, of participants attending sessions at NSCC Waterfront.



Social & Emotional Learning: a win-win for schools and students

Educators and parents want our children to be literate and numerate and we expect our education system to teach these skills. Of course, we also want our children to be aware of their own emotions and to interact with others in ways that promote emotional health and healthy relationships. But where does the education system fit into enhancing the latter set of skills? Not at all? Just enough to ensure academic achievement? Or at the same priority in the education mission as academic skills?



Social and emotional learning (SEL) skills are the counterpart, in children and youth, of what is called 'emotional intelligence' in adults, or EI. EI has two broad dimensions: self-awareness and self-management and social awareness and social management (i.e., relationship skills). SEL adds responsible decision making to those four areas and adds the context of a safe supportive environment where these skills can be developed. The home, of course, is the most important environment but the school is a close second, and for most children is where they will learn to interact with peers. Children will thrive when both environments are safe, supportive and nurturing. If either of these environments is lacking, the other may be the sole context where the development of SEL skills can occur.

Some may argue that it is not the primary mission of schools to 'step in' when home environments are not nurturing nor conducive to a child's social and emotional development. This is where the 'win-win' argument comes in. When schools implement strong programs for social and emotional learning and create positive school climates, there is less disruption in the classroom, fewer disciplinary referrals and students do better in those literacy and numeracy skills that critics and proponents of SEL both value so much. However, this is a minimalist approach where we simply view SEL as a means to the narrow end of learning content and problem-solving skills. In my view, the education mission should be concerned with the optimal development of the whole child. SEL then must take an equal place alongside literacy and numeracy since all are attributes we wish to see in as our children and students mature into adults.

For an excellent overview of SEL, please see www.casel.org, the Collaborative for Academic, Social and Emotional Learning. They also summarize the evidence that improving social and emotional well skills leads to better academic outcomes. For a review of evidence-based SEL programs that are being used and/or recommended for Nova Scotia, please see the website of the Canadian Prevention Science Cluster (www.cpscatlantic.ca) and click on the SEL Toolkit download link.

John C. LeBlanc, MD, MSc

Hub Director: Canadian Prevention Science Cluster (Atlantic)

Associate Professor of Pediatrics, Psychiatry, Community Health & Epidemiology, Dalhousie University

Useful references

Zins, J. E., Weissberg, R. P., Wang, M. C., & Walberg. H. J. (Eds.). (2004). Building academic success on social and emotional learning: What does the research say? New York: Teachers College Press.

Emotional Intelligence - what does the research indicate -- 2006 Cherniss, Extein, Goleman, Weissberg.pdf. EDUCATIONAL PSYCHOLOGIST, 41(4), 239–245

Cultural Proficiency - Cunard Jr. High Cultural Tour



Cultural Proficiency is explained as an inside approach to change where everyone is tasked to look inside themselves and figure out who they are as a person first. They then look at who they are in relationship to people who differ from them and use this uniqueness to improve the climate of schools and organizations.

African Canadian Services Division in concert with the Student Services Division and Mi'kmaq

Liaison Services of the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development has strategically been working with Cunard Jr. High School to promote the elements and principles of cultural proficiency. Part of this promotion included cultural tours to Glooscap Heritage Centre in Truro, the Black Culture Centre, and the community of North Preston. The goal was to have the students step out of their own biases and stereotypes and experience someone else's reality. Also as a by-product to dispel any myths they may have picked up from their everyday experiences.



Cultural Proficiency

Our next step is to in-service Cunard Jr. High School staff, students, and feeder school staffs in these same elements and principles around cultural proficiency. We are committed to improving the cultural experiences of all students and staff directly and indirectly in contact with our students in all schools. This partnership may serve as a template for other schools and organizations to use if the commitment to change the climate of their environments is taken on by all.

Digital Resources for Teachers



Learning Resources and Technology Services (LRTS) develops policy and implements a vision and sustainable standards for the public school curricular use of information and communication technology. Visit our website: <http://lrt.ednet.ns.ca>

NOTE: our new LRTS website will be launched May 22, check us out!

IT Summer Camp for Teachers

August 6-8, 2014

St. Francis Xavier University, Antigonish

This is three-day residential summer institute is for public school teachers who are interested in exploring ways of integrating technology in their classrooms.

Sessions will help you to explore topics such as blended learning and integrating digital resources connected to the curriculum. Select from a variety of mini Tech Sessions including video editing, emerging new technologies, podcasting, creating websites, iPad sessions (beginner & advanced), using Moodle (beginner & advanced), productivity tools (word processing, presentation tools, spreadsheets etc.) as well as curriculum-focused sessions, with resources for teachers at all levels.

You will have time to work on topics of interest to you and to participate in discussions about the ins and outs of using technology as a transformative force in your teaching and in student learning. Engage your students; explore the possibilities that technology can have in your teaching.

Apply through your School Board Technology Integration Coordinator. Contact Ray Fernandes for more information: fernandr@gov.ns.ca Updates will be posted on the LRTS website: <http://lrt.ednet.ns.ca>



Learn360 / Online Video Library



Learn360 is an Online Video Library that has more than 9,000 educational videos, P-12 in a variety of subject areas, that can viewed online. Learn360 content includes: National Geographic, A&E, Sunburst, Learning Zone Express, Weston Woods and TV Ontario. Search under "Custom Content" to find: CBC documentaries, films from the NFB, and other Canadian and local producers.

Teachers and education support staff access Learn360 through the [EduPortal](#), students and parents access Learn360 by going directly to the Learn360 website (www.learn360.ca) and using their school's login. For more information about accessing Learn360, click here. For more information about teacher and support staff Learn360 accounts, [click here](#).

Contact the Education Media Library for school login, or for more information: www.medialibrary.ednet.ns.ca



Learning Resources Technology



Learning Technology Together



Nova Scotia Virtual School

<http://nsvs.ednet.ns.ca>

The Nova Scotia Virtual School offers

- courses for high school students
- resources for teachers and students P-12
- online professional learning opportunities

Did you know that through NSVS, high schools students have the opportunity to take courses that they might not otherwise have access to?

Courses are taught by certified teachers working in school boards across the province. Students meet with their teachers and fellow students online using both synchronous (video conferencing) and asynchronous (Moodle) platforms. This semester over 500 Nova Scotia students are taking a high school course through online learning.

Registration for 2014/15 is now open.

For more information visit <http://nsvs.ednet.ns.ca>

Education Media Library Dubbing Titles - \$1.62

The Education Media Library has a number of pre-made dubbing classroom video resources teachers and education support staff can purchase for the minimal price of \$1.62.

Videos are available in a number of curriculum areas, click on titles and complete the order form for easy ordering:

<https://medialibrary.ednet.ns.ca/videos>

To access the Education Media Library catalogue, and search for titles available for loans and dubbing, [click here](#).

Visit the Education Media Library website for more information:

www.medialibrary.ednet.ns.ca



<http://medialibrary.ednet.ns.ca>

The Media Library is the place to go for all your curriculum video needs! We have a collection of over 5,000 educational videos and DVDs, and provide you with access to over 9,000 online videos that support grades P-12 in almost all subject areas of the Nova Scotia curriculum. Visit our website, search our catalogue, and contact us for assistance.



CBC News in Review

CBC News in Review is an educational video resource designed to inform and teach students about current events,

the big headlines and feature news stories in Canada and around the world.

Teachers and students have access to CBC News in Review through the Online Video Library (Learn360). Find episodes from February 2010 to the present.

Here are the stories for April 2014:

1. [The Economic Benefits of Hiring Disabled Employees](#)
2. [North Korea: The Unknown Nation](#)
3. [Kids & Technology: Dark Side of the Wired World](#)
4. [Synthetic Identity Fraud](#)

***NOTE:** To access links, in a new window simply login to the EduPortal:

<https://edapps.ednet.ns.ca/eduportal>

- click on "Online Video Library"

- and then return to this page and click on the links

Click here to access the News in Review series: <http://www.learn360.com/Search.aspx?Series=8303076&lid=16488891>

Digital Resources for Teachers



LRTS Webinars

Using the Online Video Library (Learn360) With Your Students

May 28 / 3:30-4:30

Teachers and students have access to more than 9,000 educational videos online through the Online Video Library (Learn360). Teachers can search for P-12 curriculum videos, create playlists, download movies and show them in the classroom. Students can login from school or at home, conduct searches and watch videos on any number of topics, as well as take notes and cite them in their school projects, a valuable tool for conducting research and gathering information. Learn more about this powerful research tool and how you can use it with your students. Presenter: Ray Fernandes, Education Media Librarian.

Power Teacher Gradebook

June 4 / 3:30-4:30

After visiting with many teachers throughout the province, Kimberly Jackson, Coordinator Power Teacher Gradebook will share some of the tips she has learned for effectively setting up your gradebook. She will be joined in this session by some classroom teachers at the elementary, junior high and senior high levels who will show you how they have organized their gradebooks. Join us live on Wednesday, June 4 from 3:30 to 4:30 pm. All you will need to participate is a computer, speakers and the internet.

Please sign up for webinars two days in advance of the session. You will receive an email from talk.ednet with your link to participate. All you need is a computer and the internet to join in. The link to sign up for the webinars is <http://tinyurl.com/webmayjune>

Past webinars are posted on the Digital Video Library website and can be viewed by visiting: <http://dvl.ednet.ns.ca/lrts-webinar-series>

Graphic novel helps youth navigate online privacy risks

The Office of the Privacy Commissioner of Canada has created a 12-page graphic novel, *Social Smarts: Privacy, the Internet and You*, to help young Canadians to better understand and navigate privacy issues in the online world. Developed with feedback from youth, it tells the story of a brother and sister who learn (sometimes the hard way) about the privacy risks related to social networking, mobile devices and texting, and online gaming.

Visit the Office of the Privacy Commissioner of Canada website to download the publication, or to request a print copy or for more information: https://www.priv.gc.ca/youth-jeunes/fs-fi/res/gn_index_e.asp



Learning Resources Technology



Learning Technology Together



JobsPeopleDo.com

Available to All
Jr & Sr High Schools
Across Nova Scotia

Junior & Senior high schools should be IP authenticated (no login required from school), students, teachers and parents can access the site from home using your school's login information. Contact Ray Fernandes for more information: fernandr@ednet.ns.ca

JobsPeopleDo now includes new French language editorial content including job profiles, volunteer information and scholarships.

Click here to view the recent LRTS webinar posted on the DVL website: [Using JobsPeopleDo in the Classroom](#)

EBSCO

<http://search.epnet.com>

EBSCO is an online periodical database that provides students and teachers access to full-text articles, indexing hundreds of magazines, newspapers and journals. It is a valuable research tool that allows students to access information about current events, historical data, animals, etc., and provides numerous resources for school projects. It is available through all school computers and at home via user names and passwords.



Contact Ray Fernandes for more information: fernandr@ednet.ns.ca
Visit the Education Media Library websire for more information: www.medialibrary.ednet.ns.ca

Did You Know?.....

That students and parents have access to these digital resources from home! These excellent digital resources are valuable tools students can use when conducting research and gathering information, great for student projects!

EBSCO

<http://search.epnet.com>

Learn360 (Online Video Library)

www.learn360.ca

JobsPeopleDo

<http://jobspeopledo.com>

Contact the Education Media Library (lrt@ednet.ns.ca) for your school's student/parent login information.



Our Cloud

<https://ourcloud.nspes.ca> English
<https://nuage.ednet.ns.ca> Français

OurCloud is a repository space on servers at the NS DOECD. Essentially, it is an online drive where you can download and upload documents and create and share folders. This service provides file sharing between desktop, laptop, netbook, smart phone and tablet devices. Apps are available for tablets and smart phones; they are named WebDAV and OwnCloud. You can also access OurCloud via FTP and with EDnet, windows share protocols.

As a teacher you are able to upload files onto the OurCloud server and access then from anywhere you are connected to the internet. These files can be viewed or downloaded once on the server. OurCloud also allows you to share folders or individual files with other. Shared folders or files can be accessed by those individuals you have given rights to via the internet. Click here for more information in [English](#) and [French](#).

School Libraries



www.hackmatack.ca

Hackmatack Children's Choice Book Award

Hackmatack Ceremony:
Friday May 30, 2014 / 10am to 11am

Grades 4, 5, and 6

The readers have voted, but the winners of the 2014 Hackmatack Children's Choice Book Award won't be revealed until later this month. Be sure to watch the ceremony broadcast from the Confederation Centre in Charlottetown on Friday May 30th at 10am. Details on how to tune in to the livestreaming will be available on the Hackmatack website, soon.

Thanks to support from the Nova Scotia Department of Education & Early Childhood Development and the Canada Council for the Arts, authors from across Canada will be touring schools and libraries in the week before the awards ceremony. Ashley Spires, Jessica Scott Kerrin, Nancy Wilcox, Allison Maher, Denis Boucher and Rob Laidlaw will be sharing their love of reading and writing with Hackmatackers across Nova Scotia.

We'd love to have your feedback on the program and the ceremony. Just email hackmatack@hackmatack.ca



Education Media Library

www.medialibrary.ednet.ns.ca

The Education Media Library has purchased a number of school library professional development books that can be borrowed by teachers and library support staff. The books have just arrived and will be catalogued and available for loans over the coming weeks. These titles include:

The Indispensable Librarian
The Creative Imperative
School Libraries Matter
The Learning Commons
Learning Commons Treasury
Building a Learning Commons
Treasure Mountain Canada
Together for Learning

The Virtual Learning Commons
Activism and the School Librarian
Library Services for Children and Young People
New Learning Commons: Where Learners Win!
Choosing Web 2.0 Tools for Learning & Teaching in a Digital World
Better Serving Teens through School Library Public Library Collaborations
Library Services for Children & Young People
Collaborating for Inquiry-Based Learning

School Libraries



3D Printing at your Library

3D printing, also known as distributed manufacturing, is a technology that has been around for several years, as an industrial option. Now, its many uses are being recognised by creative minds, and 3D printers are being placed in locations easily accessible to members of the public. Thanks to the generous support of the Nova Scotia Community Access Program (NSCAP), 3D printing is now available in

all nine of Nova Scotia's public library regions.

3D printing produces three dimensional models using designs that have been downloaded from the internet, or uniquely created using free software such as Google Sketchup or Sculpttris. Objects are printed in PLA (Polylactic acid) a polymer made from lactic acid that resembles plastic, but is biodegradable.

The possibilities of what can be produced are virtually endless. Unleash your inner creativity and check out 3D printing at your local library. More details can be found on your library's website, by connecting to: publiclibraries.ns.ca

This initiative is a partnership between NSCAP and Dalhousie Universities, with funding provided by Economic and Rural Development and Tourism, and individual communities.



Summer Reading Program

Summer reading programs are organized by the regional public library systems across Nova Scotia to engage children in the joy of reading during the summer.

Studies have shown that students who read over the summer months arrive to school in September better prepared for the school year and ready to learn.

Last year, more than 15,400 youth participated!

Check with your regional public library system to find out more about the summer reading program and how your students can participate.

<http://library.novascotia.ca/map>



EduFest 2014: Arts Education Opportunities

Visit <https://edufest.ednet.ns.ca> for further information and to register.



Music: Teaching Guitar Workshops (TGW) July 7-11

For the educator who is interested in developing a guitar program in her/his school. Participants will learn proper playing technique, gain classroom management tools, explore instructional approaches and materials, and learn how to design or improve an existing program, and much more. Email tgwcanada@rogers.com for further information and to register.

Music: Halifax Summer Choral Conducting Symposium July 22-26

Designed for music educators and professionals of all levels, this five-day intensive workshop offers practical instruction in choral and vocal pedagogy, conducting technique, choral repertoire, and Dalcroze Eurhythmics. Visit www.halifaxsummerchoral.com for further information and to register.

Music: A Musical Smorgasbord August 11, 12

These two jam-packed days will provide a little 'taste' of everything in P-6 music education. Included will be singing, movement, and game activities 'old and new' for all levels that have proven effective in music rooms.



Visual Arts: Healthy Art in Selfie Culture August 12, 13, 14

This hands-on workshop is designed as an intensive opportunity for teachers from P-6 to engage in conversation and artistic exploration with artist Melissa Marr around positive health outcomes for children and youth. Over three days, we will try a variety of

mediums including: felting and fibre arts, printmaking, and sculpture designed to address outcomes from Health Education, and Visual Arts.

Dance: Street Styles – Bollywood Bound! August 13, 14

Day1: Walk through North American street culture and experience hip hop from its roots. Learn basic foundations for popping, lock-ing, breaking, party steps, and house dance!

Day 2: Bollywood style of dancing originated from the Hindi cinemas in India. Learn the basic steps that will help you choreograph dances to Indian music. As well, you will learn a dance set to a song from a famous Bollywood movie.



Music: A "Fun"-ctional Approach to Guitar in the Classroom August 14, 15

Will interest teachers of all levels of experience. Learning chords and creative strumming patterns will be a prime focus to equip teachers with clever and appropriate rhythmic styles that will appeal to today's young players. Other activities include song-writing, using the capo, (for easy key changes and tonal subtleties), and open tunings.



Dates of Note:

- May 5, Music Monday
- May 15-18, Podium Conference (national choral conference), Halifax
- August 11-18, EduFest

Arts in Education

Community Partnerships

On February 24, Sarah Cheetham, the Artist in Residence at the Cape Breton Centre for Craft and Design and a recent NSCAD Graduate, spent the morning with a group of grade 8 and 9 visual art students at Sherwood Park Education Centre. Sarah shared her experience as an art student and now a practising Artist in Residence. Sarah and the young visual artists then created clay coil pots together. A wonderful morning was had by all.

Sarah Cheetham demonstrating scoring and slipping techniques, which is necessary to join the coils



Cultural Industries 11

The DEECD is pleased to announce that the Cultural Industries 11 curriculum has recently been revised (2014). Focusing on project-based and portfolio learning, Cultural Industries 11 will help students develop a sense of their own creative potential as they actively participate in this dynamic, exploratory opportunity for engagement in an entrepreneurial experience in the cultural sector.

To introduce teachers to the revised Cultural Industries 11 course, three one-day regional implementation workshops will take place on NSCC campuses in November 2014. Teachers (Entrepreneurship 12, Business Management 12, Cooperative Education, O2, and teachers of arts courses) will have opportunity to

- meet with artists and entrepreneurs and NSCC personnel
- experience the learning opportunities outlined in the curriculum
- explore strategies for teaching and learning

To support Cultural Industries 11 an online, interactive resource and video series titled Profiles in Cultural Industries has been created and features seven Nova Scotian cultural industries entrepreneurs in a variety of mediums. To view the videos, please go to <http://dvl.ednet.ns.ca/profiles-cultural-industries>



Arts Express Spring News



April: ArtsExpress coordinator Sabine Fels gave the keynote presentation on creative education and the next generation at the "Growing a Creative Community" Conference in Sydney, Cape Breton. The focus of the session was current research about the effects of arts based school programs on positive youth development, creativity and soft skills development necessary for the 21st century.

J.L. Ilsley graduate Luke Watters, the new director of Concrete Roots, presented at the 6th Annual Crime Prevention Symposium, which had the theme of "Collaboration for Community Safety". Luke and the youth of his bboy dance troupe performed and spoke about the life changing effects of art mentorship programs, such as Youth on the Radar, which are supported by Lighthouses Grants from the Department of Justice and operated by ArtsExpress.



Concrete Roots Bboy instructor & director Luke Watters

May: May 1-7 is National Youth Arts Month week; a youth led celebration of creative expression in communities across Canada which gives youth a chance to express and exchange ideas, share stories, celebrate talents and get connected throughout Canada.



First Nations dancer Savannah Simon performing at the Vancouver Olympics

ArtsExpress is partnering with First Nations performer Savannah Simon and artist Rebecca Moore in an effort to develop arts programming for Aboriginal youth in the J.L. Ilsley family of schools. Together we brought youth to attend the 'Leaders of Today' First Nations Youth gathering at the Mi'kmac Friendship Center and are in the process of developing youth art workshops for the fall of 2014.



Art Gallery of Nova Scotia

www.artgalleryofnovascotia.ca

Summer School of the Arts for Children & Youth

Have fun and get inspired by participating in hands-on studio activities and explorations of the Gallery. Well-qualified and experienced artists/art educators will lead the classes. Experiment with a wide range of art materials, discover new art techniques and enjoy playing around with ideas and images! Students can attend week-long sessions of full or half-day classes. Organized lunch time supervision at a nominal fee is provided for students attending full days.



REGISTRATION NOW OPEN!

Art Express is for children ages 3 – 4

Kids Art Classes for children ages 5 - 7 & 8 - 12

Teen Art Classes for students 12 & up

Register in person at the AGNS Gallery South Information Desk or by phone with credit card payment at 424-5280 during regular Gallery hours.

Artists in Schools Programs

ArtsSmarts Nova Scotia This spring, students at Saint Andrews Junior High in Antigonish will be working with artist Heather Poulson. The students will research the role that special cloth and clothing plays in ceremonies and special events. Using reclaimed wood and recycled fabric the students will produce colourful "event trees" that reflect their own personal memories of special events in their lives

Fabric Wrapped Tree, 2013, Collection of the Artist Heather Poulson



ArtReach In Debert, students at Brooklyn District Elementary school will learn about Maud Lewis and other Nova Scotia folk artists. Guided by artist Terry Drahos, the students will paint folk art styled houses, drawing inspiration from the local flora and fauna of Colchester County.

Several new art lesson plans are also being developed for the ArtReach program:

-- The lesson Mary Pratt: The Act of Making Ready explores painting techniques used by the artist. This lesson will be especially useful when the exhibition of Mary Pratt's paintings opens at the Art Gallery of Nova Scotia this October.

-- Photographer Sue Siri is developing the lesson plan Annie Liebovitz and Media Literacy, which looks at the work of Annie Liebovitz in pop culture, combined with a trip to the Gallery and basic instruction on how lighting, posing and perspective can enhance or alter a person through photography.

-- ArtReach artist Melissa Marr is preparing two lessons that explore African Canadian and African American printmaking and art making techniques for grade 2 students.



*3 Black Cats, c 1966 Oil on particleboard; 30 x 35.4 cm
Collection of Robert and Betty Flinn*

These lesson plans will be added to the Art Gallery of Nova Scotia website this summer: Look for them under Education and Public Programs/ArtReach/Teacher Resources, or [click here](#).



Mathematics

Webinars For Teachers

Four webinars in mathematics have been posted to the mathematics section of the Nova Scotia Department of Education and Early Childhood Development Digital Video Library. These webinars provide professional learning for teachers related to digital resources and important ideas in mathematics.

Click on the title below or visit the site at dvl.ednet.ns.ca

- [Mathematics P–3: Partitioning Numbers](#)
- [Mathematics 3: Math Makes Sense 3 eText Walk-Through](#)
- [Mathematics 10: An Overview of the Teacher Technology DVD and Web-based Student ebook](#)
- [Mathematics 10: How to Use ExamView Extra Practice and Test Generator CD](#)

Mathematics Contests

Every year in Canada students from grades 2 to 12 have the opportunity to participate in mathematics contests. These contests are an excellent way to provide students with a challenging and engaging mathematical experience, competitive and educational. Click [here](#) for information and a list of the most popular contests with registration deadlines and competition dates.

Mathematics Edufest Workshops in July

A number of mathematics workshops will be offered as part of [Edufest](#). All mathematics Edufest workshops will take place at the Best Western Plus Dartmouth Hotel which is located at 15 Spectacle Lake Drive, Dartmouth. All workshops will begin at 9 a.m. and end at 3:30 p.m.

Linking Classroom Assessment and Instruction in Mathematics

(Grades P–3) Dates: July 24 and 25, 2014

This two-day workshop is intended for those teachers who will be teaching grades Primary–3 during the 2014-2015 school year. The workshop will focus on four aspects of mathematics assessment — balanced assessment, using a rubric, responding to assessment, and anticipating student misconceptions. Participants will explore balanced mathematics assessment; curriculum resources to create assessment items; apply a rubric to assess problem solving and communication; apply the rubric to their students' work samples*; work collaboratively to determine next steps for instruction; and more. *NOTE: Participants will be required to complete an assessment item with their current students and bring these work samples with them to this workshop.

Implementing Mathematics 4, 5, and 6

Dates: July 24 and 25, 2014

This workshop will mirror the two days of professional learning provided to Grade 4–6 teachers during the 2013-2014 school year. It is intended for those teachers who will be new to teaching Grades 4–6 in the coming school year but who did not receive PD during the 2013-2014 school year. Participants will learn about the changes in the mathematics curriculum; become familiar with the curriculum and support documents, and outcomes and performance indicators for their grade; explore the mathematical processes; be introduced to the new core resources and the Mathematics Learning Commons (Moodle) for grades 4–6, and more.

Mathematics 10 and Mathematics at Work 10

Date: July 24, 2014

This is one-day workshop will be devoted to the Measurement and Financial Mathematics outcomes in Mathematics 10 and Mathematics at Work 10. Participants will engage in hands-on activities and will examine the resources and yearly plans that support these courses.

Mathematics 11 and Mathematics at Work 11

Date: July 25, 2014

This professional learning opportunity will mirror the first day of professional learning provided to Grade 11 mathematics teachers during the 2013-2014 school year. These days are intended for those teachers who will be new to teaching Mathematics 11 and Mathematics at Work 11 in the coming school year. Teachers who will be new to teaching Mathematics 11 and Mathematics at Work 11 in September 2014 will engage in professional learning related to the implementation of the new courses.



For information on Family Studies, whether it is about resources, draft curriculum, or Moodle access, please do not hesitate to contact:

Sheila Munro
Family Studies Services
NS Department of Education and
Early Childhood Development
munrosm@gov.ns.ca

Family Studies

The Real Care Baby III

We have just updated our listings for the Real Care Baby III from Studica. Please visit NSSBB site to review the listings that now allow for the purchase of the RCB with or without software.



McGraw Hill Ryerson Resources

The following resources have been delisted:

- Food for Today
- Clothing: Fashion, Fabrics and Construction
- Parenting: Rewards And Responsibilities
- The Developing Child
- Nutrition And Wellness
- Discovering Food And Nutrition

They are still valuable resources for classroom use and while they do support our outcomes well, we are in the process of reviewing new Canadian replacements for these resources.

EDUfest Sessions of Note

Family Studies teachers teach a variety of courses, many of this year's EDUfest cross curricular offerings will be of interest. Full descriptions of sessions are available on the EDUfest website <https://edufest.ednet.ns.ca>



Sessions that may be of particular interest to Family Studies teachers include:

- IT Summer Camp for teachers
- Creating a Positive School Environment and Sense of Community
- Teaching Students with ASD in Secondary Grades
- Apply Blended Learning to Your Classroom
- Commercial Free Classroom- How Schools Can Help Reduce the Harms Associated With Marketing to Children and Youth
- Mi'kmaq Communities in Nova Scotia- Building a Knowledge Foundation
- Healthy Art in Selfie Culture
- Food-Body Systems: Interactions
- Edible Education – The Classroom is the Tastiest Place to Learn
- Engaging Your Students- Project Based Learning

Provincial Heritage Fair

May 29-30, Saint Mary's University, Halifax

The Nova Scotia Heritage Fairs Society, in partnership with the Departments of Education and Early Childhood Development and Communities, Cultures and Heritage, will be hosting the 2014 Provincial Heritage Fair, May 29 and 30 at St. Mary's University.

This year's fair will include interactive workshops for participants in Archaeology, Geomatics, and archival-based, historical investigation. For more information on the fair, please contact Social Studies Consultant, Jennifer Burke, at burkejel@gov.ns.ca or by phone at 424-8276.



Social Studies



May is Gaelic Awareness Month

Nova Scotians are celebrating the contributions of Gaels, their language and culture, and their unique communities during Gaelic Awareness Month.

Connections is a timely and fitting theme of Gaelic Awareness Month, when we consider how connected our world has become. To our Gaelic-speaking grandparents, the capability to instantly text, email, Facebook, or Skype anyone in the world would be magical. For them, making connections was about understanding where they came from and how they were related. Gaels felt a strong kinship to their people, historical and ancestral, and they brought them alive through conversation, music and story. Thanks to their stewardship of our intangible cultural heritage, Nova Scotia has a deep well of tradition that is inspiring a new generation of dynamic Gaelic speakers, musicians and artists. Steeped in traditional Gaelic culture, this new generation of Gaels is also at home in our globally connected world, offering new opportunities for learning, sharing, exporting and experiencing one of Nova Scotia's unique cultural resources.

For more information on Gaelic culture and heritage, please see the Gaelic Council of Nova Scotia Website at www.gaelic.ca or the spring newsletter at <http://gaelic.novascotia.ca/sites/default/files/inline/documents/newsletterspring2014.pdf>

Or contact Gaelic Affairs at gaelicinfo@gov.ns.ca or visit the website at <http://gaelic.novascotia.ca>



Social Studies

'Peace Action' at the Canadian Museum of Immigration at Pier 21

<http://www.pier21.ca>

Students will discover actions they can take for peace and will learn visual literacy and critical thinking skills to unlock the language of pictures. They will work together to explore mindfulness and team-building to create a giant physical symbol of peace—the human mandala—as well as create their own peace ribbon.

Ages 8 to adult English or French 2 hours Maximum 30 students
\$5.75/student (teachers complimentary)

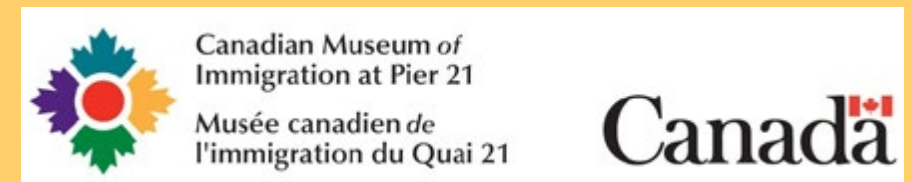
This program includes admission to Peace – The Exhibition.

To book, contact Lena Hardiman at (902) 425-7770 ext. 274 or Learn@pier21.ca



New Education Programs at Pier 21

Pier 21 is offering two new school programs that are linked to grade 6 curricular outcomes in Music, Social Studies, and Language Arts. (Programs will be available in English and French.)



Sons and Daughters is an exciting, new, inquiry-based program exploring the immigration stories that shape our Canadian identity. Students engage in a series of lively activities involving role-play, improvisation, investigation, and the creation of soundscapes using primary sources (the stories of newcomers in film, audio recordings and photographs) to explore the experiences and emotions of an immigrant child. The program is available from April 15 to October 18, 2014.

Immigration Remixed is a program that brings the past to the present through the arts and technology. Students investigate the stories, objects and images of newcomers to collaboratively build digital music remixes that reflect the immigrant experience. The program is available from May 1 to October 18, 2014.

To book the programs, call 1-902-425-7770 ext. 274.

June 21 is National Aboriginal Day

National Aboriginal Day, June 21, is an opportunity for Canadians to show their respect for and to learn more about the rich culture and heritage of Canada's Aboriginal people. History is the foundation for the future, and the Mi'kmaq in Nova Scotia have a strong heritage, a vibrant culture and a glowing future.



Aboriginal Day Live — June 21

As a celebration of National Aboriginal Day on June 21, the Aboriginal People's Television Network (APTN) hosts two National celebrations in locations across Canada.

This year, for the first time, one of the events will take place on the Halifax Waterfront. The celebration will feature some of the biggest names in Aboriginal music and television, showcasing talent from all genres, regions, and nations. The day will consist of cultural performances, a Mawiomi, food sampling with Chef Ray Bear, and a live concert to end the day.

As we continue to facilitate Cultural Proficiency workshops across the province, events such as this are an excellent opportunity to learn more about Aboriginal culture.

Mi'kmaq Services

<http://mikmaq.ednet.ns.ca>



Video Resources to Support Mi'kmaq and Native Studies

The Education Media Library has a number of titles available online and in the loans/dubbing collection to support Mi'kmaq and Native Canadian Studies.

[Click here](#) to see a list of just some of the titles that are available.

Visit the Media Library website or contact us for more information: www.medialibrary.ednet.ns.ca



French Second Language Program Services

<https://fsl.ednet.ns.ca>

Bienvenue/Welcome

Le personnel de la division des Programmes de français langue seconde du Ministère de l'Éducation et du Développement de la petite enfance accueille chaleureusement deux nouveaux membres à leur équipe:

Dans son rôle de Responsable en immersion à l'élémentaire, Francesca Crowther partage une richesse de connaissances dans le domaine de la littérature fondée sur ses années d'expérience en enseignant les élèves et en appuyant les enseignants en immersion française au niveau élémentaire dans son conseil scolaire régional de la Vallée d'Annapolis.

Dorothy Allen nous rejoint en offrant de la promotion pour le programme d'échange Nouvelle-Écosse/Québec aux niveaux des écoles secondaires. Elle assistera aussi au développement d'autres projets pendant les prochains mois.



LRTS science enquêtes Série Vidéo - Nouvelles vidéos disponible!

Nouveaux titres tels que: Le bécier mystérieux, Les indicateurs acido-basiques, etc.

Cette collection d'investigation scientifique de courtes vidéos a pour objet l'appui de

l'apprentissage basé sur l'enquête. Ces vidéos ne remplacent pas les activités d'apprentissage par expérimentation pratique. Elles sont des outils qui servent à améliorer l'apprentissage des concepts scientifiques.

Cette série est disponible en français et en anglais, et peut être écoutée en ligne ou téléchargée.

Pour voir la série, dans une fenêtre différente connecter simplement à la EduPortal, puis cliquez sur le lien suivant:

<http://www.learn360.com/Search.aspx?Series=24129085&lid=16488891>

School Mental Health Literacy

The national awareness of the need to address adolescent mental health within the school setting has now spread widely across Canada.

The groundwork to all school mental health areas is the need to effectively address mental health literacy of students, educators, counsellors, administrators alike. Dr. Stan Kutcher and Ms. Yifeng Wei of TeenMentalHealth.org have recently published an article in the Canadian Education Association outlining the implementation of the national mental health literacy resource, Mental Health & High School Curriculum Guide.



The article features information on the content of the resource and the processes that can be contextualized to meet the student needs. It further outlines the most fundamental research and evaluation results of the Curriculum, which demonstrates overall significantly improved knowledge, a decrease in stigma and enhanced help-seeking efficacy among students and educators who used this resource in usual school curriculum.

Click here to view the whole article: <http://www.cea-ace.ca/education-canada/article/school-mental-health-literacy>

Act of Citizenship

Brea Hayden and Jack Joudrey, grade 2 students at Harmony Heights Elementary School in Truro, have taken Citizenship to the next level. In an effort to raise money for Cystic Fibrosis, Brea decided to create a fundraiser by making and selling Rainbow Loom bracelets to the students of Harmony Heights. She and Jack began the project by making promotional posters and choosing bracelet designs using the Cystic Fibrosis logo colours (teal and blue). "Jack has CF and we wanted to do something bigger this year, as the JackPack gets ready for the CF walk", said Brea.



The two friends created an order form and went from classroom to classroom explaining the fundraiser and taking orders. The idea exploded in the school. They had so many bracelet orders that they had to recruit a dozen friends, parents, and relatives to help fill all the orders by making bracelets over a period of two weekends. To date, they have raised over \$650 for cystic fibrosis research.

The school was quite thrilled as well. Principal Wanda Vautour indicated that the act of citizenship could not go unnoticed. Yesterday, during the monthly school assembly, Brea and Jack were presented with the school's first ever "Citizenship Award", which goes beyond the School Virtues and recognizes their contribution within their school and in the wider community. Ms. Vautour stated that the other students who participated in making the bracelets were also recognized at the school. Brea and Jack have been nominated for CTV's Maritimer of the Week.

Health Education



Making Tracks Safety Skills Training, Ecology Action Centre <http://saferoutesns.ca/programs/making-tracks>



Nova Scotia's #1 Active Transportation Training Program

- Leadership training for teachers and older youth
- 5000 children and youth trained since 2008
- Modes include cycling, skateboarding, scootering, walking safety and in-line skating
- Teaches safety, preparedness, rules of the road, skills, equipment maintenance and safe routes
- Curriculum-linked to physical education and leadership outcomes
- Activities easily fit your classroom or afterschool needs
- Approved by the Nova Scotia Department of Education

How to bring Making Tracks to your school:

1. Become a Making Tracks Leader, or
2. Hire one of our Expert Trainers

Contact: Julian West, Making Tracks Coordinator
Call 902.442.0209, or email: mt@ecologyaction.ca

School Travel Planning www.saferoutesns.ca

Walking and biking to school has so many benefits for students. Active transportation is a simple way for children to meet their daily physical activity requirements. This one change in the daily routine can instill a child with healthy life long habits and decrease the occurrence of stress and anxiety. Not to mention, a dose of morning activity allows children to be more alert and present in the classroom, reducing behavioural issues and raising test scores! So let's reduce the number of cars around our schools and create a happier, healthier and safer environment for our children.



For more information contact:

Stephanie Johnstone-Luarette (Cape Breton): stp-cb@ecologyaction.ca
Caroline King (Mainland NS): Walk@ecologyaction.ca

How healthy is your community?



Health Education

How healthy is your community?

Health Promoting Schools in Nova Scotia have been working for a number of years to support the health and learning of their students. However, the cultural norms in our society can make it challenging for school communities to adopt health promotion practices.

Thrive! is one part of a broad prevention platform that is working to create a cultural shift to support the health of all Nova Scotians. To learn more about Thrive! go to <https://thrive.novascotia.ca>



Teacher Professional Development Video Resource:

Four Feet Up

Teacher and education support staff now have access to the NFB documentary "Four Feet Up" to use as PD resource. The film is posted on Learn360, to access it in a separate window login to the EduPortal: <https://edapps.ednet.ns.ca/eduportal/Login.aspx> - click on "Online Video Library" - and then return to this page and click on a direct link to the film: <http://www.learn360.com/ShowVideo.aspx?ID=1086354&IPK=39215161>

*Note that students do not have access to view the film through the school login; the video is intended for professional development, it has not been approved for classroom use.

Film Summary:

In her second NFB documentary, award-winning photographer and filmmaker Nance Ackerman invites us into the lives of this determined family for an intimate and touching experience of child poverty in one of the richest countries in the world.

Ackerman spent two years with Isaiah and his family, developing a relationship entrusted to her to share with us through her tender care and vision. As her portrait of the family unfolds with the help of Isaiah's creative input, curiosity and zest for life, so do Ackerman's own feelings about the responsibilities of Canadians - to raise all children as our best investment in the nation's future and to take a more critical look at how we measure wealth.

Physical Education

EDUfest Summer Learning Opportunities in Health Education and Physical Education



Don't miss the exciting opportunities available this summer that will inspire you teach health education in ways that engage you and your students in exploring health enhancing concepts while simultaneously addressing outcomes from other subject areas.

Cooking in the classroom, using art as a medium to explore all things "selfie", looking critically at how marketing and advertising tactics affect the health of children and youth in Nova Scotia, poetry as a vehicle to sharing voice, and last but not least, nontraditional open space learning environments that remove the mask of masculinity and get guys talking about sex, alcohol, relationships, and mental health – all of these topics are featured in one of 5 workshops that will help teachers, administrators, and counsellors build confidence and competency to teach health education, and maybe think about their personal health in a new way. Visit <https://edufest.ednet.ns.ca> to register.

Physical Education at the X: The Place to Be August 19-21, 2014

If physical education is your passion, you don't want to be anywhere else these 3 days but St. FX where teachers will get a sneak peak at the new Physical Education Primary-9 that will be introduced in the fall of the 2014-15 school year.

Engaging evening, full day, and morning sessions will focus on the big ideas of the new curriculum, including curriculum design, teaching games for understanding, using technology, outdoor education, adaptive physical education, and assessment. Be part of the first annual summer learning opportunity for physical education teachers as our province strives to be a national leader in promoting physically literate children and youth through education.

Visit <https://edufest.ednet.ns.ca> to register. There is a minimum registration required to run this opportunity, so please register early!



The Nova Scotia School Athletic Federation (NSSAF) has had a great winter season! The NSSAF is continually pleased with the effort our regional, qualifying and provincial hosts put forth in making each championship memorable for student-athletes for member schools. Volunteer committees spend hours to add that little touch that will make their events special for the student athletes involved. The NSSAF congratulates all volunteers on a job well done!



Division 3 Girls Basketball Champions Middleton



Division 1 Boys Hockey Champions CP Allen



Junior Wrestling Champions Ridgecliff Middle School



Senior Girls Snowboarding Top 3 Teams-KES, CPA, Avon View

For more information on the NSSAF, please visit: <http://nssaf.ednet.ns.ca>

Science



LRTS Science Investigations Video Series

New Videos Available!

View new titles such as Secret Beaker, Acid and Base Indicators.

This trendy new collection of short videos support inquiry-based learning in science. In these videos, students observe science experiments, and teachers can use the “Teacher Resources” for discussion questions and answers (only viewable to teachers). The videos are not a substitute for hands-on learning, but serve to enhance learning of science concepts.

This series is available in both French and English and can be streamed online or downloaded.

To view the series, open a new window in your browser and simply login to the [EduPortal](http://www.learn360.com/Search.aspx?Series=24129085&lid=16488891), and then click on the following link:
<http://www.learn360.com/Search.aspx?Series=24129085&lid=16488891>

Science Celebrations & Contests

Every year in Canada students from grades primary to 12 have the opportunity to participate in science contests. The main focus of the events is to stimulate interest in science. Celebrations and contests are an excellent way to provide students with a challenging and engaging scientific experience that can be both competitive and educational. [Click here](#) for useful web sites and a list of the most popular celebrations contests with registration deadlines and competition dates.



Nova Scotia Youth Experiences in Science 2014 TEAM NOVA SCOTIA SHOWCASE

From May 1st to 3rd, NS YES presented the 13th annual Team Nova Scotia Showcase event at Saint Mary's University in Halifax. The Showcase, a team-building and media event, hosted the top 40 grade 7-12 science fair winners from around the province who have been selected to represent Nova Scotia at the Canada-Wide Science Fair - a prestigious event that attracts over 450 of Canada's top students annually.

The Team Nova Scotia Showcase relies on visitors like you to give the students a chance to practise presenting their projects before heading off to the Nationals. Through practice, the students gain confidence and improve their presentation skills – two things that are crucial to success at the Canada-Wide Science Fair!

Together we can Inspire...Discover...Celebrate!

For further details please visit ScienceFairInfo.ns.ca

Discovery Centre

Nova Scotia's Hands-On Science Centre

<http://www.discoverycentre.ns.ca>

We'll dance, we'll play,
we'll learn all about the pancreas.



Grab the kids and run, jump, and play your way through a new interactive exhibition all about the human body. Sesame Street Presents: The Body comes to the Discovery Centre, May 24 - September 7. For more information, call 492-4422 or visit thediscoverycentre.ca.

Discovery Centre
Nova Scotia's Hands-On Science Centre

Sesame Street Presents: The Body

Our friends at Sesame Street, who we all know and love, are coming to teach us all about The Body. That's right; Elmo, Oscar, Grover, and the gang are all a part of Sesame Street Presents: The Body, our new, interactive exhibit starting May 24!

The exhibit teaches children how the body works, and how to keep it healthy as they hop, jump, run and dance through this hands-on Sesame Street adventure! You'll pass through the archway and visit the world famous Sesame Street. Visit the 123 Building, Oscar's Trash Can and discover all kinds of surprises this interactive exhibit has to offer.

There's a lot to learn. Find out more about the different body parts you can see, like your hands, your feet and your head. Learn what they do and put them to use as you help Elmo ride a bike and make Grover jump really high! And don't forget about Your Insides.

Your body is an amazing, complicated machine and you can't even see most of it... except here. Touch and explore Your Insides as you count your organs at Count's Organ Organ and see what happens to your food at Digestion with Oscar. Be careful though, Oscar may have a silly surprise for you! Opening at the Discovery Centre May 24th!

SUPERNOVA at Dalhousie University

Inspiring adventures in Science, Engineering, and Computer Science!

SuperNOVA at Dalhousie University brings STEM to life through dynamic classroom workshops and high-impact summer day camps that feature engaging

demonstrations, interactive experiments, and exciting hands-on projects. Delivered by enthusiastic undergraduate instructors, our programs lead participants through fun explorations of science concepts and careers while nurturing curiosity, creativity, and critical thinking.

We will be visiting schools throughout Nova Scotia in May and June! Book your workshops online at www.supernova.dal.ca/workshops or by calling 902.494.6220.

SuperNOVA's summer day camp programs for ALL youth, ages 5-18, are also open for registration. For more information visit: www.supernova.dal.ca/camps



Evaluation Services

Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA) Field Tests

This spring in Nova Scotia 6 schools are participating in the PISA Field Trials in preparation for the 2015 PISA Assessment.

PISA is an international assessment of the skills and knowledge of 15-year-old students; in addition, it provides information about a range of factors that contribute to the success of students, schools, and education systems.

PISA is a collaborative effort among member countries of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD).

PISA covers three domains — reading, mathematics, and science. Although each assessment includes questions from all three domains, the focus shifts. In 2000, the emphasis was on reading, with mathematics and science as minor domains.

In 2003, mathematics was the major domain, and in 2006, it was science. In 2009, the focus was again reading, and in 2012, mathematics.

In the assessment of 2015, the focus will again be science. The repetition of the assessments at regular intervals yields timely data that can be compared internationally and over time.

As PISA is an international assessment, it measures skills that are generally recognized as key outcomes of the educational process.

Rather than testing on facts, the assessment focuses on young people near the end of compulsory schooling and their ability to use their knowledge and skills to meet real-life challenges.

The Program of Learning Assessment for Nova Scotia (PLANS) is responsible for the administration of provincial, national, and international assessments. PLANS provides reliable and accurate data to assist in educational decision making at all levels: student, home, school, school board, and province.

The Program of Learning Assessment for Nova Scotia (PLANS) is managed by staff in the Evaluation Services division of the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development.

For more information, visit: <http://plans.ednet.ns.ca>



Tool Box Challenge

Students in five HRSB schools participated in Halifax's first annual "Toolbox Challenge" at Leslie Thomas Junior High School on Thursday, April 24. Participants from Lockview High School, Clayton Park Junior High School, Sackville High School, Cavalier Drive Junior High School, and Leslie Thomas Junior High School were presented with a design challenge called "Set 'Em Up". Students were asked to design a mechanism whereby they used compressed air to launch a device that would knock down a series of water bottles that were filled to varying levels with water. Their mechanism had to be self-sufficient when clamped to a table, causing their device to be launched by a compressed air trigger. The bottles were positioned at least 15 feet from the launching area. Groups were provided with 40 minutes of construction time after 20 minutes of design time. Once they had a mechanism constructed using only the tools in their toolbox, they were permitted to go through a testing phase whereby they could modify their designs and re-test. When the official testing took place, each team was permitted 3 launches per round to try to score the most points. Heavier bottles (with more water) were worth more points. In addition to functionality of the device as constructed, students were evaluated on their design paperwork, safety, and quality of construction. Top marks went to students at Lockview High School, under the leadership of teacher, Ian Carmichael. Second place went to Clayton Park Junior High School, under the leadership of teacher, Bob Walker.

The Toolbox Challenge concept was originally conceived by a group of Technology Education teachers in Annapolis Valley Regional School Board. Teachers from AVRSB meet monthly as a professional learning community to support one another in their teaching efforts, while planning the annual spring event for a group of interested students in each of their schools. The most recent Toolbox Challenge in AVRSB hosted twelve teams from ten different schools, involving over 50 students, and numerous teaching and support staff. The PLC concept has been adopted by HRSB Technology Education teachers in recent months, to great success for their programs.



EDUfest 2014

<https://edapps.ednet.ns.ca/summersession>

Edufest summer institutes for the whole family:
August 11-15, 2014.

Technology Education teachers will have plenty of learning opportunities at EduFest this summer at the NSCC Dartmouth Waterfront campus and in regional locations across the province in the following topics:

- Digital Photography
- Film and Video / Multimedia
- Solidworks
- Production Technology (Intro level) in Truro, Yarmouth, Halifax
- Production Technology (Intermediate level) in Truro, Yarmouth, Halifax
- Junior High Technology Education
- Technology Education Safety Program



Student Services <http://studentservices.ednet.ns.ca>

School Psychologists

The Student Services Division, in collaboration with our eight school boards and APSEA, facilitated a session on March 21, 2014, for school psychologists on the release of the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders, Fifth Edition (DSM-5™). Participants explored research as presented in the DSM-5™ and how it may inform the school psychologists' role in the program planning process. Special focus was given to the diagnostic criteria for LD and ADHD.

The day also provided an opportunity to share feedback with representatives from Post-Secondary Disability Services related to the requirement of current assessments for students pursuing federal grants.

Learning Strategies 10, 11, 12

The implementation of the new PSP Learning Strategies 10, 11, 12 credit courses in high schools offering these courses, is being supported by professional development workshops for Learning Strategies teachers. In 2013–2014, targeted funding has been provided by the Student Services Division of the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development, to enable school boards to provide educational resources and support professional development opportunities for teachers in schools offering this course.

In April, the Annapolis Valley Regional School Board and the Halifax Regional School Board each held a one-day professional development workshop for Learning Strategy 10, 11, 12 teachers. Teachers attending these sessions provided feedback on the course and explored various methods of teaching, learning, and assessing.

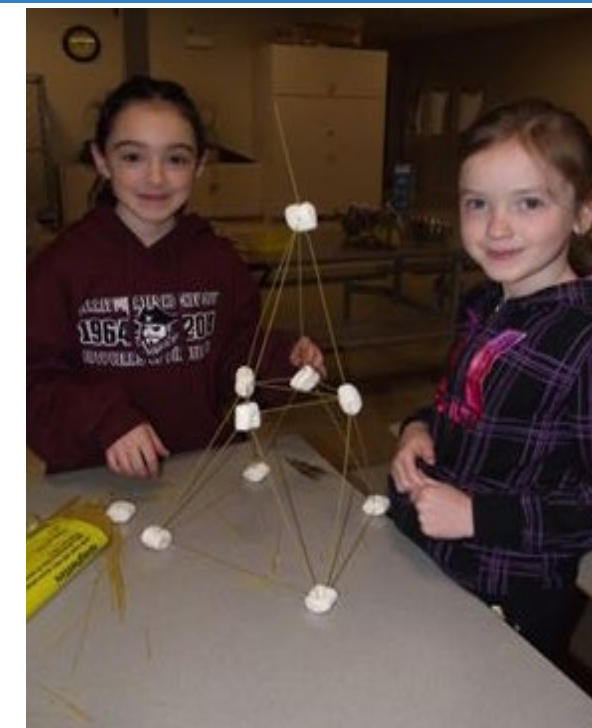
Trudy Johnson, a former Program Director in the South Shore Regional School Board, who was involved in developing Learning Strategies 10, 11, 12, facilitated the workshops and demonstrated how Universal Design for Learning (UDL) principles can help teachers to further reduce learning barriers for their students, thereby increasing curriculum access for all. Teachers used a sample UDL Planning Template applying UDL principles to enhance student engagement and success. Peter Oldreive, Curriculum and Technology Integration Consultant, Department of Education and Early Childhood Development, demonstrated how teachers can use the Moodle network to share resources, ideas, and lesson plans.

SchoolsPlus

Lots of fun activities happened in schools over March break.



Students from the SSRSB SchoolsPlus experienced fun and laughter while on a hike and scavenger hunt in the woods over March Break.



ÉcolesPlus March Break Camp at École Beau-Port. Construction with spaghetti and marshmallows.



CBVRSB SchoolsPlus in partnership with HEAL Cape Breton held a March Break camp for 30 children. Activities included: trail walks, yoga, basketball and Zumba. Local chefs volunteered to teach and prepare healthy meals.



Rainbow Loom is very popular in Digby.

Working Together to Support Our Students

The Department of Community Services has been providing training to their staff to support students in care in the public school system. Community Services has been providing training for their managers, social workers, and care givers across the province, in understanding the Education Act, the Special Education Policy, the Provincial School Code of Conduct and Code of Conduct Guidelines, as well as other policies developed by the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development.

Navigating the education system, as well as the process for resolving conflict at the board level, has been a focus. Having children registered and attending school in a timely fashion, is an important piece in providing stability to children, and supporting the development of positive behavior and enhanced social functioning. A welcoming school enhances the success of students.

African Canadian Services

African Nova Scotian Scholarships Opportunities

The 2014 – 15 Scholarships for African Nova Scotian students are currently being accepted. The applications are on our website at: www.acs.ednet.ns.ca The deadlines for the scholarships are as follows:

- University Entrance Award – May 20, 2014
- Post-Secondary Award – July 31, 2014
- Community College/Trade School Award – July 31, 2014
- Performing Arts Award – July 31, 2014
- Science Professions Award - June 20, 2014
- Teacher Education Award – June 20, 2014

The basic eligibility requirements for Scholarships/Awards under this program are:

- Applicant must be an African Nova Scotian (Black) student
- Application must be a Canadian citizen or permanent resident of Canada whose parent(s) is/are of African descent (Black)
- Applicant must be a resident of Nova Scotia
- Must graduate from the Nova Scotia Education system.

Summer Slide Programs

For: Grade 5/6 Students

Students often lose some of their educational gains from the previous school year over the summer months. This phenomenon is known as “Summer Slide”. The African Canadian Services Division will again be supporting community based organizations to deliver programs in their communities to counter the summer slide. These programs are intended to support African Nova Scotian Learners entering grade five or six with academic development and socio-emotional through fun activity based learning. Programs generally run for 3-4 weeks and are free of charge. Parents can register their students can register by contact the community based organization indicated below.

Region	Organization	Contact
Whitney Pier	Black Educators Association of Nova Scotia	902-563-2119
Antigonish/Guysborough	Black Educators Association of Nova Scotia	902-232-2176
North Preston	North Preston Recreation Centre	902-462-4161
North End Dartmouth	Association of Black Social Workers	902-407-8809
Digby	Digby Education Committee/SchoolsPlus	902-245-7524

I Never Heard Their Cry! – George Borden

George Borden’s collection of poetry I Never Heard Their Cry! will be distributed to high schools this spring as part of a Local Authors Package, and will be distributed to African Canadian Studies 11 and English 12: African Heritage classes in the fall. Mr. Borden is an author, poet, and songwriter from New Glasgow who has written children’s stories and gospel songs, and has published a trilogy of poetry works recounting the experience of people of African descent from Africa to modern-day Nova Scotia. Mr. Borden donated his entire collection of poetry to the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development, with a request that a selection of his poetry be published and provided to Nova Scotian schools at no cost.

EDUFEST: Shifting Paradigms and Building New Schemes for Educating the Linguistically Diverse African Nova Scotian Learner – Dr. Noma LeMoine

The African Canadian Services Division (ACSD) and the Delmore Buddy Daye Africentric Learning Institute (DBDALI) are pleased to offer a three day summer institute with Dr. Noma LeMoine. The Institute, which will be part of EDUFEST 2014, will be held on August 11-13, 2014 at the Nova Scotia Community College – Waterfront Campus.



This seminar will focus on language acquisition with respect to children of African descent. Participants will become knowledgeable about home language acquisition, language variation, and the positive impact a respectful knowledge of home language has on learning for students of African descent. As well, Dr. LeMoine will share instruction strategies that are culturally responsive and build on cultural and cognitive learning styles. Participants will be introduced to research-based instructional methodologies that support language acquisition and learning.

Individual can register for the three day session through the EDUFEST Portal or through mail-in registrations. We are encouraging on-line registration at <https://edufest.ednet.ns.ca> as it is fast, easy and secure.

BEA / Dalhousie Math Camp

For: Grade 7/8 Students

Dalhousie University and the Black Educators Association have teamed up to develop an exciting program. A five day math/science camp will be held during the month of July at Dalhousie University.

Participants: Thirty (30) girls and boys, ages 13 to 15, who show promise in Math will be invited to attend this camp. Participants will live on campus during the week, and will be provided with meals.

The Program: The program emphasizes problem-solving skills and applications of mathematics to common everyday living. Instructors are chosen from the public school system, the universities, and the professional community.

Registration:
Black Educators Association
2136 Gottingen Street, Halifax, NS, B3K 3B3
Tel: (902) 424-7036 Fax: (902) 424-0636
Toll Free: 1 (800) 565-3398
Contact address: info@theblackeducators.ca

Video Resources to Support African Canadian Studies

The Education Media Library has a number of titles available online and in the loans/dubbing collection to support African Canadian Studies. [Click here](#) to see a list of just some of the titles that are available, or visit the Media Library website or contact us for more information: www.medialibrary.ednet.ns.ca



Literacy Summer Institutes 2014

Peter Johnston – July 10-11, 2014

Old Orchard Inn, Wolfville

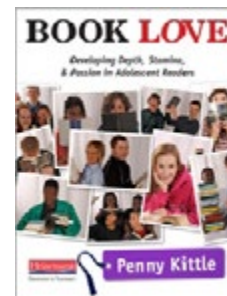
Classroom Talk, Engagement, and Children's Literate Development - This two day interactive workshop, for teachers Primary-8 at the Old Orchard Inn, Wolfville, shows how classroom choices we make, particularly our language choices, influence the qualities of the classroom learning community, and how to make those choices wisely. It shows how the qualities of the learning community we build will impact children's comprehension, their social relationships, their intelligence, and how they handle challenge, adversity, uncertainty, and difference. We want our children to become flexible, persistent, and collaborative problem solvers, particularly in literacy, but also in other areas of their lives. We want them to take on the challenge for learning rather than avoid it, and when they are unsuccessful, to become more strategic. The ways we interact with children have a powerful influence on whether or not we accomplish these goals. Contact Dan Gervais at gervaipz@gov.ns.ca or (902) 424-5996 for more information on registration in the spring.



Penny Kittle – July 21-22, 2014

Membertou Trade and Convention Centre in Sydney, Cape Breton

In this two-day workshop Penny will use her most recent publication *Book Love: Developing Depth, Stamina, and Passion in Adolescent Readers* as the anchor resource. In *Book Love* Penny takes student apathy head on, first by recognizing why students don't read and then showing teachers that when we give kids books that are right for them, along with time to read and regular response to their thinking, we can create a pathway to satisfying reading that leads to more challenging literature and ultimately, a love of reading. Look for information on the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development website and in the EDUfest 2014 brochure.



English Language Arts

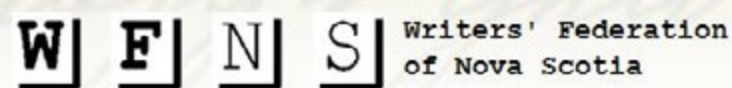


Writers in the Schools

www.writers.ns.ca/programs/writers-schools-wits.html

Booking date: teachers and librarians can make bookings on Wednesday, October 1 / 2014

WITS visits are an excellent way to bring reading to life in your school. Once young people catch the writing bug, they want to read more too, picking up ideas and techniques from gifted professionals. With more than 90 different writers participating, you can plan visits to match the interests of your students with the expertise of highly skilled professional writers. By fundraising and soliciting public support, WFNS provides more than half of the actual cost of hosting a writer in your school.



Grade 3 classroom teachers "are loving the new resources"

In April, every grade 3 English program and French Immersion program classroom across the province received a collection of 120 student books comprising 24 individual titles in packs of 5. To support ongoing reading development in a guided reading context, these engaging resources represent text levels H to M.

Canadian content includes a biography of local artist Maude Lewis and *A Pod for Baby Orca*, which recounts the true story of a young Orca stranded in British Columbia. *Hockey Challenge* and *Eagle's Cry* are engaging chapter books written and set in First Nations communities.

For a complete list of titles that are in the collection, [click here](#).



Literacy in Action Website

www.lia.ednet.ns.ca

Visit the Nova Scotia Department of Education and Early Childhood Development's Literacy in Action website. On this site you will be able to access the English language arts curriculum grades Primary to 12, information on the literacy projects (Active Young Readers, Active Readers, Literacy Success, Writers in Action P-12,) and information on early literacy support.

Trades

Nova Scotia Youth Exploring Careers in Construction

This coming summer close to 100 students from 7 Nova Scotia school boards will explore careers in construction through the Building Futures for Youth program.

The program, developed by the Construction Association of NS, is designed to give high school students an opportunity to safely explore careers in Nova Scotia's construction industry.



Through the program students are able to

- gain experience in a construction industry occupation
- earn co-operative education credits
- register as construction trades pre-apprentices and earn apprenticeship hours
- make connections with industry
- become eligible for NSCC scholarships

For more information please visit
www.buildingfutures.ca



Skilled Trades teachers meet principal Debbie Rowsell in the new Cole Harbour Skilled Trades Centre during a recent professional development session.

During the 2013-2014 school year 747 students had the opportunity to experience what work in the skilled trades is like and how important it is to apply themselves to their other high school courses.

Skilled Trades 10 gave the students a broad overview of the trades. Students in this course worked with the actual tools that tradespersons use and developed a keen appreciation for the quality of those tools.

In Construction Trades 11 students built a full size building and plumbed and painted it.

Transportation Trades 11 students disassembled and reassembled the same engine that fits in a Chevy Cruze. And twenty-eight students learned while they worked along skilled tradespeople in Skilled Trades 12 Co-op.

Next year even more students will have these opportunities as two new schools begin to offer Skilled Trades. Cole Harbour District High School and Glace Bay High School will open the doors to their newly constructed Skilled Trades Centres. More schools are scheduled for February 2015.

Programs & Careers

TestDrive 2014

<http://testdrive.automotivesectorcouncil.ca>

The interview process for TestDrive 2014 was completed on March 4th and resulted in 13 excellent candidates. Between personal experience and a keen drive for an automotive career, each student brings their own unique perspective to the program.

There are several new employers participating in this year's program who are adding to our industry supporters in both the Service Technician and Collision fields. It is exciting to have the TestDrive program under way and with the continued support of the employers, mentors and partners, 2014 will be a great success for all included.

The goal of Test Drive is to give students exposure to two automotive trades which will assist students in career decisions.

- Automotive Service Technician
- Motor Vehicle Body Repairer (Metal & Paint)

The Automotive Sector Council is working together with the NSCC, NS Department of Labour and Advanced Education, Apprenticeship Training, NS Department of Education and Early Childhood Development, and the Halifax Regional School Board to offer students a unique learning experience. Because of the partnerships we've made and the co-operative nature of this program, we are able to offer your students industry specific safety training, customized mentorship, which will result in transferrable hours towards an automotive apprenticeship.



Students are eligible to apply if they

- are in Grade 10 or 11
- will be 16 years of age, as of May 1, 2014
- are registered in Co-op or O² program (or will be registered 2nd semester) or are in an Automotive Trades program at your school.

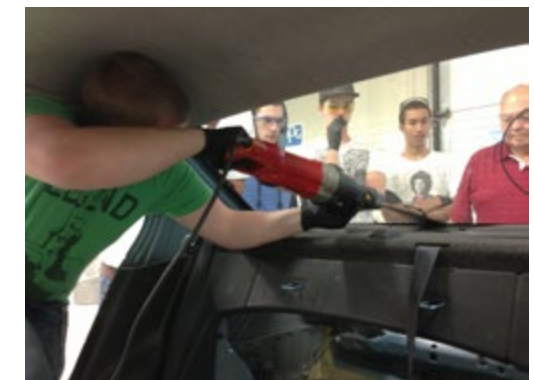
CJ Robinson is enjoying his apprenticeship after participating in TestDrive with Heritage Carstar.



TestDrive
Steering your future



Tam Fawcett, HRSB Teacher Supervisor, with the TestDrive 2013 Graduates at the Closing Ceremony!



Johnny Wile removing a rear windshield while his fellow students and instructor look on at NSCC.