# TECHSPLORATION on the Island





In Partnership with BUSIN WOMF





## TECHSPLORATION

#### All young women see themselves reflected in Techsploration.

For 25 years, Techsploration has successfully delivered empowering educational content to young women and non-binary youth in Grades 9 through 12 through hands-on, mentor-led programming and, more recently, two incredibly impactful online video series. Considered a national best practice, Techsploration is actively breaking barriers to ensure more women are exploring and entering in-demand careers in science, engineering, trades, and technology (SETT) fields where women are still significantly underrepresented. In addition to exploring in-demand careers and various career pathways, young women benefit as their skills are enhanced in the areas



of communication, leadership, entrepreneurship, and teamwork. Teachers indicate that our Techsplorers (program participants) achieve increased levels of self-confidence, self-esteem, and cultural awareness – *vital skills to every occupation*.



When we connect young women from diverse backgrounds with inspiring female role models and employers who embrace diverse and respectful workplace culture, we open doors to future career opportunities many young women may not consider otherwise. Techsploration is often the spark that ignites passion for exciting career paths that are still often considered uncharted territory for women. Our network of industry partners/sponsors, alumnae, teachers, role models, and volunteers has enabled young women in Nova Scotia, PEI, and Ontario to reach their full potential. Together, we are changing lives through a simple concept:

the power in possibilities.

## **TECHSPLORATION**

#### No student or school pays to participate in our programming!



Working with underrepresented populations, rural schools, First Nations communities, African Canadians, persons with disabilities, 2SLGBTQ+ youth, immigrants, and members of other ethnic and culturally diverse backgrounds, we believe it is imperative that all young women see themselves reflected in Techsploration. We work closely with industry who share these values.

Statistics from our most recent alumnae survey indicate that nearly 60 per cent of our alumnae have pursued, or are in the midst of pursuing a career in

one of our four areas of focus. There is a reason so many of our alumnae return to participate in Techsploration as role models: *Techsploration works!* 

Techsploration's mission and mandate is more important than ever. Youth in our region need to understand that career paths and possibilities are still limitless and math and science are vital to essential services. We remain committed to showcasing the power in possibilities and continuing our legacy of impactful programming.

Funding goes toward school participation and program delivery costs to ensure *no student and no school pays to participate in our programming*.



# TECHSPLORATION"

# Our core programming is delivered in 4-phases throughout the school year. Below is a recap of PEI's first school to participate, Kinkora Regional High.



#### Techsploration Goes to Work

Kinkora Techsplorers spent the day onsite at Clear Build Solutions with their role model, owner and operator Michele Hoy. They experienced 'life in the shop' and received a lesson on how the Beam Saw is used in cabinet-manufacturing.

#### Techsploration Goes to School

Kinkora's team held a presentation for students at their school, detailing their day at Clear Build, and what they've learned about the Michele's career as both a business owner and manufacturer.





#### Techsplorer Event

Techsplorers from across Nova Scotia, and now PEI, gathered at Acadia University for a two-day conference. Kinkora fine-tuned their presentation and addressed a crowd of 140, which included students, teachers, role models, guests, and industry professionals. They were also able to participate in Round Robin speed-learning sessions and dynamic hands-on workshops.

#### Alumnae Conference

This annual one-day event is for program alumnae in grades 10 through 12 from Nova Scotia and PEI. Kinkora students had the opportunity to meet more role models and participate in hands-on workshops that included machining, plumbing, automotive repair, carpentry, electronic engineering, and computer science.





# Notable Quotables

"Living in a rural province and going to school in an even more rural area, our students did not get the opportunity to see what the world has to offer them. Traditionally, our female-identifying population were drawn to the science fields, but only the well-known ones. Techsploration has let our team explore the many career possibilities within the STEM fields and opened their lives to the ideas of what a successful working life means. They have gained knowledge about professions but have also gained many skills such as public speaking, working as a team, and communication. We are so looking forward to starting the process all over again with our new 2023 team and watching them grow!"

#### Jessica, Kinkora and Techsploration Team Teacher





#### Kinkora Techsploration Participants

"I have learned about many different careers in STEM." - Heidi

"I've found a few careers I'm actually quite interested in!" - Emily

"I feel the Techsploration community and group has really opened my eyes to how many careers there really are, and has helped me expand my options for **- Madison** the coming years of my life."

# TECHSPLORATION'

# Our Annual reach

Each year, Techsploration engages more than *50 schools*, *200 role models*, *teachers*, *and volunteers*; and approximately *4,000 students* (both young women and young men) across Nova Scotia through our hands-on, mentor-led experiential programming. With new programming now available in Ontario and Prince Edward Island, our reach and impact continues to grow!









Techsploration's two popular video series, 'Women in Action' and 'The Power in Possibilities', currently include a gallery of 59 videos highlighting inspiring female role models and their careers - to date, these videos have reached more than one million youth across the globe! The series has also been featured in over 18,000 classrooms across North America through Xello. In 2023, Techsploration is expanding its "The Power in Possibilities" series with four new French-language videos.

# **Online Presence**



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