

# Techsploration Telegraph

Summer 2023

The 2023 Techsploration season has been the busiest in our **25-year** history, reaching more than **6,000** youth this year!

Our three Nova Scotia Techsplorer Events hosted upwards of **425 attendees** which included 200 students and 40 teachers from 27 schools, and just over 150 volunteers, partners, and role models.

This was also the first year for in-person programming in Ontario, with two Career Quest conferences, one at Algonquin College in Pembroke and one at Mohawk College in Hamilton, with a combined **attendance of almost 200**.



Techsplorers at NSCC Strait Area Campus



Refrigeration & Air Conditioning Systems Workshop

On the beautiful campuses of Saint Mary's University, NSCC Truro and Strait Area Campuses, Algonquin College, and Mohawk College, Techsplorers were able to participate in workshops and Round Robin (speed-learning) sessions which included 3D Art, Coding, Home Building, AV Technology, Public Speaking, and the Science and Engineering of Human Movement.

Our reach and impact continue to grow!



Techsplorers gather in the Awareness Theatre at Mohawk College



Welding Simulation at NSCC Truro



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## HALLE, TECHSPLOERER

"It's a fun and interesting experience and I love learning new things and meeting new people."



## SOPHIE, TECHSPLOERER

"It opened my eyes to jobs you don't think about."



## MORGAN, TEACHER

"Introducing the countless amount of opportunities to the students and providing them with a mentor and better understanding of the different careers."

On the important benefits of the Techsploration Program.



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In addition to our established programming, we expanded on our Techsploration Goes to School phase with a skilled trades virtual program for young women and gender-diverse youth in grades 7 and 8. Videos consisting of a panel discussion with women working in skilled trades, as well as an interactive workshop were shared with **42 schools**, reaching **4,800 students** across the province. This initiative was generously funded by the Nova Scotia Department of Education and Early Childhood Development.



NSCC Plumbing Instructor and Techsploration Role Model Ronda Frigault hosted an interactive skilled trades workshop showcasing all of the 22 trades required to build a house.



Techsploration Executive Director Emily Boucher speaks with panelists Satina Dabb, a Welding Apprentice with Irving Shipbuilding, and TJ Norrish, an Electrical Apprentice with IBEW 625.

## We're Brimming with Boots!

During Construction Safety Week (first week of May) we reached out to our Techsploration community for donations of gently used and new safety boots.

We were overwhelmed by the kindness and support of our friends at NSCC who collected boots on our behalf!

We'd also like to provide a special shout-out to our partners at Nova Scotia Power who donated more than two boxes of new and gently used boots, and MERIT Nova Scotia who donated 25 brand new pairs of boots in partnership with Mark's Work Warehouse. In addition, we also received a generous donation from Weddleton Construction, a MERIT Nova Scotia member, for the purchase of additional new boots.





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## TECHSPLOURATION + H<sub>2</sub>O CONFERENCE

From June 12–14, Techsplorers from New Germany Rural High School and Montague Intermediate School participated in the annual H<sub>2</sub>O Conference, through a partnership program between Techsploration, Skills Canada Nova Scotia, and the Ocean Technology Council of Nova Scotia.

Students attended events at the Halifax Convention Centre and the Dartmouth Waterfront, where they learned, listened to, and met dozens of professionals in the Ocean Technology sector. On Day three they participated in the Centre for Ocean Ventures & Entrepreneurship - COVE's Demo Day, where they witnessed first-hand many new ocean technology projects in action!



H<sub>2</sub>O Opening Night Banquet and Ceremonies at the Halifax Convention Centre.



Students participated in a public speaking workshop with Skills Canada Nova Scotia's Chris Gallant.



Montague Intermediate School students from PEI explore the beauty of downtown Halifax.



Techsplorers and teachers got a thorough tour of the HMCS Moncton.

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We are so thankful to our partners for their generous support of our Techsploration alumnae. \$15,000 in awards were given by Acadia University, Engineers Nova Scotia, Cape Breton University, and Saint Mary's University.



## Abby Thompson

2023 Engineers Nova Scotia and Techsploration Award - \$1,000  
Techsplorer at Cobequid Education Centre  
Attending the University of Ottawa (Chemical Engineer)

## Shayna Heukshorst

2023 Cape Breton University and Techsploration  
Science and Engineering Award - \$2,500  
Techsplorer at Dalbrae Academy  
Attending Cape Breton University (Bachelor of Science)



## Alice Zhao

25th Anniversary Techsploration Alumnae Scholarship - \$2,500  
Techsplorer at Sydney Academy  
Attending University of Waterloo (Software Engineer)

## Lily Bolivar

2023 Saint Mary's University and Techsploration Science and  
Engineering Award - \$ 2000 (renewable over 4 years)  
Techsplorer at New Germany Rural High  
Attending Saint Mary's University (Criminology)



## Emma Cook

2023 Acadia University and Techsploration Science Award - \$1,000  
Techsplorer at Bible Hill Junior High (CEC Feeder School)  
Attending Acadia University (Bachelor of Science - Biology)

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## Four New Scholarships!

Techsploration and Irving Shipbuilding are excited to announce the launch of four (4) scholarships valued at \$3,500 each to students entering their first or second year of any trade, business, or technology program at NSCC.

"The significant impact of scholarship funds cannot be overstated. Scholarships are often the difference between someone being able to pursue post-secondary studies or having to defer education altogether," said Emily Boucher, Techsploration Executive Director.

"Techsploration is incredibly grateful to Irving Shipbuilding for their long-standing support of our program and this increased investment in our alumnae and Irving's future workforce."

The deadline for submitting an application is July 31st, and all awards will be given for the 2023-2024 school year.

On Monday, July 10th, Victoria Henneberry, who is a Techsploration alumna, NSCC graduate, and Pipefitter Apprentice with Irving Shipbuilding, joined Emily on CTV Morning Live to discuss our impact and partnership with Irving, as well as the four new scholarships!



Lights, Camera, Action! Victoria and Emily speak with CTV Morning Live host, Ana Almeida.



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## French Power in Possibilities Videos Debut

Using adaptive technology to create accessibility solutions. Cultivating healthy kelp growth on seeding lines. Developing thin solar panels. This is just some of the amazing work being done by local women in STEM, and we are absolutely thrilled to share their stories! Thanks to the generous support of the French Services Branch of the Nova Scotia Department of Education and Early Childhood Education, French-speaking students in our region have access to these new inspiring Power in Possibilities videos.



Dilanya Premachandra

These new French-language videos will launch in July as an educational resource over the summer months and then continue to be shared throughout the school year.

"This is inspiring new content we're able to share with students in our region and another step closer to the eventual delivery of French-language programming," says Emily Boucher, Executive Director of Techsploration.

"We're highlighting careers many youth in our region may not know about otherwise, so we are absolutely thrilled to provide French-speaking youth with increased opportunities to access Techsploration's online career exploration resources."

We were delighted to partner with SALT Cinematic, who were the creative and technical lead in developing the French-language videos.



Charlene Leblanc



Kim Viens



Marine Cuisinier



Betty Roethlisberger

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*Thank you for your continued investment in **Techsploration!***

## FOUNDING PROGRAM PARTNERS

**nscc**



## NAVIGATOR PARTNERS

Acadia University  
Dalhousie University Faculty of Computer Science  
Saint Mary's University  
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Nova Scotia Power  
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