

# Techsploration Telegraph

Winter 2024

## WELCOME TO OUR 26th PROGRAM YEAR!

On the evening of December 6th, 2023, we held our 26th Annual Program Launch. With over 120 people in attendance, everyone enjoyed a plated dinner, music, inspiring guests, and networking.

In recognition of The National Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence Against Women, The Honourable Jill Balser gave a poignant address, and shared an empowering message for all of our partners, supporters, and alumnae.



We also paid tribute to Dr. Tamara Franz-Odendaal, who as Chair of WISEatAtlantic, has had a longstanding partnership with Techsploration. Building on the successful completion of the WISEatAtlantic program, the inaugural NSERC Chairs for Inclusion in Science and Engineering (CISE) pilot program is now operating in Atlantic Canada.



## SPRING FEVER

We are also gearing up for our spring Techsplorer Events! All three events will be taking place at NSCC campuses this year, which will include our student banquets, workshops, round-robin speed-learning, and of course, presentations!

### Techsplorer Event A

NSCC Strait Area Campus  
Port Hawksbury, NS  
April 11 + 12

### Techsplorer Event B

NSCC Truro Campus  
Truro, NS  
May 9 + 10

### Techsplorer Event C

NSCC Centre of  
Geographic Sciences  
Lawrencetown, NS  
May 30 + 31

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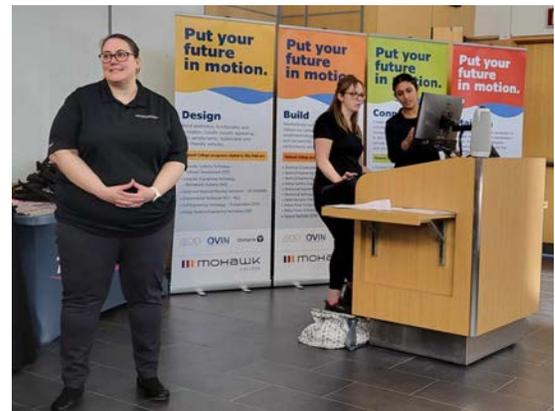
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As part of Mohawk College's **Put Your Future in Motion** initiative, Ontario Techsplorers participated in a special automotive edition of our program, **Techsploration in Motion**.

Prior to the November event, six (6) school teams in the Hamilton area met with female Role Models working as Electrical Engineers, Body Shop Managers, Transportation Safety Advisors, and Mechanical Engineers, among others.

On November 30th, almost **50 students** attended the Techsploration in Motion conference at Mohawk College's Stoney Creek Campus in Hamilton, Ontario, where they participated in exciting, interactive presentations and workshops.

**Techsploration  
in motion.**



"I loved that the young girls were able to present their work in front of everyone! I love the networking opportunities and the great vibes energy!" - Anna S.

"I liked the welcoming, inclusive environment, and the enthusiasm of the group." - Nina Y.



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March 8th was **International Women's Day**, and 2024's theme was **Inspire Inclusion**.

Inspire Inclusion's focus is to start a conversation about the value women's inclusion,.

When we are inspired and included, there's a sense of belonging, relevance, and empowerment.

Collectively, let's forge a more inclusive world for women.

**#IWD2024 #InspireInclusion**



## IRVING SHIPBUILDING SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

In 2023 Techsploration and Irving Shipbuilding launched **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.

Techsploration has had a longstanding relationship with both NSCC and Irving Shipbuilding, and offering these scholarships to our alumnae only strengthens our gratefulness for these partnerships.

Meet our winners!



**Raven Ethridge**

1st Year Metal Fabrication  
NSCC Akerley Campus



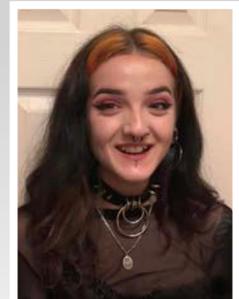
**Emma Beeler**

2nd Year Metal Fabrication  
NSCC Akerley Campus



**Mandy DeGruchy**

Natural Resources  
Environmental Technology  
NSCC Strait Area Campus



**Chloé Marshall**

1st Year Metal Fabrication  
NSCC Akerley Campus

**Emma Beeler has accepted a position at Irving Shipbuilding following the completion of her studies!**

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On September 6th, during the very first Halifax International Fleet Week, Techsploration was welcomed on board British Royal Navy frigate HMS Portland for an inspiring tour, and a conversation about the opportunities for women & girls in science, trades, technology, and engineering — at sea!



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## A CONVERSATION WITH DALE CRAWFORD



Dale Crawford has been a champion for Techsploration since joining our Board of Directors in 2011, and for the past nine years, he has been our Board Vice President! As a member of the leadership team at the Nova Scotia Apprenticeship Agency - one of our founding program partners - Dale has always worked to improve and increase the number of women in the skilled trades.

As he exits his seat on our BOD and embarks on a new role - where he'll continue to strengthen the skilled workforce in the Atlantic Provinces - we'd like to share our conversation with Dale,

### **What aspects of the Techsploration program inspired you to become involved?**

"The mentorship approach Techsploration uses is amazing. The introduction of young women to the skilled trades, sciences, technology, and engineering through fun and experiential learning opportunities is amazing. From the time I attended my first Techsplorer event, I was hooked. Watching the young women demonstrate their learning about an application in a public forum through skills and presentations was awe-inspiring."

### **Why do you think Techsploration has been able to sustain, adapt, and grow as a program?**

"High-quality and much-needed programming. This has demonstrated a real value and meets a real need!"

### **How do you think the shared values of NSAA and Techsploration have complemented each other?**

"NSAA worked with the appropriate partners and typically funded and implemented experiential opportunities for youth in the skilled trades. Techsploration works with similar partners and provides exposures to the skilled trades and role models from employers and business, so the young women gain real and practical insights in the occupation. This assists the students in making decisions as they are entering high school and in making career choices. It also provides them with invaluable contacts and connections."

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### Are there any experiences you had with Techsploration that stand out for you??

"There are two. The very first Techsplorers Event I attended. I was asked to be a judge and watched intently as the young women presented and performed their skits on what they learned. I was so impressed and continue to be impressed with how fun Techsploration staff and PAC members make the events for all the participants. The mentorship and role models are amazing. It is not difficult to see why so many of the young women speak of Techsploration as life changing.

When I went with the staff to Ontario (Hamilton and Ottawa) for the launch of the Techsploration expansion into Ontario. The events were very exciting, and we had the opportunity to be interviewed on television. The energy was electric and the partners were so eager and supportive. It reinforced what I already knew; that Techsploration meets a real need, and does so in an interactive and fun way!



### What advice would you give to both Techsploration students and alumnae?

"Your desire to become involved with Techsploration and learn about various occupations is inspiring and a credit to the person you are. Do not take this for granted. Continue to build upon your knowledge and experience and let this assist you in your decision-making and in shaping your future.

The workplace is changing. You are experiencing a period of transition in terms of the way work is performed, the technologies and processes being used and the skills and knowledge that are needed. As young women and non-binary individuals, you have opportunities that were not available to generations before you.

There is a lot of work that still needs to happen before all are accepted and supported in the workplace, but you are part of that generation that is experiencing the transition. Be part of the transformation. You are needed, whether the workplace realize this or not. Find your passion, be true to yourself and be proud of what you bring."

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## CO-BRANDING OPPORTUNITIES AVAILABLE!



Representation of Techsploration not only increases our brand awareness, it also creates a sense of organizational unity within our community of supporters. Throughout every program year this includes over 1,000 students, teachers, and volunteers. This representation can also be an asset for fundraising, promotions, and organizational growth.

Techsploration relies on support from industry and educational organizations to ensure the ongoing success and growth of our program. We aim to provide partnership opportunities to match **your interests and priorities**, and we'll work closely with you to ensure your organization is recognized in a meaningful way and showcases your investment.



*Partner recognition can be showcased on:*



Promotional  
Products

Customized  
Gifts



Apparel

*Empowered by*

YOUR  
LOGO  
HERE

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**TECHSPLOURATION** is a joint initiative with



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Thank you for your continued investment in *Techsploration!*

## FOUNDING PROGRAM PARTNERS

**nsc**



## EUREKA PARTNERS



## EXPLORER PARTNERS

ATLANTIC CANADA OPPORTUNITIES AGENCY  
EXXONMOBIL  
IRVING SHIPBUILDING CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE  
MOHAWK COLLEGE  
REDSpace  
NSCC FOUNDATION

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DALHOUSIE UNIVERSITY  
FACULTY OF COMPUTER SCIENCE  
IRVING SHIPBUILDING  
LOCKHEED MARTIN CANADA  
NOVA SCOTIA POWER  
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