



February 27, 2026

Honourable Nolan Young
Department of Labour, Skills and Immigration
PO Box 697
Halifax, NS B3J 2T8

Dear Honourable Young,

We are writing to you regarding the future direction of the Nova Scotia Community College (NSCC) Shelburne Campus, now that NSCC falls under your department's supervision.

At a recent joint leadership meeting, there was strong and unified support among municipal leaders for exploring an expansion of programs offered at the Shelburne Campus. We recognize the important role NSCC plays in workforce development, economic diversification, and community sustainability across rural Nova Scotia, and we believe there is a significant opportunity to strengthen that role in Shelburne County.

While our region's economy has long been anchored by the fishing and seafood sector, there was clear agreement that future program growth at the Shelburne Campus should also support diversification beyond our core industries. In addition, there was interest in the reinstatement, enhancement, or expansion of trade and skilled trades programming at the campus, recognizing the ongoing and growing demand for these skills across our communities. Together, these approaches would enhance economic resilience and provide greater local career options for residents.

In particular, there was strong interest in exploring:

- Agricultural programming, including greenhouse agriculture and controlled-environment food production, which aligns with food security priorities and emerging market opportunities.
- Hospitality and culinary programming, which would support our growing tourism sector and local business community while creating skilled employment pathways for residents.
- Trades and skilled trades programming, to support workforce needs in construction, maintenance, and related sectors essential to both existing industries and future growth.

We believe these areas represent practical and forward-looking opportunities that build on regional strengths while broadening the economic base of Shelburne County.

We are scheduled to meet with you on April 20 and would welcome the opportunity to discuss these ideas in more detail at that time, including how the Province, NSCC, and our municipal units might work collaboratively to support program expansion at the Shelburne Campus. Our municipalities are prepared to be constructive partners in advancing workforce development initiatives that benefit both our region and the province as a whole.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. We look forward to our upcoming discussion and to working together to strengthen educational and economic opportunities in Shelburne County.

Yours Sincerely,

Warden Penny Smith
Municipality of Shelburne



Warden Shaun Hatfield
Municipality of Barrington



Mayor Clay Kenney
Town of Clark's Harbour



Mayor Derek Amalfa
Town of Lockeport



Mayor Stan Jacklin
Town of Shelburne

