



AGRICOLA NEWS

For the Alumni and Friends of Nova Scotia Agricultural College

Volume 33, Number 1, 2008

Enriching Minds *and the Economy*



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Words like bioproducts, nutraceuticals, and bioactives are becoming commonplace terms in agriculture today as NSAC plays a vital role in the central Nova Scotia economy with over 265 full-time faculty and staff.

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NSAC Researchers Receive _____ 12
\$1.3 Million in Funding.

The Canada Foundation for Innovation funding will allow NSAC to develop and enhance research programs at the university.



12th Agri-Golf Classic _____ 29

NSAC Alumni were well represented at the 12th Annual Agri-Golf Classic held Friday, July 25 at Glasgow Hills Golf and Country Club in Hunter River, PEI.



Beyond Basic Nutrition _____ 14

Thanks to \$1.9 million from the Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency's Atlantic Innovation Fund, new research at Nova Scotia Agricultural College (NSAC) aims to capture healthy benefits from fruits and introduce new healthy and convenient value-added food choices.



2008 Open House _____ 16

Thousands of visitors flocked to the NSAC campus on July 24 when the university held its 37th annual Open House.



Report to Donors 2007-08 _____ 17

The NSAC Alumni/Foundation had a successful year of fundraising in 2007-08. Total donations and transfers into Foundation accounts amounted to \$727,093.

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Front cover:

NSAC – at the centre of it all! As our university fulfills its mandate it enriches the lives of people not only in the Maritimes but around the world.

A Message from the Editor



Dear NSAC Alumni,

It has been my pleasure to fill in for Stephanie Rogers, as manager of public relations and alumni affairs, while she is away

on maternity leave. I can't believe how quickly the time is going by.

During the past several months, I've had the pleasure of meeting many of you and working closely with the Alumni Association board of directors. I've also had the honour of project managing several events like convocation in May and the summer Open House as well as several funding announcements and an open house for the close to \$1.6 million Portable Modular Microfactory. Working on these events has given me a strong sense of what the university means to its community. By community I mean not only the community of Bible Hill but Colchester, Nova Scotia and indeed the world community.

I have lived and worked most of my life in Halifax only an hour's drive from Bible Hill. However, I only had a vague idea of some of the great things that are going on at NSAC. And it wasn't until I started to do my own research that I realised that the university was not only helping prepare the next generation of Atlantic Canadian agriculture, it was doing things that had an impact on the lives of Canadians outside the region as well. The university is contributing well beyond its borders by exporting its expertise around the world, tackling important issues such as food

The university contributing well beyond its borders by exporting its expertise around the world, tackling important issues such as food security, conservation of resources like soil and water and minimizing the impact of agricultural activities on the environment.

security, conservation of resources like soil and water and minimizing the impact of agricultural activities on the environment. NSAC might be small in size but it is a giant in research intensity, ranking at the top of the other 16 Atlantic Canadian universities.

Things have been very busy since the last issue came out. In February, NSAC received \$3 million in funding for development work in Ethiopia. The funds will go to help Ethiopian farmers, and the agriculture and agri-food industries, increase the quality and availability of local agricultural products, as well as commercialize agriculture in Ethiopia. NSAC researchers also received \$1.3 million in funding to expand their work on agriculture and the environment.

The university has launched its strategic plan called *Renewing our Commitment*. The plan will guide NSAC's activities over the next five years. Following the update of the plan, NSAC Marketing is launching an exciting new campaign. For more information on the campaign, see page 11. There is more going on than we could possibly fit in one issue. I encourage you to visit nsac.ca often to keep up to date on happenings at your alma mater.

My office is busy making preparations for the Blue and Gold Awards Gala which will happen on the evening of November 14, 2008 in Jenkins Hall. NSAC Alumni have made some great contributions to their university, their communities, Nova Scotia and beyond. The Blue and Gold Awards honours the recipients' achievements and demonstrates NSAC's pride in these

accomplishments. I look forward to seeing many of you at the Gala. It is my hope you enjoy this issue of the Agricola News as much as I enjoyed putting it together for you. The Colchester region has a real gem in its backyard. During my time at NSAC I've become an ambassador for the university and its work. I plan to tell all who will listen about what a valuable resource Colchester has.

Terry Murray-Arnold, Editor

e-News Polls

Want to have your voice heard?
Log-on to nsac.ca/alumni/e-news/
and check out e-NEWS each month
for polls focused around you.

AGRICOLA NEWS

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A Message from NSAC's Co-Presidents

As co-presidents of Nova Scotia Agricultural College, we are pleased to bring you an update on the activities and developments of your alma mater. A lot has happened over the year at NSAC.

Since our last update, we launched NSAC's new strategic plan, *Renewing Our Commitment*. The result of an intensive, 18-month comprehensive consultation process, the plan is the fruit of the entire campus' labours.

The next five years are a time of change and great opportunity for the university. *Renewing Our Commitment* speaks to NSAC's vision for the future and its goals in five strategic areas. These areas are: academic and research excellence, enrollment and student engagement, valuing our students, faculty, staff and alumni, commitment to our community and our partners and advancing our institution. This plan represents our renewed commitment to the NSAC community and to the full realization of our very important role in creating and transferring knowledge for agriculture and rural communities. Focusing our efforts to the tasks and responsibilities outlined in this plan has been, and will continue to be, a top priority. We are proud of the progress already reported on a number of key initiatives.

On the academic front, we are pleased to report that our student enrolment numbers this September are up by 5 per cent over last year. The first students from the successful Diploma in Enterprise Management and Veterinary Technologist programs graduated this May and the second group of students will be eligible to graduate next spring.

There are international activities to be mentioned too. On the international front, NSAC is managing international development projects in the Gambia, Ghana, Ethiopia and Cambodia.



Continuing on the subject of international experience, more students from outside of Canada are choosing NSAC as a place to study. NSAC had 80 international students enrolled this September. This is a significant increase over last year and now accounts for almost a full 10 per cent of our student body. The presence of our international students at NSAC is not only valued, it is a fundamental part of our university's mission. We are dedicated to training future leaders not only in Atlantic Canada but around the world. We would also like to note the achievements of NSAC Athletics who hosted the CCAA Women's Basketball Championships this March while the Nation watched on. NSAC Athletics did a spectacular job hosting this event, the third national varsity event our university has hosted in as many years.

Following the update of the 2008-2013 university strategic plan, NSAC Marketing has also evolved its strategy. NSAC is taking its tagline 'Embrace Your World' to heart and sending out a campaign that gets people involved in the conversation of solving real world problems like climate change, food security and water conservation. These are all real-world challenges that connect to NSAC's research, programs and values. The campaign launched on Oct. 7, 2008. We encourage you to visit embraceyourworld.ca to learn more about the campaign.

As mentioned in the last issue of *Agricola News* and other alumni communications, NSAC and the Nova Scotia Department of Agriculture are working diligently to effect a change in the university's

governance. This May the Provincial government passed legislation allowing NSAC to become a separate entity governed by a Board of Directors. This change was made because NSAC operates in a very competitive market for students, academic and research funding and quality faculty. And a Board of Directors governance structure, among other changes, will help make it far more competitive in its mandate. Now that the act was passed, a significant number of things must be accomplished to complete the transition. Some of these items are: establishing a Transitional Board of Directors; establishing an academic senate; hiring a new president; and electing the full Board of Directors. The full Board of Directors will eventually have elected members from the student body, staff, faculty and alumni, who also will help maintain NSAC's agricultural and agri-food focus. It is expected to take somewhere between two and three years to put everything in place. Steps are already underway to begin the process of selecting board members this fall. We will continue to keep you updated on the transition steps.

We hope you will enjoy reading updates from other alumni and on the university. In this issue of *Agricola News*, we focus on the impact NSAC has on the Colchester area and beyond.

Thank you for keeping in touch with your alma mater and best wishes.

Dr. Leslie MacLaren
Co-President, Vice President Academic

Dr. Bernie MacDonald
Co-President, Vice President Administration

Around & About...

Kevin MacIssac, Class of 1978

A Family Affair

Kevin's family has been farming in the Bear River Area of PEI for over 130 years! Kevin and his brother Blair are the latest generation to operate Lily Pond Farms.

Together, with their father Joe, the brothers grow about 600 acres of potatoes in rotation with grain and hay. The Macsaacs are also diversifying their farm operation by growing soybeans and canola. Kevin and his family believe that one of a farm's key assets is its soil and they do their best to protect this resource. The MacIssacs completed an original Environmental Farm Plan for their farm in 2006, and have since updated this plan with an Enhanced Environmental Farm Plan.

The MacIssacs' goal is to promote the production of safe, wholesome food from a sustainable system and practice many sustainable measures on their farms. In 1988, Kevin and family planted over 1,000 trees on their properties. These trees are



Kevin MacIssac

used to trap moisture and provide protection to crops. The trees also provide a home for local wildlife. Lily Pond Farms is partnering with the PEI Wildlife Federation in an Ecological Goods and Services Project where they are actively participating in nutrient management research on their farm. Also, a pond has been constructed on the farm that provides a habitat to birds, mammals, insects and plants.

Lily Pond Farms won the 2007 Soil Conservationist of the Year award. This award is presented annually by the PEI Soil and Crop Improvement Association.

Stephanie Christie, Class of 1996

Alumnus on a Mission

Alumnus, Stephanie Christie, graduated with a B.Sc. in Agricultural Economics in 1996. She currently resides in New Brunswick and is an Account Manager with the National Bank of Canada where she maintains a mixed portfolio of agricultural and commercial clients. Stephanie deals with all sizes of accounts in the poultry, dairy, value-added processing and manufacturing sectors. Stephanie says her



Stephanie Christie

job involves more "sales" than people may realize, "lending is a very competitive industry."

A natural people person, what Stephanie enjoys most about her job is working with clients in the agriculture

and agri-food industries. She likes nothing better than to get out and visit her agricultural clients and their businesses.

Becoming bilingual has been a big asset to Stephanie. To help improve her French, she worked for a year in Quebec with Farm Credit Canada (FCC) which was her first employer after graduation. Now, she'll be able to use the French skills acquired when she participates, along with 11 others, in a short-term mission trip to Rwanda. Stephanie was inspired to undertake this mission to the troubled country after hearing about her former manager at FCC, who, along with his wife and son, has recently completed two years of a four year commitment in Rwanda. Most of the mission work will be in the northern part

John E. (Ted) MacNintch, Class of 1956

The Brother Keepers



Ted MacNintch

Alumnus, John E. (Ted) MacNintch has written and published a 780-page historical novel titled *The Brother Keepers*. The Great War Odyssey of Sable MacInnes and his Brothers. The epic book is loosely based on some of Ted's Nova Scotia relatives who fought in World War I. Those interested in further information about his book can visit Ted's website www.thebrotherkeepers.com or contact him at j.macnintch@worldnet.att.net.

of Rwanda. Kigali, the nation's capital, will be the home base. When asked why she decided to do this, Stephanie said she "felt like it was the right thing to do." They will be gone for a total of two weeks, leaving Fall 2008.

Stephanie says that it will be important for her and the team members to be flexible. She has been told that one of the projects they will be involved with is a small construction project in a very poor area of the country, coupled with outreach opportunities to women, children and youth. "Our limits will be stretched here, since they are not used to seeing Caucasian people in this area." The team will also be participating in a sports day at a school, visiting a coffee plantation, and meeting the "Guardians of Hope," a centre that offers support and encouragement to those with HIV/AIDS, many of whom are children. The experience will involve project work such as those mentioned, and helping in whichever way the mission workers can. "Their needs change almost daily, but we know their needs are great," says Stephanie.

Sustainability will be one of the mission's key focuses and the team is made up of members with diverse professions; there is a maternity ward nurse, physiotherapist, pharmacist, youth worker among others. Given their varied backgrounds and the financial expertise of Stephanie and her former manager, the team is looking at opportunities to help by considering the feasibility of projects like micro-financing. There will undoubtedly be many other opportunities to make use of the training and talents of the other team members.

Stephanie is looking forward to sharing her experiences with others in the hope that they will be inspired to get involved and volunteer in their own special way. She hopes that this mission trip will provide her with a "new" or "renewed" perspective. "While one person can't change the world, one person can have an impact."

The Alumni Affairs office looks forward to sharing details of Stephanie's trip in the future!

Margaret (Margie) Tate, Class of 1983

One of NSAC's "Own"



Margie Tate was selected as the 2008 recipient of NSAC's Technical Award for Achievement in Teaching. Dr. MacLaren presents Margie with the award at May's Convocation ceremony. Photo credit: Unique Images.

Margie graduated with a diploma in Chemistry Laboratory Technology in 1983. She worked as a research assistant before joining NSAC teaching staff a few years later. Margie works with the students in the chemistry labs, an environment that can present physical dangers and she does not take the job of instructing and guiding them lightly.

Margie inspires students to develop their skills and self-confidence and search for information beyond what is presented in the text books. She encourages them to apply their learning and develop marketable skills that will serve them well in their professional lives. Her dedication to learning is shown in her own work where she earned her B.Sc., with high honours, while also holding down full-time employment.

Margie shows great respect for her students, and they return this respect. Her door is always open to students seeking help with weekly work, term projects, and research techniques, or simply discussing ideas. Students comment that she helps

them understand what they want to do after graduation, and puts effort into ensuring that they reach their full potential. Last year Truro was the site of the Canada Wide Science Fair, and Margie played a major role in the organization of this competition for budding scientists. Congratulations on the award Margie!

Mary Bryant, Class of 2000

Embracing the World



Mary Bryant and friend

Mary Bryant is back from Volunteer work in Kenya

When Mary Ellen Bryant started her post-secondary education in 1993 she had no idea the places it would take her. Just back from her trip to Kenya

Continued on page 6

Shawn Llewellyn Class of '04, Tasha Kean Class of '04, Gerald Dykstra Class of '08

Alumni Team Wins Intercollegiate Competition



From left: Gerald Dykstra, Christy Coulson, Dr. Camie Heleski (Competition Organizer presenting the award), Tasha Kean and Shawn Llewellyn

NSAC Alumni Shawn Llewellyn, Tasha Kean and Gerald Dykstra were part of the winning team representing the Atlantic Vet College (AVC) at the veterinary division of the 7th Annual Intercollegiate Animal Welfare Judging Competition. The competition was held at Michigan State University in March 2008. During the animal welfare judging contest, the students reviewed computer-based presentations that contained data, videos and images of animals in two comparable situations. The students evaluated the different situations, prepared their analysis, and made an oral presentation to expert judges on their ranking. This is the first year that a veterinary division was added to the competition.

Embracing the World, from page 5

to do volunteer work in orphanages, Mary is proud of the things she has accomplished and is more than happy to tell her stories and hopefully inspire others.

"I began my education at the University of Manitoba where the student population was 20,000. After spending a semester in Hong Kong I became a visiting student at McGill's MacDonald Campus. I moved to Nova Scotia in 1996 and then spent a year volunteering. During that year I worked in Angola for six months."

With such great adventures and experiences in her life, it can be hard to fathom why Mary would want to return to on-campus studying again. She says it was an easy decision after visiting the NSAC campus and meeting with some professors.

"I decided to transfer to NSAC as the opportunities for individualized pursuits seemed far greater at a smaller school. NSAC's administration and professors (particularly Dr. Atlin, Dr. Fredeen and Dr. Martin) not only worked with me so that I wouldn't lose two semesters as a result of the Angola program, but encouraged me upon return to use and learn from my

experiences by lecturing and creating a module regarding food security in war-affected zones for the new long-distance learning course."

Mary had already had the desire to positively impact the world, but after watching a video a friend sent her, she knew that her next step in her crusade was to go to Kenya.

I knew things were bad when I gave my supper to the dogs and even they wouldn't eat it.

"A friend sent me a video called 'Invisible Children' about a town in Uganda.

The documentary team makes a brief stop at an orphanage. As I watched I realized that it was just like the kind I was looking for to help - a charity started and being run by a local person, in this case, a Kenyan. When I found the orphanage's website, I learned they had built a school and they had a 'library' on their wish list. I thought, 'I can do that for them!'"

And so the mission began. Although Mary successfully created a library for the children the process was not without hurdles. We have all seen pictures and heard stories of deplorable living conditions for people in countries like Kenya. In the process of trying to help children, Mary found herself in a situation where she was seeing these conditions first hand.

"The children were not treated well, emotionally or physically, with one boy telling me that he would rather be back on the streets. I knew things were bad when I gave my supper to the dogs and even they wouldn't eat it."

Despite a rocky start, Mary continued with her journey and it definitely paid off.

Continued on page 29

Dr. Rob Gordon, Class of 1985

Rob Gordon Moves On...



Dr. Rob Gordon

On behalf of the entire NSAC community, NSAC Co-Presidents Dr. Leslie MacLaren and Dr. Bernie MacDonald want to congratulate Rob on his new position as Dean of Ontario Agricultural College (OAC). His energy and enthusiasm will be

missed by everyone but there is no doubt that he will do great things in his new position. Rob began his five-year term with the OAC in August.

Dr. Julie Small, Class of 1978

Alumnus gives NSAC dairy research a boost



NSAC welcomes Dr. Julie Small to the Department of Plant and Animal Sciences. Julie is taking on the role of Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada Dairy Researcher located at NSAC.

An NSAC alumnus, Dr. Small, received her B.Sc. from the University of Guelph, her M.Sc. from the University of Manitoba and her PhD from the University of British Columbia.

Originally from Saint John, NB, Julie says her interest in agriculture began while working on a beef and strawberry farm on Oak Bay (St. Stephen, NB).

Working on the farm was what really sparked my interest in livestock production.

"Working on the farm was what really sparked my interest in livestock production," says Julie, "Not to mention that milking cows helped pay my way through university!"

In 1990, Dr. Small began working as a Research Scientist for Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, located at the Research Farm in Nappan, NS where she worked on beef heifer development, nutrition and fertility in the post-partum cow. In 1997, she transferred to the Research Centre in Brandon, MB where she worked on developing alternative systems for beef production.

Julie lives in Truro with her husband, two young children. As dairy researcher, her primary focus will be finding ways to improve fertility in dairy cows.

Petr Prochazka, Class of 2008

Recent grad attracts international attention

It has only been since spring that Petr Prochazka graduated from the Master of Science program at NSAC, but already his research has drawn the attention of the international academic community.



Petr Prochazka

A paper written by Mr. Prochazka and Dr. Stephen Clark of NSAC's Department of Business and Social Sciences was accepted for presentation to the European Association of Environmental and Resource Economists (EAERE) Association Meetings in Gothenburg, Sweden. "It is exciting that they are so interested in research results related to mandated crop rotations coming from our Department," says Dr. Clark who was also chair of Petr's committee. "It's nice to see that Petr's work has generated such respect from international environmental economists in such a short time."

Petr's work on mandated crop rotations in PEI has generated a lot of excitement particularly in Europe. His results are showing that mandated crop rotations work best in relatively stable economic environments. With new international trade agreements, Europeans are moving away from relatively stable, controlled economic environments to more market based, fluctuating and economic environments.

Research results coming from Petr's research have already had an impact at the national level, where results were presented to a national workshop showcasing the results of all of Canadian Agricultural Policy Research Networks in Ottawa in January. "Insights resulting from Petr's results were deemed so important that they were chosen above approximately 20 other projects funded by the Farm Level Policy Research Network to showcase policy relevant research," explained Dr. Clark. "I had compliments from environmental economists across Canada on the quality of the research results."

The Czech University of Life Sciences (CULS) in Prague has offered Mr. Prochazka a position in the Faculty of Management and he will continue to work with Dr. Clark, who is an Adjunct Professor with CULS. ☺

NSAC

*Enriching Minds, and the **Economy***

NSAC plays a vital role in the central Nova Scotia economy with over 265 full-time faculty and staff.

Words like bio-products, nutraceuticals, and bio-actives are becoming commonplace terms in agriculture today. One has to wonder what the original founders of Nova Scotia Agriculture College (NSAC) would have thought if they could have seen more than 100 years into the future.

Could they have possibly predicted how the university and agriculture would grow? Certainly the founders realized that the university was responsible for educating the next generation of farmers in the Maritimes, but could they have foreseen the economic role that NSAC now plays in the Colchester region and beyond?

"NSAC and its research are keys to

economic growth in the area," says Alan Johnson, Colchester Regional Development Agency's (CoRDA's) director of marketing and communications. As an institution, NSAC is one of the largest employers in the Colchester region with over 265 full-time faculty and staff. "NSAC plays a vital role in the central Nova Scotia economy," says Johnson. "At the basic level, there are the salaries of professors and staff who work at NSAC. Then there are the companies who supply NSAC. These companies directly benefit from the dollars NSAC spends."

"NSAC is also making a large contribution to the region in terms of sheer brain-power," continues Johnson. "Take

The business community relies on NSAC for its research. And the research also means that companies considering re-locating to the Colchester region can see critical mass taking place.

NSAC students. Through them, NSAC is educating the next generation of producers and advisors to agriculture and agri-food industry. Graduates from NSAC have a hands-on education and the businesses who hire them find it a terrific resource."

The university also stimulates economic growth in the area through its research intensity. "NSAC is a key source of new

food science-related knowledge," says Johnson. A leader in the field of the life sciences, NSAC works diligently to bolster research focus. This dedication was demonstrated by earning the number one ranking in Atlantic Canada for research intensity on Canada's Top 50

Research Universities List by Research Infosource Inc." The business community

relies on NSAC for its research. And the research also means that companies considering re-locating to the Colchester region can see critical mass taking place," Johnson explains.

Over 60 per cent of NSAC faculty are involved in active research. In the spring of 2008, four researchers received Canada Foundation for Innovation (CFI) awards. The awards are accompanied by funding that will be used to enhance their research, and set the standard for research innovation in the agricultural and life-sciences sector. These research areas are expected to lead to novel technologies and discoveries in the areas of weed management, molecular nutrition, new food products, agricultural genomics and organic agriculture.

NSAC is home to 24 research centres, institutes and programs. NSAC is very active in building strong and mutually beneficial partnerships with industry. These partnerships are vital to getting research out of the lab and into driving economic growth. "It is a win-win relationship," says Johnson. "Nova Scotia's agricultural and agri-food processing industries would not be the leaders they are today without a prosperous and proven history of innovation and successful technology transfer." NSAC's public and private partnerships have enabled it to create on-campus resources such as the **Canadian Centre for Fur Animal Research**, the **Atlantic Centre for Agricultural Genomics Research** and the **Atlantic Poultry Research Centre**.



Over 60 per cent of NSAC faculty are involved in active research and NSAC is home to 24 research centres, institutes and programs.

crops of Quebec and the Atlantic provinces. The economic importance of the blueberry was one of the drivers for the initiation of the Wild Blueberry Research Program in 1996. This program focuses on improving the yield potential and long-term sustainability of wild blueberry production. In addition to research and technology transfer activities, training of highly qualified personnel continues to be an area of emphasis for the research program, in co-operation with industry and producer representatives.



NSAC recently announced the initiation of a major project in alternative weed management technologies.

The largest growers and processors within the industry have set a goal to

Some of the research projects being conducted at NSAC are studying ways to improve the quality of the agri-food supply. Nova Scotia produces over 40 million pounds of wild blueberries annually. The wild blueberry is the number one fruit acreage crop in export sales and value. It is also one of the most important fruit

NSAC recently announced the initiation of a major project in alternative weed management technologies, led by Dr. Nathan Boyd, Vegetation Management Research Chair with the Department of Environmental Sciences. Weeds are the major yield-limiting factor in blueberry fields but effective weed management must be balanced with the desire to market blueberries as a natural, healthy and low input product.

Continued on page 10



Dear NSAC Alumni Member,

I'm writing to touch base and let you know that your *alma mater* is thriving along with the rest of Colchester County. This prompts me to ask you if you would like a good set of reasons to return here to do business?

As you no doubt are aware, Nova Scotia Agricultural College has been ranked "Number 1 in Research intensity in Atlantic Canada."

The six industrial research chairs headquartered here are jointly funded by government and the private sector, with 250 active research projects underway.

As NSAC moves forward and we grow together, the Colchester Regional Development Agency is asking you to take a look at us when it comes to developing or expanding your current company.

If you are currently employed by a firm outside our region, now is a great time to look at Truro-Bible Hill and the rest of the Colchester Region for the services you need to expand.

This area offers one of the most productive workforces in the G-7. According to a recent study by KPMG, land, labour, construction, transportation and operational cost advantages make us a top choice compared with other locations in the U.S., Canada and other G-7 nations.

If your enterprise requires workers with special skills, let us show you how we have worked with NSAC, its partner universities and other regional schools to help dozens of new businesses succeed.

If you'd like to know more, we'd like to hear from you. Even if you aren't contemplating doing business here in the immediate future, we'd still like to send you our newsletter, which is published twice a year. Feel free to call (902) 893-0140 or (902) 890-9139 or email us today at: contact@corda.ca. We'd love to welcome you back!

Alan Johnson
Director, Marketing
and Communications

reduce agrochemical use by 40 per cent. In order to achieve this, alternative technologies or herbicides need to be evaluated for potential use alone or in conjunction with current practices. This is a three-year initiative which includes industry partners such as Oxford Frozen Foods Ltd., Bragg Lumber Company Ltd., and the Wild Blueberry Producers Association of Nova Scotia.



The \$9.8 million Atlantic Poultry Research Centre will provide teaching and research capabilities in all phases of poultry production.

Another example of an economically beneficial partnership with industry is the recent opening of the **Atlantic Poultry Research Centre**. This \$9.8 million centre will provide teaching and research capabilities in all phases of poultry production from hatching to value-added product processing through research in areas of nutrition, physiology, poultry product quality and food safety.

One of the very special things about these research centres is that they are the result of proactive partnerships. "These projects are both collaborative and industry-centred and will deliver knowledge to a wide range of industries," says Dr. Bernie MacDonald NSAC co-president and vice president administration. "These partnerships are a great example of NSAC's ability to attract and maintain the world's best researchers and innovators."

"I am impressed with the drive and ambition of our researchers who have such strong visions of their future here at NSAC and for the future of the university," adds MacDonald. He feels that this vision bodes well not only for the university, but for NSAC students. "Our students have the opportunity to learn hands-on from those who are actually creating the knowledge. It's what sets us apart as an institution and it's what makes us successful."

Things are growing at **AgriTECH Park**. The facility, which officially opened its doors in 1998, is the commercialization wing of NSAC. "Its mandate is to provide the fertile environment necessary to grow and develop bio-economy products, services and technologies within the agri-food, aqua-food and environmental sectors," says Director Laurie Sandeson.

"NSAC is the most research intensive university in Atlantic Canada and one of the major benefits we can offer businesses looking to re-locate or get their start here is the Park's strategic location to such a tremendous resource." In addition to flexible leasing and business support services for start-up and new companies, the Park offers mentoring and business consulting services on a unique campus-like setting with nature trails and an on-site aquatic

for bio-resources, encouraging a movement towards the development of bio-based, high value products. Advances in bio-products have already had a positive economic impact on the agriculture industries and bio-businesses are poised to take advantage of the emerging \$200 billion natural and wellness product markets. In assisting bio-businesses to create new wealth from bio-resources, the Park is striving towards its vision of being Atlantic Canada's bio-economy village.

NSAC is providing fertile soil for new agri- and bio-resources-based businesses to grow. "In the future, CoRDA hopes to build a critical mass of life-sciences and biotechnology businesses at NSAC's AgriTECH Park," says Johnson. "These business will become a key economic engine in the area."

The arrival of the **Portable Modular Microfactory** in spring 2008 was an exciting day for ABVC. This \$1 million facility is the first unit of its kind. Built to process the by-products of blueberries, cranberries and cultivated rosehips, the factory starts with the pumice by-product and extracts valuable anti-oxidant materials.



The \$1 million Portable Modular Microfactory is built to process the by-products of blueberries, cranberries and cultivated rosehips.

centre. The Park is currently home to 12 tenants and two laboratories. Sandeson says, "There is an abundance of opportunity and the Park is working on plans to convert one of its buildings, the Northumberland, into a bio-accelerator so it can be used as a test site for bio-product development."

The Atlantic BioVenture Centre (ABVC) was established in 2005 as an operating division of AgriTECH Park and works with primary and processing sectors on bio-resource value-chain developments and technology transfer. The Atlantic BioVenture Centre is working with the agri-food and aqua-food sectors to seek new approaches and non-traditional uses

"Canada has extensive bio-resources that are not currently optimized for value addition," says ABVC's CEO Dr. Richard Ablett. "It is easy to develop a product in the kitchen which then needs an expensive investment to get to a commercial scale — many projects fail to move ahead from this stage." As a food scientist who has been involved in product development with entrepreneurs for 20 years, Ablett is uniquely qualified to comment on this area.

The concept of microfactory production makes sense to agri-entrepreneurs. The microfactory allows for miniaturized, custom-built, very tight processing that generates value added products. The

Continued on page 14

New Marketing Campaign

Tells Stories, Asks Questions and Gives an Expedition of a Lifetime.

Following the update of the 2008-2013 university strategic plan, NSAC Marketing has also evolved its strategy. NSAC is taking its tagline, "Embrace Your World," to heart and is sending out a campaign that gets people involved in the conversation on solving real world problems.

Our tagline represents our unique way of seeing the world. It invites people to look at NSAC in the context of their own world, their own realities. It's an invitation to engage. This year's campaign builds on that approach. We will be inviting all of our stakeholders—prospective students, alumni, funding agencies, partners and current and prospective staff and faculty—to come inside and chat about world problems affecting them. Climate change, food security and water conservation. These are all real world challenges that connect to NSAC research, programs and values.

We're not pretending we're above reproach. As an institution, we face the very same challenges as any private citizen. While we don't have all the answers, we're working on improving. A chunk of our power comes from the on-campus steam plant. We have a new research chair focused on alternative fuel sources, the cafeteria has adjusted many of its practices and the university print shop has gone "green" thanks to a partnership with Xerox. Alumni Relations is doing their part by using less paper and turning out lights, among other longer term initiatives.

To help facilitate an energetic exchange of ideas on topics like climate change, food security and water management, we have launched a companion site to nsac.ca. Embraceyourworld.ca is a place to go and share your thoughts and opinions. You can upload videos and pictures, watch webcams or leave comments on these issues and more. People of all ages and backgrounds

can engage in the conversation. After all, problems of global proportion take value from both aged wisdom and young perspectives. The largest part of the new campaign is an expedition contest.

Students in high school can nominate themselves or be nominated for the contest. We are looking for the individual who is doing amazing work in their own corner of the planet, someone who is making a difference in their world. Through embraceyourworld.ca, nominations will be accepted in any format (i.e. video, essay, collage, etc.). The winner will be chosen by a panel informed by the comments of others in support of the nomination.

An Ambassador Program is the third component of the campaign. We will be building a system to educate those who know and support us. We have some impressive supporters and we'll be arming them with messages and promotional pieces to help promote us both domestically and abroad.

The campaign launched on Oct. 7, 2008. Tune into embraceyourworld.ca to weigh in on the issues. Your voices will be important to spur debate and drive participation.



embraceyourworld.ca

NSAC Researchers Receive \$1.3 Million in Funding for Work on Agriculture and Environment



The Honourable Jamie Muir, minister of Service Nova Scotia and Municipal Relations, brings greeting from the province.

On Feb. 29, 2008, NSAC was pleased to announce funding from Canada Foundation for Innovation (CFI). The funding will allow NSAC to develop and enhance research programs at the university.

Mr. Jac van Beek, vice president of programs and planning at CFI, presented certificates to three faculty members who received funding from CFI Leading Edge Fund, Leader's Opportunity Fund. Dr. Bernie MacDonald, NSAC's co-president, vice president administration, presented the Canada Research Chair Infrastructure Fund to a fourth faculty member.

The \$513,275 in contributions from CFI will be matched by support from the Government of Nova Scotia through Nova Scotia Research and Innovation Trust (NSRIT). Contributions have also been made through various industry organizations. This support will allow NSAC to increase research capacity, training of highly qualified personnel and graduate students and expand relationships with industry and government partners.

The Honourable Jamie Muir, Minister of Service Nova Scotia and Municipal Relations, brought greetings from the

province of Nova Scotia on behalf of Premier Rodney MacDonald and Brooke Taylor, minister of agriculture.

The recipients of the Canada Foundation Innovation awards were NSAC researchers Dr. Berni Benkel, Dr. Kathleen Glover, Dr. Nathan Boyd and Dr. Derek Lynch. The funding will lead to discoveries and

Co-Presidents Dr. Leslie MacLaren and Dr. Bernie MacDonald noted the importance of CFI funding to increased research capacity at the university. Said Dr. MacLaren: "NSAC has been extremely successful in attracting high calibre researchers who have an interest and ability to work closely with industry.




The award winners (left to right): Dr. Berni Benkel, Dr. Derek Lynch, Dr. Nathan Boyd and Dr. Kathleen Glover.

new technology in the areas of weed management, molecular nutrition research, new food products, agricultural genomics research and organic agriculture.

This connection allows them to develop creative approaches to deal with emerging issues in agriculture and the environment. Our partnership with CFI has been instrumental in ensuring that researchers have the resources they need to make valuable contributions to their fields."

Said Dr. MacDonald: "We are extremely proud of our research capacity here at NSAC. The continued success of our faculty members in competitions such as this speaks to the calibre of our professors and to the quality of education we are providing our students; they are truly learning from the best."

These projects further solidify NSAC's position as a leader in the innovative field of agricultural and life sciences research. 



Dr. Bernie MacDonald, NSAC co-president, vice president administration, presents Canada Research Chair Award to Dr. Derek Lynch

Atlantic BioVenture Centre holds Open House for Microfactory Project

The Atlantic BioVenture Centre (ABVC) and Nova Scotia Agricultural College (NSAC) held an Open House on Friday, June 6 at AgriTECH Park. Invited guests were given a glimpse of the Portable Modular Microfactory project, a prototype to be used for the extraction of high value bioactives and nutraceuticals from agricultural crops, specifically blueberries, cranberries and rosehips.

Bioactive compounds are naturally occurring chemicals in plants or animals that provide a health benefit, such as omega-3 fatty acids in fish or flax oils. Nutraceuticals are food extracts generally sold in tablet, capsule or liquid concentrate form.

Nova Scotia agriculture minister, Brooke Taylor, brought greetings from the province. "NSAC and ABVC have done a great job of bringing together the necessary sectors to carry out the research work. The microfactory technology has great potential for Nova Scotia's agriculture sector."

The microfactory features value addition processing infrastructure and is designed for on-farm use to be next to the agri-production supply and labour pool. The design also allows for flexibility to accommodate a range of other specialty products. This benefits small producer groups involved in community-level processing activities seeking direct access to global markets.

Dr. Bernie MacDonald, NSAC co-president and vice president administration, said, "I am extremely proud of the collaboration and forward-thinking vision that this project represents. Projects like the microfactory speak to a strong future for the Maritime region's agricultural industry."




The Portable Modular Microfactory

The portable modular microfactory took five months to build and was constructed in Charlottetown PEI primarily using expertise and components from the Maritime provinces. The total project cost was close to \$1.6 million.

Funding for the Portable Modular Microfactory was provided through the science and innovation chapter of the federal-provincial-territorial Agricultural

Policy Framework. Government partners include Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada (AAFC) Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency (ACOA), Government of Nova Scotia and Government of Prince Edward Island.

Industry support was provided through Atlantic Systems manufacturing, Terra Beata Farms Ltd. 



(left-right) Dr. Bernie MacDonald, Case Van Dyk, minister Brooke Taylor, and Riek Van Dyk.



(left-right) Dr. Richard Ablett (ABVC), minister Brooke Taylor, Shawn Ingraham (AAFC), Darlene Stevenson (ACOA), Deputy Minister of Agriculture Paul Lafleche and Dr. Bernie MacDonald.

Beyond Basic Nutrition

Healthy functional food ingredients, snacks, and beverages from Nova apples

Eating an apple is a great way to get vitamin C and other nutrients. But soon consumers may have new apple-based snack and beverage products to choose from. New research at Nova Scotia Agricultural College (NSAC) hopes to capture the health benefits of fruits and introduce new healthy and convenient value-added food choices to the consumer. This project recently received \$1.9 million from Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency's Atlantic Innovation Fund.



Left-Right: David Fullerton, NSAC industry liaison officer, Peter MacKay, minister of national defense and Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency, Dela Erith, executive director of Nova Scotia Fruit Growers Association, Dr. Vasantha Rupasinghe, Tree Fruit BioProduct research chair, Dr. Rob Gordon, past NSAC dean of research, and Dr. Leslie MacLaren, NSAC co-president.

Dr. Vasantha Rupasinghe is an assistant professor at NSAC and is leading this innovative project. The project will develop new ways to extract and preserve selected natural antioxidants from apples and apple processing waste that will be used to create enhanced healthy food products and ingredients.

Rupasinghe says these natural bioactive compounds are now known to be the principal components in fruits and vegetables that provide benefits beyond basic nutrition, such as specific health benefits like prevention of various cancers and other chronic human disorders. Rupasinghe believes that introduction of healthy but convenient foods is one remedy for managing good health.

"Right now, over 10 million pounds of apple processing by-products go into the waste as land filling in Nova Scotia," says Rupasinghe. "We want to turn this unique and valuable bioresource into healthy food and various bio-products." For example, the new antioxidant-enriched apple-based functional beverages not only quench your thirst but also provide

you with a balance of vitamins, minerals, dietary fiber and natural antioxidants.

Rupasinghe is chair of the Tree Fruit BioProduct Research Program at NSAC. An established co-operative and industry-led research program, it is supported by the Nova Scotia Fruit


Growers' Association (NSFGA) and four Annapolis Valley companies (Apple Valley Foods Ltd., Grand Pre Wines Ltd., J.W. Mason and Sons and Noggins Corner Farm Ltd.) who plan to commercialize the

resulting new value-added product manufacturing technologies from this research.

In addition to creating new food products, the spin-off benefits from this research include enhancing the economic value of Nova Scotia produced apples and increased employment for the rural-based tree fruit industry. Dela Erith, executive director with NSFGA, says that this R&D initiative is unique; being based on carefully conducted market and business development research." Dr. Rupasinghe has put together an excellent multi-disci-

plinary team of agri-businesses and research collaborators," says Erith.

Creating innovative products is nothing new to Rupasinghe. In 2005, he and his team of researchers received the Agri-food Innovation Award for introducing pre-packaged apple slices to the marketplace in Ontario. Introduced to the marketplace by McDonald's Food Chain, this product is the result of a collaborative project co-ordinated by Dr. Rupasinghe when he was at University of Guelph.

Dr. Rupasinghe's research further solidifies NSAC's position as a leader in the innovative agricultural and life sciences research. 

Stimulating Minds continued from page 10

factory can be placed into the rural community close to the resources and local labour, while at the same time providing a means to export nationally approved products to world markets.

ABVC believes the concept of portable microfactories can be developed at three levels: within the food and pharmaceutical industry, in simple food processing of specialty niche market products and at higher level bioactive derived from by-products and pharmaceutical-grade

2008 Summer Class Reunions

Several classes held reunions this summer. The classes who graduated in years ending in a five or an eight celebrate their honour year in 2008. The classes of '53, '56 and '58 shared some of their reunion highlights with the alumni office.



The class of '58. Back row: Joe Ruet, Les Haley, Tom Dunphy, Don MacNeil, Eric Jennings, Fred Pierce. Front Row: Cameron Fullerton, Bob Balcolm, Bob Sandford, Alan Langille, Walter Fiander, Graeme Linkletter, Don Drayton

The class of '53 celebrated the 55th anniversary of their graduation by gathering with friends and significant others at the Palliser Restaurant in Truro. The class of '53 reunion was covered by local media in Truro Daily News.



The class of '58 enjoys brunch at Masstown Market.



Guy Losier welcomes his class while Dick Huggard looks on.

The class of '56 met in Tracadie-Sheila, N.B., on Aug. 1-3 for their annual reunion. eighteen class members together with spouses and family members traveled from the Maritimes, Ontario and USA. The class reported that very substantial

progress was made during the year on their semi-centennial project. This class project constitutes an innovative effort by its members to provide NSAC the opportunity to take the lead in promoting rural water management in the Atlantic provinces with emphasis on education, planning, management and conservation. Representatives from the class of '56 will continue to work closely with NSAC on this important issue

In addition to the business meeting, the class of '56 took time to enjoy themselves. The weekend featured visits to the Village Historique Acadien near Caraquet and the aquarium in Shippagan. Everyone enjoyed the good food, musical entertainment and hospitality on the Acadian Peninsula. Class president Ted MacNintch thanked Guy Losier (class of '56),

Carmelle Landry and Aurele (class of '56) and Marie Gaudet for all their work in organizing a very successful weekend.

The class of '58 held a reunion on July 26 which included visits to NSAC's campus and brunch at the Masstown Market. The class reported that they have decided to create a graduate student scholarship by setting up an endowed fund. The first award of \$500 will be given this year and once they reach their target of \$25,000 (they are currently at \$14,000) it will be \$1,000 per year.



Eric Jennings, owner of Masstown Market, addresses his classmates and their guests.

Blue and Gold Awards

Save the date for a new and exciting alumni event!

Join us in Jenkins Hall on November 14 for the presentation of the NSAC Blue and Gold Awards. The Blue and Gold Awards recognize alumni for their exceptional achievements in the areas of volunteerism and contribution to the agricultural industry. The who's who of alumni will enjoy an evening featuring awards presentations, a silent auction and entertainment. The gala promises to be one of the highlights of the alumni calendar! Contact alumni@nsac.ca or 902-893-7242 to reserve your seat or table. Go to nsac.ca/alumni/awards.asp for more info.

37th Annual Open House



Thousands of visitors flocked to the NSAC campus on July 24 when the university held its 37th annual Open House.

The weather co-operated and the event was very successful. Judging from the amount of smiles, visitors of all ages enjoyed themselves and their feedback was very positive.



All departments had some sort of fun display or activity to engage Open House guests. People rolled up their sleeves in the Aquaculture department which had interesting displays of marine life in salt-water touch tanks. Environmental Sciences had displays on the chemistry of everyday

life as well as an activity where visitors learned how to identify edible mushrooms and about growing their own mushrooms.

The Organic Agriculture Centre of Canada hosted an organic field day featuring grain



variety and fertility trials, pumpkin trials, wireworm control and vegetable cropping systems. The Friends of the Gardens gave tours of Alumni, Rock and Butterfly Gardens and provided information. And of course, the ever popular wagon rides, with stops around the university, gave Open House guests the opportunity to tour campus the old fashioned way. A very great day was had by all!



During the evening of Open House NSAC held a ceilidh for all NSAC alumni, faculty, staff and their families. Guests enjoyed an evening of great food and company. Toe-tapping entertainment was provided by Fiddles and Feet. Dwane Mellish and Arnold Hagen represented the Alumni Association and Laurie Hennigar attended on behalf of the NSAC Foundation. Mr. Mellish brought greetings and remarks from the association. 🎵

Stimulating Minds continued from page 14

raw material processing. The microfactory is an experiment in progress that was made possible by federal and provincial governments as well as the private sector. "It is a great example of bringing provinces together and working towards the new bioeconomy," says Ablett.

Laurie Sandeson points to one of the first businesses to get its start in AgriTECH Park, Azar Incorporated, as an example of the university and industry working together to meet an emerging need.

Azar performs breeding work with novel plant species and contract research services for industry organizations. Azar's founder, Kathleen Glover, started working with NSAC as a molecular biologist and expanded to AgriTECH Park where she established the business in 1998. On the benefits of AgriTECH Park, Glover says, "Strong ties with NSAC and being in close proximity to the university makes it easy to interact with research faculty which gives us an insight into new offerings for the agricultural community as well as access to employees with the specialized skills my business requires."

NSAC is providing fertile soil for new agri- and bioresource-based businesses to grow. "In the future CoRDA hopes to build a critical mass of life sciences and biotechnology businesses at NSAC's AgriTECH Park," says Johnson. "These business will become a key economic engine in the area."

Through its partnerships with industry, encouragement of new and exciting businesses and active research, the university is playing a central role in the economy and future prosperity of the Colchester region. In the future, NSAC's new governance structure will allow for increased responsiveness and growth.

NSAC is alight with bright minds. These minds are pushing the boundaries of current knowledge to make groundbreaking discoveries in the life sciences. These discoveries will ultimately improve peoples' lives and help drive the economic engine of our province. This knowledge will help Nova Scotia pursue opportunities and ensure that our province continues to be a leader in innovation. Welcome to innovation, welcome to the future, welcome to NSAC. 🎵

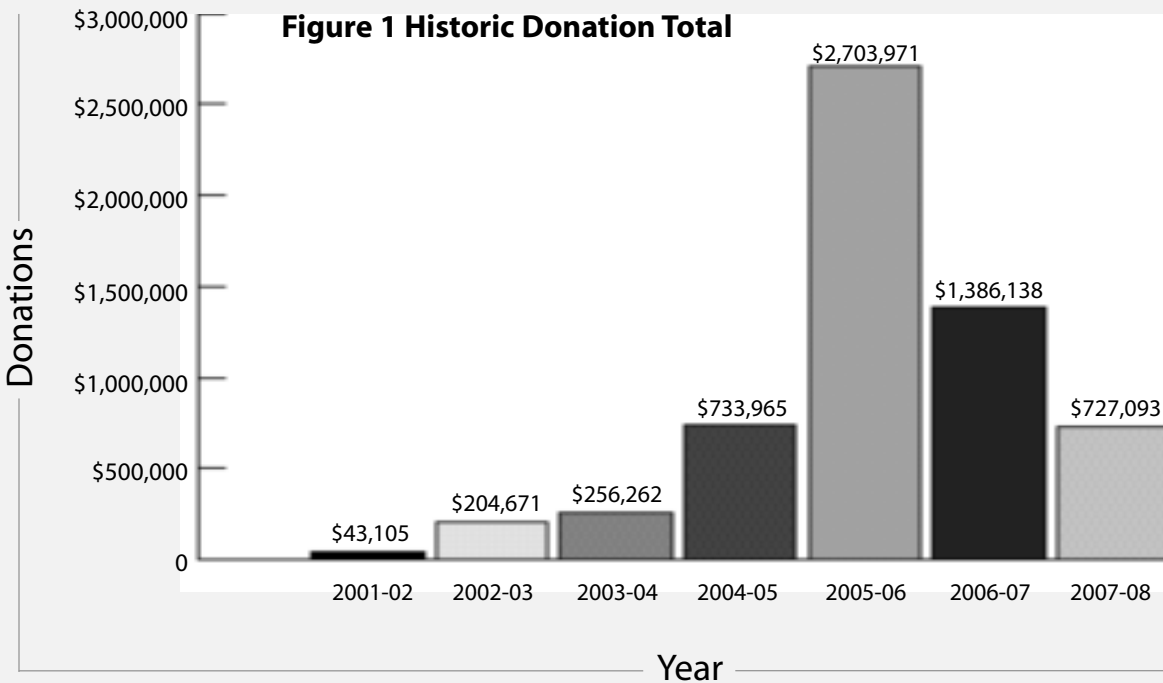


NSAC Development and Alumni Relations

Report to Donors 2007-08

The NSAC Alumni/Foundation had a successful year of fundraising in 2007-08. Total donations and transfers into Foundation accounts during the fiscal year amounted to \$727,093.

The NSAC Alumni/Foundation had a successful year of fundraising in 2007-08. Total donations and transfers into Foundation accounts during the fiscal year amounted to \$727,093. While not as large as the total inflow of cash for the previous year, it still resulted in growth of the fund. The total fund balance stood at \$6,086,876, an increase of almost 10 per cent from the year before. Historical donation totals are found in figure 1.



While the average size of donation remains high, the number of donations has returned to levels of 2004-05. We are not acquiring new donors as fast as we are losing those we had as a result of the phone campaign. Special effort will be necessary to get back up to the 1000 donations per year level.

Our donor information system allows us to analyze the information in a number of ways. The various designated campaigns by which we receive donations include: annual mail appeal, scholarship appeal, research funding, special events and memorials. Transfers include money deposited with the Foundation for investment that will be used for NSAC programs. A comparison with the previous two years is shown in table 1.

Table1	2005-06		2006-07		2007-08	
	Donations	%	Donations	%	Donations	%
2nd Century Endowment	\$439,725	15.9%	\$65,619	4.7%	\$9,746	1.4%
Annual Appeal	\$42,647	3.9%	\$70,533	5.1%	\$101,170	14.1%
Scholarship Appeal	\$208,093	7.5%	\$355,090	25.6%	\$161,749	22.5%
Memorials	\$11,131	0.4%	\$7,249	0.5%	\$107,350	14.9%
Research	\$1,797,743	64.9%	\$414,494	29.9%	\$48,367	1.4%
Special Events	\$7,032	0.3%	\$3,231	0.2%	\$2,790	0.4%
Other	\$130,72	17.1%	\$469,920	33.9%	\$287,896	40.0%

The Annual Appeal campaign had a very strong showing as the mailing went out at a good time and was particularly targeted to student support. While donations to the Annual Appeal largely go to the unallocated AC Fund (NSAC's highest priority) they also can be targeted to several other specific funds including named scholarships, various class funds and the library. There were 205 donations for a 4.2

per cent response rate on mail out. This year we received \$101,169 through the mail appeal, newsletters and personal solicitations. A total of \$1,892 was spent on materials for the annual campaign yielding a return of \$53.47 per dollar invested. Table 2 shows the historic trend in the annual appeal.

Table2	Year	# Sent	# Ret	% Ret	\$ Donated	Avg. \$/Gift	\$Ret/\$ Invested
	2007-08	4700	205	4.3%	\$101,169	\$494	\$53.47
	2006-07	4750	182	3.8%	\$70,533	\$387	\$28.31
	2005-06	5400	170	3.1%	\$42,647	\$250	\$11.55
	2004-05	5400	260	4.7%	\$89,950	\$345	\$19.00
	2003-04	5400	170	3.1%	\$21,369	\$125	\$4.44
	2002-03	5500	137	2.5%	\$14,595	\$106	\$3.40

Solicitation for donations to scholarships continues to be a priority. Several new endowed scholarships and bursaries were started during the year including the Dr. Roger Bacon Scholarship, Kevin Grant Memorial Scholarship and the John Reginald Moore Bursaries. The acquisition of new endowments is important to the continued support of NSAC students.

NSAC appreciates donations of all three types, however, the priority is to increase the endowed portion of the fund as it offers stability for investment and disbursement. This year

25 per cent of the donations went into endowed funds adding \$182,699 to the total long term endowed portfolio.

The real measure of the impact that the fundraising efforts are having is shown by the amount of financial support that is provided back to NSAC each year. Total disbursement for the year was \$485,180. While less than 2006-07, the amount went to support many important and worthwhile projects at NSAC. The breakdown of the disbursements from the various funds appears in Figure 2.

A total of \$238,924 went out in support of scholarships and bursaries. A much smaller amount was expended on research during the year, mainly in support of the Atlantic Centre for Poultry Research grand opening. There will be additional research expenditures in future years once the projects are completed. Athletics expenditures were made in support of woodsmen activities from the Rick Russell Woodsmen Fund.

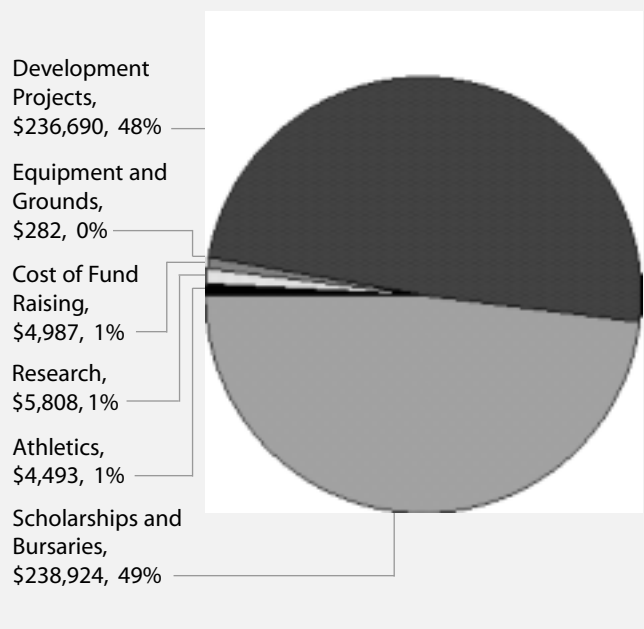
First Presentation of \$2,500 P. Max Kuhn Scholarship



Ross Osborne, Jim Goit, Jaclyn Mosher and Mary Osborne.

A new scholarship recognizing a farm background and a future career in agriculture was presented at NSAC's Awards Banquet October 2007. Jaclyn Mosher, Newport, NS, a third year B.Sc.(Agr) Agricultural Economics student, is the first recipient of the \$2,500 P. Max Kuhn Scholarship. Shown offering congratulations to Jaclyn are Jim Goit, executive director of NSAC Development & External Relations, and Ross and Mary Osborne, Dartmouth, N.S. Mary is

Figure 2 Disbursement Area 2007-08



the daughter of P. Max Kuhn, who farmed in Cole Harbour, N.S., and attended NSAC in 1908-09. The P. Max Kuhn Scholarship was made possible by an initial generous donation from Mary's brother, Bernard Kuhn (NSAC Class of '38) and subsequently others in the Kuhn family.

In summary, the fundraising effort has resulted in significant return to NSAC. However it has not been able to maintain the potential that has been shown to exist. We continue to build and seek opportunities to increase our base of donors as we establish our credibility with alumni and friends. With the assistance of volunteers both on and off campus, we will be successful in building a program that will assist the students of NSAC long into the future.

NSAC Donor Summary

Donations made between April 1, 2007 and March 31, 2008

The following is a list of all those who have donated to NSAC between April 1, 2007 and March 31, 2008 arranged alphabetically by donation size range. For Donors who are alumni, their class year is shown following the name. We do our best to ensure accuracy in the information. However, we apologize for any errors or omissions that may have occurred (number after name indicates class year for alumni).

Planned Gifts

- Mr. Peter Hamilton 1944
- Mr. Malcolm MacQuarrie 1948
- Mr. John Atkin

Gifts In Kind

- Specht-Canada Inc.

Matching Gifts

- Kraft Canada Inc.

Gifts Over \$100,000

- Canadian Intl. Development Agency

\$25,000 - \$99,999

- Dr. Roger Bacon
- Estate of Mary Chapman
- Estate of Kevin Grant
- Harrison McCain Foundation
- Nova Scotia Agricultural College
- Specht-Canada Inc.

\$10,000 - \$24,999

- Atlantic Farm Mechanization Show
- Farm Credit Canada
- New Brunswick Egg Marketing Board

\$5,000 - \$9,999

- Growers International Organic Sales
- Mr. Charles W. Herbert 1959

- Newfoundland and Labrador Chicken Marketing Board
- Ocean Nutrition
- PEI Department of Agriculture, Fisheries & Forestry
- Royal Bank of Canada
- Stuco Holdings Limited
- Willowdale Farms

\$1,000 - \$4,999

- ACA Cooperative Limited/Eden Valley Farms Limited

Mrs. Margaret Archibald
 Atlantic Fertilizer Institute
 The Big Carrot
 Chartwells
 Chicken Producers Association of Nova Scotia
 Mr. Robert N. Clark 1959
 Cobequid Physiotherapy Inc.
 Dr. William B. Collins 1946
 Co-op Atlantic
 Dairy Farmers of Newfoundland and Labrador
 Dairy Farmers of Nova Scotia
 Dykeview Farms
 Egg Producers of Newfoundland and Labrador
 Egg Producers of Prince Edward Island
 Dr. Douglas C. Eidt, 1947
 Estate of Thomas Hamill
 Farmers Dairy
 Foodshare Toronto
 Mr. Campbell Gunn 1959
 Mr. Peter Y. Hamilton 1944
 Dr. Paul C. Harris 1950
 Mrs. Jessie King
 Kings Mutual Insurance Company
 Landscape Nova Scotia
 Dr. J. Allan MacKay 1943
 Mr. Malcolm MacQuarrie 1948
 Lloyd Mapplebeck & Lauranne Sanderson 1975
 Mr. Allan Mathewson
 Mr. Eric Meek 1954
 TD Insurance Meloche Monnex
 MER Enterprises Ltd.
 New Brunswick Institute of Agrologists
 Newfoundland and Labrador Federation of Agriculture
 Nova Scotia Animal Breeders
 Nova Scotia Federation of Agriculture
 Nova Scotia Institute of Agrologists
 Nova Scotia Power Incorporated
 The Organic Grocer Limited
 Mrs. Mary H. Osborne
 Ms. Sherry E. Porter 1975
 Prince Edward Island Institute of Agrologists
 Dr. Robert G. Ross 1947
 Rotary Club of Truro
 Syngenta Pest Management
 Mr. Harold J. Trask 1948
 Vanden Bussche Irrigation
 Mr. Fred Walsh 1950

Mr. Havey Whidden
 Ms. Barbara E. Whiston, 1990

\$250 - \$999

Mr. Stuart F. Allaby 1949
 Animal Nutrition Association of Canada
 Atlantic Land Improvement Contractors Association
 Bedford Horticulture Society
 Bible Hill Garden Club
 Dr. Doug Byers 1956
 Ms. Carol Byers
 Mr. Donald L. Byers 1963
 Charities Aid Foundation America
 Ms. Barbara J. Christie 2002
 Crossley Carpet Mills Limited
 Dartmouth Horticultural Society
 Ms. Gisela E. Erf, PhD 1979
 Farm Focus
 Mr. & Mrs. Jim Goit
 Dr. Gary Grant
 Dr. Les Haley 1958
 Mr. Robert W. Hanes 1949
 Mrs. Edith Hudgins
 Dr. Dick Huggard 1956
 Inverness County Federation of Agriculture
 Isgonish Chapter IODE
 Mr. Robert L. Johnston 1961
 Mr. Toomas Karmo
 Kraft Canada Inc.
 Lunenburg Queens Federation of Agriculture
 Mrs. Barbara MacKay
 Dr. Ken MacKay 1951
 Dr. Ralph Martin
 Mr. Ernest G. Maynard 1959
 Mr. Irvin B. McCormick 1959
 Nova Scotia 4-H Council
 Nova Scotia Department of Agriculture
 Nova Scotia Veterinary Medical Association
 Novartis Animal Health Canada Inc.
 NS/NF Holstein Association of Canada
 NSAC Association of Grad Students
 Patterson Law
 Ms. Audrey S. Payne 1964
 The Pepsi Bottling Group
 Pork Nova Scotia
 Prince Edward Island Potato Board
 Prince Edward Island Swine Breeders' Association
 Ms. Natalie Rayner 1992

Mr. Chris Richards 1984
 Rix Family Farm
 Ms. Martha H. Robinson 1985
 Mrs. Nerenne Russell
 Mr. Daniel Stewart 1956
 Stewiacke Valley Garden Club
 Mr. Bill Swetnam 1956
 Ms. Irene Tester
 Mr. & Mrs. David Thompson 1970
 Mr. Calvin R. Tilley 1954
 Dr. Vernon R. (Vic) Vickery 1947
 Wentworth Garden Club
 Wesley United Church
 Mr. John Wesselius 1988
 Mr. Cyril B. Whiteley 1974
 Wild Blueberry Producers Association of Nova Scotia
 Dr. James M. Winmill 1948

Less than \$250

Mr. William P. Abraham 1952
 Mr. Adrian Ackermann 1987
 Mr. David R. Aiton 1972
 Mr. Donald A. Allen 1963
 Mr. & Mrs. Jeffrey Allen 1988
 Mr. Don Anderson 1978
 Mr. Donald G. Anderson 1948
 Mr. Derek & Ms. Lisa Ashworth 1994 & 1997
 Mr. Nelson E. Ball 1956
 Mr. Lorimer F. Banks 1948
 Mr. G. Melvin Barclay 1961
 Mr. Don Barry 1979
 Mr. Nigel T. Bayliss 1982
 Mr. Alan H. Bentley 1959
 Mr. Sterling Bishop
 Mr. Harold D. Blenkhorn 1947
 Mr. Blair Bonnyman 1951
 Mr. Peter W. Boswall 1981
 Mr. Desire Boudreau
 Mr. Eric J. Bouffard 1951
 Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Brennan 1975
 Mr. John A. Brown 1975
 Ms. Heidi L. Brown 1984
 Mr. Jack F. Burnham 1964
 Ms. Ernestine Byers
 Mr. Frank H. Calder 1950
 Mr. Grant D. Campbell 1983
 Ms. Joanne Campbell
 Canadian Parents for French in Nova Scotia
 Dr. John P. Cant, PhD 1986
 Ms. Christine D. Carroll 1985
 Mr. Keith A. Casey, Sr. 1953
 Mr. Stephen D. Casselman 1966
 Mr. Harry H. Chapman 1952
 Ms. Alyson D. Chisholm 1983
 Mr. David U. Christie 2004
 CIBC
 Mr. Ronald E. Clark 1974
 Dr. Maurice H. Clark 1948
 Mr & Mrs Dave Clark 1975
 Ms. Katherine D. Cleghorn 1982
 Dr. H. Garth Coffin 1960
 Ms. Rebecca Colborne
 Mr. Gregory Coldwell 1970
 Mr. Ronald V. Colpitts 1954
 Mr & Mrs Jeff Cowell 1985
 Mr. John S. Colwill 1996
 Ms. Audrey J. Connell 1999
 Mr. Robb R. Connors 1979
 Dr. Harold W. Cook 1966
 Mr. Archie M. Cook 1960
 Cornwallis Farms
 Francis E. Cotter 1964
 Mr. Harry C. Cox 1954
 Dr. Don Craig 1945
 Mr. Harry F. Crouse 1956
 Mr. Andrew B. Crouse 1980
 Mr. Roger C. Crowe 1996
 Mr. J. Gordon Crowe 1946
 Ms. Kimberly Dale
 Dr. Wayne E. Davidson, D.V.M. 1962
 Ms. Marie-Adele Deveau
 Mr. Trevor & Ms. Shari Dillman 2000 & 2002
 Mr. John W. Dillman 1976
 Mrs. Sangeeta Dinshaw
 Mr. Nick Duivenvoorden 1979
 Mr. Brian H. DuPlessis 1971
 Mr. William C. Durant 1951
 Eastern Veterinary Technician Association
 Mr. John B. Eaton 1957
 Mr. Freeman S. Eaton 1954
 Ecole Acadienne
 Ms. Jean Eldridge
 Mr. Dale Ells 1959
 Mr. Evans N. Estabrooks 1962
 Mr. David L. Faulkner 1966
 Ms. Jean Fearon
 Mr. Walter H. Fiander 1958
 Fisher Farms
 Ms. Jean Fox 1942
 Mr. Ronald Fraser 1965
 Mr. Ian Fraser
 Mr. Bernard H. Gallant 1989
 Ms. Nellie G. Gardner 1978

Mr. Aurele Gaudet 1956
 Mr. John G. Gerrits 1981
 Ms. Kathleen E. Glover 1978
 Ms. Carol D. Goodwin 1976
 Mr. Anthony J. Gorham 1986
 Mr. Robert C. Grant 1964
 Dr. Donald L. Grant 1958
 Mr. David Gray 1954
 Ms. Melanie T. Greencorn 1996
 Mr. & Mrs. Gerrit Groenenberg 1984 & 1985
 Ms. Julie S. Hall 2005
 Mr. William L. Hanlon 1952
 Mr. & Mrs Don Harding 1975 & 1976
 Ms. Wendy O. Harris 1979
 Mr. John S. Harvie 1974
 Mr. Richard H. Harvie 1948
 Mr. Stephen & Mrs. Patti Healy 1973
 Mr. Glen D. Hebb 1983
 Mr. Laurie D. Hennigar 1960
 Mr. Geoffrey R. Hennigar 1986
 Mr. Peter Hicklenton
 Dana N. Hicks 1985
 Mr. John D. Hilchey 1941
 Mr. Charles V. Hiltz 1966
 Dr. Richard A. Holley 1964
 Mr. Bradford C. Hood 1974
 Ms. Andrea J. Janzen 2000
 Dr. William A. Jenkins 1938
 Mr. Timothy Johns-Churchill 1963
 Mr. Franklin R. Johnson 1950
 Rev. Grant Johnston 1971
 Mr. Archie H. Johnstone 1947
 Mr. Vernon Kelly 1965
 Dr. David B. Kennedy 1970
 Mr. Peter R. Kennedy 1977
 Ms. Jan M. Kennie 1995
 Dr. G. A. Klassen
 Mr. Henry Knol 1969
 Mr. George A. LaBelle 1955
 Dr. Carmencita J. Lake 1988
 Mr. Lyndon R. Langille 1946
 Mr. Winston M. Langille 1940
 Ms. Clara LeBlanc 1975
 Mr. Scott C. Lewis 1981
 Mr. Norman S. Logan 1950
 Ms. Jean Lynds 1990
 Mr. James L. MacAfee 1972
 Mr. Brian MacDonald
 Dr. Bertrum H. MacDonald 1971
 Dr. Bernie MacDonald
 Mr. S. Gibb & Ms. S. MacDonald 1987
 Mr. Donald L. MacDonald 1960
 Dr. Donald C. MacKay 1943

Ms. Jane R. MacLaurin 1993
 Mr. Clifford W. MacLellan 1979
 Mr. Rod & Mrs. Robin MacLennan
 Mr. William E. MacLennan 1949
 Mr. Victor W. MacLeod 1967
 Mr. Don & Mrs. Marlene MacMillan 1963
 Dr. Ed MacMillan
 Mr. Joseph H. MacNeil 1951
 Dr. Ted MacNintch 1956
 Mr. Eric P. MacPhail 1947
 Mr. Norman G. MacQueen 1961
 Dr. Ali. Madani
 Mr. John E. Madill 1966
 Mr. Arlington S. Mair 1948
 Mr. Kenneth Marchant
 Ms. Marilyn Margeson
 Mr. Francis C. Marks 1957
 Ms. Marjorie Marsh
 Mr. Rylie Marshall 1940
 Mr. Thomas Marshall
 Mr. George U. McBay 1938
 Prof. J. McClain
 Mr. & Mrs. Douglas McDonald 1982
 Mr. Donald P. McInnes 1955
 Mr. Bruce D. McKenzie 1943
 Mr. Richard S. Melvin, NSCh 1976
 Mr. James F. Miller 1995
 Ms. Meghan P. Miller 2007
 Mr. Neil L. Murphy 1964
 Ms. Anne Murphy
 Ms. Kate Murray 2007
 Mr. Robert A. Murray, PAg 1952
 New Holland
 Mr. Vaughn S. Nichols 1951
 Mr. Leonard H. North 1982
 Novartis Vets
 NSAC Bookstore
 Overview Farms Ltd.
 Dr. K. Padmanathan
 Mr. Bradley Palmer 1986
 Mr. Wayne Paquet
 Mr. Robert G. Parker 1971
 Mr. Wayne F. Parker 1962
 Mr. Robert L. Parks 1954
 Dr. Dian Patterson
 Mr. Eric A. Patterson 1977
 Ms. Treasa & Mr. Michael Pauley 1998
 Prof. Graham Pearson
 Ms. Joan Pearson
 Mr. Gregory H. Pelkey 1981
 Ms. Madeleine Peloquin
 Mr. James A. Pickett 1963

Mr. M. H. Pierce 1947
 Mr. Martin A. Porskamp 1977
 Mrs. Elizabeth Prentice-Hudson 1981
 Mr. George E. Reagh 1977
 Mr. Philip D. Redmond 2000
 Ms. Heather J. Richardson 2001
 Dr. Charles L. Ricketson, PhD 1951
 Mr. Jed Ritcey
 Mr. Ronald F. Roach 1939
 Mr. Harold E. Robbins 1950
 Mr. A. V. Rodd, MSC, PAg 1980
 Mr. Harold A. Rogers 1943
 Dr. Kristi Rouvinen-Watt
 Ms. Lindsay G. Russell 1999
 Ms. Jennifer Russell
 Mr. Carl Saunders
 Dr. Wilma Schenkels 1988
 Ms. Paula E. Schofield 2003
 Mr. Gary S. Selig 1969
 Mr. Allen P. Shaw 1972
 Ms. Elizabeth Shein
 SHUR Gain Division Maple Leaf Foods Inc.
 Mr. Sedgewick P. Sinclair 1964
 Mr. Kenneth A. Smarzik 1973
 Mr. & Mrs. Charles Smith 1983 & 1981
 Mr. Darrell W. Smith 1971
 Rev. Angus J. Smith 1952
 Mrs. Nancy J. Smith 1984
 Mr. Alford L. Smith 1972
 Mr. B. Sodhi
 Ms. Alicia Sommers
 Dr. Donna E. Spracklin 1974
 Mr. & Mrs Jim Steeves 1974 & 1976
 Mr. Seymour M. Stewart, Sr. 1942
 Sussex View Farms
 Ms. Miriam E. Tams 1988
 Mr. Jess M. Thompson 1958
 Mr. Charles T. Trail 1962
 Mr. & Mrs. Paul Van de Wiel 1992 & 1993
 Mr. John B. Van den Hof 1979
 Mr. Harry W. Van der Linden 1976
 Ms. J. Van Dyk & Mr. J. McClellan 1978 & 1977
 Mr. Jack L. Vissers 1972
 Mr. Francis J. Vosman 1984
 Ms. Bonnie Waddell
 Mr. Nelson Watson
 Mr. Steven W. Watts 1983
 Mr. Jason J. Webster 1993
 Ms. Lisa M. Welland 2001

Mr. William A. West 1939
 Ms. A Michelle Willis 1989
 Dr. Emmanuel Yiridoe
 Ms. Nancy L. Zwicker 1981



Alumni Family Bursary Launched

Our alumni have a long tradition of sending their family members to NSAC. Announced last issue, the Alumni Family Bursary acknowledges this custom by providing financial support for family members of alumni studying at NSAC. The bursary helps students receive a great education and have a better chance to embrace their world.

This new award will give eligible NSAC students who are sons or daughters of alumni \$1,000. Five hundred dollars will go to students with more distantly related family alumni. Bursary selection is based on an application form available from the NSAC Awards Office. Both entering and continuing students are eligible for the award. Winners of the bursaries will be announced at the Scholarship Banquet in October.

By the cutoff date, there were 33 applications for the award this fall. Selection will be made by NSAC's Scholarship Committee to the limit of this year's commitment of \$10,000. Based on this year's application rate, we estimate that we'll have only about half the money available in the fund to be able to satisfy the demand. The Development office needs your help to grow this fund so we can encourage family members of alumni to continue studying and excelling at NSAC.

Please support the family tradition. Give generously to the Alumni Family Bursary Fund when the request comes.

The 2007 President's List

Seventy students were recognized for high academic achievement on Feb. 7 for making the 2007 President's List. The event was held at the Riverview Room in Jenkins Hall. There was an opportunity for the students to mingle with co-presidents Bernie MacDonald and Leslie MacLaren and participate in a panel presentation entitled "An Evening Out — of Canada." The panel presentation was an opportunity for students who have studied and worked abroad, as part of their NSAC studies, in exciting places like Mexico and Cambodia to talk about their international experiences. In order to be named on the President's List, students must be in the top 10 per cent of their degree, engineering or technology programs and maintain an 80 per cent average in four or more courses.



Outstanding New Brunswick students at Nova Scotia Agricultural College were recognized. Dr. Leslie MacLaren, NSAC Co-President is shown offering congratulations to: Marianne Wortman, Nashwaak Village, N.B., a third year B.Sc.(Agr) Animal Science student; Nichelle Peck, Moncton, N.B., a first year B.Sc.(Agr) Pre- Vet student, Class of '94 Animal Science Technician and Chris Versteeg, Sussex, N.B., a first year B.Sc.(Agr) Pre -Vet student.



Dr. Bernie MacDonald, Co-President, NSAC, is shown offering congratulations to: Melissa Bezanson, Chester, NS, a third year B.Sc.(Agr.) Animal Science student; Rebecca Hawes, Middle Musquodoboit, N.S., a first year Veterinary Technology student; Nathan Murray, Albany, P.E.I., a first year B.Sc.(Agr) Animal Science student; and Matthew Leck, Brookfield, N.S., a first year Engineering student.



Dr. Leslie MacLaren, Co-President, NSAC, is shown offering congratulations to: Jessica Ellison, Ennismore, Ont., a first year B.Sc.(Agr) Pre-Vet student; Yimei Lin, Xunhe, China, a fourth year B.Sc.(Agr) Plant Science student; Kassandra Allard-Morin, Dartmouth, N.S., a second year B.Sc.(Agr) Pre-Vet student; and Danielle Fleury, Westville, N.S., a first year B.Sc.(Agr) Pre-Vet student.

Dr. Harold Chute



Dr. Harold Chute

Avian pathologist, consultant, entrepreneur, fundraiser, businessman, politician, investor, public servant and philanthropist.

NSAC has lost a lost a good friend and contributor. Dr. Harold Chute passed away at his home in Orono, Maine on Sept. 11, 2008. Harold was 87.

A NSAC alumnus, Harold was an active member of the Class of '44 and instrumental in several major fundraising efforts on campus over the years.

At the forefront of poultry disease control, Harold made considerable contributions to avian health through research, diagnostics and teaching. Harold was involved with the development of disease control programs and served on many national and state disease control committees focusing on poultry disease management and inspection. His work brought international recognition and he was invited to lecture in Europe, Asia, the Middle East, South and Central America.

Harold achieved distinction not only as an avian pathologist but as a consultant, entrepreneur, fundraiser, businessman, politician, investor, public servant and philanthropist.

Professor Bill Mathewson Bursary



Friends of Bill Mathewson were saddened to hear of his passing this spring at the age of 80. Bill taught for 20 years at NSAC.


He retired in 1988 and was honoured by his colleagues by being made professor emeritus. With his memory in mind, Bill's friends and colleagues at NSAC have launched a bursary in his name.

We invite donations to the Professor Bill Mathewson Memorial Bursary to perpetuate his memory at NSAC. Donations can be made by sending a cheque payable to NSAC (noting it is for this bursary) to the Development Office at Nova Scotia Agricultural College, P O Box 550 Truro, N.S., B2N 5E3. Or donations can be made online at nsac.ca/donate. For more information, contact Jim Goit by phone at 902-893-7950 or e-mail jgoit@nsac.ca.

Harold was made an honorary associate of NSAC in 1976 and given an honorary doctorate by the university in 1998. In 1994, he received NSAC's Distinguished Alumnus Award.

Some of the principles that drove Harold's life and quest for excellence in a variety of fields are embodied in two commencement addresses he delivered to NSAC students. Harold spoke to students on the value of character, duty to country, service to society, leadership, excellence, charity and success.

The new Chute Animal Nutrition Centre, which will exemplify the principals of Harold's work in animal health, will be completed this fall.



Take Note!

- College Royal**
October 17-18
- NSAC 5K Run**
October 18
- Atlantic Agricultural Hall of Fame -
2008 Induction Ceremony**
October 23
- 2008 Scholarship Banquet**
October 23
- Blue and Gold Awards Gala**
November 14
- Founding Day**
February 14
- NSAC "Rick Russell" Woodsmen Competition**
February 14

In Memoriam

The university, along with the NSAC Alumni Association, acknowledges the passing of the following alumni members and extends its sympathies to friends and family.

Ms. Deborah A. Musgrave	2008
Ms. Denise M. Kennall	1999
Mr. Alexander J. Cameron	1984
Mr. Dennis A. Ells	1963
Mr. Robert A. Palmer	1955
Mr. Elwyn C. Archibald	1947
Dr. Robert (Bob) G. Ross	1947
Dr. Harold Chute	1944
Mr. Reginald D. Gilbert	1933

CONVOCATION

Photo Credit: Unique Images

photo two caption: Bronze medal of distinction winners (L-R) Kathleen Atkinson, Rachel West and Bryce Drummond with Dr.



“I believe I have good reason to say you have chosen well. The reputation of this institution is solid and with your help, it will continue to grow.” Dr. Leslie MacLaren

NSAC celebrated its 103rd convocation on Friday, May 2, 2008. The weather was overcast but the rain held off long enough for the graduands, guests and faculty to make their customary parade from Jenkins Hall to the Langille Athletic Centre where the convocation ceremony was held.



Dr. Harold Cook (Class of '66) addresses the graduates.

The class of '08 included close to 160 graduates. The valedictorian was Matthew Vair, Truro N.S., who graduated with a B.Sc. in Agriculture.

Dr. Leslie MacLaren, co-president and vice president academic led the ceremonies. Dr. MacLaren thanked and congratulated the graduates for

having selected NSAC as the venue for their post-secondary education. “I believe I have good reason to say you have chosen well. The reputation of this institution is solid and with your help, it will continue to grow,” said MacLaren.

Dr. MacLaren also thanked the parents and student supporters who have supported and encouraged the graduates to pursue this path and see it through. “No doubt this has entailed some sacrifice along the way,” said Dr. MacLaren.

The Convocation ceremony also featured the presentation of awards for teaching and research and the conferring of a Honorary Doctorate in Laws to Dr. You Minsheng.

Dr. Harold Cook, dean of medicine Dalhousie University and NSAC class of '66 member gave an inspiring address to the class.

Key award winners during convocation week included Debra McLellan, Truro, N.S., Gold Governor General, Amanda Mae Smith, Picadilly, N.B., Silver Governor General and Travis Charles Smith, Linden, N.S., Bronze Governor General.

Bronze medals of distinction were awarded to Kathleen Atkinson, Truro, N.S., Bryce Drummond, South Freetown P.E.I., and Rachel West, Port Williams, N.S., at the Graduation Banquet on May 1.

The class of '08 included the first graduates from the Diploma in Enterprise Management and the Veterinary Technology Program. This year's class also included the largest group to date of graduates from the Fujian Agriculture and Forestry University (FAFU).

CONVOCAATION



Graduates from the Fujian Agriculture and Forestry University (FAFU) with Dr. Claude Caldwell (far left) and Dr. You Minsheng (far right).



The honorary degree Doctor of Laws is bestowed upon Dr. You Minsheng. Photo credit: Unique Images.



Athletics director and dean of student services, Judy Smith, and Connie McLellan. Connie received the Noel Enman Memorial Award.



Dr. Leslie MacLaren congratulates Governor General medal winners, Amanda Mae Smith and Travis Charles Smith.



Dr. Leslie MacLaren and valedictorian, Matthew Vair. Matthew's fourth year project received the Dr. Gerry W. Friars Undergraduate Research Award.



ATHLETICS

2008 Winter Semester Sports Review



44th Annual NSAC Athletic Awards

HUSTLE AWARD

Basketball (m)	Thomas Teakles
Basketball (w)	Danielle Devoe
Rugby (m)	Patrick MacPherson
Rugby (w)	Lindsay van de Riet
Soccer (m)	Stefan McKenna
Soccer (w)	Annelies Schurrmans
Volleyball (w)	Bethany Holiday
Woodsmen (m)	Josh Cudmore
Woodsmen (w)	Kyle Cole

MOST IMPROVED PLAYER AWARD

Basketball (m)	Chris Oram
Basketball (w)	Jenna Hazelton
Rugby (m)	Ryan McCarron
Rugby (w)	Kaitlyn Kennedy
Soccer (m)	Nick Brown
Soccer (w)	Colette Wyllie
Volleyball (w)	Alicia Hartman
Woodsmen (m)	Jeff Campbell
Woodsmen (w)	Shauna Berkvens
Equestrian Club	Laura Holt

ROOKIE OF THE YEAR AWARD

Basketball (m)	Josh McGill
Basketball (w)	Devonna Coleman
Rugby (m)	Scott Fram
Rugby (w)	Joan Cole
Soccer (m)	Ben Roy
Soccer (w)	Emma Hayes
Volleyball (w)	Samantha Sinclair
Woodsmen (m)	Josh Aalders
Woodsmen (w)	Jessica Ellison

NSAC in the spotlight again!



NSAC's Kelsey Harpman battles against MSVU's Kaili Van Vulpen (NSAC 2006-2008)

2008 CCAA Women's Basketball Nationals

NSAC hosted its 12th CCAA National Championship in March. Women's basketball teams from all five CCAA Conferences travelled to Truro/Bible Hill to compete in the year end finale. All games were very competitive and entertaining and the medal games especially so. Both medal games were broadcast by EastLink Television and picked up across the nation.

Women's Basketball

The Rams finished the league with a record of 9-12 and in fifth spot. During the quarter finals of the ACAA Championships, the team was defeated by Mt. A (70-59). In the 2008 CCAA Women's National Basketball Championship, the Rams had a great opening game against the top seed, Vanier College, losing by 17 and then followed with losses to UNBC, and Medicine Hat. A wonderful representation of NSAC and the ACAA, the Rams

played their best games against the toughest competition.

The team is also losing Coach Works who has resigned to follow his children's athletic endeavors more closely. Taking the reigns is Reg Jewkes. Look for good things from the Rams again next year!

SIRC-CCAA Academic All Canadians

Trina Bennett	Soccer
Jaclyn Mosher	Soccer
Leah MacNeill	Soccer

Most Valuable Player Award

Basketball (m)	
Josh Dillman	Middle Musquodoboit, N.S.
Basketball (w)	
Patricia Blackie	Florenceville, N.B.
Rugby (m)	
Daniel Gillis	Port Williams, N.S.
Rugby (w)	
Marissa Lynch	Albany, P.E.I.
Soccer (m)	
Scott Brown	Sussex, N.B.
Soccer (w)	
Leah MacNeill	Upper Stewiacke, N.S.
Volleyball (w)	
Mandy McDonald	Milford, N.S.
Woodsmen (m)	
Corey McDonald	Milford, N.S.
Woodsmen (w)	
Janette Archibald	Middle Musquodoboit, N.S.
Equestrian Club	
Bronwyn Ward	Kingston, N.S.

ATHLETICS

Athletes of the Year



Corey MacDonald, Dr. Bernie MacDonald and Janette Archibald

Rugby

Joan Cole
Kelsey Harpman

Meredith Leier
Morgan Elliott

Dan Gillis
Marissa Lynch



NSAC Rams in a scrum - GW leading the way



Mandy McDonald on the attack for the Rams

Women's Volleyball

The Rams finished the ACAA league in seventh spot (thus not making playoffs) with a roster filled with rookies. Next year (2008-2009) is looking promising as Coach Settle has recruited a number of talented additions. Watch for their progress through the year.



Ben Roy first to the ball against UNBSJ

ACAA All-Conference Selections from NSAC

Soccer

Leah MacNeill
Jaclyn Mosher
Erin Durkee

Trina Bennett
Ben Roy
Scott Brown

CCAA Athlete of the Month and ACAA Rookie of the Year

Erin Durkee - Women's Soccer



Matt Leck brings the ball up the court in action against Mt.A

Men's Basketball

The men's squad finished a tough year with several great games in the last week of the season. Although they did not make playoffs, prospects for 2008-09 look good with local recruits and returning veterans. Watch for schedules and results on the web.

ATHLETICS



KS Marchant Winners
 Left to right: Marissa Lynch, Dr. B. MacDonald and Maryella Maynard

Canadian Intercollegiate Lumberjacking Association

STIHL Challenge

(held at NSAC during the Rick Russell Woodsmen Competition)

Men's Division: Cory MacDonald - 2nd

Women's Division: Janette Archibald - 1st

CILA All Canadians from NSAC and Chosen as CILA M.V.P.'s

Mark Verleun and Kyley Cole

Woodsmen

Final results at NSAC Rick Russell Competition

Men A - 2nd Men B - 6th

Women A - 1st Women B - 3rd

NSAC Women's A Team CILA Champions '07-'08



Janelle Patriquin in her chopping event at the Rick Russell Competition

NSAC All-Academic Athletes

Athletes who have demonstrated excellence in academics and athletics, achieving the required average of 80 or above for "Honours" and a position on a varsity team

Jessicca Mitchell	Basketball
Tanya McLaughlin	Rugby
Annelies Schuurmans	Soccer
Samantha Kenneson	Soccer
Nicholas Brown	Soccer
Connie McLellan	Soccer and Volleyball
Meagan MacLeod	Basketball
Trina Bennett	Soccer and Volleyball
Jaclyn Mosher	Soccer
Erin Durkee	Soccer
Shauna Berkvens	Woodsmen
Leah MacNeill	Soccer
Ashleigh Whitman	Volleyball
Maryella Maynard	Rugby
Kenton McNutt	Soccer
Justin Beck	Woodsmen
Kassandra Allard-Morin	Volleyball
Jessica Ellison	Woodsmen
Matthew Leck	Basketball and Soccer
Marissa Lynch	Rugby
Kent Mader	Soccer and Basketball
Colette Wyllie	Soccer
Joshua Aalders	Woodsmen
Patricia Blackie	Soccer and Basketball
Jianfeng Liu	Soccer
Jessica Dowe	Woodsmen
Jenna Hazelton	Basketball
Robert Schicht	Woodsmen
J. Dan Gillis	Rugby

Outstanding Athlete Awards

KS Marchant Award (highest academic standing among all varsity athletes)

Technical Programs: Marissa Lynch, Albany, P.E.I.—Rugby

Degree Programs: Maryella Maynard, Tyne Valley, P.E.I.—Rugby

Athletes of the Year

Female: Janette Archibald, Middle Musquodoboit, N.S.—Woodsmen

Male: Corey McDonald, Milford, N.S.—Woodsmen

12th Annual Agri-Golf Classic



NSAC Alumni were well represented at the 12th Annual Agri-Golf Classic held Friday July 25 at Glasgow Hills Golf and Country Club in Hunter River, P.E.I.

All 30 teams, as well as staff and volunteers, enjoyed a beautiful day on and off the course. Eighty-five of the 150 players were NSAC alumni. Overall winners were Team Holland and alumni winners were the Watts Alumni.



Alumni Winners: Watts (left to right) Steve Watts, Alex Rogers, Kyle Murray, Arnold Hagen and Doug Leclair



Overall Winners: New Holland (left to right) George Stewart, Mike Gallant, Trevor Dillman, Jamie Carty and Neil MacFadgen

Wanted

Have you moved, changed your name, or made any other changes to your contact information? Help keep us up-to-date by contacting the Alumni Office by phone: 902-893-7621, e-mail: alumni@nsac.ca or website: nsac.ca/alumni/update

Embracing the World, from page 6

Because of the fighting in Kenya at the time she was there, Mary was not able to follow her itinerary. In doing so, she found herself at Brydges Children's Home, an orphanage to 60 children who affectionately called her "Aunty Mary". It was also at Brydges that she took a huge step forward in her goal to repay all of the funding she had received by helping the next generation. Mary, with the help of her mother, donated the funds needed to send 14 of the children to secondary school. And, despite the miles of distance between herself and the children, they still keep in touch.

"I had left some stamped addressed envelopes for them if they felt like writing and this past week I received letters from eight of them! One of the boys said, 'The shoes, school

bags, blankets and uniform that you bought for me (...) we don't take it for granted, we really feel loved and cared for."

And her mission isn't over yet. She says she plans to go back to Brydges in the next year.

"They say if you show the best in yourself, then it will bring out the best in others, and this was definitely that kind of place. It was one of the most rewarding experiences I've had in the over 20 countries that I've visited in my life."

"NSAC certainly was a crucial part of all of this, in opening up opportunities and being encouraged to explore my own unique path. I learned that sometimes you need to make allowances, give people a chance and be human. You can't always go by the book. I don't think I would have found this at a larger school."

Four Generations and Counting...



The Newcombe family from Port Williams have quite an alumni connection! Robert Newcombe (second from left) is the fourth generation Newcombe of that name to attend NSAC. His grandfather, Robert H. Newcombe graduated in 1946 and his great grandfather was in the class of '07. Robert's parents (centre), Geneve and Robert Craig, are class of '86. Besides Robert's parents, his two uncles Andrew and Brian and their spouses, Audrey and Edna, are also NSAC grads. Robert begins his studies in engineering this semester. Second year student Ben Roy (far right), who joined the family for lunch in Jenkins Hall during Student Orientation 2008, has a few alumni connections as well. Ben's brother Nick is a NSAC graduate as well as is his uncle Robert Cogswell. Robert's brother David (far left) is in grade 11 and while he has not made any firm plans for post secondary education, NSAC is a, "strong possibility!"



Class of 1968

PARKER, Ross...Just saying Hello. See the odd NSAC jacket around Ontario. I am in Vineland, just 15 miles from Niagara Falls and acres of Ice Wine. Always interested in meeting old classmates. Drop in anytime ross@redtrac.ca

Class of 1974

BHOLA, Wayne...Retired the end of July 2007. Spent lots of time golfing in the fall and woodworking in his new garage/workshop. Hoping to do some international travel.

Class of 1978

MCKENNA, Mary... Can you believe it's been 30 years??? It's always good to run into alumni. Saw a number at the Ag Summit in N.B. in May. Good opportunities exist to promote local food, a healthy environment, and nutrition (my field)! I've been back at UNB two years after working in Atlanta, Ga., at the Centers for Disease Control and Promotion (Division of Adolescent and School Health) between 2003 and 2006. Across North America, we face challenges to promote health.

Class of 1982

AUDU, Andrew...Looking forward to hearing from all AGGIES particularly Agr Eng Tech class of '81 and Agr Technology class of '82. I have five children (three at university and two in

high school). Let's link up. If any of you is in Africa let us arrange for a meet. I wish all my friends at NSAC especially class of '81 and '82 a prosperous 2008 and beyond. I invite mails from all Aggies of all classes. I am currently attending National Defence College Abuja, Nigeria. saaudu3@yahoo.com

Class of 1983

MUNRO, Marian (Zinck)... left farming in 1987 and attended Acadia University. Graduated in 1996 with a B.Sc. Honours in Biology. Rewrote Roland and Smith's Flora of Nova Scotia, published in 1998.

Class of 1984

MITCHELL, Harvey... successfully completed the first Dan promotion test as perscribed by the World Taekwondo Association. The black belt test was conducted by Grand Master Chong Lee. Grand Master Lee resides in Montreal and is well known as one of the most senior and highly respected masters in North America. Harvey has been trained in recent years by Master Austin Boyd and Master Mike Ives. Harvey lives with his wife Marlene, R.N., and son Stephen in Eglington P.E.I. He continues to operate Mitchell Seed Inc. in near by Primrose where he grows processing potatoes, corn, food grade soybeans for export to Japan, turf grass seed, milling wheat, barley and conola for the non-GMO market. He started farming in 1978 on a parcel of leased land, growing peas and grains to feed hogs and supply his pedigreed seed buisness. In 1989 a transition from hogs to potatoes was made and the farm has grown to include aproximately 1700 acres of crop land.

Class of 1992

MORRISON, Nicole... I am very active in showing registered dogs - in conformation, obed, agility and love to inform people of the different things that can be done with dogs.

Class of 1997

MCNUTT, Jennifer... I have been married to Tim McNutt (class of '97) for 11 years. We have three kids, with our youngest having undergone therapy for autism, he will be starting school this fall. I am currently the secretary of the Board of Directors at the GMFRC, as well as the second vice chair for the N.B. divisional branch of the Arthritis Society of Canada and I also volunteer with the Canadian Cancer Society. I also am a "general volunteer" at the GMFRC and am working to create a support group for parents in the local community of children with special mental, physical and social needs. Our two older kids will be going into grade five and grade three and are doing well in school. Tim is still in the military as an LCIS tech., and is doing great in his position there. We have started to take the kids camping, and everything so far has been great.

FINLAYSON, Kathryn... Hello, I have been out of the loop for the last while. I am back in NS after graduating from OVC. My husband Mark and I currently own two small animal vet practices in Pictou County, N.S. and have a 6-month-old baby we named Beth.

Class of 2000

JOHNSON, Julie... I am currently enrolled in the Master of Nursing program at Dal and will graduate next October as a

Nurse Practitioner in Family/All Ages.

Class of 2003

MCLAUGHLIN, Nicole... I am now the happy mother of a beautiful baby boy, Nathaniel. I am presently on parental leave until August at which time I will resume teaching at the community college in Grand Falls.

Class of 2003

MACLEOD, Tammy... I am a grad of the 2003 AHT program. I have just recently become specialized in emergency and critical care. This was a long process involving case studies, advanced skills and a very difficult exam. I now carry the title that is listed below. I am, to my knowledge the only technician in the Maritimes to hold this title. I don't know if there are any other grads from NSAC to become specialized in any other area of vet medicine. I have been working across Canada and will be moving home to Moncton for the start of 2008 to work at a new clinic.

Class of 2005

WINN, Andrew... I have been living in saint John for the past two years. I currently work with an industrial distribution group as an inside sales support to some of our biggest customers.

Look Who's Talking...

Eric Jennings—Class of '58



The university is educating and training the next crop of agricultural specialists. You could say they develop "agricultural brain power". Students get hands on experience so they can start contributing right away.

It has been a few years since you left NSAC. Any memories you'd like to share with our readers about your university days?

Well, I think we had the smallest class size ever to go through AC. There were only five of us in the advanced farm course and there were 30 in the degree class. We were a tight group. There was no residence the first year I attended so I traveled back and forth and stayed with an aunt who lived in Truro. In my second year the residence was finished so I lived on campus. We were the first class to get to live in the Truman residence. They were still taking the wrapper off it, so to speak, while we students were moving in.

In terms of the education we received, all the professors were pretty good. Don Gunn taught us engineering. He was a helpful fellow who always had time for you. I think because of the small class size we got a lot of individual attention.

I didn't play on any sports teams, but because I had a car I was elected to haul the Ram's hockey gear to their matches. My car was a '39 Plymouth, which I bought from my uncle for \$200. That car had so much room I could manage to cart all their gear, and usually a team member or two, in one trip.

Our class ended up having seven or eight doctors, including Les Hailey. One instructor said we were the "dumbest class" he ever taught. Well, one of our members went on to become president of the World Bank and we have several doctors in our class so I guess we proved him wrong. We also had several international students in



our class. They traveled to Nova Scotia to study and brought their agricultural expertise back to their home countries.

What do you see as the most significant and positive changes at NSAC since you were a student?

Well, there's been a lot of infrastructure built since I attended NSAC. Take the Poultry Centre (Atlantic Poultry Centre) for example. Infrastructure like this is important if NSAC is going to continue to be a leader in agricultural research and education today and in the future.

Also, AC has spread out its areas of expertise. They are involved in more types of agricultural research than when I attended. For example, getting into aquaculture and fish farming diversifies what AC can teach and the kinds of research they can conduct.

I know they've been there for a while now, but there are more opportunities for

extracurricular activities like sports thanks to the Langille Athletic Centre.

This issue of Agricola News highlights the economic impact NSAC has on the Colchester region. What role do you think NSAC plays in the local economy today and in the future?

I'd say NSAC plays a role in the economy of the whole Maritimes as well as a big part of the economy here in central Nova Scotia. The university is a major educator and agriculture research centre. The university is educating and training the next crop of agricultural specialists. You could say they develop "agricultural brain power". Students get hands on experience so they can start contributing right away. I know first hand because we've hired NSAC grads to assist with our greenhouse operation right out of the horticultural program."

Continued on next page

Plus the education that AC students get is applicable to a lot of different positions and fields. A grad with a degree in agricultural business can work not only in an agri-business but any kind of business.

Any advice for NSAC alumni who might be considering re-locating to the Colchester region or starting a business in the area?

Yes I do. I think alumni should pay attention to what's going on in the area. This part of Nova Scotia stands a good chance to become one of the major employment centres in the Maritimes. In terms of setting up a business, it is cheaper to set up and operate here than the nearby cities of Moncton and Halifax. Colchester has an industrial park in Debert and we are close to major transportation routes by rail, air and highway. There's lots of opportunity here.

Biography

Eric Jennings was born in Masstown, N.S., and graduated from NSAC '58 with a diploma in advanced farming. After leaving university, Eric worked at a Canada Packers egg-grading station for a year and a half. He was hired by Scotian Gold in Middleton, N.S. at 20 years old to be the head foreman and responsible for workers twice his age. Despite the age difference, Eric got along well with the men working for him. He attributes this to the fact that he was not afraid to work along side them and lend an extra set of hands were needed – a practice Eric continues to this day in his own business. Eric worked at Scotian Gold for approximately three years and then moved onto to manage a feed mill in Hants County. He later bought a small farm and moved back to Masstown to grow strawberries and blueberries. He divided his time between tending his land and working for a mobile feed mill in between growing seasons. After having difficulty find-


What are you most proud about the Masstown Market?

I am proud that we buy local produce and products and provide a market to local farmers. For example, over 99 per cent of our apples are from producers in the Annapolis Valley. I started this business more out of necessity than any desire to be an entrepreneur. If I wanted to sell my produce I had to make my own market for it. I know the challenges that small producers face because I was one myself. I was still farming until seven or eight years ago.

We strive to have good quality, local products at reasonable prices. I like to think that our products surpass most other retailers. We also have one of the last from-scratch commercial bakeries in Nova Scotia.

I am also proud of some of ways we've adopted to cut back on our energy con-

sumption. As a business that runs seven days a week, 13 hours a day, we can use a lot of power. We replaced all the lighting in our stores and now use more energy efficient lighting. We need big, commercial freezers for the storage of produce like blueberries. Keeping these freezers cold generates heat. Rather than vent the heat to the outside, and have it go to waste, we have invested in a heat-recovery system. We capture this energy and use it to heat up water that allows us to pre-heat our hot water in summer and warm up most of our store with in-floor radiant hot water in the cold winter months. Again, given how big the store is and how much hot water we can use the heat-recovery is a big energy saver.

Look Who's Talking is a regular feature of Agricola News. Each issue, an alumni member discusses his or her thoughts on various topics relevant to NSAC. This issue, we asked Mr. Eric Jennings—class of '58 to take time to sit down and talk with us. 

The business that started as farm-gate operation has become a local landmark.

ing a supplier to buy his produce, Eric and a partner decided to open their own market and sell directly to public— and so began the Masstown Market. In 1969 he built a small building with lumber from his own farm. After a couple of years, Eric bought out his partner's share of the business.

The growth of Masstown Market was organic. Bit by bit, Eric grew the business and added onto the original building every two to three years. The first expansion started with extra storage, followed next by a greenhouse and bakery, eventually growing into the 20,000 square foot facility it is today. Eric muses that the Market stayed open during all these renovations, "We didn't even close for a day." Eric's business now includes a

produce/grocery section, bakery, restaurant, deli, gift and garden centre. The Market also contains a division specializing in natural, organic and alternative food, beauty products and household cleaners.

The business that started as farm-gate operation has become a local landmark. The Market has become a destination business with customers driving from Halifax and Moncton, who travel there just to buy some of its famous produce and homemade bread.

Eric's business employs close to 110 people year round and is open 13 hours a day, seven days a week, 360 days a year.

Eric and his wife have four children and 10 grandchildren. Two of Eric's sons, Wade and Laurie, work in business.

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Coach Rick Russell died in 2004.

Today he's still helping students win on the field and in life.

Rick was passionate about athletics and dedicated to his students' success. That's why he included a bequest in his will to NSAC to provide the training and materials students need to build strong teams and lives.

Thanks to Coach Russell the home team is still learning the lessons they need to succeed.

Include NSAC in your will or estate plan. Contact the Development and External Relations Office, your lawyer or financial advisor to learn how.

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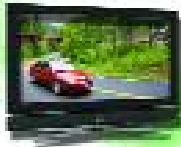


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