

FACULTY OF OPEN LEARNING AND CAREER DEVELOPMENT

2023 ANNUAL REPORT



DALHOUSIE
UNIVERSITY

MESSAGE FROM THE DEAN

For the past three years at the Faculty of Open Learning and Career Development, we have used a lighthouse as the framework for our strategic plan. Besides the obvious connection between lighthouses and Nova Scotia, the lighthouse captures the characteristics of our faculty that we want to emphasize—built on solid rock foundations, standing strong even when battered by wind and rain, a beacon of light in the darkness.

Much like a lighthouse, we as a Faculty have shown strength and resilience in the face of the change and uncertainty driven by the pandemic and by rapid technological and social evolution.

The past year has been full of challenges and obstacles for our Faculty, both expected and unexpected. It has also been full of triumphs and accomplishments, both expected and unexpected. Our growing team has continued to learn and collaborate, building a foundation of competency and expertise that will serve us well into the future.

Teamwork is essential to organizational growth, and it has been heartening to see our team work together to achieve the milestones we set for ourselves. The challenges of the past year have tested our resolve, creativity, and innovation. We have risen to the occasion and adapted to serve our learners, partners, and communities.

As we move into the new year, our Faculty is poised to fully arise in its new form. With the experience and expertise we have gained over the past three and a half years, we are well-equipped to face whatever challenges may come our way as we provide relevant, high-quality and impactful experiences for our learners.

We did not just survive this year, we grew.

This past year we grew in many ways. We introduced new certificates designed for career-driven professionals that can be completed in a year. These certificates include Leadership Excellence, Business Management, Human Resource Management and Human Resource Leadership. We launched a first-of-its-kind international field course for our Transition Year Program graduates to spend two weeks at the Universidad Catolica de Manizales in Colombia developing their global skills.

The loosening of COVID travel restrictions saw a resurgence in our English Language Studies in-person programming. We wasted no time in offering opportunities for international students to learn at the faculty, hosting students from Universidad del Atlántico

in Colombia and Kyoto Sangyo University in Japan, as well as public school teachers from Chile.

This past year also presented opportunities to build partnerships with community members to offer innovative programming. We built a partnership with New Brunswick Community College to offer leadership training for their faculty. We combined efforts with Irving Shipbuilding to create an original certificate on Systems Engineering and Complex Project Management. We partnered with the Association of Certified Gaming Compliance to bring to life another innovative and first-of-its-kind course, Casino Gaming Investigations. We continued to build two service areas, Microcredentialing and Recognition of Prior Learning, both designed to make our learning experiences more accessible.

Lastly, we partnered with racial equity educator, Camille Dundas to offer a Foundations of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion course, with over 1,000 employees completing the course to date across multiple industries.

We look forward to 2023/24 as we continue our trajectory of *Growth for Impact*. In the coming year, we don't want to grow just for the sake of growing. We want to grow so that we can positively impact more learners, organizations and communities. We want to help more learners change the way they think and engage with the world.

As we move into a new academic year, it is important to take time to reflect on the challenges we have faced and the progress we have made, and to recognize the hard work and dedication of everyone involved. I am honoured to continue to serve you and our stakeholders, and to work with a talented, supportive, forward-thinking team. We will continue pushing forward, learning from our experiences, and striving to make a positive impact in the world. Whether it is through innovation, collaboration, or simply supporting one another, we can all play a part in building a better future. Let us take a moment to celebrate our achievements of 2022/23 and look forward to what we can achieve in 2023/24.



Dr. Dianne Tyers

Dean, Faculty of Open Learning & Career Development
Dalhousie University

2022/23 BY THE NUMBERS

The Faculty of Open Learning & Career Development values its people and recognizes their contributions to the success of the organization. Let's reflect on and celebrate the achievements that have been made at the Faculty in 2022/23.

THRIVING FINANCIALLY

Total enrollments **4,060**

Growth in revenue from 2021/22 **18%**

Funding received for special projects **\$1,333,834.34**

IMPROVING OUR PROCESSES

Faculties supported in continuing education administration **4**

New staff hired **12**

PROVIDING A SUPERIOR LEARNING EXPERIENCE

Certificates completed by learners **254**

Microcredentials awarded **1,544**

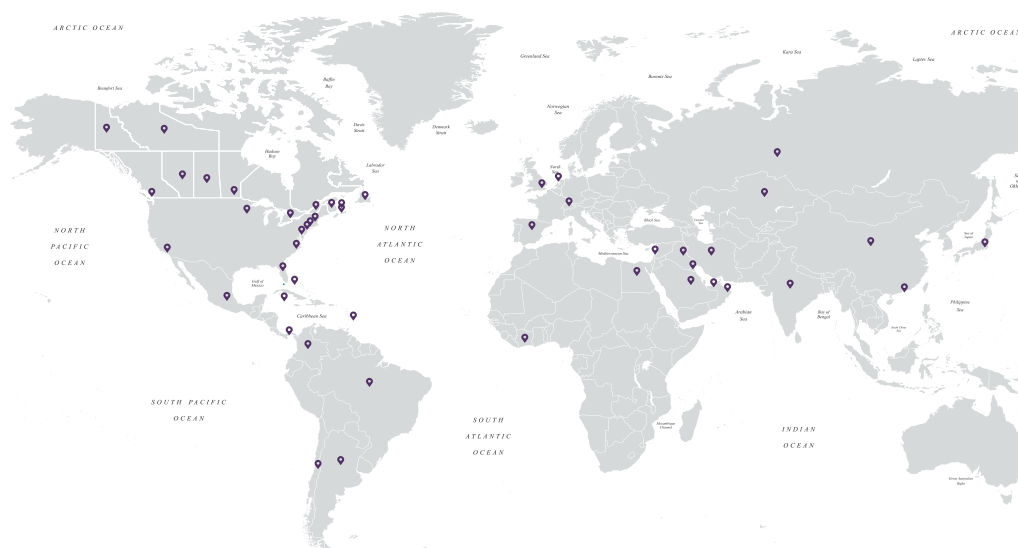
Inquiries we received from interested learners **3,359**

Inquiries for Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) **143**

New microcredentials added **28**

Existing courses upgraded **9**

New courses launched **17**

**LOCATIONS OF OUR LEARNERS:**

- » Argentina
- » Japan
- » Bahamas
- » Kazakhstan
- » Barbados
- » Kuwait
- » Brazil
- » Lebanon
- » Canada (AB, BC, MB, NB, NL, NS, ON, PE, QC, SK, YT)
- » Mexico
- » Netherlands
- » Oman
- » Cayman Islands
- » Panama
- » Chile
- » Russia
- » China
- » Saudi Arabia
- » Colombia
- » Spain
- » Cote d'Ivoire
- » Switzerland
- » Egypt
- » United Arab Emirates
- » Hong Kong
- » United Kingdom
- » India
- » USA (CA, CT, FL, MA, MD, MN, NC, NY)
- » Iran
- » Iraq

WHAT OUR LEARNERS ARE SAYING



"The Adult Learning Fundamentals Certificate has equipped me with a comprehensive understanding of adult learning principles and techniques, and empowered me to excel in my role as an adult

educator with the Province of Nova Scotia. The in-depth knowledge gained through the certificate has not only enhanced my instructional capabilities, but also enabled me to tailor my skills to better resonate with diverse adult learners. This certificate has provided me with opportunities I never thought possible. Overall, the Adult Learning Fundamentals Certificate has been instrumental in shaping my career trajectory, allowing me to make a meaningful difference in the lives of adult learners and continually advancing my own professional growth."

TERRI MOSHER

Organizational Development Consultant
Adult Learning Fundamentals Certificate

"The content of this course is pure gold. This is my fourth course through Dalhousie and by far the most beneficial and applicable one I have taken. School was never my strong point growing up and I find the building of assignments and posts to be challenging. What I took away from this course is significantly more than what I can properly articulate on paper."

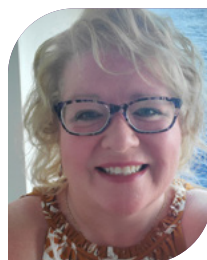
LUC R.

Training Officer, Dieppe Fire Dept.
Coaching Skills for Leaders Course

"Having this certificate opened the door for me to be the project manager on the Inclusive Pathways to Medical Professions (IPMP) project with the Medical Sciences department. IPMP is a cohort initiative, that accepts 20 additional students (10 African Nova Scotian/ Black & 10 Indigenous) to the Medical Sciences program through a holistic admissions process and provides wrap around supports for each cohort. I am happy to say that I secured a new position as the African Nova Scotian Cohort advisor, Medical Sciences."

VANESSA JACKSON

African Nova Scotian Cohort Advisor
Project Management Certificate



"I have taken Counseling Skills: Level 1 Dec 2019, Counseling Skills: Level 2 Dec 2020, Certificate in Adult Education June 2021, advanced Adult Education Jan 2023, Certificate in Equity, Diversity and Inclusion March 2023.

What I valued the most being able to learn at my pace, with working and raising a family it was important to have the flexibility to work at my pace, and online. I have gained a sense of self confidence that I didn't have before. I have moved into a role with Dept. of Community Services and my courses I have taken with DAL gave me the skill set needed to be successful in the role."

SHERRY ATKINS

Department of Community Services
Adult Education Certificate
Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Certificate

CONTACT US:

**We would love to
hear from you and
help you navigate
the next step
in your learning
journey.**

Visit our website,
dal.ca/openlearning
or contact us at
openlearning@dal.ca
or **1-800-565-8867**

You can also find us
on social media:

Facebook

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YouTube