

Leading the Way in Training for Jobs of the Future

Partnership with Post-Secondary Education

IBM Canada Limited, the Nova Scotia Community College, and five universities are joining forces to position the province as a center of excellence in skills and research in the areas of analytics (making sense of the digital world) and optimization (using what is learned in analytics to change your business in ways that boost the bottom line). This opportunity will connect thousands of Nova Scotians with world-class training and good jobs in an emerging and fast-growing market that is currently outpacing the overall Information Technology (IT) industry.

Who is taking part?

The province and IBM are partnering with Nova Scotia Community College (NSCC), Dalhousie University, Acadia University, Cape Breton University, St. Francis Xavier University and Saint Mary's University. As outlined in a memorandum of understanding (MOU), their work will involve leading curriculum development from lecture materials and case studies to diploma and degree programs, and potentially the development of an internationally recognized certification program.

IBM will provide in-kind contributions such as hardware, software, and services, and will support the delivery of education, training, and research by providing access to skilled IBM staff and researchers.

Preparing Young Nova Scotians for New Opportunities

Nova Scotia needs more trained and experienced individuals in analytics and optimization. That's the goal in this partnership — bringing together IBM's resources and expertise with those of the post-secondary institutions.

This partnership emerged in recognition of the global shortage of skilled and experienced individuals in these fields, and the need to enhance education, training, and research collaboration in analytics and optimization in the Atlantic region.

Working Together to Achieve Success

IBM and the post-secondary group will work with government and industry partners in Atlantic Canada and beyond to understand how to meet the requirements of analytics and optimization in the workplace, and implement research initiatives in this field.

Other organizations across the province may have an opportunity to join the partnership to help implement the agreement.

Upon signing, IBM and the post-secondary partners will create an executive steering committee and three project teams (curriculum, research, and technology) as well as an advisory council to oversee the implementation of the agreement.

Setting Time Lines for Action

- Curriculum development will begin within six weeks and continue on an ongoing basis.
- Curriculum delivery will begin within three months and continue on an ongoing basis.
- Research and development will begin within six weeks and continue on an ongoing basis.
- Technology installation and support will begin within six weeks and continue on an ongoing basis, with key infrastructure/capacity being built within two to three months and then continuing throughout the agreement.