



JUNE · NIPNIKÚS · JUIN 2021



REGIONAL UPDATE

Monthly Newsletter of the Tri-County Regional Centre for Education



Congratulations to all our 2021 Graduates!

Grade 12 graduation ceremonies (like the one pictured above at Shelburne Regional High School), were once again held in small, intimate groups this year to comply with public health guidelines.

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A Message from the Regional Executive Director

Here we are, wrapping up another school year. I remember this time last year, we talked about how it was a school year like no other and now, twelve months later, the same rings true for 2020-21.

The hard work of Nova Scotians throughout the pandemic has resulted in our students having the opportunity to remain in-school for most of the school year. TCRCE recognizes just how lucky we have been to have our children learning in their classrooms among their peers and interacting with school staff.

The year was not without its challenges. Students, staff, and families demonstrated time and time again their ability to adapt to changing public health guidance and the resulting impacts on our schools. I cannot count the number of times I was struck with pride and admiration as I heard stories and saw first-hand, the creativity and resilience of our school communities. Whether it was a teacher finding an innovative way to incorporate technology into their lesson, or a parent who was playing double duty while working from home and helping with their child's at-home learning, I was consistently impressed. Throughout it all, you have risen to the challenge.

To our graduating class – you have also shown great strength and determination throughout your grade 12 year. Although your graduation celebrations may not look like what you had envisioned, please know your school, your families, and your communities are so proud of your accomplishments. Finishing high school during a pandemic has forced you to face adversity head on, and I am confident the skills you've developed will make you stronger as you move into your next chapter.

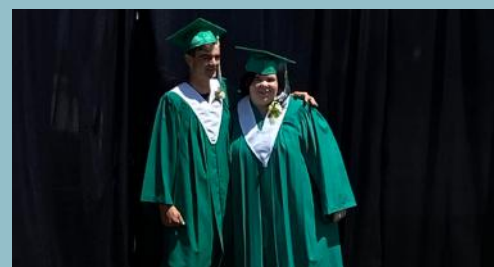
I wish you all a fun-filled and relaxing summer. As always, it will surely fly by and we'll be back in the classroom before we know it. I am hopeful the next school year will look different, in a positive way, and we'll begin to reintroduce a number of activities and events. Planning continues to take place at the provincial level for September 2021 and once finalized, we will share details with you. I'd like to remind everyone about the importance of getting vaccinated as soon as you're able. It's through our collective efforts that we will come through the summer safe and healthy, prepared to embark on a new school year.

All the best,

Dr. Chris Boulter
Regional Executive Director of Education
Twitter: @drboulter

"To our graduating class – you have also shown great strength and determination throughout your grade 12 year."

-Dr. Chris Boulter



Graduates from Lockeport Regional High School.

Summer co-op - a great way to explore a trade!

Co-operative education is an opportunity many TCRCE high school students take advantage of. In fact, 216 TCRCE students were enrolled in Co-operative education this school year & approximately 270 Co-op credits were earned. And many of the placements continue right through the summer months as well.

Last week, TCRCE co-op students completed safety training in advance of their summer placements in Test Drive & Building Futures For Youth.

TCRCE Summer Co-Op Facts:

-Several students have also signed up for summer Co-op & we anticipate that 50-60 Co-op credits will be earned over the summer months.

- Students this summer will be exploring careers in a variety of fields such as healthcare, recreation, culinary arts & skilled trades.

- We have 2 unique summer Co-op programs taking place this summer, Building Futures for Youth (BFY) (supported by the Construction Association of NS) & Test Drive (supported by the Automotive Sector Council of NS).

- 7 TCRCE students are participating in the Building Futures For Youth Program and after safety training at NSCC, they will explore a career in the construction industry for 5 weeks this summer. In addition to gaining valuable work experience, they will earn 3 high school Co-op credits as well as 300 apprenticeship hours.

- 5 TCRCE students are participating in the Test Drive Program and after safety training at NSCC, they will explore a career in motor power trades for 5 weeks this summer. While on the job, they too will earn 3 high school Co-op credits as well as 300 apprenticeship hours.



Participants of this summer's co-op placements in Test Drive & Building Futures for Youth.



Lego For All Current TCRCE Grade One Students!

Current grade one students throughout TCRCE are receiving a Brick Play Box courtesy of a new partnership between Tri-County Regional Centre for Education (TCRCE), the Nova Scotia Department of Education and Early Childhood Development, and LEGO®.

These boxes are being provided by Give Back Box (<https://givebackbox.com/>) through the LEGO® Replay program which helps to ensure as many LEGO bricks as possible can stay in active play. Each box is full of a variety of building bricks, minifigures, and other building materials to bring endless creative and imaginative play to life.

The intended use of this box is for each child to bring it home to play with through the summer and to bring it back in the fall to participate in grade two in-class learning play activities. These blocks will help develop a wide range of skills that are key for future success – these include communication, collaboration, critical thinking, and fine motor skills.



Michelle Talbot, Digby Elementary School's Principal, shows their shipment of Lego.

Now Hiring Early Childhood Educators in Your Community!

We are hiring Early Childhood Educators and welcome applications from all, especially those from communities that are historically and currently under-represented in our schools. For students from cultural or racial minorities, seeing persons who are representative of their communities helps them to be more comfortable in schools and thrive. We welcome and encourage persons from the African Nova Scotian, Mi'kmaq and other under-represented communities to apply.



Contact info:

For details on the Pre-Primary Program and/or assistance with the application process, please contact our Regional Supervisor of Pre-Primary programming, Yasmin Majid at Yasmin.Majid@tcrce.ca or Joe Bishara, Regional Equity Consultant at joe.bishara@tcrce.ca.

YCMHS Student Wins National Award

Congratulations to Charlie McLaughlin, Grade 10 student at Yarmouth Consolidated Memorial High School.

Charlie was recently chosen as one of 61 students across Canada to receive the Ted Rogers Innovation Award.

He created an app called 'Rate My Drive' as part of a school project and presented it at the school's Science, Technology, Engineering and Math fair.

The idea of the app is for users to submit reviews of a route rather than reviewing a destination. The review may include traffic, road and weather conditions.

Congratulations, Charlie!



Teen Readers' Choice Award Winners & Summer Reading Suggestions

Our first ever Teen Readers' Choice Award Contest (TRCA) was launched this Spring to engage TCRCE students in grades 7-12 with 10 new and award winning Young Adult literature. This year's titles were chosen by our Library Services staff for their wide range of genres, reading levels and appeal based on student input and critical reviews.

TCRCE Library staff is pleased to announce that the winning novel for this year's award is *One of Us Is Lying* by Karen M. McManus, having received 23.8% of the votes.



We are excited for the enthusiasm students demonstrated for this year's Teen Readers' Choice Award with 107 participants, even during at-home learning! Participants were encouraged to read, vote, submit book reviews or titles to be considered for 2022's TRCA. Each participant was entered into a prize draw for an Indigo or Amazon gift card with 2 students winning at each school. Congratulations to our winners!

If you haven't yet read this intriguing mystery by McManus, you may want to add it along with some of her other novels such as *One of Us Is Next*, *Two Can Keep A Secret*, and *The Cousins* to your summer reading list!

Please visit your school's Library Services websites for other summer reading suggestions. Can't wait to see your book submissions for next year's Teen Readers' Choice Award!

<https://sites.google.com/gnspes.ca/tcrce-teen-readers-choice/student-recommendations>

Spotlight on Schools



Grade five students at Meadowfields Community school are celebrated as they finish their elementary careers and prepare for grade six.

2021 graduates are being celebrated throughout TCRCE will lawn signs similar to this one (pictured left).



Congratulations graduates!
Students from Barrington Municipal High School (pictured above).

St. Mary's Bay Academy staff are ready to welcome graduates to the stage (pictured left).

Spotlight on Schools



Thank you to the Tri-County Betterment Association for their generous donation to our Student Assist Food Exchange (S.A.F.E) Program. This program provides access to fresh food boxes to TCRCE families requiring assistance throughout the summer months and supports the healthy growth and development of all students (pictured above).

Digby Regional High School staff show their commitment to Pride Month (pictured left).



Evelyn Richardson Memorial Elementary School celebrated their grade six graduates (above).

Plymouth School was honoured to host a ceremony in memory of the 215 indigenous students found at the Kamloops Residential School (pictured left).

Yarmouth Elementary Students Receive Honourable Mention In DBDLI's African Nova Scotian History Challenge

Congratulations to the students in primary English and primary/1 French at Yarmouth Elementary School for receiving an honorable mention for their submission in the Delmore Buddy Daye Learning Institute's African Nova Scotian History Challenge Awards. The class project was a video entry entitled "All about Viola Desmond."

The project was led by Student Support Worker, Marjorie Deion, who gathered support from both Mrs. Durkee and Mrs. Smith's classes. Deion thought it would be great for these young students to tell the story of Viola Desmond in both English and French.

"Both classes were read the story of Viola Desmond and both classes discussed how they felt about how she was treated. I have no doubt that if any student in either class was asked about Viola, they could tell you, for the most part, her story," says Deion.

Deion says she wanted the classes to participate in the challenge because all students should know of the many influential African Nova Scotian/Canadians that stood up for African Nova Scotian rights. "In this case, Viola Desmond sat down for ours," she says.

Young MGEC Entrepreneur Named Finalist in Minister's Entrepreneurship Award of Excellence

Gabrielle Hiltz of Maple Grove Education Centre was recently named a finalist in the 2021 Minister's Entrepreneurship Award of Excellence.

Gabrielle was the only TCRCE student to make it to the finals, where she pitched her business idea for Gabby's Doggie Daycare!



The finals of the 2021's Minister's Entrepreneurship Award of Excellence were held virtually this year. Here, Gabrielle Hiltz presents her business.

MEET OUR TEAM

EACH MONTH WE WILL INTRODUCE YOU TO OUR TCRCE STAFF MEMBERS

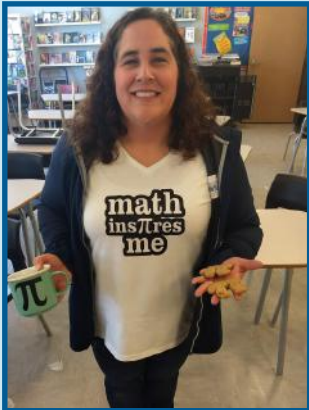
Education Week 2021 Recipients



Danielle LeBlanc
Teacher Award



Marilyn Francis
Mi'kmaq/Aboriginal
Educator/Student Support
Award



Rosalie LeBlanc
Teacher Award



Steve Berry
African Nova Scotian
Educator/Student Support
Award



Sean Kenney
PSAANS Member Award



Jaime Spates
Early Childhood
Educator Award

And Barb Mitchell - Teacher Award

Literally Nutritious Recipe

Watch a Video with Recipe Instructions



Spaghetti Squash

Prep Time: 5 minutes
Cook Time: 5-6 hours



VEGAN



DAIRY
FREE



NUT
FREE



EGG
FREE



GLUTEN
FREE



SOY
FREE

You Will Use

1 3lb (1.36 kg) Spaghetti squash



spaghetti
squash

You Will Need

- Cutting board
- Knife
- Slow cooker
- Fork

Tips and Tricks

- A 3 lb squash requires 5-6 hours of cook time on the LOW setting. For each additional lb of squash, add 1 hour to the cooking time.
- This recipe makes a great base for tomato sauce.



1. Wash skin of squash. Prick the skin several times with a paring knife or fork.



2. Place squash into slow cooker. Cover and cook on LOW for 5-6 hours.



3. To check that squash is done, quickly and firmly press the outside of the squash with your finger. It should dent easily but not feel completely mushy. Let cool.



4. When cooled, cut in half and remove seeds. Using a fork, pull apart the inside of squash.

