

nscc

Office of the President

March 6, 2023

Honourable Kelly Regan
MLA, Chair of the Standing Committee
on Public Accounts
c/o Legislative Committees Office
House of Assembly Nova Scotia
1700 Granville Street
One Government Place, 2nd Floor
Halifax, NS B3J 1X5

Received LCO
March 6, 2023

Dear Honourable Kelly Regan:

Re: Response - Standing Committee on Public Accounts

Please accept this letter as follow up to the Standing Committee on Public Accounts held Wednesday, February 22, 2023.

The following was requested/offered during the meeting and includes our response:

1. An estimate on how many of that 94 percent (of NSCC graduates working in Nova Scotia) would be working within their field?

Each year, the College conducts a graduate survey. Here is the link to the results we just released – noting the number of grads working in NS is 93% in 2022. It can be found in its entirety on our website: [2022 NSCC Graduate Survey Results in Brief](#)
In the summary of results (p. 1) you can find previous years noted also. Last year, **83% of employed graduates indicated they were working in a job related to their field of studies.**

2. Provide the third party independent economic studies that were done to measure economic impact on graduates and the Province of Nova Scotia.

The College worked with its Atlantic College counterparts ([Atlantic Colleges Atlantique \(ACA\)](#)) in 2018 to measure the total impact of ACA institutions on the economy in 2016-17. The survey was conducted by Emsi. The release, infographic, fact sheet are attached. Each College's individual numbers were also pulled from that report. This is the link to NSCC's economic value: <https://www.nsc.ca/docs/about-nsc/publications/nsc-exec-summary-economic-impage-roi-education.pdf>

Emsi's analysis showed the **total impact of NSCC on Nova Scotia's economy is \$1.8 billion** (sum of operations, student and alumni spending impacts) or **5.2% of the province's gross provincial product.**

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As noted in the study's conclusion – it helps to demonstrate that NSCC creates value in many ways which include:

- benefits local businesses by increasing consumer spending in the province and supplying a steady flow of qualified, trained workers into the workforce;
- enriches the lives of students by raising their lifetime incomes and helping them achieve their individual potential;
- benefits society as a whole by creating a more prosperous economy and generating a variety of savings through the improved lifestyles of students; and
- benefits provincial taxpayers through increased tax receipts across the province and a reduced demand for government-supported social services.

Thank you for providing NSCC an opportunity to participate to the Standing Committee on Public Accounts. Should you have any questions regarding the responses above and attached information, please feel free to contact my office.

Sincerely,



Don Bureaux
President

Enclosures (4)

cc Kim Langille, Committee Clerk, Standing Committee on Public Accounts

APRIL 2018

FACT SHEET

The Economic Value of Atlantic Colleges Atlantique

Atlantic Colleges Atlantique (referred to in this report as ACA Institutions) create a significant positive impact on the business community in the Atlantic Provinces and generate a return on investment to their major stakeholder groups—students, taxpayers, and society. Using a two-pronged approach that involves an economic impact analysis and an investment analysis, this study calculates the benefits received by each of these groups. Results of the analysis reflect fiscal year (FY) 2016-17.

IMPACTS CREATED BY ACA INSTITUTIONS IN FY 2016-17

ADDED INCOME	JOBS
\$491.9 million	6,079
Operations spending impact	
\$5.3 million	73
Applied research spending impact	
\$60.2 million	1,370
Student spending impact*	
\$6.2 billion	59,737
Alumni impact	
\$6.7 billion	67,259
Total impact	

* Includes international student spending impact.

IMPACT ON BUSINESS COMMUNITY

In FY 2016-17, ACA Institutions employed 5,264 full-time equivalent employees. The institutions spent a total of \$416.6 million on payroll and an additional \$156.2 million to support their operations. ACA Institutions are primary sources of education to regional residents and suppliers of trained workers to regional industries. The institutions collectively served over 62,000 students in the analysis year.

During the analysis year, ACA Institutions and their students added **\$6.7 billion** in income to the economy of the Atlantic Provinces, approximately equal to **7.1%** of the region's total gross regional product (GRP). ACA Institutions' impact supported **67,259** jobs in FY 2016-17. For perspective, this means that one out of every 17 jobs in the Atlantic Provinces is supported by the activities of ACA Institutions and their students. The economic impacts of ACA Institutions break down as follows:

Operations spending impact

- The net impact of ACA Institutions' payroll and expenses toward day-to-day operations in the Atlantic Provinces during the analysis year was approximately **\$491.9 million** in added regional income.

Applied research spending impact

- Applied research activities at ACA Institutions impact the regional economy by employing people and making purchases for equipment, supplies, and services. ACA Institutions' applied research spending generated **\$5.3 million** in added income for the Atlantic Provinces economy during the analysis year.*

* This reflects the impact of the three ACA Institutions who submitted data for their applied research expenditures.

For every **\$1** spent by...

STUDENTS

\$3.20

Gained in lifetime earnings for
STUDENTS

SOCIETY

\$7.60

Gained in added revenue and social
savings for SOCIETY

TAXPAYERS

\$4.20

Gained in added taxes and public
sector savings for TAXPAYERS

Student spending impact

- Hundreds of students relocated to the Atlantic Provinces from outside of the region or outside of Canada to attend ACA Institutions. In addition, a number of students would have left the region if not for ACA Institutions. These relocated and retained students spent money at local businesses to purchase groceries, rent accommodation, and pay for transport.
- The expenditures of relocated and retained students during the analysis year added approximately **\$60.2 million** in income to the regional economy. Of this impact, **\$9.7 million** is attributable to international students who relocated to the Atlantic Provinces to attend ACA Institutions.

Alumni impact

- Over the years, students have studied at ACA Institutions and entered or re-entered the workforce with newly-acquired skills. Today, hundreds of thousands of these former students are employed in the Atlantic Provinces.
- The accumulated contribution of former students currently employed in the regional workforce amounted to **\$6.2 billion** in added income during the analysis year.

RETURN ON INVESTMENT TO STUDENTS, SOCIETY, AND TAXPAYERS

Student perspective

- ACA Institutions' FY 2016-17 students paid a total of **\$128.3 million** to cover the cost of tuition, fees, books, and supplies. They also forewent **\$633.1 million** in money that they would have earned had they been working instead of learning.
- In return for the monies invested in the institutions, students will receive a present value of **\$2.4 billion** in increased earnings over their working lives. This translates to a return of **\$3.20** in higher future earnings for every \$1 that students invest in their education. The average annual return for students is **15.0%**.

Social perspective

- Society as a whole across the Atlantic Provinces will receive a present value of **\$9.3 billion** in added regional income over the course of the students' working lives. Society will also benefit from **\$135.8 million** in present value social savings related to reduced crime, fewer demands for income assistance, and increased health and well-being across the region.
- For every \$1 that society spent on educations from ACA Institutions during the analysis year, society as a whole will receive a cumulative value of **\$7.60** in benefits. This will occur for as long as ACA Institutions' FY 2016-17 students remain active in the regional workforce.

Taxpayer perspective

- In FY 2016-17, provincial taxpayers across the Atlantic Provinces paid **\$399.7 million** to support the operations of ACA Institutions. The net present value of the added tax revenue stemming from higher lifetime student earnings and increased output of businesses amounts to **\$1.6 billion**. Savings to the public sector add another **\$54.1 million** in benefits due to a reduced demand for government-funded social services in the Atlantic Provinces.
- Dividing benefits to taxpayers by the associated costs yields a 4.2 benefit-cost ratio, that is, every \$1 in costs returns **\$4.20** in benefits. The average annual rate of return for taxpayers is **19.8%**. This is above the 1.8% discount rate on government investments, meaning ACA Institutions not only pay their own way, but also generate a surplus that the provincial governments can use to fund other programs.

Picture provided by Collège communautaire du Nouveau-Brunswick



The Economic Value of ATLANTIC COLLEGES ATLANTIQUE

ALUMNI IMPACT

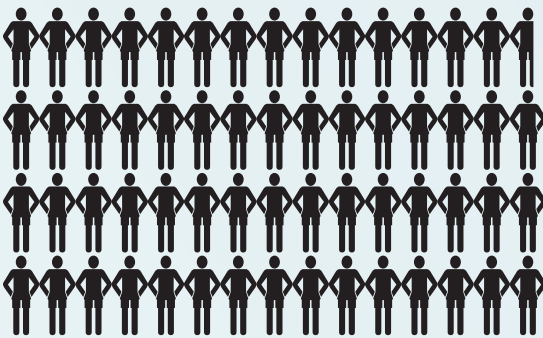
Impact of the increased earnings of ACA Institutions’ alumni and the businesses they work for

\$6.2 billion
ANNUAL ADDED INCOME

an economic boost similar to hosting

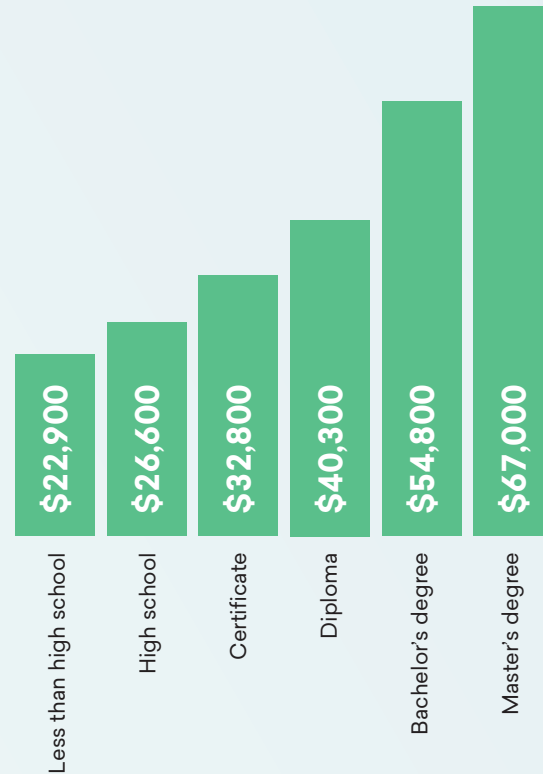
2,063
playoff games
or

59,737
JOBS SUPPORTED



Average Earnings in the Atlantic Provinces

The average diploma graduate earns \$13,700 more than a high school graduate at their career midpoint.



OPERATIONS SPENDING IMPACT

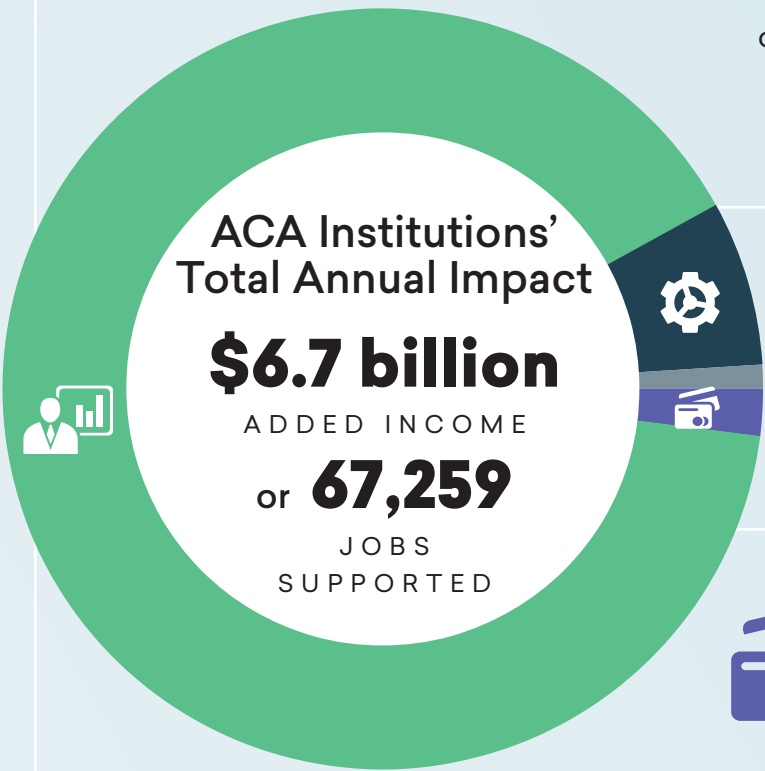
Impact of ACA Institutions’ payroll and day-to-day spending

\$491.9 million
ADDED INCOME



enough to buy **12,679** new cars

or **6,079** JOBS SUPPORTED



\$5.3 million
ADDED INCOME

APPLIED RESEARCH SPENDING IMPACT



STUDENT SPENDING IMPACT

Impact of the daily spending of ACA Institutions students retained in and attracted to the region

\$60.2 million
ADDED INCOME

enough to buy

5,266

families* a year's worth of groceries



or

1,370

JOBS SUPPORTED

* family of four = 1,000 jobs

About Atlantic Colleges Atlantique



36,869
Credit Students



25,327
Non-Credit Students



5,264
FTE Employees

For every \$1 invested by...



STUDENTS

\$ = **\$** **\$** **\$** **\$** **\$3.20**
in lifetime earnings



SOCIETY

\$ = **\$** **\$** **\$** **\$** **\$** **\$** **\$** **\$** **\$** **\$7.60**
in added revenue and social savings



TAXPAYERS

\$ = **\$** **\$** **\$** **\$** **\$** **\$4.20**
in added taxes and public sector savings

June 15, 2018

Publicly-funded colleges having big economic impact in Atlantic Canada

FREDERICTON – Atlantic Canada’s publicly-funded colleges have a significant economic impact injecting \$6.7 billion into the region annually, according to a new report released today by Atlantic Colleges Atlantique (ACA). The analysis conducted by Economic Modeling Specialists, Inc. (Emsi) looked at both the economic impact of and the investment in ACA institutions to calculate the benefits received by students, taxpayers and society.

“This report reaffirms the significant contribution made by Atlantic Canada’s publicly-funded post-secondary colleges across our region,” said NBCC President and CEO Marilyn Luscombe, also the current chair of ACA. “The \$6.7 billion economic impact is the equivalent of supporting 67,259 jobs in the region – that represents one out of 18 jobs in Atlantic Canada.”

ACA institutions welcome more than 57,000 full- and part-time learners annually at 40 campuses across the region. This includes attracting 1,220 international students to Atlantic Canada to attend ACA institutions. These students contributed \$9.7 million to the regional economy in 2016-2017.

Atlantic Canada’s publicly-funded post-secondary colleges offer a strong return on investment for students, society and taxpayers, including:

- For every dollar invested by students, they receive \$3.20 in lifetime earnings
- For every dollar invested by taxpayers, they receive \$4.20 in additional taxes and public sector savings
- For every dollar invested by society, there is \$7.60 in added revenue and social savings.

“This is the time of year when thousands of students across Atlantic Canada graduate from publicly-funded post-secondary colleges,” said Luscombe. “They’ll do so knowing that they have made a strong investment in their futures. It’s certainly a reason to celebrate for these students and their families, but it’s also a cause for celebration in our communities, our provinces and across our region. The investments we make in publicly-funded colleges have benefits for all of us.”

“Atlantic Colleges Atlantique looks forward to continued collaboration to move our region forward through economic impact and strong return on investment,” she added.

About ACA

Atlantic Colleges Atlantique (ACA) succeeds the former Atlantic Provinces Community College Consortium, and represents all seven public colleges in Atlantic Canada: New Brunswick Community College (NBCC), Collège communautaire du Nouveau-Brunswick (CCNB), Nova Scotia Community College (NSCC), Holland College, Université Sainte-Anne, Collège de l’Île and College of the North Atlantic (CNA).

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