

ENHANCING REGIONAL COLLABORATION

Atlantic Provinces Community College Consortium Annual Report

08
09



Atlantic Provinces Community
College Consortium

Consortium des collèges
communautaires des
provinces de l'Atlantique



Community Colleges

A key element in building a stronger Atlantic Canada



50 campuses plus learning centers located in both **urban and rural** settings throughout the region serving in excess of 25,000 full-time and 60,000 part-time students

CONTACT INFORMATION

Ken MacRae, Executive Director
Atlantic Provinces Community College Consortium
Dartmouth Gate
375 Pleasant Street, Unit 100
Dartmouth, NS B2Y 4N4
www.apccc.ca
ken.macrae@nsc.ca

Telephone: (902) 491-1190



Table of Contents

Message from Board Chair	2
Message from Executive Director	3
About APCCC	4
Organizational Chart	5
APCCC Board for 2008-2009	6
Mission, Values and Strategic Directions.	7
Board Meetings	8
Regional Collaborative Networks	9
Key Accomplishments and Deliverables	10
• Learning	10
• Regional Support For Economic Development	13
• Advancing College Level Post-Secondary Education and Training	16
Financial Overview	18
APCCC Partners	21



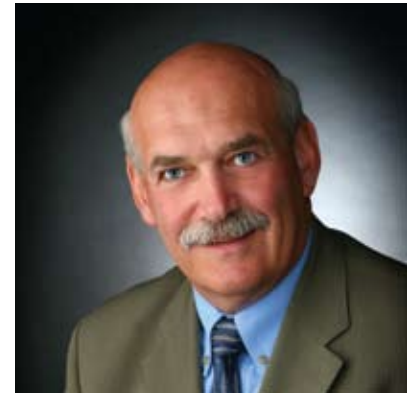
Message from Board Chair

It has been a pleasure to serve as Board Chair of the Atlantic Provinces Community Colleges Consortium (APCCC) for the past year. The Board consists of college leaders and government officials who share a common interest in enhancing the success of our community colleges and our learners. This dedicated group believes that community colleges play a key role in the social and economic development of our region and that by working together, we can make a difference for the people in our region.

This report highlights the various initiatives undertaken by the consortium in the past year. The APCCC continues to be an excellent vehicle for regional cooperation. That spirit of cooperation and collaboration is evident in the various committees of the APCCC where the staff of our institutions work together to achieve common goals.

The 2008-09 year was one of significant change for the APCCC. In July we said farewell and sincere thanks to Cyril Farrell for his outstanding contributions to the APCCC during his tenure as the APCCC Executive Director. In August we welcomed our new Executive Director, Ken MacRae. The transition also involved a relocation of the APCCC office from Windsor-Grand Falls to Dartmouth, Nova Scotia. The APCCC Board of Directors also saw significant change during the year with five new members joining the Board. It is interesting to note that one of our retiring Board members, Richard Corey of NBCC, was the last of the original consortium representatives. Mr. Corey served since the creation of the APCCC in 1998. His contributions and long service certainly merit special recognition.

I would like to thank my fellow Board members, the APCCC staff, and the staff of our community colleges for their excellent contributions over the past year. Together, we continue to make a difference in the lives of our learners and the future economic and social development of Atlantic Canada.



Brian McMillan
Chair, Board of Directors



Message from Executive Director

It is a pleasure to serve as the new Executive Director of the APCCC. I assumed the Executive Director role in August and among my first tasks was to relocate the APCCC office. The APCCC now operates out of the Aviation Institute of NSCC in Dartmouth, Nova Scotia. NSCC is now the third college to have hosted the APCCC office. Previous offices were located in Windsor-Grand Falls, NL and Charlottetown, PE.

As you will see in this report, the APCCC accomplished much of its work through various committees. I have certainly been impressed by the talent, passion, and commitment to collaboration exhibited by our various committee members. The APCCC itself is a small organization with a modest budget that accomplishes a great deal due to the “in-kind” contributions made by our member colleges. Many of those contributions occur at the committee level where the real work gets done, and where college professionals see the value of a regional approach to some key issues.

The other significant aspect of APCCC work involves engagement with organizations outside the college community. Advocacy, engagement, and collaboration with external organizations are critically important to community colleges and to the success of APCCC. While this type of activity takes much time and effort, it is difficult to adequately capture and reflect it in an annual report. The consortium has fostered relationships with multiple organizations, served in an advisory capacity to external agencies, and contributed to regional initiatives. Through these types of efforts opportunities emerge and the profile of colleges is enhanced.

As I look ahead to the 2009-10 year, I want to thank the Board for the opportunity to serve as the Executive Director. Special thanks also to my predecessor Cyril Farrell for assisting me in the transition and for his continued interest and support of the objectives of the consortium.

Ken MacRae
Executive Director





About APCCC

The Atlantic Provinces Community College Consortium (APCCC) is an interprovincial body promoting and supporting the strategic development of regional collaboration, coordination, and sharing of resources among the Atlantic community colleges. This consortium, which reports annually on its activities to the Council of Atlantic Premiers through the Council of Atlantic Ministers of Education and Training, was established in August 1998. It is officially recognized through a Memorandum of Understanding signed by the provincial ministers responsible for community colleges and the presidents of the community colleges from New Brunswick, Newfoundland and Labrador, Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island.

APCCC partners consist of the Council of Atlantic Premiers, Council of Atlantic Ministers of Education and Training, Department of Post-Secondary Education, Training and Labour of the Province of New Brunswick, Department of Education of the Province of Newfoundland and Labrador, Department

of Education of the Province of Nova Scotia, Department of Innovation and Advanced Learning of the Province of Prince Edward Island and the New Brunswick Community College/Collège communautaire du Nouveau-Brunswick, College of the North Atlantic, Nova Scotia Community College and Holland College.

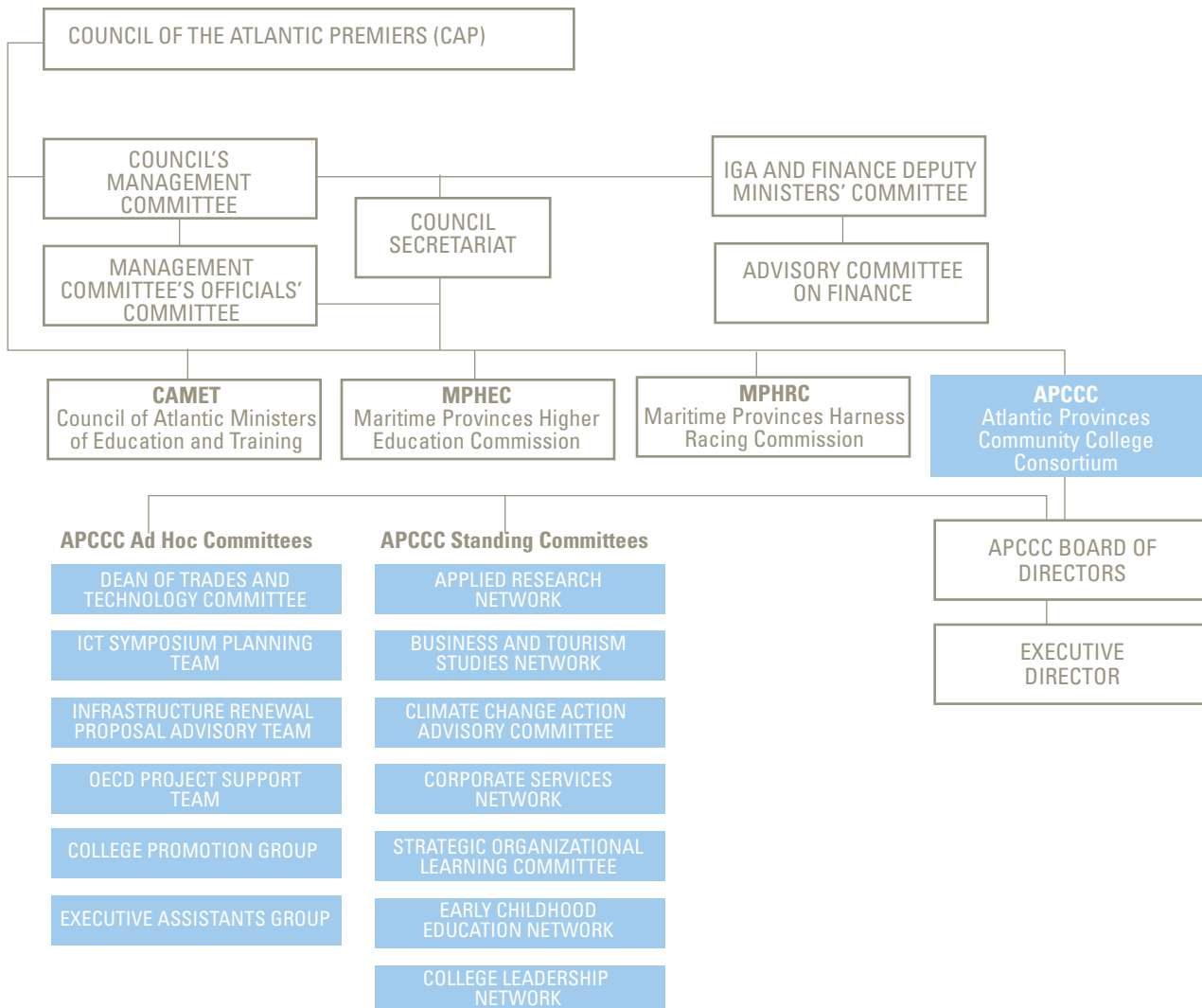
The consortium is governed by a Board of Directors consisting of the presidents and vice presidents/or designates from each community college, and assistant deputy ministers and/or designates from each government department responsible for community colleges. The Chair of the Board rotates annually from among the college presidents/CEOs.

The Board meets three times per year to provide direction to the administration, management and affairs of the consortium. The consortium is staffed by an Executive Director whose role is to advance the agenda of the Board on a day-to-day basis.

50 campuses
plus learning
centres in both
urban and rural
settings throughout
the region.



Atlantic Provinces Community College Consortium (APCCC) Organizational Chart





APCCC Board for 2008 – 2009

COLLEGE/PROVINCE	BOARD MEMBER
College of the North Atlantic	Jean Madill, President
College of the North Atlantic	Brian Tobin / Cyril Organ Vice President Academic and Learner Services
Province of Newfoundland and Labrador	Rachelle Cochrane, Assistant Deputy Minister
Holland College	Brian McMillan, President and Chair of APCCC
Holland College	Michael O'Grady, Vice President Innovation, Enterprise & Strategic Development
Province of Prince Edward Island	Ken MacRae / Susan MacKenzie, Director
Collège communautaire du Nouveau-Brunswick	Yves Chouinard, Executive Director
New Brunswick Community College	Richard Corey / Bill Best, Executive Director
Province of New Brunswick	Jean-Marc Dupuis / Liane Roy Assistant Deputy Minister
Nova Scotia Community College	Joan McArthur-Blair, President
Nova Scotia Community College	Pamela Reid / Jamie Hilts Vice President Academic
Province of Nova Scotia	Wayne Doggett, Executive Director
Council of the Atlantic Premiers (CAP) and Council of Atlantic Ministers of Education and Training (CAMET)	Rhéal Poirier, Assistant Secretary to CAP and Secretary to CAMET
Atlantic Provinces Community College Consortium	Cyril Farrell / Ken MacRae Executive Director



Mission, Values and Strategic Directions

As a partnership among the four Atlantic community colleges and the four Atlantic departments responsible for education and training, the APCCC assists colleges and governments in providing the most effective and efficient college programming possible, reflecting the following values:

Quality

continuous improvement in the quality of programs, practices and teaching

Accessibility

program, delivery, and support services that optimize training availability

Mobility

portability of learning and credits throughout the post-secondary education system in Atlantic Canada

Relevance

effective and responsive interaction among learners, workforce and community

Accountability

evidence of value and cost effectiveness of public and learner investment

Scholarship and Research

commitment to the pursuit of knowledge, innovation and commercialization

These values form the basis for the APCCC's strategic directions which are designed to enhance the quality and cost-effectiveness of the community college systems in the Atlantic Provinces through the pursuit of cooperative and collaborative initiatives. More specifically, the 2008-2009 Business Plan focused on:

- Learning;
- Regional Support for Economic Development; and,
- Advancing college level post-secondary education and training.

Approximately
\$30 million in research activity is ongoing in Atlantic community college projects directly tied to business and industry



Board Meetings

In accordance with the principles outlined in the Memorandum of Understanding establishing the consortium, the APCCC Board met three times in 2008 - 2009 to provide direction to the work of the consortium and to share knowledge and experiences important to the growth and development of Atlantic colleges. Specifically, the board met as follows:

MAY 21, 2008

College of the North Atlantic,
St. John's, NL

OCTOBER 6, 2008

New Brunswick Community College,
Moncton, NB

FEBRUARY 27, 2009

Nova Scotia Community College,
Dartmouth, NS

The agendas for meetings are structured around the identification and discussion on strategic issues and input into the consortium's operational plans. In addition to the strategic dialogue among board members and providing direction into the day-to-day operations of the consortium, the meeting format provided for inclusion of strategic guests including the Parliamentary Secretary to the Department of Education in Newfoundland and Labrador, senior officials with the Department of National Defense, and the President and the Executive Director of Springboard Atlantic inc. Including these guests in our meetings have added to the regional dialogue on advancing the scope and breath of college programs and services in support of regional development.

These meetings provided board members the opportunity to develop a better awareness and appreciation of accomplishments, activities and strategic issues that are important to advancing community college mandates.

Labour force participation among those who have attended a community college in Atlantic Canada is especially high at 92%

- Millennium Scholarship Foundation Research Series, 2002



Regional Collaborative Networks

APCCC Standing and Ad Hoc Committees

To ensure the objectives of the business plan are met, the APCCC establishes regional collaborative networks. These networks take the form of standing or ad hoc committees consisting of representatives from partner colleges, to advance the goals and objectives of its business plan and to collaborate around strategic issues. During the 2008-2009 reporting period, the following APCCC Standing Committees and Ad Hoc Committees were active:

APCCC STANDING COMMITTEES

APPLIED RESEARCH NETWORK

Dr. Audrey Penner, HC
 Dr. Mohammad Iqbal, CNA
 Dr. Michael Graham, CNA
 Dr. Robert Williston, NBCC
 Dr. Sylvain Poirier, CCNB (Chair)
 Dr. David Woolnough, NSCC
 Dr. Kevin Quinlan, NSCC
 Ken MacRae, APCCC

CORPORATE SERVICES NETWORK

Blake Cryderman, CNA (Chair)
 Joanne O'leary, CNA
 Christin Lanteigne, CCNB
 Kent Shaw, NBCC
 Andy Gallant, HC
 Ken Jones, NSCC
 Dwayne MacLeod, NSCC
 Ken MacRae, APCCC

EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION NETWORK

Karla Baxter-Vincent, NBCC (Chair)
 Dr. Robert Williston, NBCC
 Victoria Cobham, NBCC
 Brenda Tobin, CNA
 Andrea Kelland, CNA

Carmella Singleton, CNA
 Roger Tremblay, CCNB
 Eric Huard, CCNB
 Jocelyn Landry, CCNB
 Susan Ashley, HC
 Rosemary White, HC
 Kim Gillis, HC
 Kelly Kennedy-Pippy, NSCC
 Lorraine Mockford, NSCC
 Ken MacRae, APCCC

STRATEGIC ORGANIZATIONAL LEARNING TASK GROUP

George MacLean, NSCC (Chair)
 Mike Hill, NSCC
 Claudine Lowry, NSCC
 Sheldon Brown, CNA
 Kevin Deveau, CNA
 Garry Pinto, CNA
 Megan Douglas, NBCC
 Noreen Lobban, NBCC
 Gerry Seaward, HC
 Ryan Johnston, HC
 Ken MacRae, APCCC

COLLEGE LEADERSHIP NETWORK

Bruce Tawse, NSCC
 Judith Limkilde, NSCC

Michael Maynard, NBCC
 Diane Burt, NBCC
 Rachel Arseneau-Ferguson, CCNB
 David Beaton, HC (Chair)
 Norris Eaton, CNA
 Gary Myrden, CNA
 Ken MacRae, APCCC

APCCC AD HOC COMMITTEES

COLLEGE PROMOTION GROUP

Gina Brown, NSCC
 Corinne Dunne, CNA
 Stephen Lee, CNA
 Joanne Campbell-Boutilier, HC
 Paolo Fongemie, CCNB
 Scott Hicks, NBCC
 Ken MacRae, APCCC

EXECUTIVE ASSISTANTS GROUP

Giselle Borden, CNA (Chair)
 Tina Brewer, NBCC
 Diane Arseneault, CCNB
 Christabell Pinchin, NSCC
 Sandi White, HC
 Ken MacRae, APCCC



Key Accomplishments and Deliverables

During the reporting period, the Atlantic Provinces Community College Consortium (APCCC), a partnership between community colleges and Atlantic government departments responsible for community colleges, provided leadership and resources in advancing collaborative and cooperative initiatives which are consistent with its approved business plan for 2008-2009. The APCCC Board of Directors provided direction to the work of the Consortium and shared knowledge and experiences important to the growth and development of Atlantic colleges.

The day-to-day operations of the consortium are vested with the office of the Executive Director. Under his leadership and through a committee and network structure consisting primarily of college employees, the objectives of the 2008-2009 business plan were advanced as highlighted.

Learning

APCCC learning goals for 2008-09 focused on a number of different elements including learning for college staff; enhanced learning pathways for students; enhancing learning opportunities for under-served groups; and activities and research to inform policy and decision making.

One of the most valued contributions of the consortium is the creation of a forum for college members to share knowledge, experiences, and practices. Meeting agendas for the Board, as well as for the various standing and ad hoc committees, continue to allow time for member exchange and updates. These networking opportunities often result in follow-up action that benefits one or more of the member colleges or their staff.

Activities planned and executed by the *Strategic Organizational Learning Task Group (SOLTG)* are designed to provide regional professional development opportunities for college staff that are consistent with the strategic organizational needs of member colleges. SOLTG strives to organize at least one learning event per year as well as identifying and promoting other activities and events available to faculty and staff. Most recently SOLTG organized a program development institute in Rocky Harbour, NL which provided approximately 70 participants from member colleges with an opportunity to learn about best practices in program and curriculum design and development. The SOLTG committee and member colleges are members of the North American Council for Staff, Program and Organizational Development (NCSPOD).

NCSPOD is a Canadian network for professional and organizational developers from colleges and other educational organizations. This network advances leadership in development and training that enhances the learning goals of post secondary educational institutions. SOLTG members attended the NCSPOD conference which was held in Toronto in November, 2008. Working through NCSPOD, and its international affiliate, the SOLTG endorsed and encouraged college participation at the International Professional Developers Workshop: Developing Coaching Skills to Enhance Professional Practice. This event was held in Rocky Harbour, NL in June 2008.

SOLTG has also been exploring leadership development opportunities for Atlantic Community Colleges. During the reporting period Holland College representatives worked collaboratively with the University of Prince Edward Island around the development of a Masters of Education Program in Community College Leadership. The program may be in place for the Fall of 2009.

Other learning and development events that were organized or promoted to APCCC member colleges included:



Key Accomplishments and Deliverables *cont.*

- A National Climate Change Forum was hosted by NSCC in June 2008 and attended by a number of the member colleges. The Forum provided an opportunity for colleges to explore issues of climate change. Participation in the event was in keeping with college promotion of environmental leadership and sustainability.
- In October, a National Science and Engineering Research Council (NSERC) workshop for writing research proposals was held in Dieppe. The event was promoted to and attended by college staff involved in the applied research field.
- In December, NSCC hosted an event to introduce the Education for Employment Program. This International program is sponsored by the Canadian International Development Agency and its aim is to strengthen local training institutions in developing countries. The program is a partnership with Canadian community colleges.
- In the period February through March, member colleges had the opportunity to participate in workshops held throughout Atlantic Canada on the topic of Innovation; Commercialization; and Research

and Development. These workshops were organized by federal government agencies and allowed colleges to explore opportunities and their role in Canada's efforts to improve innovation and productivity.

- The APCCC Executive Director is a member of a group representing Executive Directors/CEOs of similar college associations from across Canada. The group meets periodically to share experiences and explore opportunities to work strategically on common issues. The APCCC hosted a meeting of this group in St. John's in April. The group also met in Ottawa in October.

The APCCC was also active in a number of areas to enhance pathways for college learners and to further opportunities for under-served groups to participate in post-secondary education.

In support of providing college students with pathways to build on their college credentials, all member colleges continue to negotiate transfer agreements with other post-secondary institutions both in the Atlantic region and beyond. To facilitate the dissemination of information pertaining to these agreements APCCC published the 2009 Guide to Block Transfer Agreements for





Key Accomplishments and Deliverables *cont.*

graduates of Atlantic Colleges.

This guide provides Atlantic college students with current information about transfer agreements available should they wish to continue with their education beyond graduation from college. The number of transfer agreements available to Atlantic college graduates totals more than 320.

In addition to the specific transfer agreements outlined in the guide, the APCCC participated in discussions with the Atlantic Association of Universities towards the development of a broader memorandum of understanding governing the principles of student transfer and recognition of prior learning. At the end of the reporting period agreement had been reached on the terms of the memorandum and it is expected the document will be executed by all parties in the Spring of 2009.

The examples above reflect the continued and evolving emphasis on developing educational pathways through partnerships, articulation agreements, joint degree programs and flexible access. Atlantic colleges continue to forge partnerships with other institutions including an increasing number of programs developed with universities. One example is the Joint Masters of Science Degree involving NSCC and Acadia University. Colleges

are also focusing on flexible delivery mechanisms to meet the needs of today's learners. These include

part time programs and e-learning, or distributed learning opportunities. Holland College, for example, has developed a new distributed learning program for Advanced Care Para-medicine which enables paramedics to continue to work in the field while upgrading to the higher classification, enabling them to further their careers without uprooting their families and giving up their jobs.

The APCCC, in partnership with the Atlantic Policy Congress of First Nations Chiefs, facilitated a *forum on enhancing opportunities for inclusion of aboriginal peoples in college programs*. This forum was held in March of 2008. A report on the outcomes of the forum was produced in April of 2008 and discussions have taken place over the reporting period to follow-through on the recommendations emanating from the dialogue. One initiative arising from this collaboration is a research project that commenced during the year on identifying a broader diversity framework for colleges. The project is designed to identify best practices and establish a plan or framework to address diversity and cultural awareness needs

within the college setting. A report is expected in the 2009-10 year.

Research is another key element to organizational learning and development. In addition to the aforementioned diversity research initiative, the APCCC is active in various other research initiatives either as a direct sponsor, contributor, or participant. During the reporting period the following research activities are worthy of note:

- The Consortium sponsored and facilitated a study on the Economic Contribution of the Atlantic Community Colleges. The report highlighted the significant socioeconomic impacts of community colleges.
- The APCCC worked with the Council of Atlantic Ministers of Education and Training (CAMET) on a study of student mobility and retention. The report, *Moving Through, Moving On: Persistence in PSE in Atlantic Canada – Evidence from PSIS*, by Ross Finnie provided new insights into the paths that learners take and broadens the understanding of persistence and drop-out patterns.
- The APCCC is active on the steering committee for a CAMET project launched late in the reporting period to examine the impact of International



Key Accomplishments and Deliverables *cont.*

Regional Support for Economic Development

Community Colleges are key to building productivity and competitiveness in Atlantic Canada. Colleges encourage business formation and sustainability by growing the local talent pool, by re-skilling displaced workers, by offering customized workplace training, and by providing applied research and development support.

HUMAN RESOURCES

Atlantic Canada Colleges contribute to the region's economic development by enhancing the skills of our population. Our colleges offer a variety of courses and programs ranging from academic upgrading through to training for careers requiring advanced skills.

In order to ensure colleges continue to deliver quality programs that meet the needs of the region, colleges work to forge close relationships with employers, industry, and governments. Atlantic Canada colleges continually review programs and they utilize program advisory committees to solicit business and industry input into curriculum development.

The APCCC supports the efforts of its member colleges to address the human resource needs of the region. The APCCC is a member of the Construction Sector Council's Labour Market Information working group. The group analyzes sector activity and anticipated major projects in order to forecast labour supply needs. The group is working towards the release of a regional report in 2009.

APCCC has regular interaction with various sector council organizations. In 2008 the consortium was consulted by the P.E.I. Cultural Human Resource Sector Council as part of their research towards strengthening the training and development needs of their sector.

A significant part of the work of the APCCC is centered around the development of strategic relationships with organizations. Through these relationships and the on-going dialogue, the consortium is able to ensure its member colleges stay abreast of trends and issues and that they continue to be responsive to the needs of the region.

CUSTOMIZED TRAINING

APCCC's Corporate Service Network members have been actively engaged with businesses and industries all over Atlantic Canada in the provision of customized programs. The network has provided members with opportunities to share information and best practices and to develop mechanisms to promote regional training and development services available through community colleges. During the year the Network began work on a regional program sharing protocol to allow consortium members to share customized training programs that have been developed. The network hopes to finalize the protocol in 2009.

RESEARCH

The Applied Research Network was active in advancing the capacity of colleges to support the regions research and innovation agenda. In the reporting period the APCCC office, with the assistance of the Applied Research Network, successfully completed the arrangements for college partnership in Springboard Atlantic Inc. Springboard Atlantic is an agency funded by the Atlantic Innovation Fund to support



Key Accomplishments and Deliverables *cont.*

commercialization of university and college research and innovation. One of the immediate benefits from the partnership in Springboard was the support for the colleges to hire Industrial Liaison Officers to work with small and medium size enterprises to assist them with their research and innovation needs. All of our member colleges now have an industrial liaison officer in place.

One of the most significant pieces of work during the year was the development and promotion of a proposal to enhance the capacity of colleges to carry out applied research. Colleges are uniquely positioned to play an important role in Canada's innovation agenda and to improve the competitiveness of local business. Colleges have expert staff and access to facilities and equipment. Colleges also have strong relationships and connection to industry, as well as a presence in over 50 communities across the region. These are strengths that colleges can bring to the area of applied research. The missing element is the availability of faculty to participate in research. The teaching load for college faculty prevents any significant

commitment to research. In order to address that obstacle, a funding proposal was prepared to allow for faculty release time. This capacity building proposal was presented to federal and provincial governments and the consortium continues to have active discussions on this proposal.

During the reporting period the Applied Research Network continued to forge relationships with the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council (NSERC) in its efforts to develop and build partnerships with research institutions in the region. Our Colleges, as well as the APCCC Executive Director, are members of the NSERC Atlantic Advisory Committee. The advisory committee had several meetings during the year.

The APCCC Executive Director is also a member of the newly formed Atlantic Federal Science & Technology Council (AFSTC).

This council held its initial meeting in October, 2008. The council consists of federal government departments in

Atlantic Canada with mandates dealing with science and technology. The council was formed in response to Mobilizing Science and Technology to Canada's Advantage, the Government of Canada's science and technology strategy. The strategy sets out a multi-year policy framework to improve Canada's long-term competitiveness and quality of life by fostering three interrelated science and technology based advantages. The AFSTC exists to foster cooperation and collaboration within the member federal departments and to share knowledge and leverage various programs and initiatives.

SUPPORT FOR IMMIGRATION STRATEGIES

The consortium is working with governments to support regional immigration strategies that are integral to support our regional population and our economy.

APCCC member colleges provide a host of programs and services that support immigrants. These include language training services, academic upgrading programs, and the assessment and recognition of prior learning for



Key Accomplishments and Deliverables *cont.*

the purpose of training credentials and program placement.

The consortium has provided input to the Council of Atlantic Ministers of Education and Training as they examine the feasibility of establishing an Atlantic international credential and competency recognition service.

The consortium members also contribute to population strategies through their international work. Atlantic colleges have a growing base of international students. In addition, colleges are forging international relationships leading to faculty and student exchange opportunities. Colleges also work in the area of international development. In December 2008, the APCCC, with the assistance of NSCC, hosted an event to introduce the Education for Employment program. The program is sponsored by the Canadian International Development Agency. Representatives from across the region attended the session.

The APCCC has frequent dialogue with ACOA on significant regional initiatives. One such initiative is the development of a regional population strategy. APCCC has and will continue to provide input as the strategy is developed. It is anticipated that colleges will play a key role in this initiative.

60% of the net jobs created in Atlantic Canada between 1991 and 2004 required college level education

- Statistics Canada, Labour Force Survey Estimates Data



Key Accomplishments and Deliverables *cont.*

Advancing College Level Post-secondary Education and Training

APCCC sponsored a study on the Economic Contribution of the Atlantic Community Colleges. The November 2008 report by EMSI incorporated, demonstrates that Atlantic colleges are a sound investment from multiple perspectives and contribute significantly to the regional economy. The colleges enrich the lives of students and increase their lifetime incomes. Colleges benefit taxpayers by generating increased tax revenues from an enlarged economy and reducing the demand for taxpayer-supported social services. Finally, colleges contribute to the vitality of both the local and provincial economies. Highlights of the report include:

- The economy of the Atlantic Provinces receives roughly \$2.9 billion in income each year due to the Atlantic colleges and their students. This figure amounts to roughly 3.1% of the region's total annual income.
- The average annual earnings of someone with a two-year diploma are \$34,700, or 39% more than a student with a high school diploma.

- Students enjoy an attractive 17% annual return on their investment of time and money.
- Taxpayers see a real money return of 13% on their annual investments in the colleges.
- The Atlantic Provinces benefit from improved health and reduced welfare, unemployment, and crime, saving the public some \$9.6 million per year each year that students are in the workforce.

The **Climate Change Action Plan Advisory Committee** was active in the sharing of best practices on environmental stewardship. In addition, the committee, under the direction of the APCCC Board, developed a collective statement on environmental leadership which all APCCC member colleges signed in 2008 as a commitment to environmental protection and to demonstrate that they are prepared to take a leadership role within their jurisdictions to address climate change and to protect the environment. In keeping with this focus on environmental stewardship, the NSCC hosted a national climate change forum in June 2008. Representatives from APCCC member colleges attended the event.

APCCC continued to participate on and contribute to the Council of Atlantic

Ministers of Education and Training's **Atlantic Post-Secondary Research Steering Sub-Committee** responsible for overseeing research initiatives. The Atlantic Mobility and Retention Project was completed in the period resulting in the release of the report *Moving Through, Moving On: Persistence in PSE in Atlantic Canada – Evidence from PSIS*, by Ross Finnie. Work also commenced on another research initiative which will look at the impacts of international students in Atlantic post-secondary institutions.

In addition, APCCC supported the **PSE Subcommittee** work by ensuring college data was provided in building a case for funding the renewal of post-secondary infrastructure in Atlantic Canada. A report was produced in 2008 and used as a basis to inform discussion on the topic. Data was shared with the Association of Canadian Community Colleges as they worked nationally to advocate for infrastructure investment. The APCCC also submitted a budget brief, highlighting the infrastructure need, to the House of Commons Standing Committee on Finance as part of the



Key Accomplishments and Deliverables *cont.*

pre-budget consultation process. The announcement of a federal Knowledge Infrastructure Program and subsequent commitments by provincial governments is a positive development for Atlantic community colleges. As of the year end, all member colleges were working with federal and provincial authorities on specific infrastructure project proposals.

Profile building for Atlantic Canada’s community colleges continued to be one of the cornerstones of APCCC’s work during the reporting period. Among the efforts to bring attention to the significant role colleges play in support of Atlantic Canada’s social and economic development, APCCC:

- **Built and enhanced external relationships** with organizations such as Atlantic Policy Congress of First Nations Chiefs, Construction Sector Council, Atlantic Provinces Economic Council, Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency, Atlantic Provinces Chambers of Commerce, Association of Atlantic Universities and others to create a greater awareness of the value of community colleges to the region.
- **Participated on various external committees** such as Post-Secondary Education Sub-committee PSESC of Council of Atlantic Ministers of

Education and Training, Construction Sector Council’s Atlantic LMI Working Group, Atlantic Federal Science and Technology Council, and the NSERC Atlantic Advisory Council.

- **Participated in forums** such as the National Climate Change Forum, and the Adult Learning Knowledge Centre symposium. .
- **Invited strategic guests to board meetings** as noted earlier in this report.

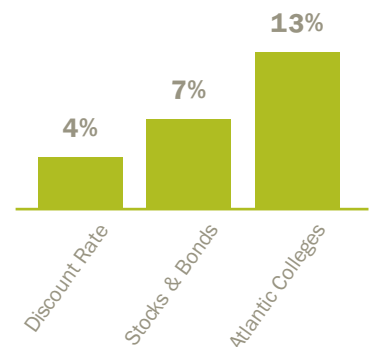
During the year the APCCC formed a new College Promotions Group. The group consists of representatives from college promotion and communications staff. The purpose of the group is to explore potential for developing and delivering common messages and promotional material, and will serve as a resource to profile Atlantic Canada’s community colleges.

The APCCC now has a web presence. With assistance from CCNB, a web site has been developed at www.apccc.ca. The site will assist with the dissemination of information and materials. In keeping with the consortium’s commitment to environmental leadership, the web site has been used to publish this annual report rather than traditional print distribution.

EARNINGS BY EDUCATION LEVEL



TAXPAYER RATE OF RETURN



Source: EMSI consulting



Financial Overview

The Memorandum of Understanding establishing the Atlantic Provinces Community College Consortium requires each province and college partner to contribute to a trust fund managed by the Council of Atlantic Premiers' Secretariat for purposes of supporting the goals and objectives of the consortium's business plan.

For the reporting period, the consortium operated on a budget of approximately \$175,000 which included cash contributions from the Council of Atlantic Premiers, the four Atlantic Provinces and the four member colleges. These

contributions, in addition to a draw down on a surplus in the APCCC trust account, were used to support the office of the Executive Director and participation in consortium-related activities. As part of its accountability for the expenditure of public funds, the consortium is audited by the Council of Atlantic Premiers' auditor, PricewaterhouseCoopers.

The following Statement of Change in Trust Fund Balance summarizes the financial activity in the reporting period. The non-cash in-kind contributions of member colleges are not captured in the statement.

More than 300
transfer agreements
are currently
in place for graduates
of Atlantic community
colleges



Council of Atlantic Premiers Trust Funds
 Atlantic Provinces Community College Consortium
 Statement of Change in Trust Fund Balance - Unaudited

	2008-09 Budget \$	2008-09 Actual \$	2007-08 Actual \$
REVENUE			
Contributions from			
Council of Atlantic Premiers	80,000	80,000	80,000
Province of New Brunswick	11,250	11,250	11,250
Province of Newfoundland and Labrador	11,250	11,250	11,250
Province of Nova Scotia	11,250	11,250	11,250
Province of Prince Edward Island	11,250	11,250	11,250
NBCC/CCNB	5,000	5,000	5,000
College of the North Atlantic	5,000	5,000	5,000
NSCC	5,000	5,000	5,000
Holland College	5,000	5,000	5,000
Interest	0	1,407	3,809
	145,000	146,407	148,809
EXPENDITURES			
Operating	8,000	7,444	8,299
Projects	20,000	24,739	41,012
Salary & Benefits	127,385	114,255	120,479
Travel	20,000	19,065	17,986
	175,385	165,503	187,776
Change in trust fund balance during the year	(30,385)	(19,096)	(38,967)
Trust Fund balance – Beginning of year	45,322	45,322	84,289
Trust Fund balance – End of year (note 1)	14,937	26,226	45,322

Note 1 – As at March 31, 2009 an amount of \$9,572 of the trust balance is reserved for strategic organizational learning activities.

APCCC Partners



Atlantic Provinces Community
College Consortium

Consortium des collèges
communautaires des
provinces de l'Atlantique



New Brunswick
Community College



Collège communautaire
du Nouveau-Brunswick

nscc



Council of Atlantic Ministers
of Education and Training
Conseil atlantique des mini
de l'éducation et de la Form



THE COUNCIL OF
ATLANTIC PREMIERS
LE CONSEIL DES PRE
MINISTRES DE L'ATLA

