

Communiqué de presse

Communications Nouveau-Brunswick

Post-Secondary Education, Training and Labour

NBCC fundraising campaign reaches \$2 million (07/01/02)

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FREDERICTON (CNB) - Thanks to many donations from around the province, the New Brunswick Community College (NBCC) Foundation fundraising campaign is over halfway to reaching its goal of raising \$3.75 million for the NBCC bursary fund. Post-Secondary Education, Training and Labour Minister Ed Doherty made the announcement today.

"I would like to thank all of the donors and municipal governments who have made contributions to the campaign so far," Doherty said. "These donations will go a long way to help put the Province of New Brunswick on the road to self-sufficiency while building the best education system in the country. I'm also pleased to say again that the Government of New Brunswick will continue to match 50 cents for every dollar that is raised during the campaign."

The NBCC Foundation's first major fundraising campaign continues to show steady progress, and donations are being received from a variety of different sources, including businesses, organizations and individuals.

Pledges for donations over five years have also come from a number of municipalities. The City of Edmundston has donated \$50,000, while the towns of Caraquet and Tracadie-Sheila have each donated \$30,000. Other municipalities that made donations include Shippagan, with \$20,000, and Belledune, Shediac, Dalhousie and Balmoral which each donated \$10,000. In addition, the municipalities of Tide Head and Bas-Caraquet each donated \$5,000.

To help reach the overall goal of \$3.75 million, all 11 NBCC campuses will work together to raise \$2.5-million through regional campaigns. The remaining \$1.25 million will come from the New Brunswick Opportunities Fund.

The NBCC bursary fund is managed through an independent foundation with a board of directors. The 11 regional committees, which include volunteer members from private businesses, non-profit organizations and independent community members, have been actively soliciting donations for the past seven months. In order to ensure that every dollar collected will go directly to the bursary fund, NBCC will assume all costs related to the preparation and execution of the fundraising campaign. All funds raised will be capitalized, and the revenues generated through the investments will be allocated to the awarding of bursaries for students in need of financial assistance.

"I am very pleased with the commitment that we've seen to date," said NBCC President Michel Thériault. "By helping our students we are helping our communities. If communities are supportive of their students, those students will be supportive of their communities and its future workers."

Doherty said that he is overwhelmed by the generosity and support of all the volunteers and donors alike to help those students who need it most.

"As the minister of Post-Secondary Education, Training and Labour, I understand the advantages that come with obtaining a post-secondary education today," Doherty said. "This initiative will help many more New Brunswickers realize those advantages through a quality post-secondary education at one of the province's 11 community college campuses."

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