

Expo helps students decide on post-secondary options

by Stacy Dunn

The second-annual **Holland College Career Advancement Expo** for adult education students was held at the Prince of Wales campus in Charlottetown. The event was held to assist them with their post-secondary decisions.

“We have a lot of students exploring career options,” says **Karen Ford-Doyle**, Academic Advisor with Holland College Adult Education. “About 619 adult education students attend seven of our centres across PEI.”

“Students can explore many pathways to go from a college diploma to a university program. If students can get 70 percent of funding from SkillsPEI for their first diploma and then go onto a degree, it’s a huge debt reduction. It’s about making well-educated decisions and knowing what’s out there.”

Know the labour market

Dr. Sandy MacDonald, Vice President Academic and Applied Research at Holland College, gave the keynote address, encouraging the students to accept change.

“There has always been change in the labour market and we need to be completely adaptable human beings. Employers tell us the skills they look for include the ability to work with others, manage your emotions, and meet the goals of your business or organization.

“Learning can be fun and easy, but it’s sometimes difficult. It’s OK to challenge yourself, because by constantly learning, your brain is growing.”

“Think about stress as helping you learn and grow your brain. Always be curious and ask questions. Now more than ever, it’s important to be a life-long learner.”

Holland College Support Services

Recruitment: Jenn Redmond, 902-566-9360
Visit www.hollandcollege.com/future-students/recruitment

Admissions: Shelly Bradley, 902-566-9667 – 902-629-4217
Visit www.hollandcollege.com/admissions

Student Support Services: Velda Crane, 902-629-4237

Counselling Services: June Harper, 902-894-6833
Visit www.hollandcollege.com/future-students/counselling-services

Scholarships / Bursaries: Crystal Neary, 902-566-9374
Visit www.hollandcollege.com/alumni-and-friends/student-awards

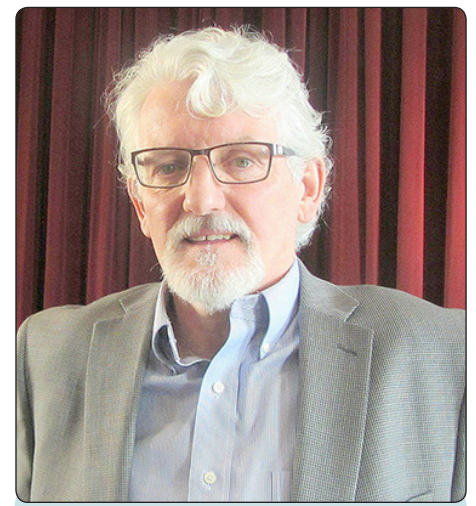
Open Academic Studies: Joanne d’Entremont, 902-566-9334
Visit www.hollandcollege.com/programs/open-academic-studies

Articulation Agreements: Melissa Josey, 902-566-9518
Visit www.hollandcollege.com/degree-pathways

Holland College general information: call 1-800-446-5265.

Other services and resources to help enter post-secondary

Career Development Services, visit www.cdspei.ca
WorkPEI, visit www.workpei.ca



Dr. Sandy MacDonald, Vice President Academic and Applied Research, Holland College.



Karen Ford-Doyle, Academic Advisor Adult Education Holland College.

UPEI Arts program teaches skills needed for employment

by Heidi Riley

In the fall of 2017, the UPEI Faculty of Arts will be offering a new program. This new offering will help students build the skills they need to succeed in the world of work, and connect them to Island employers.

Communication, Leadership and Culture (CLC) was created by an interdisciplinary group of UPEI Arts faculty who share a passion for teaching.

“We’ve seen the challenges students experience when trying to find work,” says **Lisa Chilton**, Associate History Professor. “There has been a mass exodus of students out of subjects like history, English, and anthropology, not just at UPEI but across Canada and globally. There is so much pressure on young people to choose an education path that will lead directly to a job.”

“An arts education gives students a whole raft of skills invaluable for employment and for becoming good citizens. Research skills, communication, writing, and the ability to critically assess information are very important.”

“However, there is a disconnect between the skills students learn by taking an arts degree and their ability to communicate those skills to an employer.”

“The new CLC program will better inform students about the skills they need to function in a very competitive job market. We wanted the skills we are already teaching to become more transferrable and to take them more directly on a career path.”

“As we developed the courses, it was a challenge to accommodate both the digitally literate students with great communication skills, and those with fewer technical skills. We designed project-based courses that will stimulate students to challenge themselves, regardless of where they are starting from.”

The four-year CLC program will offer 14 one-semester courses. It can be combined with another arts major to earn the 42 credits required to graduate. It will also be possible to take the CLC as a minor, which would require taking seven courses. Or students could take just one or a few courses.

Topics covered

- Putting Art to Work: students work on projects for community groups
- Academic and professional writing
- Digital literacy: desktop publishing, social media, video production, and web design
- Public speaking
- Leadership studies
- Digital humanities
- Creating a career portfolio listing skills, strengths, and achievements
- Practicum



Lisa Chilton, Associate Professor, UPEI History Department.

“In the creation of the program, we listened to human resources professionals and managers from across PEI and across Canada. We made sure the program is grounded in what employers look for when they hire.”

“I don’t think there is a program quite like this in Canada. There are other leadership and communication programs, but the idea of bringing these things together with an arts degree is unique.”

For more information, contact **Dr. Lisa Chilton** at 902-566-0692 or email lchilton@upei.ca
Visit <http://www.upei.ca/hr/files/hr/CLC%20Brochure.pdf>



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