



Driving Regional Growth

2025/26
Annual Report


**PICTOU
COUNTY**
Partnership



Welcome to the Pictou County Partnership's Annual Community Report

This past year marked a period of transition and forward momentum for the Pictou County Partnership as we strengthened our role as a regional integrator and advanced the foundations of investment readiness across Pictou County. In a changing funding and economic landscape, we remained focused on collaboration, working with businesses, municipalities, Pictou Landing First Nation, and ecosystem partners to better align efforts, respond to opportunities, and reduce barriers to growth.

From supporting local businesses and workforce needs to advancing priority sectors and community connections for newcomers, our work is grounded in building a more resilient and inclusive region. This report reflects the progress made over the past year and the collective effort behind it.



Land Acknowledgements

The Pictou County Partnership would like to acknowledge that we are on the land known as Mi'kma'ki, the traditional and unceded territory of the Mi'kmaq people. The Mi'kmaq are the first people of this land and have been here in present-day Nova Scotia for more than 10,000 years. We acknowledge that none of what we enjoy today, our homes, lands, or prosperity would be possible if the Mi'kmaw people did not welcome and take care of us upon our arrival. Today, Nova Scotia continues to be home to over 24,000 Indigenous Peoples, including well over 13,000 Mi'kmaq. Pictou Landing First Nation is the Mi'kmaq community within the Piktuk region.

We also recognize the African Nova Scotians whose culture, heritage, and history have been and remain a key part of our communities in Pictou County and our province for more than 400 years.

Messages from Leadership	4
Our Approach	6
About the Pictou County Partnership	7
Business and Entrepreneurship	9
Investment Readiness	12
Immigration and Community Integration	15
Community Impact	20
Leadership Excellence	23
Our Team	24
Partnerships and Collaborations	25
Our Funders	26



Contents

Message from LOC and Board Chair



Nicole LeBlanc



Cindy Brown

On behalf of the Liaison and Oversight Committee and the Board of Directors, we are pleased to share this year's Annual Report and reflect on a year of progress, planning, and preparation for the future. While the Partnership remained stable throughout 2025-26, the organization also began responding to an evolving funding landscape that will require continued focus, adaptability, and strategic alignment in the years ahead. Throughout this period, the Partnership remained committed to advancing its priorities, supporting its team, and keeping attention firmly on the long-term growth and sustainability of Pictou County.

A key milestone this year was the development of the 2026-31 Strategic Plan. Through close collaboration with the executive team, this work established a clear and grounded path forward - one that strengthens investment readiness, supports business growth, and aligns regional efforts to position Pictou County competitively at the provincial, national, and international level. This shared direction reflects the continued alignment and commitment of our municipal partners, Pictou Landing First Nation, funding partners, and the broader network of organizations and industry supporters that contribute to the region's growth and resilience.

We would like to extend our sincere thanks to the Interim CEO for his steady leadership during this period of transition, as well as to the staff, partners, and fellow Board and Committee members who continue to contribute their time and expertise. As we look ahead to new leadership, we do so with confidence in the organization's foundation and a shared commitment to sustaining progress and opportunity across the region.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Nicole LeBlanc".

Nicole LeBlanc
Chair, Liaison and Oversight Committee
Pictou County Partnership

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Cindy Brown".

Cindy Brown
Chair, Board of Directors
Pictou County Partnership



Scott Ferguson

Message from Interim CEO

Over the past year, it has been a privilege to serve as Interim CEO of the Pictou County Partnership during a period of transition. Since April 2025, my focus has been on maintaining financial stability, guiding the organization through a changing funding landscape, and supporting the development of our 2026-31 Strategic Plan. This work has helped sharpen our priorities and reinforce our role as a trusted regional partner.

A key priority has also been building a strong executive team and aligning our efforts with the Partnership's strategic direction. Together, we have strengthened internal capacity and positioned the organization to deliver impact across our priority areas - supporting businesses, advancing investment readiness, and fostering regional collaboration.

As I prepare to step away in Fall 2026, following the CEO search, I do so with confidence in the organization's direction and leadership. It has been an honour to support the Partnership during this time, and I look forward to its continued progress.

Sincerely,

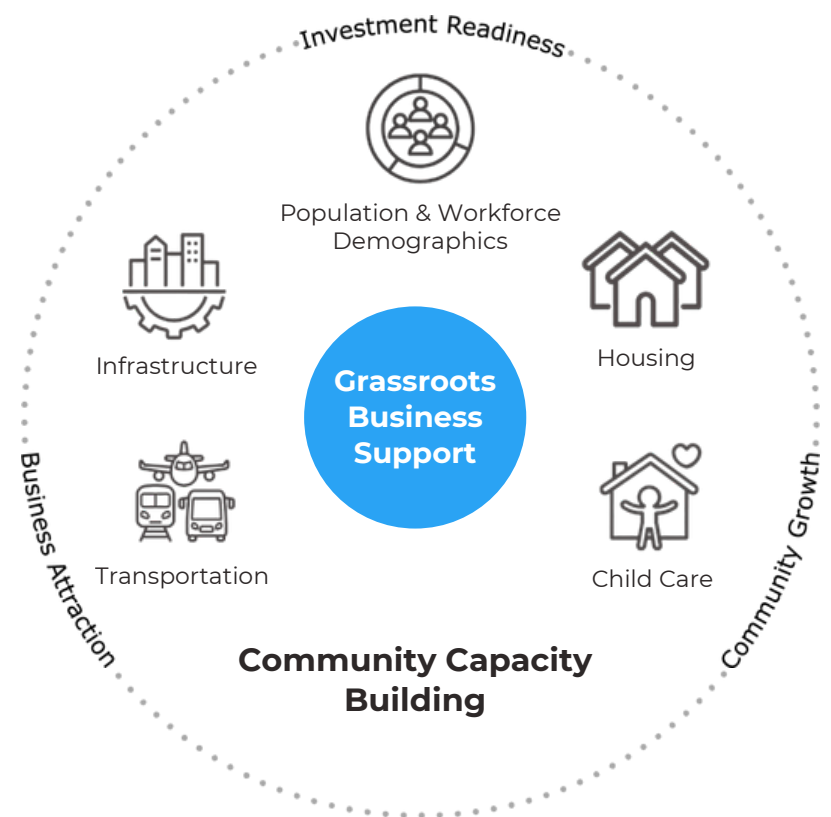
A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Scott Ferguson", with a stylized flourish underneath.

Scott Ferguson
Interim CEO
Pictou County Partnership



Our Approach

Economic development is never the work of a single organization, it is the shared responsibility of an entire community. In Pictou County, we define it broadly as anything that strengthens our region's economic well-being and attractiveness. Progress depends not on one program or partner, but on the collective efforts of businesses as economic drivers, alongside governments, nonprofits, and residents working together.



About the Pictou County Partnership

The Pictou County Partnership is the Regional Enterprise Network serving Pictou County, working in collaboration with municipal partners, the Province of Nova Scotia, and Pictou Landing First Nation to strengthen the region's economic future.

As a regional connector and convener, we align partners, support businesses, advance investment readiness, and build the conditions for long-term, inclusive growth. Our work focuses on helping businesses and communities navigate complexity, access resources, and unlock opportunities.

2026-31 Strategic Plan

Building the Conditions for Long-Term Growth

This year, the Pictou County Partnership launched a new five-year Strategic Plan that sets a clear direction for sustainable, long-term economic growth. At its core is a simple idea: strong economies are built when businesses, people, and communities move forward together - not in isolation.

In Pictou County, growth depends on multiple interconnected factors - business strength, workforce availability, community readiness, and investment attraction.

The Partnership's role is to align these pieces, acting as a regional integrator that connects partners and ensures efforts lead to lasting impact.

A Shared Vision

The plan is grounded in a clear vision:

- A region where people, businesses, and communities build a thriving economy together
- More residents choosing to live and work here
- Stronger business growth and local reinvestment

This vision reflects a shared responsibility for economic development across the region.



Click [here](#) or scan the QR code to view our 2026-31 Strategic Plan

Three Pillars for Action

The Strategic Plan is organized around three pillars:

Pillar 1: Partnership for Growth

Grow and retain businesses as the foundation of local prosperity, while developing the workforce, entrepreneurs, and youth needed to sustain that growth.

Key areas of focus:

- Supporting business growth, retention, and succession planning
- Advancing workforce development, immigration readiness, and talent attraction
- Strengthening youth pathways to local careers and entrepreneurship

Pillar 2: Inclusive Community Growth

Position Pictou County as a welcoming and vibrant home for people to live, work and thrive.

Key areas of focus:

- Aligning housing, childcare, and transportation with economic growth
- Enhancing community vibrancy and sense of belonging
- Strengthening the region's ability to attract and retain talent and investment
- Building community capacity through stronger partnerships and collaboration

Pillar 3: Strategic Stewardship

Ensure the Partnership has the capacity, responsiveness, and credibility to lead with impact.

Key areas of focus:

- Strengthening governance, accountability, and partner engagement
- Securing diversified funding to support long-term sustainability
- Measuring impact and improving decision-making through data and insights
- Leading coordinated, region-wide economic development efforts

Creating Lasting Impact

Through this Strategic Plan, the Partnership will help create a more aligned, resilient, and opportunity-rich regional economy - where businesses can grow, people can build their futures, and communities are positioned to attract and sustain investment.

By strengthening connections across the system and focusing on what matters most, Pictou County will be better equipped to turn local potential into long-term, shared prosperity.

BUSINESS AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP

Empowering Pictou County - One Business at a Time

The Partnership continued to provide coordinated business support services that helped entrepreneurs and employers navigate growth, workforce challenges, succession planning, and access to resources. Through direct outreach, business navigation, entrepreneurship programming, and ecosystem collaboration, this work focused on strengthening the long-term sustainability and competitiveness of businesses across Pictou County.

- 202** Businesses and entrepreneurs were directly engaged through outreach and support activities.
Strengthening business relationships and improving access to growth, succession, and navigation supports across the region.
- 76** Businesses received support related to startup, growth, or succession planning.
Helping businesses strengthen sustainability, competitiveness, and long-term continuity.
- 21** Newcomer entrepreneurs received support through the Newcomer Business Navigation Program.
Supporting inclusive entrepreneurship and helping newcomers establish and grow businesses in the region.
- 15** Connections were facilitated between businesses, entrepreneurs, and community impact organizations.
Encouraging collaboration and strengthening cross-sector relationships within the regional economy.



Business Navigation Support



Through our business navigation support, the Partnership connects businesses with local supports, funding opportunities, and professional networks to advance their entrepreneurial goals in Pictou County.

Issam Dahweir, a newcomer from Lebanon and employee of MacGregors Industrial Group, was introduced to the Top 50 CEO Legacy Project funding opportunity through the Partnership. He successfully secured funding to launch robotics programming for youth in Pictou County, helping young people build skills in technology, problem-solving, and innovation.

Small Business Week



During Small Business Week, the Partnership, in collaboration with IGNITE Atlantic and the Pictou County Chamber of Commerce, took to the road to visit local businesses across the county.

This annual initiative focuses on connecting directly with business owners, learning about their experiences, and gaining insight into the challenges facing the local business community. It was an opportunity to strengthen relationships and explore how regional supports can continue to foster growth, innovation, and long-term business success in Pictou County.

Supporting 2SLGBTQI+ Entrepreneurs: Rosa.Sketches

Rosa (she/her) is a traditional and digital artist who has been drawing for over 15 years. Through her business, Rosa.Sketches, she creates original artwork inspired by pop culture and the natural world including jellyfish, forests, mushrooms, cats, and anything that inspires her creativity. Her work is available as prints, stickers, cards, bookmarks, and pins, and she continues to grow her presence at markets throughout Pictou County.

Rosa is an openly bisexual artist and uses her art as a means of self-expression and connection. Her sibling, Viv, now shares the table at markets and has begun selling their own art as well. Together, they've created a welcoming and inclusive space for art lovers of all ages.

Rosa and Viv attended the Partnership's Pride in Business: A Day of Workshops for 2SLGBTQI+ Entrepreneurs event, where Rosa learned about supports that were available through the Partnership.

Rosa then applied to receive assistance to help cover vendor fees for upcoming markets, including her first Pride market.

This support came at a critical time. After stepping away from a full-time role in early childhood education due to health reasons, Rosa faced uncertainty about whether she could continue investing in her art business while also navigating part-time work and preparing to return to college.

*"For someone like me, trying to balance **bills, student loans, and my love for art**, the support from the Partnership is life changing," Rosa shared. "It was a miraculous experience to feel as though I had **reached rock bottom**, and then the Partnership showed up with a **glimmer of hope** through this program. This support offered me a chance to continue to share what I love with people and to continue to invest in myself."*

Read the full story by clicking [here](#) or scanning the QR code below:



INVESTMENT READINESS

Transforming Pictou County - One Investment at a Time

Building regional investment readiness remained a growing focus throughout the year as the Partnership advanced work to better position Pictou County for sector growth, business expansion, and future investment attraction. Through sector engagement, regional collaboration, workforce alignment, and strategic partnerships, this work helped strengthen the conditions needed to support investment opportunities in priority sectors including the Green Economy, Blue Economy, and Manufacturing.

9

Discussions with leaders in the region's priority sectors on growth and collaboration opportunities.

Strengthening relationships with sector leaders to better understand industry needs and opportunities.

5

Sector-focused discussions with local and provincial partners.

Deepening understanding of priority sectors and emerging opportunities across the province to help inform regional economic development planning.

4

Investment and expansion inquiries were received from potential investors or expanding businesses.

Supporting investment efforts and positioning the region for future growth opportunities.



Opportunities Start Here Video Series



To support regional investment attraction efforts, the Partnership produced a series of promotional videos highlighting opportunities within the Blue Economy, Green Economy, and Manufacturing sectors.

The video series showcases the region's strengths, competitive advantages, and growth potential, helping raise awareness of Pictou County as a destination for business investment and expansion.

Click [here](#) or scan the QR code to watch our *Opportunities Start Here* video series



Invest Here Launch

Discover why Pictou County is the perfect place to invest and grow your company.

Pictou County is ideally located in northeastern Nova Scotia, offering multimodal access to key trade routes and abundant natural resources, providing connections to markets in North America and Europe. With affordable land, low operating costs, a skilled workforce, and a business-friendly tax environment, it is the ideal location to maximize your business's potential.

With short commutes, affordable housing, and a welcoming, diverse community, employees can easily balance career demands with family life, leisure, and personal growth. The county continues to invest in initiatives that promote community integration, newcomer support, and social cohesion, ensuring that everyone feels welcome and included as the region grows.

The Pictou County Partnership is committed to supporting investors and businesses, providing hands-on assistance with site and property searches, business case development, and leveraging local expertise to champion your company's growth, expansion, or relocation within our county.



The Partnership launched a new Invest Here section on our website to provide investors, businesses, and partners with easy access to information about Pictou County's economy, key industries, workforce, and investment opportunities.

This enhanced online presence improves access to regional investment information while increasing the visibility of Pictou County's opportunities to audiences both within and outside the region.

Click [here](#) or scan the QR code to explore the Invest Here section on our website



Expanding Global Connections Through the International Network of Michelin Cities

The Pictou County Partnership has continued to strengthen its international relationships through participation in the International Network of Michelin Cities (INMC), a global network with a shared interest in economic development, innovation, and entrepreneurship.

A significant milestone was participation in the INMC meeting held in Regensburg, Germany, alongside the European "Clusters Meet Regions" conference. The event brought together economic development leaders, business incubators, entrepreneurs, and innovation organizations from across Europe and beyond to explore how collaboration can accelerate economic growth and support emerging industries.

The conference provided valuable insight into how cities and regions are leveraging incubators, innovation hubs, and cluster development to address local challenges and create opportunities. Participants learned how partnerships between municipalities, businesses, and startups are helping communities improve transportation systems, enhance public infrastructure, implement smart city technologies, and monitor environmental impacts.

One of the highlights was hearing directly from the previous runner up of the INMC International Startup Competition, who was using the program to expand into the German market and build relationships with innovative companies across Europe. Their experience demonstrated the value of international exposure and cross-border collaboration for emerging businesses.

Closer to home, the Partnership worked closely with IGNITE Atlantic, Bridgewater, and the County of Kings to explore opportunities for Nova Scotia startups to participate in the international competition. Together, partners began planning a provincial competition to identify three Nova Scotia startups to represent the province at the INMC International Startup Competition in Cuneo, Italy, in October 2026.



IMMIGRATION AND COMMUNITY INTEGRATION

Welcoming Talent - Empowering a Thriving Pictou County

Strong communities and strong economies are built together. Through Immigration & Community Integration, the Pictou County Partnership helps employers address workforce challenges while supporting newcomers and their families in building meaningful lives in Pictou County. This work recognizes that workforce sustainability, community belonging, and long-term economic growth are deeply connected.

142

Employers learned about economic immigration pathways and workforce solutions.

Increasing employer awareness of workforce strategies that support long-term business growth and sustainability.

83

Employers strengthened their immigration readiness capacity.

Building local employer capacity to attract, hire, and retain international talent.

49

Candidates were recommended for permanent residence through the Rural Community Immigration Pilot (RCIP).

Supporting workforce needs in priority occupations while strengthening long-term regional retention.

52

Newcomers were connected with community volunteers and organizations.

Strengthening social connection, belonging, and long-term community attachment.



Pictou County Connected



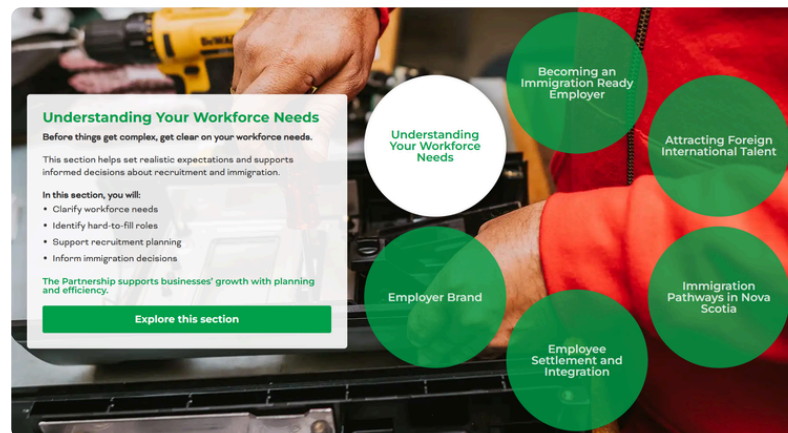
Starting life in a new community can be challenging. To help newcomers feel welcomed and connected, the Partnership developed a series of 10 self-guided itineraries showcasing local attractions, services, businesses, and experiences across Pictou County.

To complement this online resource, we created an interactive passport that encourages newcomers to discover Pictou County firsthand, build connections, learn about local resources, and gain a deeper appreciation for the communities they now call home.

Click [here](#) or scan the QR code to explore the Pictou County Connected website



Employer Immigration Readiness Support Tool



Employers across Pictou County are increasingly using immigration as part of their workforce development strategy to fill critical roles, support business growth, and build stronger, more diverse teams.

The Employer Immigration Readiness Support Tool is a practical, online resource designed to meet you where you are. Whether you are exploring immigration for the first time or already supporting employees through the process, this tool helps you understand what it means to be immigration ready and how to plan with confidence.

Click [here](#) or scan the QR code to explore the Employer Immigration Readiness Support Tool



Building Workforce Sustainability Through Immigration

In its first year, the Rural Community Immigration Pilot (RCIP) translated federal immigration policy into practical workforce and economic impact for Pictou County. Delivered by the Pictou County Partnership, RCIP helps local employers address workforce challenges while supporting long-term business growth, talent retention, and sustainable community development. Pictou County remains one of only 14 participating communities nationally - and the only community in Atlantic Canada selected to deliver the pilot.

RCIP is more than an immigration pathway - it is a locally driven workforce and retention strategy. In 2025, the Partnership engaged **88 businesses**, supported **44 designated employers**, and issued **49 community recommendations** tied to priority workforce needs across sectors including manufacturing, trades, IT, hospitality, supervisory, and professional occupations. Importantly, **47 of the 49 recommended candidates were already living and working in Pictou County**, demonstrating RCIP's role in helping employers retain critical talent already contributing to the local economy.

A deliberate approach was maintained throughout Year 1, prioritizing specialized and hard-to-fill roles that support long-term workforce sustainability and regional economic development. Momentum has continued into Year 2, with the first March 2026 intake resulting in **7 additional recommendations** connected primarily to manufacturing and trades occupations across Pictou County.

RCIP's early success reflects the strength of a place-based model that connects economic development, employer engagement, immigration navigation, and community integration. Together, these efforts are helping strengthen workforce resilience, support population growth, and create the conditions for a more competitive and sustainable future for Pictou County.



Stories Across Generations



Stories Across Generations was a collaborative art project presented in partnership with Creative Pictou County that fostered connections and creative exchanges between generations, cultures, and communities. This initiative paired five local artists with five newcomers, alongside five newcomer artists who worked with five local elders from the African Nova Scotian and 2SLGBTQIA+ communities. Through this project, the artists created a multifaceted collation of artworks based on the unique stories and perspectives of their partners.

The culmination of this cross-generational and cross-cultural collaboration were presented at two showcases in the fall of 2025. The artwork continues to be featured on Creative Pictou County's website and in gifts through the Community Connections program.

Employer Forum



Each year, the Partnership collaborates with Nova Scotia Works - Career Connections, the Immigrant Services Association of Nova Scotia (ISANS), and the Pictou County Chamber of Commerce to host an Employer Forum.

The Forum provides local employers with information, tools, and resources to help attract, retain, and support a diverse workforce. Through presentations and discussions, service providers share insights, best practices, and strategies for building inclusive and welcoming workplaces.

Impact in Action: Building Teams, Building Belonging

Through the Pictou County Partnership's Immigration & Community Integration work, workforce development and community integration are approached as connected parts of long-term regional growth. This includes supporting employers in navigating immigration pathways, building immigration readiness capacity, and strengthening newcomer retention through relationship-based community integration supports.

One example is the Partnership's collaboration with MacGregors Industrial Group and internationally trained machinist Issam Dahweir. Through a settlement-sector partnership outside Atlantic Canada, the Partnership helped connect the employer to skilled international talent while also supporting onboarding, workplace inclusion, and community integration locally. The result was not only a successful hire, but a coordinated approach that supported both workforce needs and long-term retention.

As Nick MacGregor shared:

“We wanted Issam to feel part of the team from day one. Support and connection were just as important as the expertise he brought.”

Through the Partnership's Community Connections Program, Issam was also connected to local organizations and community groups to help build relationships and a sense of belonging outside the workplace.

This story reflects a broader truth emerging across rural communities: attracting talent is only one part of the equation. Long-term success depends on building welcoming workplaces, strengthening social connection, and helping people see a future for themselves and their families within the community.

Read the full story by clicking [**here**](#) or scanning the QR code below:



Uplifting Pictou County - One Initiative at a Time

The Partnership continued to support community impact organizations and social enterprises through funding navigation, partnership development, volunteer engagement, and capacity-building activities. This work helped strengthen organizational sustainability while supporting initiatives that contribute to vibrant, resilient communities.

143

Community impact organizations were engaged through outreach and support activities.

Strengthening relationships across the nonprofit and community sector while improving access to resources and opportunities.

\$1.3
million

In funding applications was supported for community organizations and initiatives.

Helping organizations pursue investments that strengthen community capacity, programming, and infrastructure.

5

Existing and start-up social enterprises received support.

Encouraging innovative approaches to community impact and sustainable revenue generation.

3

Volunteer fairs were supported in partnership with community organizations.

Promoting volunteer engagement and strengthening connections between organizations and community members.



Community AI Adoption



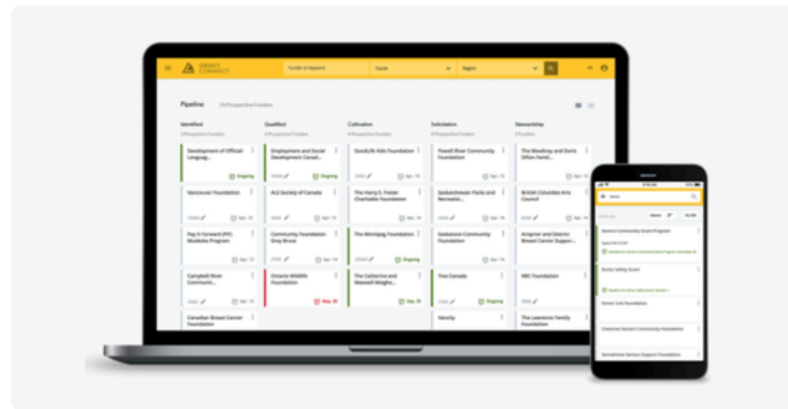
The Partnership connected with organizations to better understand their operational challenges and identify areas where artificial intelligence (AI) could provide meaningful support.

Through engagement sessions and a survey to organizations across Atlantic Canada, common needs and opportunities were identified, which will help to inform the development of AI training modules focused on areas such as grant writing, communications, operational efficiency, and organizational readiness. This work is helping organizations explore how AI can enhance capacity to better support their communities.

Click [here](#) or scan the QR code to learn more about the project



Grant Resources



The Partnership supported organizations in accessing funding opportunities through Grant Connect and a funder research resource designed to help organizations break down project goals, activities, and outcomes to better identify potential funding sources.

During the year, 23 organizations accessed Grant Connect, with several organizations returning multiple times to support ongoing project development and funding research. These resources helped empower organizations to identify funding opportunities, strengthen grant applications, and advance projects that benefit their communities.

Click [here](#) or scan the QR code to book an appointment to access Grant Connect



Small Halls Learning and Connection Series

Community halls are at the heart of many communities. Along with being spaces for people to gather for birthdays, showers and fundraisers, many community halls are used by entrepreneurs scaling their business. Across Pictou County, these spaces are powered largely by dedicated volunteers who work tirelessly to keep their halls active and sustainable.

Recognizing both the importance of these community spaces and the nuances volunteers face as they govern, maintain and run programming, the Pictou County Partnership collaborated with local partners to launch the Small Halls Learning and Connection Series. Developed through a diverse planning committee that included representatives from the Volunteer Nova Scotia; Municipality of Pictou County; Aging Well Nova Scotia; Department of Communities, Culture, Tourism, and Heritage; and hall volunteers themselves, the initiative was designed to provide practical support while strengthening relationships among community hall leaders.

The series will focus on topics identified by volunteers as priorities for their organizations, including revenue diversification, accessibility, and insurance.

Through hands-on sessions, participants will have the opportunity to visit local halls, share experiences, learn from one another, and explore solutions that can be applied in their own communities.

The series will be an opportunity for collaboration in action. Volunteers who often work independently will be able to connect with peers facing similar opportunities and challenges, creating new relationships and strengthening existing networks.

The initiative not only provides valuable knowledge and resources but will also help build a stronger network of people committed to ensuring that Pictou County's community halls are reflective of their community.





Leadership Excellence

The governance structure of the Pictou County Partnership is founded on collaboration and expertise, ensuring effective decision-making and strategic direction. At its core, the Liaison and Oversight Committee stands as a representative body, comprised of leaders from our core funding organizations. Charged with the responsibility to approve strategy and appoint the board, this committee plays a pivotal role in shaping the Partnership's trajectory. Complementing this oversight is our Board of Directors, composed of influential business and community leaders drawn from diverse sectors. Together, these individuals bring a wealth of experience and perspective, guiding the Partnership towards its mission of fostering growth and prosperity within Pictou County.

Liaison and Oversight Committee | 2025-26

Councillor Nicole LeBlanc (Chair)	Town of Trenton
Chief Tamara Young	Pictou Landing First Nation
Councillor Danielle Fraser	Town of Westville
Councillor Nadine LeBlanc	Town of Pictou
Councillor Ronald Baillie	Municipality of Pictou County
Mayor Darren Stroud	Town of Stellarton
Mayor Nancy Dicks	Town of New Glasgow

Board of Directors | 2025-26

Cindy Brown (Chair)	NSCC (Marine Training)
Aaron Millen (Vice Chair)	Turning Point Real Estate
Kent MacDougall (Treasurer)	Kent MacDougall, Inc. Chartered Professional Accountants
Ian MacLean	Retired Lawyer
Nick MacGregor	MacGregors Industrial Group
Craig Barnes	Teric Power
Clarence MacDonald	Groupe Savoie
Matthew Oostvogels	Nova Scotia Community College
Allison Outhit	All Out Arts Management
Travis David	Cooke Aquaculture
Ryan Fraser (Past President)	<i>resigned June, 2025</i>
Jarrold Thorne (Past Treasurer)	<i>resigned November, 2025</i>
Deanna Mohamed	<i>resigned August, 2025</i>
Chris Stewart	<i>resigned December, 2025</i>

Our Team

We are bold innovators and collaborators, dedicated to creating a more prosperous, inclusive, and resilient Pictou County. As connectors, catalysts, advocates, and storytellers, we work to transform our region's economic landscape and foster a thriving community for all. Together, we dare to think differently, act boldly, and shape a brighter future.

Operations & Strategic Initiatives

Scott Ferguson

Interim CEO

Lynne Jamieson

Director, Organizational Strategy & People

Heidi Sinclair

Director, Strategic Communications

David Crowell

Manager, Finance & Administration

Immigration & Community Integration

Becky Cowen

Director, Immigration & Community Integration

Sarah Santos

Community Connections Coordinator

Victoria Curtis

Program Coordinator

Community Impact

Maxine MacLean

Director, Community Impact Initiatives

Business & Entrepreneurship

Robert Young

Director, Operations, Growth & Investment

Heather Poulin

Business Outreach & Engagement Officer

Departing Team Members

Mary Ellen Makhoul

Community Impact Programming Lead

Colleen Proudfoot

Business and Entrepreneurship Manager

Maddie Kennedy

2SLGBTQI+ Business Support Program Coordinator

Jean-Luc Lewis

Economic Growth Project Intern

Lindy Quann

Manager, Newcomer Business Navigation Program

Analú Caldas-MacEachern

Immigration Readiness and Support Coordinator

Partnerships and Collaborations

We're proud to foster strong, collaborative bonds with a wide range of organizations throughout Pictou County and beyond. These partnerships not only amplify the effectiveness of our initiatives but also ensure that our outreach touches every corner of the community. Through these relationships, we're able to connect our clients with valuable resources, advisors, and fresh opportunities, empowering them to thrive and succeed.

- Aging Well Nova Scotia
- Atlantic Canada Opportunities Association
- BDC
- CBDC NOBL
- Clean Foundation
- Coastal Nova Scotia
- Community Health Boards
- Creative Pictou County
- Healthy Pictou County
- IGNITE Atlantic
- Immigrant Services Association of Nova Scotia (ISANS)
- International Network of Michelin Cities (INMC)
- Invest Nova Scotia
- Multicultural Association of Pictou County (MAPC)
- New Glasgow Farmers Market
- Nova Scotia College of Pharmacists
- Nova Scotia Community College (NSCC)
- Nova Scotia Cooperative Council
- Nova Scotia Department of Communities, Culture, Tourism, and Heritage
- Nova Scotia Department of Education and Early Childhood Education
- Nova Scotia Works: Career Connections
- North Shore Local Immigration Partnership
- Pictou-Antigonish Regional Library
- Pictou County Chamber of Commerce
- Pictou County Pride
- RBC Foundation
- Summer Street Industries
- The Sobey Foundation
- Volunteer Nova Scotia
- World University Service of Canada (WUSC)
- YMCA Centre for Immigrant Programs of Pictou County (YREACH)



Our Funders

The Partnership's work is made possible through the support of our funders. Their investment helps us advance initiatives that strengthen the local economy, support businesses and entrepreneurs, attract and retain talent, and build vibrant, resilient communities across Pictou County. We are grateful for their continued commitment to our region and shared vision for sustainable economic growth.

Core Funders

- Nova Scotia Department of Growth and Development
- Municipality of Pictou County
- Pictou Landing First Nation
- Town of New Glasgow
- Town of Pictou
- Town of Stellarton
- Town of Trenton
- Town of Westville

Program Funders

- Nova Scotia Department of Labour, Skills, and Immigration
Branch of Immigration and Population Growth
- Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency (ACOA)
- Immigration, Refugee, and Citizenship Canada (IRCC)
- Department of Foreign Affairs, Trade and Development
CanExport Community Investments Sub-Program
- The Sobey Foundation
- Canadian Queer Chamber of Commerce Ecosystem Fund
Funded by the Government of Canada
- RBC Foundation
- Nova Scotia Office of Healthcare Professional Recruitment (OHPR)

Click [here](#) or scan the QR code to view our 2025-26 Financial Statements



Stellarton 1

Begin your day with a stroll through Allan Park where you lush greenery, trails, and a gazebo await. Then grab a coffee and a tasty treat from Curious Crow's Coffee House as you explore downtown Stellarton. Next, visit the Stellarton Library where you will find helpful free services, informative workshops, computer access, and social clubs.

 Bus Route: Stellarton - New Glasgow



- 1 Allan Park**
 -  11 Albion Ave
 -  NSCC Campus
- 2 Curious Crow's Coffee House**
 -  247 Foord St
 -  Allan Ave
- 3 Stellarton Public Library**
 -  248 Foord St
 -  Allan Ave



Notes

<<<<< PICTOU << COUNTY << CONNECTED <<<<<<<<
 <<<< YOUR << NEW << COMMUNITY << AWAITS <<<<<



151 Provost St, New Glasgow
www.pictoucountypartnership.com